

Unitarian Universalist Funding Program
Fund for UU Social Responsibility
Grants Made Spring 2021

Coalition of UU State Action Networks

Marlborough, MA

CUUSAN Salsa Support, Technical Grant

\$5,000 TA

For the SALSA subscription, available to all dues paying UU State Action Networks (SANS). SALSA is a powerful integrated database platform that integrates fundraising, communication, event organizing, and a legislative action in one database.

Forward Together: The UU Justice Ministry of North Carolina

Hillsborough, NC

NC UUs Seek Digital Organizing Capacity to Deepen our Impact

\$7,400 Grant, \$1,000 Challenge, \$2,000 TA

The UU NC community is a network of 28 UU congregations and Fellowships across North Carolina. Over the past year they have deepened their relationships through a network of leaders from 16 different congregations. In 2020 more NC UUs were activated than ever before, and UUJMNC is on the verge of major growth. They seek the digital organizing expertise and infrastructure development that will allow them to reach more UUs, deepen their engagement, and more powerfully contribute to the justice movement in North Carolina.

Iowa UU Witness and Advocacy Network

Iowa City, IA

Iowa UU Witness/Advocacy Network Mobilization Project

\$17,000 Grant, \$2,500 Challenge, \$1,000 TA

The Iowa UU Witness/Advocacy Network (IUUWAN) seeks a professional part-time organizer to increase their social justice impact in Iowa by improving their organizational structure, increasing engagement of Iowa UU members, strengthening ties with social justice partners, and taking deliberate action in mobilizing voters to support progressive state legislation for environmental and racial justice.

JUJustice Washington

Woodinville, WA

Revitalization Project

\$8,000 Grant, \$3,000 Challenge

To continue the Revitalization project of garnering sustained participation from their network (ongoing community and congregational engagement), asset mapping (both state-wide and regional), increasing committed leadership for environmental justice, racial justice, and refugee, immigrant, and migrant solidarity action teams, as well as recruiting additional diverse board representation.

Michigan Unitarian Universalist Social Justice Network (MUUSJN)

Royal Oak, MI

Working for Social Equity Project

\$8,000 Grant, \$2,000 Challenge

MUUSJN is an almost 20-year-old State Action Network (SAN) of over 3,000 individuals, including activists from all of Michigan's 26 UU congregations and other faith groups. This Project will organize a *Racial Equity Task Force* of Black and Brown people, UUs, and other people of faith to address the unequal treatment of people of color and voter suppression. This Project encourages UU congregations to partner with Black and Brown led organizations to work for racial justice.

MUUSJA - Minnesota, N. & S. Dakota UU Social Justice Alliance

Minneapolis, MN

"Wider Circles" Project

\$15,000 Grant, \$5,000 Challenge

MUUSJA seeks to broaden the scope, diversity, and network size of online regional UU gatherings. 30 congregations across MN, ND, & SD will hold 6 regular Convening Circles on: Indigenous Justice/Line 3, Racial Justice, Defending Democracy, Elder Justice, Immigration Justice, and a Midwest BIPOC-Only Circle.

New York Unitarian Universalist Justice

Albany, NY

Activating New York UUs for Justice -- Climate, Criminal/Legal, Health Care and More

\$17,000 Grant, \$1,500 Challenge

This project will organize New York UUs to work for climate justice, criminal legal reform and health care reform, including medical aid in dying. As New York's first UU statewide advocacy network, New York Unitarian Universalist Justice (NYUJJ) activates and coordinates UUs and their congregations across the state to take action for justice. Individuals who have signed up for our emails represent 46 congregations across the state, from western New York to the Adirondacks, to New York City and Long Island.

The HUUB, Inc

Orange, NJ

Planning to Stay (P2S)

\$18,000 Challenge

For a multi-year effort to organize a grassroots coalition of local stakeholders to develop and advance an equity based narrative and subsequent planning policies in Orange, NJ. The coalition's vision is to create a multi-scale, multi-system strategy for people's planning to stay, to slow displacement while both protecting and supporting

existing tenants, homeowners, and small businesses. By focusing on connecting and investing in the city's existing assets, HUUB has re-rooted First UU as an anchor institution in the community. This has meant opening the church doors, turning UU values into the community, inviting neighbors in; developing partnerships and collaborating with like-minded people and organizations; and investing in our campus.

Unitarian Universalist Mass Action

Marlborough, MA

Indigenous Rights, Massachusetts

\$10,000 Grant, \$5,000 Challenge, \$500 TA

UU Mass Action is the original state-wide UU advocacy group in the US. Their mission is to connect the 140 Unitarian Universalist congregations and 25,000 members, to “work smarter, not harder” for social justice by sharing ideas and joining forces to raise our compassionate voice in Massachusetts. UU Mass Action has been invited to join the organizing team leading the Massachusetts Indigenous Legislative Agenda. This campaign, focused on indigenous rights in Massachusetts, is a core campaign in UUs work for racial justice. The campaign will prohibit racist mascots, establish Indigenous Peoples Day, protect indigenous heritage, and celebrate and teach Native American culture and history. The success of last session's campaign to change the racist state flag and seal was an important first step, it's impossible to fight for justice on any issue in Massachusetts when the history of Indigenous genocide and European colonization in Massachusetts continues to be ignored and erased.

Wisconsin Unitarian Universalist State Action Network

Sister Bay, WI

WUUSAN

\$3,500 Grant, \$2,250 Challenge

WUUSAN is at a stage when robust connection with UU congregations throughout Wisconsin can occur. WUUSAN's infrastructure is in place, its focus can now shift to organizing UU congregations. The goal of the project is to hire a part time organizer who will establish connections with the 32 UU congregations in Wisconsin. Through these connections, an exchange of resources for social action between the congregations can occur, and a flow of donations may follow. WUUSAN has been involved with UU The Vote, opposed a for-profit prison in Wisconsin, participated with Building Unity, voter registration, and Black Lives Matter. Currently WUUSAN is focused on ending gerrymandering in Wisconsin.

10 grants \$126,150 Total / \$85,900 Grants, \$40,250 Challenge