

TOGETHER NOW

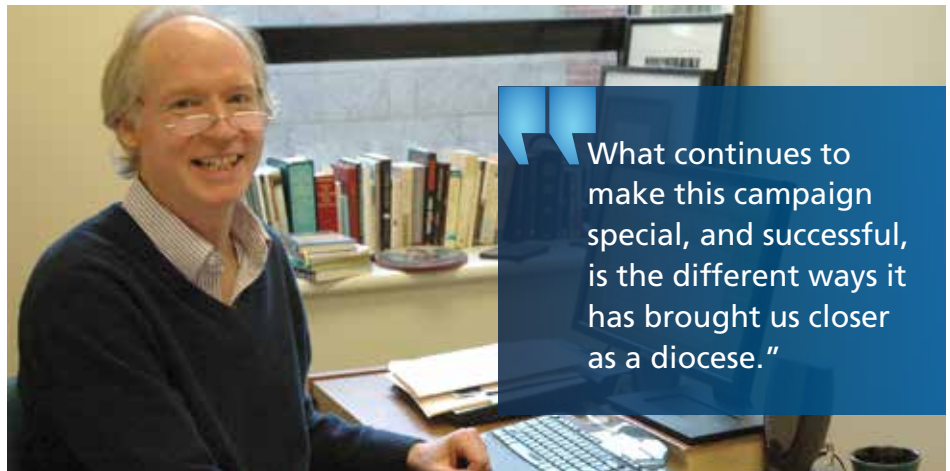
A Partnership of Prayer

The vision of the Together Now campaign began as a prayer. What might be possible if we trust God more deeply? If we open ourselves to one another, what new thing might God be doing among us? How can our church be a more effective instrument of God's mission in the 21st century?

Bishop Tom Shaw's vision for what might be possible in this diocese, if we worked together in new and more imaginative ways, came out of his own life of prayer. This vision inspired individuals and congregations across the diocese to dream, to explore, to ask ourselves how we might be called to commit, to connect, to carry this vision.

It was our own prayers for this campaign—how to give, how to engage, how to leverage our own resources and the resources of others—that helped propel this initiative forward and created the momentum that carried us past our goal, raising nearly \$32 million across the diocese in support of God's mission.

As the work of the campaign continues to unfold, our attention



What continues to make this campaign special, and successful, is the different ways it has brought us closer as a diocese."

has shifted from development to implementation, from fund-raising to effective stewardship of resources, and from talk of potential to measurable impact. Your faithfulness in fulfilling your pledges is a driving force behind the realization of our goals.

Yet numbers rarely tell the whole story of a campaign, and the Together Now campaign is no exception. What continues to make this campaign special, and successful, is the different ways it has brought us closer as a diocese.

Partnership is the underlying principle in virtually every aspect of this campaign: global partnerships through the Mission Tithe matching grants, congregational partnerships for local mission in the mission hubs and the collaboration of Episcopal City Mission, Episcopal Divinity School and the diocese in the formation of the Mission Institute.

These partnerships are not without their challenges. Working together is always more difficult, but ultimately more rewarding, than working alone. As we continue to move forward together, we are blessed by a new strategic partner in this work: our bishop, Alan Gates. As he listens, learns, prays and discerns, in his conversations across the diocese, he is bringing his own perspective and vision to this initiative, and to God's promise that deeper partnership and companionship lead to deeper mission.

Now more than ever, we are grateful for your prayers, your engagement, your continuing generosity, your imagination and your commitment.

— The Rev. Sam Rodman

Our \$20-million campaign

\$2 million

Tithing for mission beyond our diocese

\$2 million

Caring for God's creation

\$4.5 million

Equipping congregations for strategic local mission

\$7.5 million

Raising up new generations in faith and service

\$4 million

Transforming our cathedral church

For more information about each of the campaign initiatives, please visit: www.diomass.org/together-now-campaign

EPISCOPAL CHURCHES DEEPEN RELATIONSHIPS AND LOCAL MISSION TOGETHER THROUGH HUB INITIATIVE



The Mission Hub Initiative is dedicated to local mission through collaboration. A mission hub is made up of three or more Episcopal congregations, and may include other partners from the community including social service organizations and other faith communities.

Four values are key to the work the hubs undertake: community engagement; diversity of leadership; deepening of relationships among congregations; and spiritual and congregational development.

Diocesan Council has now approved five mission hubs. Brief profiles of their mission and programs appear here. Recommendations on the remaining four hub applications are expected to be made in the coming months.

SOUTH COAST MISSION HUB

The South Coast Mission Hub focuses on the needs of our neighbors through collaborative partnerships with eight Episcopal churches and several community partners including: United Neighbors of Fall River, United Interfaith Action in Fall River, SouthCoast Serves at UMass Dartmouth and Centro Comunitario de Trabajadores in New Bedford. We currently fund two programs.

Project Discovery is an afterschool program that operates in collaboration with a similar program initiated by St. Andrew's Church. Together we seek to be a faith-based resource for the children and families in the North End of New Bedford.

We also host a Life Together community, with young adult fellows living in Fall River and working in South Coast churches and agencies. They are enthusiastic and creative leaders in our churches and the hub.

As the pilot mission hub, we have had time to experiment and to discern our direction all the while building trusted relationships. We have learned much together and are energized by the possibility of new churches, community partners and individuals joining us in thoughtful, reflective, transforming ministry for the benefit of a more vibrant South Coast.

—Steve Matthews



MERRIMACK VALLEY MISSION HUB

The Merrimack Valley Mission Hub ministers to youth at risk in the gateway cities of Lawrence, Lowell and Haverhill.

Grace Church in Lawrence has developed a multigenerational theatre group that provides access into a supportive and creative atmosphere for community youth. The parish has also begun a basketball program for both boys and girls.

St. John's Church and St. Anne's Church in Lowell have focused on afterschool tutoring, cooking and theatre, with local teachers as program mentors.

Trinity Church in Haverhill has built on the success of its Academy of the Arts and Theater program. Neighborhood youth have access to music lessons as well as theatre and art. The new FEAST program (Fun and Enrichment After School at Trinity) provides Montessori-based afterschool care.

Esperanza Academy has hired a full-time social worker to enhance

opportunities for a more stable home environment for academy students and youth throughout the hub.

The hub has renewed each parish as it connects with local neighborhood youth in new and exciting ways.

—Brian Raiche

PLYMOUTH, CAPE AND ISLANDS MISSION HUB

The Plymouth, Cape and Islands Mission Hub began meetings back in 2012 with 11 parishes joining in to look at the question of mission: What is it? What does it look like? And who in our area is in the most need of resources?

A particular kind of training was identified to empower our lay people for the work, whether it be mission with seniors, youth, veterans, the working poor, LGBT people or our environment.

A senior listening program was offered last year in Falmouth with six of our parishes represented. A second program is now running in Chatham involving another four parishes, and two from other denominations. Kim Murphy, a UCC minister, joined us as our new hub director in January.

This year, we hope to address issues concerning our environment and our youth. We as missionaries hope to be as vulnerable and as faithful as those whom we serve.

—The Rev. Dan Horgan

MISSION TITHE COUNCIL GRANT supports small business development

At the Diocesan Convention on Nov. 8, the 2014 Diocesan Council Mission Tithe Matching Grant of \$25,000 was awarded to El Hogar Ministries and its lead partner parish, the Parish of the Epiphany in Winchester. Operating four residential campuses, El Hogar rescues children from a life of hunger and desperation on the streets of Honduras, enabling them to break the cycle of poverty and unemployment by providing them with a home, a nurturing environment, education and a marketable trade.

The Together Now grant will allow El Hogar to expand its milk microenterprise to produce more dairy products, including a variety of cheeses, offering El Hogar students technical skills and business development training. Additionally, expanded production will help feed 250 students and 75 staff members of El Hogar and provide a source of revenue for the school.



While a key strategic partnership has existed between El Hogar and the Parish of the Epiphany for more than 15 years, mission teams from a half dozen other congregations have traveled to El Hogar to serve and be in relationship with the students, making this a true diocesan partnership.

For more information about El Hogar, including parish partnership opportunities, visit: <http://elhogar.org>.
— *Laura Walta*

PREVIOUS GRANT AWARD UPDATE

The 2013 Diocesan Council Mission Tithe grant of \$25,000—the second of four annual grants from the Mission Tithe portion of the Together Now Campaign—was awarded to Foundation Cristosal and its lead partner parish, St. Paul's Church in Newburyport. Cristosal develops citizen partners and education initiatives for community organizing and the economic development of marginalized and disenfranchised communities across El Salvador.

Last year, Cristosal used its Together Now grant to build a program for social business development, providing expert training to disadvantaged communities, helping them to generate social business models and apply business logic to problems they face every day. With Cristosal's assistance, Salvadoran communities organized, negotiated and funded:

- Social businesses that provide employment and training;
- Community water associations that guarantee access to safe drinking water;
- Savings, loan and investment cooperatives for community economic development.

METROWEST MISSION HUB

Referring to ourselves as ProGente ("for the people") Connections, our hub is a collaboration of four Episcopal congregations—St. Paul's Church in Hopkinton, St. Luke's Church in Hudson, St. Andrew's Church in Framingham and Epiphany Church in Walpole—and three partners: Bethel Presbyterian Church in Marlboro, A Special Grace autism ministry in the diocese and All Right Ministry of the New England Synod, ELCA.

Our mission is to strengthen Brazilian families and their connection with their local communities.

The hub will initially focus on providing linguistic and cultural programs to facilitate better communication within and outside of Brazilian families by providing English for Speakers of Other Languages (ESOL) for adults, and Portuguese language and culture instruction for children in Framingham and Marlboro. Later, we will expand our focus to address structural

and economic issues that our Brazilian partners have identified as barriers.

Our work brings us the hope that, through the power of the Holy Spirit, people from a variety of faith traditions and cultural backgrounds can work together to transform local communities.

—*Susan Lindberg Haley*



NORTH SHORE MISSION HUB

Four congregations—St. John's Church in Gloucester, St. Peter's Church in Beverly, Grace Church in Salem and St. Stephen's Church in Lynn—currently offer hub outreach programs.

St. John's and Grace plan to expand their choir school programs. In February, St. Stephen's will launch Kids in Com-

munity Afterschool as an expansion of its summer program. Grace has established a companion relationship with the underperforming Bowditch School, and its members will work with teachers, students and families to support and encourage learning with the fourth grade class through its middle school years.

St. Peter's Church plans to expand its feeding ministry to respond to increased family homelessness and hunger. And, with hub support, the Grace Center—an interfaith ministry of hospitality to homeless and lonely people in downtown Gloucester—has hired an outreach worker.

We plan to provide leadership development trainings and spiritual enrichment retreats and open a North Shore Life Together young adult fellowship program in September 2017.

The North Shore Mission Hub gives opportunities for urban parishes to respond to the needs of the most vulnerable and for mission partnerships with the other congregations. Already, each has transformative stories to tell.

—*The Rev. Jane Gould*



Episcopal Diocese of Massachusetts

138 Tremont Street
Boston MA 02111
617-482-5800
www.diomass.org

TOGETHER NOW CAMPAIGN COLLECTIONS AND DISBURSEMENTS

Because of the generosity and faithfulness of thousands of donors, millions of dollars have gone forth to fund the priorities of the Together Now campaign. Thank you for carrying this work forward through your payments, participation and prayer.

TOTAL PLEDGE COLLECTIONS (AS OF 2/28/15)

62% of nearly \$32 million committed diocesanwide

\$19,937,256

DISBURSEMENTS

Parish share of collaborative campaigns (as of 12/31/14)	\$5,896,255
Tithing for mission beyond our diocese	\$845,403
Green Grants and Loans	\$572,021
Mission Hubs (including Youth and Young Adult Ministries)	\$936,685
Mission Institute	\$367,569
Barbara C. Harris Camp and Conference Center	\$1,000,000
Cathedral Church of St. Paul Renovations	\$4,000,000
Total Disbursements (as of 2/28/15)	\$13,617,933

MONEY AVAILABLE FOR DISBURSEMENT IN 2015 (AS OF 2/28/15)

Tithing for mission beyond our diocese	\$250,000
Green Grants and Loans	\$450,000
Mission Hubs (including Youth and Young Adult Ministries)	\$2,150,000
Mission Institute	\$200,000
Barbara C. Harris Camp and Conference Center	\$500,000
Cathedral Church of St. Paul Renovations	Completed in 2014
Total	\$3,550,000
<i>(parish share not yet available)</i>	