

HOPE AND HEALING HUB OF DOWNTOWN LINCOLN LCMS Nebraska District — \$50,000

“Come to me, all who labor and are heavy laden, and I will give you rest. Take my yoke upon you, and learn from me, for I am gentle and lowly in heart, and you will find rest for your souls. For my yoke is easy, and my burden is light” (Matthew 11:28-30).

The University Lutheran Chapel is advantageously located at the very edge of the University of Nebraska campus in the heart of downtown Lincoln, Nebraska. More than 26,000 students live and study there, with 2,700 of those young adults being international students from around the world. Additionally, the surrounding neighborhood is home to thousands of recently-graduated millennials. The students currently involved in worship, Bible study, and discipleship at the chapel are a great connecting point for others to enter the chapel community, and are also a link for the international students to acquire assistance with English language skills and American culture. This Hope and Healing Hub of Downtown Lincoln mission

grant will help with needed renovations of the University Lutheran Chapel, making it a more accessible place for counseling and other student services.

The ministry of this chapel addresses the very real problem of young adults being especially susceptible to depression leading to suicide. Suicide is the second most common cause of death among college students. The renovated space has been designed to include a dedicated space for Christian counseling services through Grace Point Institute for Relational Health. In addition, it provides a larger student union space for students to gather and build relationships. It will encourage fellowship and foster new relationships to form and grow, while offering Christian counseling services to those who need to hear of God’s love for them. The Hope and Healing Hub will be a place where anyone can come to be loved, to be healed with the help of Christian counselors, and to receive hope through Word and Sacrament. This center is designed to be open and welcoming to all in the community, both students on campus as well as to the public in the surrounding neighborhood.

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