



## DIOCESE OF CHARLOTTE

# ***SECURE AND FIRE-SAFE ENVIRONMENT (“SAFE”) GRANT PROGRAM***

### **Overview**

The purpose of this program is to provide revenue-challenged parishes, missions and other faith communities in the Diocese of Charlotte with grant funding to assist with certain security, life and fire safety planning and equipment.

The *Secure and Fire-safe Environment* (SAFE) Grant program has been established to provide financial assistance to parishes, missions and other faith communities with minimal financial resources as they develop and implement security, life and fire safety plans that will contribute to a safe and secure environment while reducing overall risk exposure.

*SAFE Grants* will be awarded by Diocesan Central Administration. While every request has merit, the pool of funds available for these requests is limited; therefore, the application process allows the Diocese to review and prioritize these requests in an open and fair manner.

This initiative will be funded from Diocesan Central Administration with the stipulation that the *SAFE Grants* be awarded to "small and needy parishes" with limited financial means to develop, acquire and implement necessary security, life and fire safety protections and plans. *SAFE Grants* will be awarded by the Diocese without a "repayment requirement."

### **Award**

A cash grant from Diocesan Central Administration for up to 75% of the project cost not to exceed \$15,000.

### **Eligibility Requirements**

1. Have a security, life or fire safety need that is included on the *SAFE Grant Minimum Safety/Security Measures Checklist*.
2. Have less than 3 months of operating expenses available as unrestricted and undesignated savings.
3. Annual offertory
  - a. Is less than \$250,000 for the most recent two calendar or fiscal years, and/or
  - b. per registered household is less than \$300 for the most recent two calendar or fiscal years.
4. Have not received a *SAFE Grant* within the prior 6 months.

**Expectations of SAFE Grant Recipients**

1. The parish/mission/community is to have 25% of the total project cost cash on hand. The balance of the project cost is eligible for the *SAFE Grant*.
2. Parish/mission/community will submit their project plan to the Diocesan Manager of Risk and Insurance who will offer guidance and assist with project review.
3. The *SAFE Grant* is to be used within 120 days of award.
4. The parish/mission/community is expected to have a documented Emergency Plan, or will complete a plan and related training within 180 days after receiving a *SAFE Grant*

**Funding the Program**

The primary funding source for this program is Diocesan Central Administration funds that are directed to Diocese risk mitigation activities. Budgeted funds may vary from year-to-year.

**Grant Applications/Information Request**

**To apply for a *SAFE Grant*, please email the following information to [riskmanager@rcdoc.org](mailto:riskmanager@rcdoc.org):**

1. Details of the project, including scope, specifications, quoted cost and proposed timing.
2. Proposed vendor/supplier
3. Cash and savings position summary relative to 3 months of operating expenses
4. Offertory results specifically addressing item #3 under “Eligibility Requirements.”

**SAFE Grant Minimum Safety/Security Measures Checklist**

The following checklist includes what are considered to be minimum safety/security measures for which *SAFE Grants* may be used:

	<b>Implemented</b>	<b>Not Implemented</b>	<b>Estimated Cost/Range</b>
<b>Physical Security</b>			
Interior and Exterior Security Cameras with Digital Video Recording			\$5,000-\$25,000
Master Key-Based Locks or Card Access Control System			\$2,500-\$15,000
Burglar Alarm System on all Exterior Doors (w/ 3 <sup>rd</sup> party Monitoring)			\$2,500-\$10,000
Panic Buttons on Altar and in Parish Office			\$1,500-\$2,500
Exterior Lighting (Parking Lot and Building Entrances)			\$5,000-\$25,000
Additional Approved Physical Security Initiatives: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Security Glass, Doors/Door Hardware</li> <li>• Security/Burglar Panel Upgrade</li> </ul>			

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Security Fencing/Gates &amp; Signage</li> </ul>			
	<b>Implemented</b>	<b>Not Implemented</b>	<b>Estimated Cost/Range</b>
<b>Fire Safety</b>			
Fire Alarm System (w/3 <sup>rd</sup> Party Monitoring) with Smoke Alarms/Heat Sensors, Annunciators/Strobes/Horns, and Pull Stations at Exits			\$5,000-\$10,000
Fire Extinguishers (w/ "ABC" chemicals) located throughout Facilities (with Annual Maintenance Plan)			\$250-\$2,500
Kitchen Vent Hood Fire Suppression System (with Annual Maintenance Plan)			\$2,500-\$5,000
Additional Approved Fire Safety Initiatives: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Fire Alarm Panel Upgrade</li> <li>Firesafe Votive Candle Systems</li> </ul>			
<b>Life Safety</b>			
First Aid & Blood Borne Pathogen Kits Installed in Kitchens, Offices, Classrooms, and Gathering Spaces			\$100-\$1,000
Automated External Defibrillators ("AED's" - Minimum 1 per single story building/1 per floor) with Annual Maintenance Program			\$1,300 ea.
Additional Approved Life Safety Initiatives: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Safety Signage/Placards</li> </ul>			
<b>Playground Safety</b>			
Appropriate Playground Surfaces with Annual Maintenance Plan			\$1,000-\$2,500
Playground Equipment Safety Inspection Plan			N/A
Playground Safety Signage and Security Fencing			\$250 - \$2,500
Additional Playground Safety Initiatives: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Removal of Broken/Obsolete Equipment</li> <li>Repair of Broken Equipment</li> </ul>			
<b>Emergency Management Plans/Training</b>			
Medical Training (CPR/First Aid/AED)			N/A
Active Shooter Plan & Training			N/A
Security/Emergency Plan			N/A
Additional Training Initiatives: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Weather Emergency Response</li> <li>Fire Evacuation Protocol</li> <li>Plan Printing/Communication Expenses</li> <li>Risk Assessment Consultants</li> </ul>			