How the Dream Came to be?

(A Tale of Two Stories that form the underlying purpose and focus for the Virginia Regional Dream/Seed Grant Funds)

The Elsie Tease Principle:

Elsie Tease was a member of Battery Park Christian Church in Richmond. She asked for permission and the blessing of her minister and congregational board to take up "above and beyond" offerings from her church to create a fund that would be used to help people move into and/or live at The Summit. A few months later a check was received for $124.86. It began with an idea and a few small gifts of change (coins mostly) that inspired something beyond the size of those nickels and dimes. This gift became the Seed money for the Care Fund to come alongside people moving into the Summit.

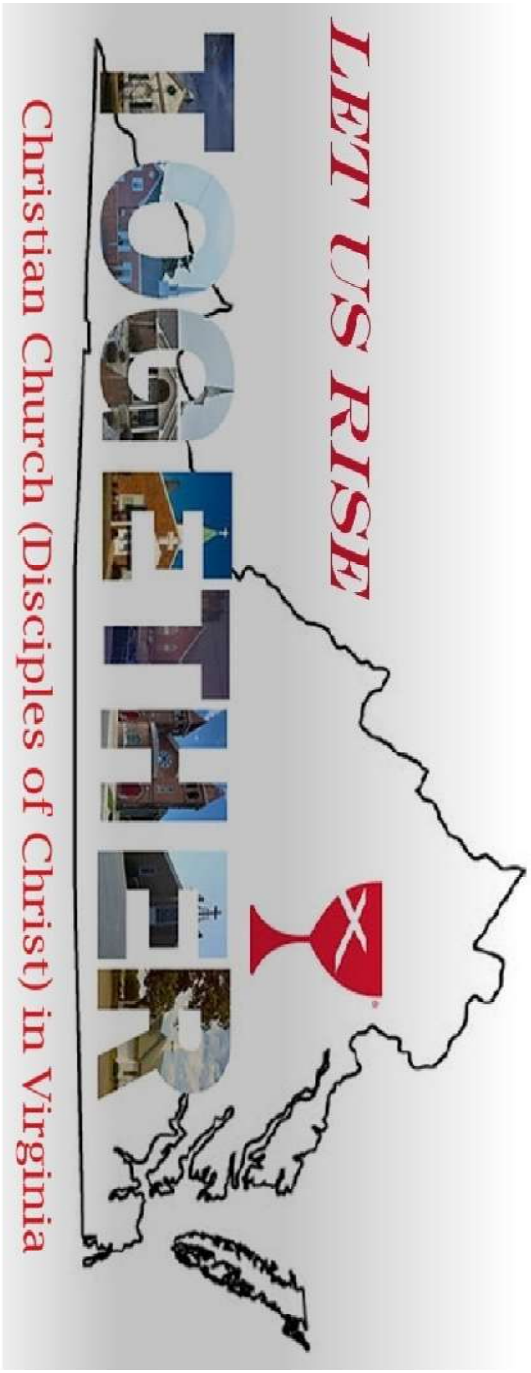
The Elsie Tease Principle is that sometimes a small gift of funds can help a small idea/ministry grow into something larger.

The Carrie Burwell Principle:

Carrie Burwell was a member at Rocky Mount Christian Church in Rocky Mount. She went to her minister with the nearly unbelievable idea that "We need to build a Home for the Aging in Virginia." Her minister replied to her with words often spoken when ideas are seemingly too large to fully comprehend how they could ever come true, “Well, we will need money for that to happen.” So, Carrie Burwell left her house to the Region in her will. This gift became the seed money for The Summit.

The Carrie Burwell Principle is that sometimes ideas for new ways of ministry are so huge and unimaginable that they need a significant starter gift to allow others to believe it is possible.

DREAM/SEED GRANTS
(INSPIRED AND FUNDED THROUGH THE SUMMIT LEGACY ENDOWMENT)



The Three Grant Funds and what they are intended to support:

Each year the interest from the designated endowment will be received and utilized with the following purpose:

1. CARE FUND: 40% will be designated for the Care Fund. The Care fund is intended to provide solidarity grants to individuals wishing to move into The Summit. These grants and selection of recipients shall be the ministry and responsibility of the Retirement Center Board.

2. Congregational Dream/Seed Fund: 40% will be designated for seed money to the Region for offering grants to congregations and other organizations of the Region with a priority given for ministries to or with Seniors, but other ministries may also be given consideration. *

3. Region & Beyond Dream/Seed Fund: 20% will be designated for other Regional or General Ministries of the Christian Church (Disciples of Christ). *

- **Grant Funds 2 & 3 shall be the ministry and responsibility of the Administrative Council of the Region**

Criteria for Awarding Funds 2 & 3

1. **The grant requestor must hold membership in an organization that has membership in the Christian Church (Disciples of Christ) that actively financially supports the wider church through DMF or other offerings.**
2. **The requested ministry must have the approval and support of the leadership of that congregation or ministry.**
3. **The ministry must meet the "Spirit" of being a New or innovated ministry. These funds are not meant to support ongoing budgets.**
4. **It meets either the "Elsie Tease or Carrie Burwell Principle"**
5. **Priority will be given to grant requests that address issues related to seniors and/or involve more than one Disciples congregation or ministry.**

How to apply for a Dream/Seed Grant:

1. **Simply follow this link or use the QR Code to fill out the short but important grant request form.**
2. **Develop a strong narrative to help the Administrative Committee understand your ministry idea.**
3. **Get feedback and support from your congregational leaders.**
4. **Be available to join the Ad-Council meeting to answer questions.**
5. **Plan to share your work/idea/story with the wider church.**

https://www.ccinva.org/grantministry

