



GUIDELINES FOR NEIGHBORS IN NEED GRANTS

What is Neighbors in Need?

Neighbors in Need is a special mission offering that supports works of justice and compassion throughout the United States.

Two-thirds of the Neighbors In Need receipts support program initiatives and direct grants offered through the UCC's Justice and Witness Ministries.

For more extensive information about Neighbors In Need, please visit www.ucc.org/nin or email jwm@ucc.org.

Funding Cycle Dates

JWM's two funding cycle dates are **March 31 and September 30 of each year.**

Funds for approved grants will be dispersed in April and October.

If your grant is denied, you will be notified within 30 days of the closing date.

Recommendations for all Local Church Applicants

Ask for a letter of endorsement from your respective United Church of Christ Conference.

Give careful attention to make sure that every grant recipient reflects the UCC's vision of being a church of Jesus Christ that is *multiracial, multicultural, open and affirming, and accessible to all.*

A congregation submitting an application for a Neighbors In Need grant should appreciate the importance of promoting and receiving the annual offering in their local church. Most congregations receive Neighbors In Need offerings on World Communion Sunday, the First Sunday of October. Application forms are available on-line at <http://www.ucc.org/nin/resources/nin-grant-application-form.pdf>.

Allocated Funds

The maximum amount awarded for grants is \$3,000.

Organizations are eligible to receive grants one time per year.

Allocated funds are to be used to plant seeds in congregations and organizations for programs that creatively address systemic issues of injustice on the local, regional, national, or international level.

Neighbors In Need grants should be used to strengthen justice advocacy rather than fund charitable projects.

Funds **MAY NOT BE USED** for *operating expenses, i.e. mortgage, rent, salaries, utilities, etc.*

Mail Completed Applications to:

**Justice and Witness Ministries
United Church of Christ
Attention: Donyale Copeland
700 Prospect Ave.
Cleveland, Ohio 44115-1100**

After Grant Funds are Expended

After grant funds are expended, it is requested that recipients send a short report to Justice and Witness Ministries, United Church of Christ, 700 Prospect Ave., Cleveland, Ohio 44115-1100. ***Please indicate the impact of the grant on the program's success and send any relevant personal stories and pictures of transformation.*** These stories and pictures will be used to promote the work and ministry of your congregation/organization and the Neighbors In Need offering throughout the UCC. ***Future funding will not be considered if a report is not sent to JWM.***

For more information on Neighbors in Need, please contact Justice and Witness Ministries at (216) 736-3706 or (866) 822-8224 ext. 3706. You may also visit our website at <http://www.ucc.org/nin/>