

2016 Challenge to Change (Ch 2 Ch) Grant



HRP Green Congregational Outreach

Since its inception in mid-2015, HRP Green has been dedicated to working on environmental issues and helping our congregations learn to live lightly on this Earth. Their goal is to do all they can to insure a livable world for future generations and to stand with and on behalf of the poor, who are the most adversely affected by climate change. Although supported by modest grants by the First Presbyterian Churches of Yorktown and White Plains, more than twenty additional HRP congregations as well as both conference centers had participated in one or more of their programs during their first year of existence. For 2016, HRP Green wanted to present at least two training sessions regarding climate change and related environmental concerns, and purchase topical environmental films that would be available for viewing by congregations without charge. In addition, they wanted to establish a volunteer Presbytery “Engineer Geeks” group to help advise congregations how to “green” their buildings. So HRP Green requested and received a \$3,000 Ch 2 Ch grant in 2016

Since then, HRP Green has sponsored a well attended Lenten Environmental Death and Resurrection Tour in Peekskill where participants visited six sites of death and renewal, and they offered education and liturgy at each location. They also met with BFP and secured a significant divestiture of HRP funds from investments in fossil fuels. They sponsored a Community Conversation at the July Presbytery meeting for how congregations can divest from fossil fuel investments as well. Please visit their Facebook page at: <https://www.facebook.com/HudsonRiverPresbyteryGreen/>

Do you or a member of your church have a great idea that reflect the mission and core values of the Hudson River Presbytery but that idea could use some financial assistance? Please visit the HRP web page, click on “Stewardship Ministries,” then “Grants Committee,” then “Overview of HRP Grants.” There you will find information about the various grants our Presbytery offers as well as those offered by our Synod and the General Assembly. And you will also find application forms there.