

# Grant Dreaming Exercise



Catholic Education  
FOUNDATION  
DIOCESE OF JOLIET

A personal, group, or staff brainstorming/dreaming process in preparation for applying for a ministry grant funded by the Catholic Education Foundation.

What are the **top five areas of greatest need** in your parish, cluster, or ministry this year, especially in regards to faith formation and/or evangelization?

1. \_\_\_\_\_
2. \_\_\_\_\_
3. \_\_\_\_\_
4. \_\_\_\_\_
5. \_\_\_\_\_

*SUGGESTION: to identify these areas, think about the areas of ministry in which you or your parish or cluster struggles the most – or areas where the greatest improvement is needed to accomplish the Church’s mission. Think also about who or what is missing from the parish at this point in time.*

Which of the needs listed are most lacking in funding or resources? \_\_\_\_\_

Which of the needs listed have been a concern for the longest time? \_\_\_\_\_

Which of the needs listed are preventing you from being most effective? \_\_\_\_\_

Which of the needs listed are you or your team most excited to tackle? \_\_\_\_\_

Which of the needs listed will require some financial investment? \_\_\_\_\_

Which of the needs listed are most visible to the rest of the parish? \_\_\_\_\_

Which of the needs listed most affect the worship and spirituality of the parish? \_\_\_\_\_

Which of the needs listed most affect the financial health of the parish? \_\_\_\_\_

Which of the needs listed most affect community and discipleship in the parish? \_\_\_\_\_

Which of the needs listed most affect the faith formation efforts of the parish? \_\_\_\_\_

Which of the needs listed are related to evangelization, outreach, and welcoming? \_\_\_\_\_

From the questions above, which of the original five needs are listed in multiple locations, and which of the needs are listed the most often?

If money was no object and resources were unlimited, how would you tackle the top issue(s)?

In your imagination, what would be the result of your plan of action? What would the future of your parish, cluster, and/or ministry look like if that dream became a reality? **How could your parish, cluster, and/or ministry be doing new and creative things to enhance the faith formation and/or evangelization children, youth, and/or adults?**

If you had \$3000, what could you do to start the groundwork towards the dreams listed above? (likewise, what if you had \$500, \$1000, or \$2000... what could get started with that money?)

Who would need to be on your team to make this happen? What people would need to be behind this initiative – from the parish, the staff, the diocese, and the ministry leadership?

***The answers listed above are the nucleus for developing a grant proposal. If your dream initiative focuses on the education, formation, and engagement of children, youth, or adults, you should apply for the Faith Formation Grant. If your idea involves the evangelization and faith formation of adults over the age of 18, you should apply for the Outreach Initiative Grant. For additional questions, contact the Diocese of Joliet Ministry Grants Team at [ministrygrants@dioceseofjoliet.org](mailto:ministrygrants@dioceseofjoliet.org).***