

DOROTHY GEREKE FUND

Information Sheet

The Dorothy Gereke Fund is named for one of the co-founders of the TEC Movement. Dorothy Gereke was instrumental in supporting the spiritual and practical needs of the first TEC community in the Diocese of Lansing, Michigan. In an effort to honor Dorothy and to provide for the spiritual and practical needs of TEC communities, the TEC Conference invites donors to come forward to fund this worthwhile initiative. The Dorothy Gereke Fund is restricted to funding the annual (1) Gereke Grants and the (2) TEC Enrichment Exchange.

Funding

The Dorothy Gereke Fund is maintained by donations solicited from the international TEC family. Donors are asked to provide a monthly recurring gift from their bank in the amount of \$20 for a one-year term.

Selection Process

During the month of January, a selection committee will examine applications for Gereke Grants and the TEC Enrichment Exchange. The selection committee may ask any appropriate follow-up questions of applicants and TEC communities. With regard to the Enrichment Exchange, the Executive Director will coordinate with the selection committee to identify appropriate host communities. Considering the merits of each application, the selection committee may award any number of Gereke Grants and/or Enrichment Exchanges as can be supported by the Gereke Fund.

Award winners will be contacted in February. Gereke Grant awards are disbursed immediately. Enrichment Exchange winners will receive their reimbursements (see below) at the conclusion of the trip.

For the Gereke Grant, the winning projects should be in the implementation phase (as distinct from a planning phase) by July.

For the Enrichment Exchange, the award will be for a specific location and date. The visit will happen within a year of the award. If the visit is canceled by the host community or the visitor, the TEC Conference will work with the visitor to reschedule the trip. However, the visit must be completed within two years of the original award, or it will expire. In this circumstance, the applicant can re-apply.

(1) GEREKE GRANT

Grant Applications

Core Team/Boards from TEC communities which are affiliated with the TEC Conference may submit an application for a Gereke Grant any time before December 31. Selections will be made in January for as little as \$100 or up to \$1,000. Grant funds may not be distributed to individuals.

Criteria

Gereke Grants are intended to benefit and strengthen affiliated TEC communities. Applications should demonstrate with specificity how funds will be used to benefit and strengthen that TEC community. A strong grant application proposes a project or initiative that will have a meaningful effect on a TEC community. The effect of this grant award should have a ripple effect locally and perhaps even beyond the boundaries of that TEC community. Appropriate uses include but are not limited to leadership formation, TEC manual study, Conference-sponsored workshops, community gatherings, local TEC promotions, or the purchase of needed resources. Applications must be complete and received at the TEC Conference before December 31, 2024. Grant monies must be used for the project described in the application and may not be redirected toward any other purpose. Preference may be shown for grant applications from TEC communities who have not won a grant in recent years. **TEC communities who have won a grant in the past two years are not eligible.**

Report

No later than July 1, 2025, every community which received an award shall produce a written description of how the Gereke Grant award is being used and how it is affecting the local TEC community. If possible, photographs should be provided. Portions of these reports will be proudly displayed at TEC Encounter each summer. The TEC Conference reserves the right to use, and the winning applicant consents to the use of, the report information, photographs, or video images received in advertising materials, both for the grant program and in general. **Any unused funds must be returned to the TEC Conference by October 2025.**

The Nature of the Agreement

The TEC Conference is not entering into a joint venture or partnership for the applicant's project and is a funding agency only. By submitting this application, you are representing that this project has the approval of the governing body of your local TEC community and that the funds will be solely used for the project approved and for no other purpose.

(2) TEC ENRICHMENT EXCHANGE

Traveling for TEC

One of Dorothy's great joys was to travel to various TEC communities and share the bonds of community. We have witnessed the incredible benefits of TEC leaders who have the opportunity to visit another TEC community. The benefits go far beyond the fun of travel or the joy of making new friends, always bearing fruit for both the host TEC community and the visitor.

From the Dorothy Gereke Fund, the TEC Conference will sponsor the travel of a limited number of engaged TEC community members. **The travel reimbursement will be made after the trip has concluded.** Fuel or airfare can be reimbursed up to \$500 upon completion of the trip. The traveler will supply these receipts after the trip is concluded. The TEC Conference will also pay any team application fees in addition to the travel reimbursements.

Receipts that may be reimbursed (up to \$500 total):	
Gasoline & Tolls	Reimbursable.
Airfare	Reimbursable.
Uber, Lyft, Taxi, etc.	Reimbursable, if unsuccessful efforts have been made to identify a local TEC community volunteer driver.
Rental Cars	Coordinate in advance with the TEC Conference. Reimbursable, if unsuccessful efforts have been made to identify a local TEC community volunteer driver.
Lodging	Coordinate in advance with the TEC Conference. Hotel receipts may be reimbursable if unsuccessful efforts have been made to identify a local host.
Food (meals/snacks)	Not reimbursable.

The applicant's TEC community will endorse the applicant to travel and be a joyful witness to a host community, with the host community collaborating so as to make the visit worthwhile. The TEC Conference will work with both the visitor and the host community to develop an itinerary which will ensure a quality experience.

The shape of each visit may be different, depending upon the desired outcomes of the visitor and the opportunities available at various prospective host sites. Most commonly, the visit will

include a TEC weekend. It may also include a local leadership meeting or other opportunities to meet the host TEC community and experience its leadership structure or fourth day traditions.

Criteria

These travel vouchers are intended to benefit and strengthen affiliated TEC communities. After the application is completed by the applicant visitor, it is signed and submitted by the lay leader or Spiritual Director of their TEC community.

The visitor should be an engaged community member who understands appropriate boundaries and has the capacity to be present to a new TEC community without judging or comparing one TEC center to another. An important element of this project is for the visitor and the host community to share openly without engaging in intensive problem solving. **The visitor should not use the funds as a means to pay for leisure travel. The visitor is being sent out on a mission.**

Because funds are limited, preference may be given to applicants from living, recovering, or new TEC communities. Applicants who can be flexible with their destination (host community) and their available dates for the trip improve the likelihood of a TEC Enrichment Exchange. **Those who have won travel money from the Enrichment Exchange in the past two years are not eligible.**

Report

After the visit is complete, the TEC Conference will host a video conference to unpack the benefits of the experience. The host community and the visitor may be asked to provide a short testimony of the value of the experience.