According to Matthew’s Gospel, the risen Christ made it clear: “Go therefore and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, and teaching them to obey everything that I have commanded you” (28:19-20). Based on this “Great Commission,” our United Methodist Church has stated its purpose: “The mission of the Church is to make disciples of Jesus Christ for the transformation of the world." The All In Community initiative shares this mission with the local church specifically with populations impacted by crime and incarceration.

In the West Ohio Conference mission field, one in ten Ohioans is directly involved in the criminal justice system as a crime victim, person who commits a crime, or the family of either. Because the local church is the primary place where relationships lead to personal and public restoration and transformation, our members and neighbors impacted by crime and incarceration are one of West Ohio’s primary mission fields to go and make disciples. All In Community exists *to restore hope and provide healing in lives involved in the criminal justice system*. Through hope and healing, we seek to live out Matthew 25 and Luke 10 for disciple-making and community transformation.

All In Community congregations and cohorts work within this ministry area by developing and furthering spiritually and emotionally healthy communities. These communities, in turn, seek to improve the quality of life, ministry, and faith experience for all people within the WOC mission field.

All In Community grants are awarded to churches and collaborative cohorts that desire to develop relational, resource, and referral capacity to walk with individuals in their local communities living through experiences of crime, incarceration, reentry, and other pathways into the criminal justice system (primarily substance abuse, economic inequality, racial and social injustices, domestic violence, sexual abuse/trafficking). All In Community Grant recipients specifically seek to decrease economic, social, and cultural disparities, support wellness and healing, and incorporate cultural inclusion and acceptance with All In Community populations touching the criminal justice system.

**Grant Proposal Criteria**

1. Churches and Collaborative Cohorts submitting a proposal for an All In Community Grant must have completed either the Community Engagement Experience (CEE) or the Connectional Blueprint or show significant capacity and competency for community engagement.
2. The proposed initiative must be faith-based and reflect the spirit of All In Community *to embrace our neighbors and members impacted by crime or incarceration*. This includes a component for discipleship with justice-involved persons or families.
3. The ministry initiative must be theologically sound and align with the All In Community mission *to restore hope and provide healing in lives involved in the criminal justice system*.
4. All In Community grant proposals must show how the proposed community engagement initiative will result in:
   1. **Exposure**: Increased awareness of presence of justice-involved individuals in the congregation/community and an increased awareness of the effects of mass incarceration within the community.
   2. **Experience**: Intentional development of mutually transformational relationships with justice-involved persons in the church and/or community.
   3. **Education**: Increased understanding for: (1) the hopes, dreams, and needs of justice-involved persons, and (2) the tools, resources, and community assets available that contribute to healing and restorative ministry efforts.
   4. **Empathy**: Increased competency to meet justice-involved persons where they are currently and increased emotional and spiritual capacity to walk with them through lived experiences of victimzation and incarceration to restoration and wholeness.
5. All In Community encourages applicants to think creatively and collaboratively. Special consideration will be given to proposals that are restorative justice-based and propose plans to achieve the goals of individual and community healing and restoration.
6. The ministry initiative must have an identified leader and at least five other persons on the implementation team who are responsible for the achievement of stated outcomes. One person team member should be a justice-involved person and one person must be a community member.
7. The application must include an initial plan of how the work will be maintained financially beyond the end of the All In Community grant.
8. The application must indicate a timeline for expected outcomes. Timelines can be between one or two years, though funding will be awarded only in the first year.
9. Requests for funding cannot exceed $3,000 per year.
10. All In Community will award grant funds for paying salaries, ***only*** if the person(s) receiving the salary have been justice-involved, their position is tied to the operation of the specific work, and there is a reasonable path towards sustainability for the salary after the grant ends.
11. All In Community will award grant funds for the purchase of equipment, ***only*** if the materials are to be used to build reciprocal relationships with All In Community populations.
12. All In Community will not issue grants for routine facility repairs and maintenance.
13. Grant recipients will be required to:
    1. Participate in Conference-wide All In Community trainings.
    2. Engage in co-mission and co-location collaboration with at least one key community stakeholder working with a specific justice-involved population
    3. Serve as a resource guide for replication of ministry initiative across the WOC
    4. Complete and submit two Progress Reports per year and a final report at end of grant cycle.

**Grant Application Process**

1. Complete the All In Community Grant Application and submit it to the Office of Faith Formation and Community Engagement at 32 Wesley Blvd, Worthington, OH, 43085. The Grant Application must be completed in its entirety before it will be considered for funding.
2. Deadlines for All In Community Grant Applications are March 30st and September 1st, or at the completion of the Community Engagement Experience or Connectional Blueprint process.
3. An in-person or video conference review of the Grant Application will be conducted with the entire implementation team within a month of receiving the application.
4. All entities submitting proposals will receive a decision normally within two months of submission. Response letters will be sent to each applicant via email.
5. Half the approved grant funds will be disbursed upon approval. The second half of the grant funds will be disbursed upon completion of a mid-point progress report.
6. A final impact report will be required at the end of the designated grant cycle.
7. Churches and congregations may apply for a second round of funding provided they have achieved all their expected outcomes from the initial community engagement experience and have completed the required Conference-wide All In Community trainings.