

UUAJ Jackson Social Welfare Fund Committee

2020-21 Annual Report

This report covers activities of the UUAJ Jackson Social Welfare Fund Committee (“Committee”) for the funding cycle January to May 2021.

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 UUAJ Investments Committee (\$31,200 for 2021);
- solicit proposals by distributing a Request for Proposals to organizations, using our contacts and the UUAJ website;
- receive proposals by our deadline;
- evaluate and discuss the proposals, then decide on grants. For the 2021 annual cycle, this occurred in April via Zoom; we received 9 proposals and made 9 grants;
- send decision letters to all applicants, enclosing checks as appropriate (to be completed for the 2021 funding cycle in May).

Membership: Our unique membership for this year consisted of four UUAJ members plus two members appointed by the Ann Arbor Friends Meeting (AAFJ). The 2021 UUAJ members are Roberta Allen, Kyla Boyse (co-chair), Christine Pellar-Kosbar (co-chair), and Joe Libin. AAFJ appointed Mark Hoover and Shirley Wolfe. We seek two new UUAJ members for next year’s grant cycle.

2021 Award Recipients:

- Americans United for Separation of Church and State
- The Dispute Resolution Center
- Friends Committee on National Legislation (Welcoming Refugees)
- Friends Peace Teams
- Interfaith Council for Peace and Justice
- Michigan United
- Prison Creative Arts Program (PCAP)
- Safe and Just Michigan
- Washtenaw Interfaith Coalition for Immigrant Rights (WICIR) Teen Group

Values: The Committee meets UUAJ 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