



## Mission Grant Report Form

Iowa District West

Grant recipients are asked to complete and submit the report form within one month of the completion of the effort or, if a continuing ministry, by January 31 of the following year in which the grant is received. Please submit any pictures, as well, that would help to share the story with other congregations to encourage them in their ministry.

1. Please provide a brief overview of the effort.

On October 18<sup>th</sup> Redeemer Lutheran in Sioux City offered a wonderful Father / Son touch football event. It was held in conjunction with the Redeemer Men's Ministry tailgate party. It worked out better than anticipated.

2. What goals were established for this effort; that is, what did you hope to accomplish?

We asked the men to change their tailgate party to accommodate a father / son touch football event and it was amazing.

3. Did you achieve your goals? If not, what do you think were some of the contributing factors?

The men held a mini tailgate party which saw a good number of men from our church attending. But this year our numbers went way up. This was because we added a bounce house, we invited the entire family, and we held our first ever father / son touch football event.

4. Is there anything you would do differently if you were to undertake this effort again?

The effort was good, the participation of young and old was pleasing and we increased our visitor participation from years past. We found that the wives came because they enjoyed eating with the husbands and mostly watching the kids have fun with their dads as they played touch football. I think the bounce house was a nice touch too.

5. What lessons were learned through this effort?

The biggest lesson learned was that adding a family components and changing the event from simply watching a game to more active participation for all involved was a real bonus for reaching both our members and for reaching into the community. I'd guess this year we had closed to 75 people attend in one form or another. We saw around a 50% increase in participation from simply having a men's event.

6. What suggestions would you give to a congregation considering a similar effort?

There was a couple of TV's in the corner with some football games on, but I'm not sure anyone really watched them. There were several visitors, both young and old. The kids brought friends who seemed to enjoy both the food and the games. There were a couple of men from the community, but they actually have church homes. Not that having a church home is a bad thing,

it's just that we had hoped they would be potential prospects for our church. The kids, however, were better evangelists. Six of the kids who came to our event were not attending any church or not considered members of any church. We have now added them to our contact information and can send their families information.

7. Contact person

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