



October 2018

Mission Grant Story

Lutheran Braille Workers Laborers of Love- \$100,000

Faith comes by hearing and hearing by the Word of God (Romans 10:17).

Did you know there are approximately 11 million blind and/or visually impaired people in the United States, and of those about 95% are unchurched? For 74 years Lutheran Braille Workers (LBW) has been using their resources to engage blind and visually challenged people by giving both spiritual and physical encouragement. Combined since 2012, Lutheran Blind Mission Society and Lutheran Braille Workers (LBW) are helping the visually challenged to “see” Jesus with the “eyes of faith” through the use of large print and braille Bibles.

Laborers of Love, will use this grant of \$100,000 to print 20,000 English Standard Version (ESV) Bibles at more than 100 LBW Work Centers in the United States. This is a complicated process of transcription, creating and embossing zinc plates and then printing a complete ESV Bible of 37 volumes in either

large print or braille for a cost of \$185. On the commercial market this same Bible would sell for \$810, making the purchase of this Bible cost prohibitive for many blind and visually impaired persons. The Laborers of Love grant project will give these Bibles free of charge to recipients.

As a Recognized Service Organization (RSO), this ministry serves about 1200 active participants in 60 Outreach Centers throughout 23 states. LBW seeks to reach out to people with visual limitations so they too have the saving news of Jesus. Many blind or visually impaired persons have been mistakenly told that their blindness is punishment for sin, or if they have enough faith, they’ll be healed. Because of this misinformation, many of the visually challenged become discouraged or have rejected God. Being able to read a Bible and learn of the saving news of Jesus’ life, death, and resurrection will give them encouragement and hope.

Lutheran Braille Workers is committed to continuing their connection to the visually disabled. By lovingly equipping and supplying them with ESV Bibles in braille or large print, the Gospel will be proclaimed. Through the LBW network of volunteers, these Bibles will be a means for sharing God's love.

