Lilly Endowment

Theological School Initiative to Address

Economic Challenges Facing Future Ministers

Luther Seminary

2481 Como Avenue

St. Paul, MN 55108

Project name & objectives: It Takes a Village

Prepare Financially Healthy Ministers

7 projects:

1. Assess effectiveness of the new curriculum to reduce student debt
2. Study the impact of educational deb on first call ministry
3. Strengthen congregational financial support of seminarians
4. Strengthen financial coaching
5. Learn from students who accrue less debt
6. Strengthen the course “Money and the Mission of the Church”
7. Establish financial coaching groups for senior students

Most significant activities to date:

1. Gathered contact information of the last five years of graduating seniors
2. Began to gather debt information as well
3. Added new pieces to financial coaching continuing education
4. Presently teaching the “money” course with new resources
5. Developed a model for this coming fall’s senior student coaching groups

Resources produced:

1. The “Money and the Mission of the Church” course
2. The senior student coaching group

Most interesting bit of information uncovered:

1. We have increased the amount of financial aid by nearly 60% without significant debt reduction

Project Director:

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