



CITY OF IOWA CITY COUNCIL ACTION REPORT

February 18, 2020

Resolution Adopting the Social Justice and Racial Equity Grant Allocations for Fiscal Year 2020.

Prepared By: Stefanie Bowers, Human Rights Coordinator

Reviewed By: Geoff Fruin, City Manager
Sue Dulek, Assistant City Attorney

Fiscal Impact: \$75,000

Recommendations: Staff: Approval

Commission:

By a vote of 8-0 the Human Rights Commission recommends for the City Council to provide full funding for the top six scoring applicants and partial funding for the top seventh applicant for the Social Justice and Racial Equity Grant for fiscal year 2020.

Attachments: Draft Minutes HRC 1 21 00
Resolution
Exhibit A

Executive Summary:

The Human Rights Commission recommends full funding for the top six scoring applicants: Successful Living, Little Creations Academy, Center for Worker Justice, Antelope Lending Library, Inside Out Reentry, and the Labor Center and partial funding for the top seventh applicant, the Sudanese Community Center, for the Social Justice and Racial Equity Grant for fiscal year 2020.

Background / Analysis:

In 2017, the City Council created the Social Justice and Racial Equity ("SJRE") Grant to assist community-based organizations in building capacity to address social justice and racial equity needs. Seventy-five thousand dollars has been allocated yearly for the SJRE Grant since fiscal year 2019.

Social justice and racial equity are defined as "both a process and a goal. The goal is full and equal participation of all groups and individuals in a society that is mutually shaped to meet their needs, allow them to reach their full potential, and limit/decrease barriers. This definition includes a vision of society that is equitable, and where all members are physically and psychologically safe and secure."

The grant is available to for-profit and non-profit Iowa City based organizations to fund programs,

activities, or services that help eliminate inequities in the community. The grant lists six priority service areas: education, building community, housing, criminal justice, health, and employment. Organizations whose programs, services, or activities address one or more of these priorities are considered first for funding. Applications to apply for the grant for fiscal year 2020 were available from December 2, 2019 - January 3, 2020.

The Human Rights Commission met on January 21 to review the sixteen funding requests. By a vote of 8-0 the Commission recommends to City Council to fund the below organizations. The total allocation is \$75,000.00.

Successful Living \$18,000.00: Therapeutic and Cultural Activity Program that provides transportation to their clients to attend a wide variety of events at venues that charge admission. Funds will cover cost of admission fees and transportation for 150-200 persons over the year. Cultural excursions will further teach clients how to cope with new experiences and how to grow.

Sudanese Community Center \$13,520.00: Community Assistance Program for Sudanese Immigrants and their families, (CAPSI) will be conducted on a city-wide basis, as the current situation in the Sudanese Community is increasing dramatically. The program will assist Sudanese persons who in the community by providing assistance in three areas: education, health, and standard of living.

Little Creations Academy \$7,360.00: a series of four evening programs designed to engage and support parents in their role as their child's first teacher. Known as PATHS to Success (Parents and Teachers Helping Students), each of the four sessions will consist of a family meal, a focus on an academic and/or behavioral area, and an expectation that parents will apply the learned techniques at home. Materials will be supplied to the parents so they will have everything they need to engage with their child's learning.

Center for Worker Justice \$8,975.98: funds will be used for specific services and items of equipment to support the newly formed Center for Worker Justice Social Enterprise. This project is designed to create opportunities for economic independence for members with culinary skills through the creation of a café where they can cook, pass along culinary knowledge to future generations, and educate the larger community about diverse types of food.

Antelope Lending Library \$6,644.00: funding to start a large-print section in its Middle Grade and Young Adult sections which would include large-print multicultural titles. Recent studies have shown that large-print books—which are printed with a dyslexic friendly font—can assist children with ADHD, autism, and dyslexia. They have also found that most children and teens read 2 levels above where they were reading by reading large-print books.

Inside Out Reentry \$5,000.00: requesting funding for the second year to continue their program of hosting a quarterly forum series oriented around reentry, cultivating a supportive community for returning citizens, and offering educational and empowerment opportunities for returning citizens directly.

The Labor Center \$15,500.00: the Corridor Apprenticeship Opportunity Network will offer: 1) outreach and orientation workshops to connect members of underrepresented groups with high-quality job training opportunities, 2) two sessions of a new preparatory skills-based apprenticeship readiness course for Iowa City residents interested in qualifying for a registered apprenticeship, 3) direct connection of participants who complete the preapprentice program with eastern Iowa apprenticeship training coordinators, and 4) access to leadership development and peer support networks.

Prepared by: Stefanie Bowers, Human Rights Coordinator, 410 E. Washington St., Iowa City, IA 52240 (319) 356-5022

Resolution NO. 20-45

Resolution Adopting the Social Justice and Racial Equity Grant Allocations for Fiscal Year 2020.

Whereas the City Council approved funding in the fiscal year 2020 budget for Social Justice and Racial Equity ("SJRE") Grants for community-based organizations to build capacity to address social justice and racial equity; and

Whereas, the City has disseminated the SJRE Grant applications to Iowa City organizations; and

Whereas, the City has received 16 applications for the SJRE Grant for fiscal year 2020; and

Whereas, the Human Rights Commission held a meeting to discuss and review applications regarding the allocation of funds for the SJRE Grant for fiscal year 2020; and

Whereas, the Human Rights Commission has recommended that Exhibit A be approved; and

Whereas, the City Council finds that the public interest will be served by the adoption of the fiscal year 2020 SJRE Grant allocations.

Now, therefore, be it ordained by the City Council of the City of Iowa City, Iowa that:

1. The allocation of fiscal year 2020 SJRE Grant funds attached hereto as Exhibit A is hereby approved and adopted.
2. The City Manager or designee is hereby authorized to execute, terminate, or amend SJRE Grant agreements executed in connection with the allocation of public funds.

Passed and approved this 18th day of February, 2020.

Bruce Teague
MAYOR

Approved by:

ATTEST: *Keelie K. Fuchling*
CITY CLERK

[Signature] 2-13-20
City Attorney's Office

Resolution No. 20-45

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It was moved by Mims and seconded by Thomas the Resolution be adopted, and upon roll call there were:

AYES:	NAYS:	ABSENT:	ABSTAIN:	
<u>X</u>	_____	_____	_____	Bergus
<u>X</u>	_____	_____	_____	Mims
_____	_____	_____	<u>X</u>	Salih
<u>X</u>	_____	_____	_____	Taylor
<u>X</u>	_____	_____	_____	Teague
<u>X</u>	_____	_____	_____	Thomas
<u>X</u>	_____	_____	_____	Weiner

Exhibit A

Agency	Request	Recommendation
Successful Living	\$18,000.00	\$18,000.00
Sudanese Community Center	\$15,000.00	\$13,520.00
Little Creations Academy	\$7,360.00	\$7,360.00
Center for Worker Justice	\$8,975.98	\$8,975.98
Antelope Lending Library	\$6,644.00	\$6,644.00
Inside Outreentry	\$5,000.00	\$5,000.00
Labor Center	\$15,500.00	\$15,500.00