

UU Funding Program 2006 ANNUAL REPORT

Grants Made by the Fund for Just Society

Total Number of Grants Made: 54
Grants Made: \$282,125
Challenge Grants Made (Italics): 53,000
Total Grants Made: \$335,125

\$3,000 9to5 Atlanta Working Women / Atlanta, GA

Family Flexible Policies for Low Wage Women

A second grant for a campaign to establish policies at the corporate, state and national levels that allow low-wage workers sick time, time to handle family care responsibilities and to be involved in their children's school activities.

\$2,000 A.L.S.O. Out Youth / Sarasota, FL

Safe Schools in Our Community

For an educational and advocacy campaign to create safe public schools for youth who are lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender or questioning, and to pass the Dignity for All Students Act in the Florida legislature.

\$5,000 CHANGE / Winston-Salem, NC

Community and Economic Development Campaign to Fight Poverty

For a grassroots campaign to fight poverty through community economic development, equitable school funding, health care access, affordable housing and a living wage ordinance.

\$4,000 Chicago Interfaith Committee on Worker Issues / Chicago, IL

Hotel Workers Rising! Campaign

For a campaign, part of a 10 city effort, seeking improved wages, benefits and working conditions for 7,300 hotel workers in downtown Chicago who earn on average of \$7 per hour.

\$4,000 Citizens of Louisville Organized & United Together / Louisville, KY

HOMEtown Campaign: Strong Homes, Affordable Neighborhoods

To address a critical lack of affordable housing in Louisville by organizing grassroots leaders to press local government to develop a local funding source by establishing a local Affordable Housing Trust Fund.

\$6,000 City Life / Vida Urbana / Jamaica Plain, MA

Tenant Organizing Program

For a campaign organizing multi-neighborhood, multi-ethnic, low-income tenants to resist gentrification and displacement and to pass a citywide ordinance that will establish the collective bargaining rights of tenants.

\$4,000 Community Alliance of Tenants / Portland, OR

Housing Justice Program

A grant for organizing low-income tenant leaders to challenge unsafe housing conditions, improve the quality and enforcement of housing codes, strengthen eviction protections and build power to hold landlords and public officials accountable.

\$10,000 Cook Inlet Keeper / Homer, AK

Stop Toxic Oil Pollution (STOP) Campaign

A second grant to work with the Alaska Native Tribes: to formalize strategies to protect subsistence resources from oil and gas development, challenge the pending Clean Water Act permit, press for tug vessels to assist oil tankers in the rough waters of Cook Inlet, and press for clean, renewable energy alternatives.

\$8,000 Dallas A.C.O.R.N. / Dallas, TX

Utilities Justice Center

For a campaign to ensure that low income families have access to affordable electricity.

\$7,000 Denver A.C.O.R.N. / Denver, CO

Colorado Raise the Minimum Wage Campaign

For a campaign to raise the minimum wage in Colorado to \$6.85/hour, writing the language for a ballot initiative and coupling this with voter registration and a Get Out the Vote effort, guaranteeing a winning livable wage campaign and moving toward economic justice for Colorado.

\$2,000 \$2,000 District 7 Advisory Council / Roxbury, MA

Boston Workers' Alliance

To support the organizing efforts of a union of unemployed workers of color in their efforts to develop a support infrastructure connecting workers with criminal backgrounds with gainful employment and advocating for legislative change to prevent discrimination based on criminal background.

\$4,000 East Boston Ecumenical Community Council / East Boston, MA

GOALS

For a campaign to improve access to higher education by undocumented immigrant students by passage at the state level of legislation that would allow these students to pay the in-state tuition rate at public colleges and universities.

\$5,000 EPOCA / Worcester, MA

Public Safety Campaign 2006

For a campaign to reform Criminal Offender Record Information (CORI) and mandatory minimum sentencing for non-violent drug offenders through passage of the Public Safety Act of 2006; and to promote progressive hiring practices to support the productive re-entry of persons with criminal records into the workforce.

\$5,000 Equality Maryland Foundation / Silver Spring, MD

Clergy Outreach Program

For a statewide clergy outreach program to build stronger interfaith advocacy for marriage equality for same sex couples in Maryland.

\$5,000 Fanm Ayisyen Nan Miyami, Inc. / Miami, FL

Senior Policy Advocate (SPA)

For a campaign to challenge immigration policies which discriminate against Haitian refugees and disrupt families by imposing unjust deportations, and to secure Temporary Protected Status (TPS) for Haitians.

\$6,000 Free Battered Women / San Francisco, CA

Parole Organizing Project

A second grant to mobilize the communities of incarcerated survivors of domestic violence and their supporters and work toward the release, via parole, of survivors serving life sentences for crimes directly related to their experience of abuse.

\$2,500 Grassroots Fundraising Journal / Oakland, CA

Raising Change: A Social Justice Fundraising Conference

To support a conference of fundraisers, community organizers, executive directors, and volunteers to address challenges facing progressives, learn fundraising skills, and explore the politics of funding and the role of fundraising.

\$2,000 Greater St. Mark Family Church / Bellefontaine Neighbors, MO

Community Food, Community Organizing

For congregation-centered community organizing around local food, education, health and agriculture policies that support racial and economic justice.

\$10,000 Hope Courage and Justice Project / Miami, FL

the sugarbabies

For distribution of a DVD and study guide to educate and mobilize the public about the horror of human trafficking and child labor abuses of sugar production companies in the Dominican Republic.

\$7,000 Idaho Community Action Network / Boise, ID

Adelante! Youth Organizing Project

To develop and strengthen a central youth team to mobilize immigrant rights campaign activities and do outreach to other youth.

\$6,000 Interfaith Committee for Worker Justice / San Diego, CA

Campaign Organizing - Tribal Workers, Justice for Janitors and Policy Campaigns

A second grant to build a grassroots movement among the San Diego faith community to support campaigns that lift low-wage working families out of poverty, with a particular focus on Justice for Janitors and Tribal Casino workers.

\$5,000 Interfaith Conference of Greater Milwaukee / Milwaukee, WI
Milwaukee Housing Trust Fund Campaign

For a grassroots effort to establish a Housing Trust Fund in Milwaukee, and to prevail upon the Milwaukee Common Council to implement ongoing dedicated sources of revenue, ensuring that it creates affordable housing for low-income people.

\$4,000 Lakeview Action Coalition / Chicago, IL
Healthy Community Building Initiative

A third grant for a campaign to implement statewide policy change to end predatory debt collections at local hospitals and to improve the provision of charity care at local hospitals. The proposed legislation would tie the amount of charity care to be provided by hospitals to their income.

\$7,500 Latino Union of Chicago/ Chicago, IL
Cicero Day Laborer Project

For a direct organizing campaign to demand city policy that creates a designated space and a community advisory board for day laborers, leading to a decrease of labor abuses faced by immigrant workers.

\$10,000 Lawrence Community Works / Lawrence, MA
40R Campaign

To address the issues of housing and economic inequity through a campaign to increase the affordability mandate in the Reviviendo Overlay District from 10% to 20% and link the resulting financial incentives for each new unit developed to asset-building accounts for low-income residents.

\$4,000 Louisville A.C.O.R.N. / Louisville, KY
Louisville WalMart Organizing Project

For development of a grassroots led coalition to get a “big box” ordinance passed in the Metro Council to ensure that citizens have control over the patterns of growth in the city, rather than big box stores and their shareholders. The campaign would use “predictive mapping” to target neighborhood organizing and action.

\$9,000 Love Makes a Family / Hartford, CT
Marriage Equality Work

For grassroots organizing and community education efforts to expand Connecticut’s marriage laws to include same-sex couples.

\$11,000 Maryland A.C.O.R.N. Baltimore MD
ACORN Lead Action Grant

To combine advocacy and lead inspections into a state and national campaign to ensure there is adequate funding to create healthy, lead-free homes in Maryland and for organizing to leverage money for lead paint remediation from the paint industry itself.

\$12,000 Merrimack Valley Project / Lawrence, MA

Immigrant Worker Organizing Campaign

For an immigrant workers organizing project to improve the quality of jobs in the Merrimack Valley and develop the leadership skills of workers.

\$6,000 \$2,500 Metropolitan Congregations United / St. Louis, MO

Immigrants' Rights Project

For campaigns to increase the political capital of immigrants through citizenship and individual Taxpayer Identification Numbers, to oppose discriminatory legislation against immigrants and to promote Comprehensive Immigration Reform.

\$5,000 Minnesota Citizens' Federation – Northeast / Duluth, MN

De-privatizing Minnesota's Low-Income Health Plans

For a campaign to take the administration of Minnesota's low-income health programs away from HMOs to improve benefits to enrollees, eliminate administrative waste and move toward a single payer health care system, establishing an alternative model to the "for-profit health care" currently offered.

\$5,000 Missouri Budget Project/ St. Louis, MO

Prevent TABOR Campaign and Coalition Building

A second grant to fight TABOR, a proposed constraint on state revenue growth, and to educate the public about the value of building our common wealth and the vital role of government in the provision of services.

\$8,000 Murder Victims Families for Human Rights / Cambridge, MA

"No Silence, No Shame" - Organizing Families of the Executed

A second grant to build relationships and organize families of murder victims and families of people executed to campaign against the death penalty and to oppose the death penalty as a human rights issue.

\$7,000 N.W. Indiana A.C.O.R.N. / Gary, IN

Grassroots Utilities Campaign

For a campaign to mobilize community members and engage public officials to pressure Northern Indiana Public Service Company, whose policies threaten residents with disconnection of lights and heat, and to improve payment plans and fees for low-income households.

\$5,000 Naugatuck Valley Project / Waterbury, CT

Immigrant Medical Interpretation Project

For organizing with the fast growing Latino population and other new immigrant communities to win interpretation services at four hospitals, and for training a network of immigrants to serve as interpreters.

\$5,000 Neighbor to Neighbor Massachusetts / Boston, MA

Making Work Pay

For a grassroots organizing campaign to increase the minimum wage in Massachusetts and index it to the cost of living; and to increase access to affordable health care coverage.

\$2,000 Neighborhood Pesticide Action Committee / Jamaica Plain, MA
Community Rights to a Healthy Environment 2006

For a campaign to establish a pilot program of organic pest management policy for Boston's Southwest Corridor Park.

\$7,000 North Carolina A.C.O.R.N. / Raleigh, NC
N.C. Campaign to Create a State Earned Income Tax Credit

For an organizing campaign to pass legislation for a state-level Earned Income tax Credit (EITC) in North Carolina and to enable more low-income citizens in the state to apply for the federal EITC.

\$2,000 Organization for Black Struggle / St. Louis, MO
Local Control Now!

A campaign for citizen review boards to prevent police brutality and for organizing to move governance of the St. Louis and Kansas City police departments from the state level to the city level.

\$5,000 Peace and Justice Center / Burlington, VT
Vermont Livable Wage Campaign

A second grant for organizing low-wage workers in a statewide "Vermont Livable Wage" campaign to address the growing economic disparity in the state, where one-fourth of full-time wage earners do not earn a livable wage.

\$2,000 People United for a Better Oakland Oakland CA
Campaign for Community Safety and Police Accountability

For organizing a statewide coalition to lobby the California legislature to amend privacy laws that prevent publication and accountability for police misconduct, and to advocate broadly for responsive and accountable police practices.

\$3,500 Prison and Jail Project Americus GA
"Courtwatch" Southwest Georgia

To develop and extend courtwatch projects in SW Georgia to monitor courtroom procedures and hold judges, prosecutors, defense attorneys and others accountable when they deny defendants due process rights or fail to administer fairness and justice regardless of the defendant's race or class.

\$7,500 Religion and Labor Network of Austin (RLNA) / Austin, TX
Day Labor Justice

To mobilize broad community support and moral pressure in a campaign to ensure that day laborers get paid for their work and that they win a recognized political voice in shaping fair municipal day labor policies.

\$2,500 Save Our Section 8 Colorado / Denver, CO
Downtown Denver Agenda

For a tenant led campaign to preserve four low-income housing developments in downtown Denver to accommodate those described by people of the "Downtown Agenda" gentrification group as "unwanted neighbors" - the low-income, elderly, and disabled citizens of the area.

\$10,000 \$2,500 Southern Center for Human Rights / Atlanta, GA

The Longtimers Organizing Project

For an organizing campaign by a group of women prisoners serving life sentences to shut down the dilapidated women's prison and replace it with a restorative justice system and improved facilities that would include meeting space and a nursery for babies born in prison to mothers serving shorter sentences.

\$13,125 Sunflower Community Action, Inc. / Wichita, KS

Immigrant Safety Project

For a campaign to create access to banking services, capitalization and economic power for Hispanic immigrant workers who are denied services because of lack of sufficient identification.

\$5,000 \$2,500 Transgender Legal Defense & Education Fund, Inc. / New York, NY

Transgender Health Initiative of New York

To organize the transgender and gender variant community to advocate for and educate community health centers and hospitals to provide access to health care in a safe, nondiscriminatory manner.

\$8,000 Union de Vecinos / Los Angeles, CA

Community Driven Development

For a campaign to challenge developers and city officials to create development and investment in neighborhoods in a way that preserves its cultural identity and addresses the community's needs.

\$8,000 Union of Minority Neighborhoods / Roxbury, MA

Massachusetts Alliance to Reform CORI

To mobilize and organize people with criminal records and their allies to reform the Criminal Record Information System through the passage of the Public Safety Act 2006, and to follow through with attention to enforcement and community education.

\$10,000 Virginia Forest Watch Nickelsville VA

Rural Outreach and Organizing

A third grant to address deforestation in the Appalachian region of Virginia, where forest removal has serious health and safety impacts from erosion and water contamination, affecting low-income communities. This grant also provides for educating loggers and private landowners about sustainable forest management.

\$5,000 Waltham Alliance to Create Housing / Waltham, MA

Torch Initiative

To organize tenants to create an effective tenants' association, gain representation on the Housing Authority Board of Trustees, advocate for an asset-building program to lift public housing tenants out of poverty, and address the appalling condition of Waltham's public housing.

\$15,000 Witness to Innocence / Philadelphia, PA

Witness to Innocence

For a campaign to abolish the death penalty by bringing the voices and vision of exonerated former death row prisoners and their families into public consciousness.

\$9,000 Youth Education Alliance / Washington, DC

Public Education Improvement in DC

For youth-led organizing campaigns to improve the educational system in Washington, DC in part by insisting on adequate, focused guidance counselor support for all students.