UU Funding Program

Fall 2025

Fund for UU Social Responsibility

Connecticut UU Social Justice Ministry $17,500 */ $2,500*
New Haven, CT
Startup Grant for Connecticut UU Social Justice Ministry

To launch a statewide UU action network in Connecticut, guided by a 5-year phased plan leading to a half-time Executive Director. The project will connect congregations to build power and contribute to coalitions that advance systemic change, centering partnerships with values-aligned organizations led by those most impacted, where our support can amplify and expand justice work. CT has 2,000+ UUs in twelve UU congregations with more than 20 members, and five smaller ones.

Magic Valley Unitarian Universalist Fellowship $6,000 / *$6,000*
Twin Falls, ID
Pathway of Hope - English as a Second Language

The Magic Valley UU Fellowship was started in Monica Tognetti's living room over 32 years ago. As the group grew, they moved from rental to rental until they were able to purchase an existing building in 2019. They were certified as a Welcoming Congregation. Twin Falls is home to one of Idaho's two Refugee Relocation Centers and is located in the agricultural belt with many immigrants seeking assistance with English as well as American civics instruction. The local community college is now tasked with checking the credentials of all students. While most are credentialed, there is a legitimate fear of harassment and detention by many and financial support for the Refugee Center will be cut very soon. In response, MVUUF will hold four two-hour ESL classes per week for 42 weeks with an experienced instructor. Additional UU members will help with classes, mentor students, and provide meals.

SCUUJA - South Carolina UU Justice Alliance $11,000 */ $3,000*
Charleston, SC
SCUUJA Action Team Development Across South Carolina

The SCUUJA formally started in 2022 and has grown steadily since in membership, campaigns, offerings, and events. This project is to make all six of their issue Action Teams more effective in their statewide justice advocacy and enhance their work with deeper congregational engagement in South Carolina.

Trans& $20,000
Lake Mary, FL
TUB Hub: Building Resilient Communities through Collective Care

Trans& brings UU-rooted leadership, conflict engagement and spiritual formation expertise, and statewide networks. The Umbrella Brigade (TUB) is a grassroots mutual aid group in Sanford, FL, dedicated to addressing diverse human needs through supportive services and community defense. Together, TUB and Trans& are creating sanctuary for trans people and allies, where mutual aid is combined with weekly gatherings, skill-sharing, and collective care. The Project is designed to strengthen UU engagement in justice and community care by linking congregations and individuals with grassroots mutual aid. The goals include providing consistent sanctuary to trans people and allies, strengthening resilience and belonging for participants and expanding UU congregational engagement with grassroots networks.

TXUUJM - Texas UU Justice Ministry $20,000 / *$2,300 TA*
Austin, TX
The Know Your Power Project: A TXUUJM Youth Initiative

In a Texas hostile to youth rights, this project equips young people on the frontlines with 'Know Your Rights' training and resilience tools. A partnership between TXUUJM Youth Caucus, Texas Rising, and other frontline groups, will prepare youth to be safe, take action, and build a statewide network of advocates. The project includes statewide trainings, an interactive curriculum on protest, student rights, immigration, and direct action as well as resilience, self-care, community care and voter engagement. TXUUJM serves 40 UU congregations in Texas. “This project is an urgent response to rising authoritarianism, Christian nationalism, and fascism in Texas, placing youth on the frontlines of a systemic attack on their rights and safety. We are witnessing an erosion of church/state separation, widespread book bans, erasure of true history, and targeted anti-LGBTQIA+ attacks, particularly against trans kids facing the loss of safe spaces like school bathrooms. Our youth are the most impacted; we have a moral imperative to ensure they are prepared, safe, and equipped to act.”

UU Church of the Philippines $18,100 / *$1,900 TA*
Negros Oriental, Philippines
Church To Community Action On Climate Change (CCACC)

The project aims to amplify the role of the church as advocates for climate justice. The Philippine’s location on the Pacific Ring of Fire makes it prone to natural disasters such as earthquakes and typhoons. UUCP members are mostly farmers and fisher folks who are hugely dependent from the produce of their fields and the vast ocean. Over the years living conditions and crop productivity had changed due to climate change. Many people in rural communities are not aware that changing weather patterns and low productivity is a direct result of the worsening climate change. This project aims to bring the climate change awareness closer to the rural communities by conducting community discussions in 15 of the most vulnerable communities, engaging in coastal cleanups in ten communities, planting trees and community gardens, bringing speakers who are experts to help people to understand this global concern, and offering ways to adapt to the changing climate.

UU Prison Ministry of Illinois $10,000 / *$8,000*
Glen Ellyn, IL
Unlocking Unitarian Universalist Theology: Building Community Inside and Out

To equip UU's in Illinois to transform institutions, partnering with and supporting people harmed by the prison industrial complex. Over 200 Unitarian Universalists in IL congregations are doing the UUPMI ministries through education and events, advocacy, pen pal ministry, reentry circles, inside ministry in prison or jail. The Literary Bridges Project fosters dialogue and understanding, pairing currently incarcerated individuals with outside participants to share insights and build support. Another program, Art as Spiritual Practice, has been developed by their inside female-identified jail participants.

UUANI - UU Advocacy Network of Illinois $10,000 / *$10,000*
Chicago, IL
Skilling Up to Meet Partner Needs

Launched in 2013 with a statewide mobilization for marriage equality, UUANI has developed into an organizing and advocacy network of more than 1500 people in 29 congregations. This project was inspired by a series of conversations sponsored by CUUSAN (Coalition of UU State Action Networks) on best practices for state action networks, particularly the system of partners needs identification and congregational asset mapping developed by the North Carolina state action network. These conversations dovetailed with this year's listening campaign with key stakeholders as well as an annual statewide listening survey with congregational leaders. The project drills down into the particulars of partner requests and the specific skills and assets needed to respond to those requests strategically and effectively.

Challenge Grants are in italics, unless noted as TA

Total Grants - 8	**$142,100**
Total Challenge Grants -5	*$29,500*
Total TA Grants - 2	$4,200