

UUA Jackson Social Welfare Fund Committee

2020 Annual Report

This report covers activities of the UUA Jackson Social Welfare Fund Committee (“Committee”) for the funding cycle January to May 2020.

Mission: The Committee serves to implement the 1955 bequest of George and Bessie Jackson, which requires distributing annual earnings for two purposes:

- to advance understanding and acceptance of the First Amendment of the United States Constitution, and/or
- to promote rational and peaceful means of conflict resolution, both internationally and domestically.

Annual Activities: Each funding cycle, we:

- learn our annual giving limit from the UUA Investments Committee (\$30,500 for 2020);
- solicit proposals by distributing a Request for Proposals to organizations, using our contacts and the UUA website;
- receive proposals by our deadline;
- evaluate and discuss the proposals, then decide on grants. For the 2020 annual cycle, this occurred in April via Zoom; we received 12 proposals and made 12 grants;
- send decision letters to all applicants, enclosing checks as appropriate (to be completed for the 2020 funding cycle in May).

Membership: Our unique membership consists of six UUA members plus two members appointed by the Ann Arbor Friends Meeting (AAFM). The 2020 UUA members are Roberta Allen, Kyla Boyse (co-chair), Marina Brown, Christine Pellar-Kosbar (co-chair), Joe Libin, and Kate Warner. AAFM appointed Mark Hoover and Shirley Wolfe.

2020 Award Recipients:

- Americans United for Separation of Church and State
- Ann Arbor Center for Independent Living
- Defending Rights and Dissent
- Friends Peace Teams
- Interfaith Council for Peace and Justice
- Michigan Center for Youth Justice
- Michigan United
- Prison Creative Arts Program (PCAP)
- Safe and Just Michigan
- Therapeutic Writing Workshops for Veterans
- Visions: “Warrior Lawyers”
- Washtenaw Interfaith Coalition for Immigrant Rights (WICIR) Teen Group

Values: The Committee meets UUA core values through the missions of the projects we fund and our democratic decision-making process.

Respectfully submitted,
Kyla Boyse and Chris Pellar-Kosbar, co-chairs