

Social Justice Fund Granting Guidelines

Grant Application Timeline

- 2 Month Grant submission period (period from announcement of call for submissions to submission deadline).
- 4 weeks from application deadline to funding decision

Notification of Award

Grantee(s) will be notified first by email, with a letter mailed as follow-up.

Grant Period

Time over which funds will be used:

- 6 months to 1 year

Restrictions

- A grantee may receive multiple grants, at the discretion of the panel.
- The Grantee must be a registered 501(c)3, or be partnered with an umbrella organization that is a 501(c)3. The umbrella organization must fit within the same additional criteria as the grantee organization (see below under criteria).

Reporting Requirements

- Grantee should submit a report within 6 months of the end of the project timeline.
- Report should include, where possible
 - Quantitative measure of achievements toward desired justice results (e.g. number of people served, reductions in mass incarceration rates, etc.)
 - Success stories and examples of achieving desired results.
 - Any other specific results as applicable
- Reports need not be complicated. A simple letter could suffice.

Granting Criteria

- The alignment of the organization and justice objective with UU values, UUSS mission, and other UUSS justice activities or initiatives.
- Severity of injustice issues the applicant seeks to address
- Potential for a funding grant to have a positive impact

Priority will be given to:

- Projects done in close collaboration with UUSS (Social Justice Team)
- Larger, and perhaps multi-year commitments to one partner rather than using the distributed funds among multiple partners or projects.
- Organizations which have commitment to justice as demonstrated through:

- Commitment to a campaign organizing to explicitly shift the balance of power and to create specific, substantive change at an institutional and/or systemic level.
- A strategy and action plan that prioritizes leadership roles for the people and communities most impacted, solutions that challenge the root causes of the problem, and advocacy tactics to win.
- A critical mass of leadership at the board, staff, and membership level of those who will be most impacted by the issues and changes you seek.

Application

Please include the following in your application:

- Narrative
 - Please give a short summary of the project, including the amount requested.
 - Please respond to the following, as applicable:
 - Describe your group and its recent history.
 - Describe more fully the project for which you are applying. Describe the issue(s) your organization addresses through this project, and what specific actions you are taking to address the issues. Outline the project's goals, activities and timelines.
 - Describe how your organization operates and how decisions are made. Who is in your decision-making group? Who is accountable and how?
 - Who will carry out the project's plan?
 - Who do you define as your community? How do you reach them?
 - Describe the ways your Board and staff are representative of the communities and issues you are working with.
 - Describe your specific evaluation plan. How will you know you have succeeded? What outcomes are you working to create? What measures will you use?
 - Please describe your organization's or group's social change philosophy.
 - How will your project help to bring about systemic change on the issue you are addressing?
- Project Budget
- Project Timeline
- Organizational Budget (Optional)