

## Why Reports Matter: 5 Reasons

### 1. Troubleshooting

Sometimes a funded project has a false start or crisis point. The Vision Fund jury is committed to understanding issues, offering assistance, and discovering a successful adjustment. But we can't act unless we hear first-hand from the project leaders. How much better to contact us directly and early and talk through an issue – rather than leave fellow Anglicans (and other community observers) to find out that a project has derailed.

- A report for this kind of situation is not written: it is a phone call (to any of the jurors), and then an appropriate form of follow-up.

### 2. Accountability

As the fund assists Anglicans and allies to answer God's call for new action, so are recipients accountable to God and their fellow Anglicans as they work out these innovative projects. Funds are prayerfully granted according to posted guidelines (that's the jury's accountability piece), and they are spent for the purposes and in the spirit of the proposal (that is the grant-holder's accountability piece).

- Brief progress reports and final reports assure everyone that the funds are being delivered and spent in an accountable way.

### 3. Timelines

A great project may not run according to the proposed timetable. This does not take away from the value of the project. In fact, stops and starts are often great examples of project management.

- A progress report outlining stops and starts and corresponding adjustments will help the jury plan the Fund resources, and adjust disbursements according to a project's greatest need.

### 4. Inspiration

As a small group looking at proposals, feedback and some – but not enough – reporting (!), we are inspired by the range and ingenuity of projects. Some are going according to plan, but others are not, and we're inspired especially by projects whose problems and negotiations are beautiful examples of struggle: unforeseen bridges being crossed, dialogue deepening, ideas becoming sharper and more realistic, and neighbours being helped appropriately.

- These stories need to be shared! See "Best Practices" below...

### 5. Best practices

Has your project taught you some unexpected lessons? Can you help fellow Anglicans develop wise approaches to community-building, resource management (human and otherwise), agreement-making, relationship-building, prayer-covering, safety of all kinds, celebration, recognition, and sustainability? Is this the right fund with the right objectives?

- We won't be able to relay these learnings unless you report them to us. Through the ever-developing communication channels of the Diocese, we want to spread whatever Godly light has been ignited through the Vision Fund to all our islands and inlets.