

UU Funding Program
Fund for Unitarian Universalism
Grants Made Fall 2020

Baja 4 Unitarian Universalist

Tucson, AZ

The Baja 4: Unlocking Capacity Through Interdependence

\$18,000 grant / \$2,000 TA

When the pandemic began, the Baja 4 parish ministers joined together to support one another and their congregations, including newcomers, by collaborating to offer one single, shared, high quality Sunday morning worship experience. They discovered that attendance at worship far exceeds previous in-person attendance. Leadership is shared by local parish ministers, (semi) retired ministers, music and faith development professionals, and strong lay leaders with the promise of finding and maturing new leadership and sources of funding.

Cedar Lane Unitarian Universalist Church

Bethesda, MD

The Spirit Experience

\$5,000 grant / \$4,500 challenge

The Spirit Experience is a special program developed to grow a multicultural, multifaith religious community at Cedar Lane UU Church in which participants gather monthly to celebrate the collective breadth and breath of life, love, faith, and diversity. Following each multi-faith, multicultural, multi-generational Spirit Experience, participants engage in small group dialogue and enjoy refreshments.

Unitarian Universalist Church of Greater Lansing

Lansing, MI

Increasing Capacities for Social Justice Initiatives at UU Lansing: A Prison Reform Initiative

\$7,200 grant

UU Lansing has identified criminal justice reform as a critical need in their community and a priority program in the congregation. The project will identify and expand strategic racial and social justice efforts in our community and engage a Community Organizer to assist in three areas: creation, education, and engagement around prison reform.

Unitarian Universalist Church of Savannah

Savannah, GA

Growing Unitarian Universalism Radio: the WRUU 107.5 FM Project

\$16,000 grant / \$2,000 TA

WRUU 107.5 LP-FM, Savannah Soundings, Community Radio with Global Soul, is a project of the Unitarian Universalist Church of Savannah. Over 60 mostly local volunteers produce 42 talk shows and fill the remaining 24/7 with music shows of over 25 musical genres. WRUU was voted by Connect Savannah as 2019 Best Local Radio Station and Best Local Talk Show Radio and is the only UU radio station in the U.S.

Flaming Chalice International

Saskatoon, SK Canada

"UU- Knowledge Matter" Project

\$9,000 grant / \$2,400 challenge

When it comes to the knowledge of the UU faith, behind the language problem hides a knowledge problem. This is a two-phase project to set up an in-house leadership/theological training programme for Francophones UUs geared towards lay people. The first phase is to prepare materials for courses to be hosted on a website. The second phase will be to enroll and support students through a diverse team.

Longmont Unitarian Universalist Presence

Boulder, CO

Longmont UU Presence Dinner Church

\$20,000 grant

LUUP was formed 4 years ago as a direct response to the need to broaden UUism's focus beyond congregational ministry in Boulder County. They provide ministry outside of a church building and at a time other than Sunday, allowing LUUP to be more approachable to the unchurched, those who have rejected other religions, and UUs who yearn for something different. The dinner gatherings have been popular for busy families, supportive seniors, and singles. In March, dinner church moved to an online format.

UU Ministers Association

Boston, MA

Sustainability Fund: Take a Break for Sustainability's Sake

\$20,000 grant

The goal of this project is to nurture clergy resilience by manifesting the web of connections that help keep clergy strong. They will distribute small stipends, specifically for self-care and spirit tending, in whatever way is needed. Funds are available to UUMA members who are being especially impacted by the pandemics of COVID-19, racism and oppression including Black, Indigenous, and People of Color, Trans/Non-Binary and Disabled members, members who are actively caregiving children or elders, community ministers, un- or underemployed members, and ministers in congregations that have had significant budget cuts due to the impact of the virus.

Diverse & Revolutionary UU Multicultural Ministries (DRUUMM)

Lake Oswego, OR

DRUUMM Members, Chaplains and Digital Ministry

\$15,000 grant / \$5,000 challenge

A responsive project to the needs assessment of 200 Black, Indigenous and People of Color UUs to develop, improve, and expand the infrastructure for a sustainable DRUUMM organization. With official membership rising from 86 to 221 over a period of 18 months, the project will create orientation for new members, a stronger network of chaplains, and new digital ministry activities, including worship.

Unitarian Universalist Society for Community Ministries

Winchendon, MA

Launch of UUSCM Denominational Endorsement Program

\$8,920 grant / \$2,000 TA

UUSCM will launch a denominational endorsement program for Unitarian Universalists to become BCCi Board Certified Chaplains that complements the current UUA denominational endorsement provided UUs who are Fellowshiped. The program includes a volunteer panel which will interview candidates twice a year, a comprehensive application process and requirements, and administrative support.

Unitarian Universalist Justice Arizona (UUJAZ)

Phoenix, AZ

Widening the Circle of Concern with UUJAZ

\$18,660 grant

The Commission on Institutional Change calls UUs to create anti-racist, anti-oppressive, multi-cultural communities, by "Widening the Circle of Concern." UUJAZ is leading congregations to that work through leadership discussions, a BIPOC caucus, enrollment in Beloved Conversations, a scholarship fund, and ARAOMC programming.

Oak Ridge Unitarian Universalist Church

Oak Ridge, TN

Church 2.0

\$6,275 grant

The COVID-19 pandemic has fundamentally changed the way all religious organizations offer spiritually centered services. However, further challenges, such as the many effects of climate disruption, loom large. This project will inform, prepare, and equip religious organizations to meet spiritual needs in a time of chronic and ongoing crisis.

11 Grants / \$155,955 Total / \$11,900 Challenge / \$6,000 TA