

Church Growth Fund / Matching Fund Proposal (EXAMPLE)

Title: Alpha Children's Program

Purpose: To develop and staff a meaningful, exciting program for children whose parents are attending the Alpha Course.

Monetary Request: \$1250.

Time Frame: January to April, 2007

Supervising Commission: Adult Discipleship

Submitted by: Alpha Team (Eric Beck, director) 310-833-0828, eandbeck@prodigy.net
Adult Discipleship (Erik Larson, chair) 310-833-6424, eriklarson@firstpressanpedro.org

Description of Need:

For the first Alpha Course, a significant weakness was the Children's Program. We were unable to recruit a volunteer person to lead the program, and so we had a catch-as-catch can approach. Different people were arm-twisted into providing supervision each week. The "content" was a movie and/or games in the hang-out room. This year, no one has volunteered for childcare for the upcoming course. Alpha Courses at other churches have noted that a strong children's program is a major draw for parents. These programs are both exciting for the kids (such that they want to come back) and provide some content so that parents know their kids are not just rambunctiously playing the whole time.

We therefore feel that hiring a qualified director to develop a program would be a significant benefit to the Alpha Course. The Director would be responsible for creating a program appropriate for ages four to ten (younger children are in the nursery/toddler room) and hiring an assistant for each week. The two goals would be to make it very fun and to provide assurance to the parents that the time was worthwhile for the kids. A full educational curriculum would not be expected; instead, we would like to see a theme-based approach that includes some learning and age-appropriate spiritual growth. The initial effort would be an experiment to determine the value of this offering, with future plans up to the next Alpha Team.

Evaluation:

A survey will be developed that will be provided to parents at the end of the Course to assess the effectiveness at meeting the primary goals.

The Director will be asked to provide a written evaluation of the strengths and weaknesses of the program within three weeks of the end of the course, after a discussion with appropriate people (i.e. Children's Education Chair or Staff, Alpha Director).

Open issues:

No one has been yet asked to be the director, and it is only two months to the Course start.

Proposed staff: (Note: Personnel Commission to establish final job description and compensation for paid positions)

Alpha Children's Program Director 11 weeks @ \$70/wk:	\$770
Assistant Child Care Provider: 11 weeks x 3 hrs x \$10/hr:	330

Proposed Budget:

Compensation for staff:	1100
Materials:	150