Fund for International U/Uism

Cape Town Unitarians $18,000
Cape Town, South Africa
African Outreach to Expand Unitarian Values - Year 2

Second year funding to support four Pan-African Unitarian initiatives, each offer an opportunity to strengthen our shared identity, build sustainable structures, and deepen connections across our continent. They include: a Pan-Africa Website and Newsletter available to all Unitarians in Africa (https://www.panafricanunitarians.org/); a Pan-African Choir that gathers singers from multiple countries; a training program that includes lay leaders in taking an Afrocentric leadership certificate course, with three levels of mastery and creates a Congregation Formation Packet for new groups, centered in anti-colonial frameworks and Global South spirituality; and a travel fund to explore the Cape Town, South Africa conference for African Unitarians which will help foster trust, strategy, and shared celebration.

Dávid Ferenc Unitarian Youth Association $20,000
jud. Cluj, Romania
125 Years on the Common Road – Strengthening and Passing on the Unitarian Heritage

The DFUYA is open to youth and young adults aged between 13–30. It exists in order to strengthen the ties of youth to the Unitarian faith in Transylvania, to provide appropriate social opportunities, and to develop their abilities so that they can truly and freely live their faith and be an active part of society. This year, they celebrate their 125th anniversary and mark the 10th anniversary of "Common Paths, their youth worship tour. “Common Paths” aims to create a form of worship that remains faithful to the values of Unitarian traditions yet is also open to the world and responsive to the expectations of today’s youth. DFUYA is launching a leadership training series designed to provide young volunteers with the knowledge and experience to serve their communities effectively and contribute to the development of an authentic, committed youth movement. Finally, they are organizing large national events (Sport Olympics, ArtZ Festival, Unitarian Youth Conference and the Dávid Ferenc memorial pilgrimage) to provide an opportunity for Unitarian youth from abroad to participate.

Flaming Chalice International $20,000
Ottawa, Canada
Panafrican Francophone Retreat

U/Usm is still a very English-centered movement and many people who come across U/Uism find the language to be a barrier including French speaking people who have inquiries from Benin, Cameroun, Congo Brazzaville and other places looking for some French resources. This project brings together people who have expressed interest in the U/U faith and want to make connections and potentially communities. The project will promote U/U values, theology, governance and let the participants and the world see and experience them. Once groups are started, the Panafrican Unitarians will take over and provide support to the groups that will be on their road to growth and stability.

János Zsigmond Unitarian High School $15,000 / *$5,000*
Cluj-Napoca, Romania
We Are In This Together - A Joint Ukrainian-Transylvanian-American Project

"What better ways to counter oppression of any kind than art?". For a choir tour designed to offer authentic insights into Transylvanian culture, spirituality, and music. Additionally, the initiative will foster meaningful dialogues and connections during youth gatherings and community events scheduled throughout the journey. The revised project now centers explicitly around cultural, spiritual, and musical exchange involving 40 high school students from Kolozsvár visiting eight Unitarian Universalist congregations across the United States and engaging with students and faculty at Union Theological Seminary in New York.

Mulher Forte African Literature $12,000
Mahalapye, Bostswana
Mulher Forte GBV

To give Gender-based violence activism and awareness talks in schools and meet with teachers on how to help abused children or those affected by Gbv. The goal is to raise awareness on what to do when abused, where to go when abused, who can abuse, what one must do when abused and that Gbv is nothing to be ashamed of and that one must speak up to get help. This project will grow U/U in Botswana as the flyers and banners will have U/U logos, and we shall incorporate principles of U/U in our GBV awareness campaign because with love principles bullying and GBV will not exist.

Sister Souurce, Inc. $20,000
Marietta, GA
Strengthening UU Church Leadership in Kenya: Worship, Music & Sunday School Development

The Unitarian Universalist Church of Kenya (UUCK), in collaboration with Sister Souurce, will host a Weekend Leadership Training and Capacity- Building Program for UU church leaders. The program will strengthen leadership skills, develop choirs using Kenyan music, establish Sunday schools, and build a UU resource library, creating a replicable model for African UU communities. At least 50 UU church leaders will be trained, equipped with leadership, governance and pastoral skills. By the end of the program, UUCK will have a stronger leadership base, an enriched worship experience, and a more structured approach to youth and child engagement, ensuring long-term sustainability and growth.

UU Congregation of the Philippines $20,000
Negros Oriental, Philippines
Full Implementation of Religious Education in Congregations (FIREC)

To offer religious education classes in all UUCP congregations and fellowships as part of faith development strengthening. Member congregations have been requesting religious education materials to teach children and youth about our faith since many members are converts from other Christian denominations. The goals of this project are: to re-establish and intensify religious education programs in all congregations and fellowships, to offer age-appropriate curriculum to different age groups, to monitor the implementation and the impact of religious education among members, to encourage more children and youth to be active in the church, to train religious education volunteers on the proper implementation of curriculum and to make religious education a regular program that will add more life to the ministry of the church.

Total Grants – 7 $130,000
Total Challenge – 1 - $5,000