



## Awards by the Live Oak UU Church Endowment Fund

### 2020

- **May Memorial UU Society, Syracuse, NY (\$5,000)**

Construction of ADA compliant handicap parking. After many years of planning and fund-raising, the congregation was able to begin construction this year of a safe and environmentally responsible main parking lot, incorporating permeable pavement, rain gardens, and heat-mitigating plantings. Besides being essential for a congregation that is welcoming for all, it is a City requirement needed to approve the entire project. This grant is the final funding to make this worthwhile project happen.

- **Literacy Council of Williamson County (\$3,200)**

Project: Moving Up's goal is to help adults acquire the skills, experience and credentials necessary for financial independence and participation in our community. This grant is for supplies and technology equipment (computers, cameras, headsets) for student access to virtual education. Most equipment will be used at the WILCO site.

- **UBarU Camp & Retreat Center, Mountain Home, TX (\$5,500)**

UBarU Camp & Retreat Center is a Unitarian Universalist organization which serves the Southern UU Region. UBarU will use a portion of these funds, along with outside donations, to construct a bird blind. Since the wildlife exemption is for migratory birds, this is most appropriate. Another portion of the grant money will be for Meetinghouse repairs. Volunteer labor will be used as much as possible to keep costs low.

- **Unitarian Universalist Congregation of the Catskills, Kingston, NY (\$6,200)**

Prior to the pandemic, UU Catskills had the vision to upgrade our sanctuary since it is a) too small for us, b) poorly ventilated with serious moisture, mold, and air quality issues, and c) not ADA compliant. Due to the pandemic, finances are tight. Their aim is to utilize the Live Oak Endowment grant to create an ADA compliant entryway and a healthy, better smelling, and airier sanctuary space, upgrading the most pressing aspects of their facility:

### 2019

- **UU Church of Studio City, CA \$7,000** for partial funding of a gender-neutral, wheelchair accessible, single stall restroom with shower. This will enhance teen overnights, provide sanctuary, expand assistance to the homeless and provide community emergency services.
- **Pathways Church, Hurst, TX - \$5,850** for funding of infrastructure improvements to increase classrooms and expand sanctuary capacity and program offerings through leader training and curricula.

- **Social Justice Steering Committee of the UU Fellowship of Vero Beach, FL - \$3,000** for GED test fee assistance. While there is free test preparation instruction locally, students must pay the test fee and with low, entry level jobs, many don't have the extra funds to pay for the test. Fellowship members will dispense funds to cover all or a portion of the fee and provide transportation to the test site, if needed. This is a pilot project which, if successful, could become a service of the Literary Services of Indian River County.
- **UU Congregation of the Grand Valley, Grand Junction, CO - \$4,400** for Our Whole Lives Facilitator training in a geographically isolated and culturally conservative area (western Colorado). Statistics and surveys have identified a need for a source of legitimate, professional education about healthy human sexuality. The congregation will be hosting the training, has secured trainers and has a list of people wanting to take the training.
- **First UU Church of San Antonio, TX - \$4,380** for solar panels. The church is planning to purchase 10-365 watt panels, has raised funds for half and the grant would fund the additional five panels. In addition to reducing the church's carbon footprint, they see investing in renewable energy as an educational opportunity for members.

## 2018:

- **Manatee Unitarian Universalist Fellowship, Bradenton, FL (\$2,370)**  
Manatee UU Fellowship has been active for 60 years and currently has a membership of around 70 and a Developmental Minister. Funds awarded will improve the security, search-engine optimization (SEO), ease of updating their website, and general appeal of their website as well as continuing training and education.
- **Out in West Texas, Midland, TX (\$1,900)**  
Out in West Texas provides resources, education and support to transgender persons and their loved ones in an area of 150 square miles of the Permian Basins. The award will allow the Director and Co-Director to obtain Gender Infinity training in Houston, TX including registration, transportation and accommodations.
- **UBarU Camp & Retreat Center, Mountain Home, TX (\$10,000)**  
UBarU Camp & Retreat Center is a Unitarian Universalist organization which serves the Southern UU Region. UBarU needs to replace their septic system in order to bring their facilities into compliance with State regulations for camps to continue their summer camp programs. Most of the funds have already been raised for this project. This award will provide the remaining funds to ensure completion before the summer camp season.
- **Unitarian Universalist Church of Corpus Christi, Corpus Christi, TX (\$8,000)**  
The church building currently has only three meeting rooms, which is insufficient space to run a full flight of age-appropriate Sunday morning Children's Religious Education classes. It also makes it difficult to accommodate several meetings/activities at the same time. The funds awards will be used to build a new storage area in to free up space in one of their existing classrooms.

2017

- **UUs for a Just Economic Community, Springfield, MA (\$6,600)**



UUJEC is a progressive organization committed to economic justice for all. Our philosophy is rooted in the UU liberal religious tradition - to create a world of justice, equity, and compassion. We seek to inspire UUs to study our society's economic and social systems and to become advocates for justice. The grant from Live Oak UU Church allowed us to develop a resource base so all UU churches can work towards economic justice.

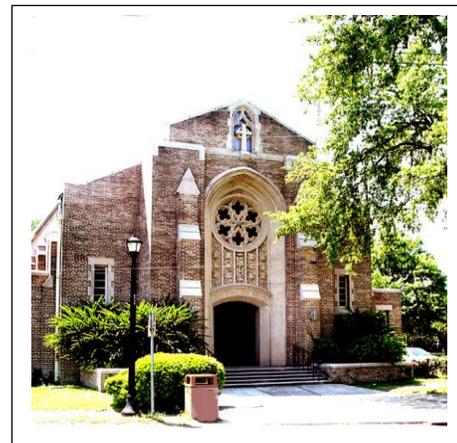
- **The Mountain Retreat and Learning Center, Highlands, NC (\$8,307)**

The Mountain is a UU retreat and learning center that provides a beautiful location for summer camps and retreats for the area churches and organization. Although it has grown over the years, it remained inaccessible to many. The grant provided automatic door openers and wall switches so that the Mountain can fulfill their commitment for inclusivity.



- **First UU Church of New Orleans, LA (\$15,000)**

The First UU Church of New Orleans is a historical building in a historical parish. After Hurricane Katrina, the Church became a community center for its neighbors. The grant helped to build a large ramp to allow accessibility to all entrances while maintaining the integrity of the historic building.



- **The UU Ministry for Earth, Portland, OR (\$7,000)**



The UU Ministry for Earth is committed to empowering bold, accountable, faith-based action for environmental justice. UUMEC supports congregational development of strong climate and environmental justice ministries by updating and expanding its web portal to improve accessibility by UU

## 2016

- **Hill Country Community Ministries, Leander, TX (\$3,000)**



HCCM is devoted to providing healthy food and other services to over 450 families of North Central Texas. Recently, they initiated Fresh Food Friday which distributes fresh fruit and veggies to up to 75 families each week, with more to be added soon. They have used their grant to purchase a stand-alone freezer and shelving. Executive Director Tiesa Hollaway is showing off the new freezer.

- **Third Place Community Foundation, Tulsa, OK (\$7,500)**

The mission of the Third Place Community Foundation is to provide fresh food year-round and to empower people to connect in a high food insecurity community. The grant provided funds to help build the Welcome Table Greenhouse illustrated to the right.



## 2015 [No awards given.]

## 2014

- **UU World of Children, Greenville UU Fellowship, SC (\$15,000)**



The UU World of Children is a Montessori school and day care center associated with the Greenville UU Fellowship in Greenville, SC. Grant funds were used to convert waste land next to the Fellowship building into a garden and learning area for the children.

- **UU World of Children, Greenville UU Fellowship, SC (\$4,000)**

This retreat center has a mission to provide a welcoming, peaceful place to gather for spiritual, educational and recreational purposes in harmony with our UU Principles and the land. This, the second of two grants to UBarU, is dedicated to sustainable water projects by enhancing the well and providing a pool filtration system in the old water tank.



- **Literacy Council of Williamson County, TX (\$1,900)**

The Literacy Council believes that literacy is the key to providing better lives to individuals and families. Literacy includes reading comprehension as well as reading and speaking English as a second language. This grant allowed the Literacy Council of Williamson County, TX to purchase resource materials for the new Adult Basic Education curriculum.

## 2013

- **Liberal Religious Educators Association (LREDA) of Central Texas (\$2,100)**

The mission of LREDA is to provide Religious Education credentialing, professional development and support to liberal religious educators. It has branches throughout the country that host conferences twice a year. The grant was to help sponsor the mid-winter conference in early 2014 of the Central Texas LREDA.

- **UU Congregation of Miami-Dade & Friends of Miami-Dade Detainees, FL (\$4,000)**

The friends of Miami-Dade Detainees, in association with the Social Justice Committee of the UU Congregation of Miami-Dade, is dedicated to connect mandatorily detained individuals with their families and communities. The grant provided funds to launch a community-led and sustained hotline that will provide detainees with a free telephone connection to a community of support on the outside.



## 2010

- **UU Friends Mountain Retreat Foundation, Mountain Hill, TX (\$9,250)**



## First UU Church of Austin and Impact Austin, Austin, TX (\$3,250)



## 2009

- Bay Area UU Church, Houston, TX (\$10,000)

Video Equipment was purchased to develop a Distance Learning Center for the Bay Area UU Church as part of its expansion plan to accommodate its rapid growth.

- UU Housing Assistance Corp., San Antonio, TX (\$4,000)

