

## **Approval for Fetzer Grant Usage**

Submitted to the UUA Board of Trustees – September 2025

The UUA has received a two-year grant totaling \$445,000 from the Fetzer Institute. The grant is to support our innovative ministry work and participate in a learning community on faithful innovation with other religious groups. This formally unrestricted grant will be utilized in support of the New UU Communities Fund for ministry with UUs from historically marginalized communities. This support will also allow us to build stronger connections and foundational support for innovation and creativity which is aligned with Meet the Moment and other UUA focus areas.

Anticipated expenses include budget-relieving support for our existing staff and consultant capacity, adding administrative capacity and upgraded project leadership for the NUUCF, and enhancing the Cultivators' Collaborative and Stage II Funding programs for innovators leading UU communities. A portion will also be dedicated to the spiritual support of UUA staff. We anticipate spending up to \$250,000 in the current fiscal year. Since these funds were not included in the approved budget (we received the award in August), they require Board approval to spend. The remaining funds would be spent in FY27 per the terms of the grant, and will be included in the FY27 UUA budget proposal.

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*Proposed Motion: The UUA Board of Trustees approves the expenditure of up to \$250,000 from the grant received from the Fetzer Institute to support associated programs for faithful innovation and the operations of the New UU Communities Fund.*