

ALLEN TEMPLE BAPTIST CHURCH GLOBAL MINISTRY

The image features two flags: the United States flag on the left and the South African flag on the right. They are positioned diagonally, meeting at a point in the center. The text 'COLLABORATIVE COMMUNITY IMPROVEMENT PROJECT' is overlaid on the intersection of the two flags.

COLLABORATIVE COMMUNITY IMPROVEMENT PROJECT

Allen Temple Baptist Church

Oakland, California, U.S.A.

Dr. J. Alfred Smith, Jr., Senior Pastor

Dr. Jacqueline A. Thompson, Assistant Pastor

Dr. J. Alfred Smith, Sr., Pastor Emeritus

Mount Calvary Baptist Church

Soweto, S.A.

Rev. Bongane Nyathi, Pastor

W.W. Brown Missionary Baptist Church

Soweto, S.A.

Rev. E.S. Pudule, Sr., Pastor

Determine God's Call in Your Life/Request for Proposal

Those who attended the youth/young adult workshop at W.W. Brown Memorial Baptist Church in Johannesburg, South Africa, in June 2013, facilitated by Allen Temple Baptist Church, will recall that we discussed and agreed that God has a plan for all of us and the gifts that he has given were provided to help us actualize that plan. This Request for Proposal is intended to provide an opportunity for young adults to ponder the question, what is it that God has planned for me? Stated another way, what service can I give to glorify God?

1. Ponder the need of the world, of your community.

The Christian heart is drawn to the needs of others, both near and far. God uses what we know, what we are drawn to, to awaken our hearts and push us to commitment. Matthew 9:36-38—When he saw the crowds, he had compassion on them, because they were harassed and helpless, like sheep without a shepherd. Then he said to his disciples, “The harvest is plentiful but the workers are few.” Ask the Lord of the harvest, therefore, to send out workers into his harvest field.

2. Know your gifts and know yourself.

Every Christian has gifts. Identify your gifts, knowing them shapes your convictions about your calling. Knowing them, knowing yourself, deepens your sense of fitness for service and for your already chosen/predestined vocations. 1 Peter 4:10—Each one should use whatever gift he has received to serve others, faithfully administering God's grace in its various forms.

3. Listen humbly to the spiritual people in your life.

They are the instruments of God who will awaken you to the possibilities and joys of service that you were created for. 2 Timothy 1:5-7—I have been reminded of your sincere faith, which first lived in your grandmother, Lois and in your mother Eunice and, I am persuaded, now lives in you also. For this reason I remind you to fan into flame the gift of God, which is in you through the laying on of my hands. For God did not give us a spirit of timidity, but the spirit of power, love, and of self-discipline.

Request for Community Improvement Project Proposals

Allen Temple Baptist Church (ATBC) Global Ministries department issued a request for proposal to youth and young adults in 2013. The young people answered the call and one young adult received a sponsored trip to the U.S. and attended conferences in Oakland at Allen Temple and a National Conference/Proctor Conference held in Norfolk, VA.

We will issue another call for the design of Community Improvement Projects. These Community Improvement Projects must potentially benefit a community in the U.S. (African American community) and/or South Africa (township). Applicants are encouraged to

collaborate with someone in the other country when designing their project. At a minimum, each applicant must explain how their project might benefit a community in both U.S. and a township in South Africa. You must be a participating member in a church that is a part of the Baptist Convention of Southern Africa or Allen Temple Baptist Church in order to be eligible to participate in this project. This proposal is intended to target young adults.

An outline of each participating Community Improvement Project must be submitted to Rev. Theophous Reagans by email by **September 1, 2016**. The outline must state the name of the project, what it hopes to accomplish, and briefly (no more than 25 words) how it hopes to accomplish this.

Participants that submit a timely outline of their Community Improvement Project will then have an additional sixty (60) days to complete the design of their project. Participants' projects will be judged based on a report that must be submitted by **December 1, 2016**.

Projects will be judged based on:

1. Potential positive impact in the two communities
2. Evidence of bilateral collaboration or research
3. A project report that includes:
 - a. Background information,
 - i. Description of the specific communities that will be impacted by the project
 - ii. Description of the problem(s) being addressed, including quantifying the extent of the problem,
 - iii. History of the problem(s) being addressed,
 - iv. Past and present efforts by others to address this/these problem(s)
 - b. Description of the project,
 - i. Description of the goals and objectives of the project
 - ii. Description of the activities that will be undertaken to achieve these goals and activities
 - iii. Description of who will undertake these activities
 - iv. Description of the resources that will be needed in order to undertake and sustain the project

- v. A plan of action for obtaining needed resources
- c. Expected impact of the project,
 - i. Description of the impact that the project is expected to have in each community—Soweto and Oakland (i.e., how will the community be different or improved if the community improvement project goes as planned)
- d. What has been learned by the team members,
 - i. A description of what each team member has learned about themselves, their skills, their calling, and/or their role or place in the local and/or global community as a result of working with their team mate or researching the needs of communities in the other country when designing this project.
- e. Identified next steps.
 - i. A list of time-phased action steps (a timeline) that would need to be undertaken by the team in order to implement their Community Improvement Project.

Once adjudicated, a first place prize and a second place prize will be awarded. If more than eight entries are received, a third prize may be awarded. The first place prize will be airline tickets for the 1st place team members to be able to visit each other's nation (i.e., a roundtrip ticket to the USA for the 1st place South African team member (and attendance at the Samuel DeWitt Proctor Conference), and a roundtrip ticket to South Africa for the 1st place USA team member). Second prize will consist of an expenses-paid trip to the National Baptist Convention of each second place team member (i.e., a trip to the USA National Baptist Convention for the 2nd place USA team member, and a trip to the South Africa National Baptist Convention for the 2nd place South African team member).

Questions concerning this call for Community Improvement Projects may be directed to Rev. Theophous Reagans by email at theophous@gmail.com.