

## **Policy 3.10: The Justice Outreach Fund**

**Purpose:** The Charitable and Educational Endowment Fund for Social Justice, hereafter referred to as the Justice Outreach Fund, promotes the application of the seven Unitarian Universalist principles.

**Justice:** Justice refers to the concept of a society in which equity and ethical relations are achieved in every aspect of society, rather than merely by the administration of law. A just world affords individuals and groups fair treatment and an impartial share of the benefits of life and society, regardless of class, gender, race, ethnicity, religion, age, sexual orientation, ability, or health.

**Proposals:** The Justice Outreach Fund will make grants that are focused on high-impact projects that are aimed at seeding and achieving social, economic, racial, environmental and other kinds of justice. Proposed projects should create tangible shifts and/or systemic solutions to current injustices. There are several key features to systemic change. Most notably, systemic change:

- Changes ideas, assumptions, attitudes, and behaviors;
- Reaches beyond the immediate project or the Unitarian Universalist Fellowship of Corvallis;
- Is sustainable: change continues to occur even after direct intervention ends; and
- Requires the use of multiple and coordinated strategies and activities.

Below are three indicators of effective justice work, which the Justice Outreach Fund Committee will use to evaluate all proposals. Successful proposals will aim at achieving at least one of the following indicators:

1. Changing how people are thinking and talking about an issue.

By the conclusion of the project, we will have raised awareness, introduced new language, and reframed the discussion of the justice issue being addressed among both program participants and community members (the community may be defined as the church or the wider community).

2. Engaging people and communities in civic action.

We will have inspired people and communities to engage in civic action to eradicate or improve the issue the project addresses. We will have moved the community to join the UUFC in addressing and striving to end a form of injustice:

3. Developing or changing public or corporate policy.

Systemic obstacles to justice will be overcome through the adoption of new laws, policies, or practices. These new policies, aimed at increased fairness, equity and opportunities for individuals and groups, will be a result of our efforts.

**Criteria:**

1. Proposals must answer and meet the following questions and criteria:

- A. What are the measurable or observable goals of the project?
- B. Describe how the objectives will advance the mission of the justice principles of Unitarian Universalism?
- C. Describe the project activities that will achieve the goals.
- D. Provide a budget describing how the funds will be spent during the timeframe of the project.
- E. Commitment to provide a written report evaluating the success of the project in achieving the goals within 45 days of the project's completion

2. Priority will be given to projects that:

- A. involve participation by UUFC members or youth in programs operated by other groups which are largely in sympathy with the application of Unitarian Universalist religious principles;
- B. create, encourage or facilitate cooperation and collaboration between groups within the UUFC, or between the UUFC and other groups.
- C. are justice-related conferences or workshops
- D. are justice-related presentations or sermons
- E. involve training for UUFC members or youth to enable their participation in organized justice efforts.

3. The Justice Outreach Fund will support projects in which objectives are defined and their accomplishments measured. These objectives may not be as widespread as the elimination of injustice, but could address intermediate objectives of drawing attention to the problem, tackling one aspect of it, or preparing for a larger, more sustained effort.

**Types of Support:**

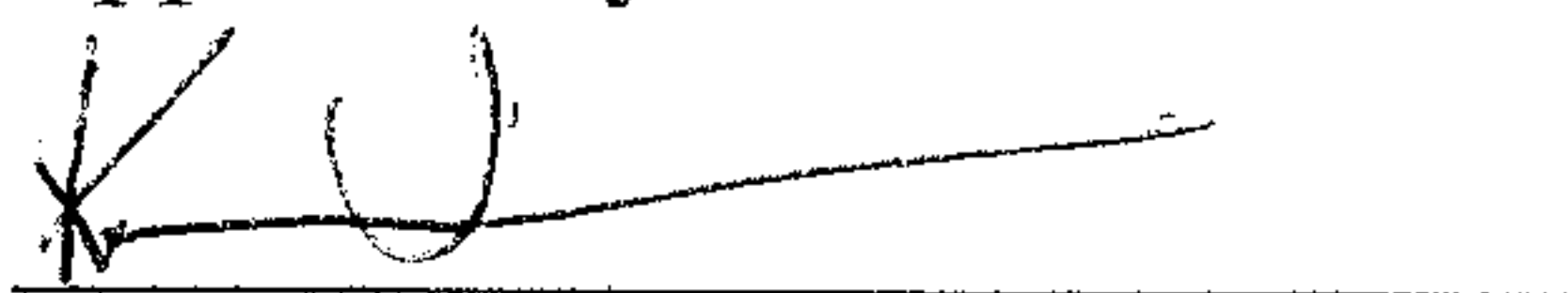
- 1. Small grants (up to \$500): support for time-sensitive change projects; must be submitted 30 days prior to event or project.
- 2. Project support grants (up to \$5,000): support for large-scale initiatives; must be submitted 90 days prior to event or project launch.



## **Stewardship of the Justice Outreach Fund**

1. All funds received, plus interest, shall be placed in an investment vehicle that accrues interest and permits withdrawals at will, and this shall be referred to as the Justice Outreach Fund ("Fund"). The Fund shall be tracked by the UUFC investment committee as are other UUFC monies.
2. The Fund shall be used for UUFC and other activities related to justice work that are consistent with tax regulations governing the UUFC's tax-exempt status. The Fund will be made available for this purpose to the UUFC community via an annual grant allocation process as part of the approval of the annual budget.
3. The Board of Trustees shall designate a three-person Grant Committee to manage the grant allocation process. One member of the Grant Committee shall be designated as liaison to the UUFC Treasurer and shall coordinate Fund management and grant allocation with the Treasurer and Business Manager.
5. Up to 50 percent of the Fund may be made available for grants on an annual basis. At the beginning of each UUFC budget cycle, the Grant Committee shall review the Fund's balance and its growth and earnings during the previous fiscal year. Based on this assessment and on the goal of funding near-term justice work while simultaneously striving to maintain the Fund's availability for future UUFC justice work, the Grant Committee shall determine the dollar amount to be made available for grants during the next UUFC fiscal year. This amount shall be announced as specified in the following paragraph.
6. The Grant Committee shall publicize the Fund, the dollar amount available for grants, and the grant application process to the UUFC community on a regular basis, at least annually, through the church newsletter and other appropriate means. Grant applications will be encouraged from any UUFC member, committee or program.
7. The Fund shall be increased according to UUFC Policy 3.9 "Undesignated Financial Bequests and Gifts. "
7. The Grant Committee may regularly solicit, at least on an annual basis, additional gifts to the Fund to increase the amount available for grants each year. Any solicitation of gifts to increase the fund will be coordinated with other UUFC fundraising activities to avoid disruption of those activities. Contributions may be made to the fund at any time.
8. Applications for grants shall be submitted in writing to the Grant Committee. The Committee will approve or deny an application based on availability of funds and on the approved criteria for applications.
9. The Grant Committee shall report regularly, at least on an annual basis via a written report at the annual UUFC congregational meeting on the disbursement of monies from the Fund, the activities funded, and the status of available funds.

Approved by the UUFC Board of Trustees October 10, 2015



Kyle Jansson, President