



## 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](http://www.ucc.org/nin) or email [nin@ucc.org](mailto:nin@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 **June and December.**

If your grant is denied, you will be notified within 45 days of the closing date of the application.

Organizations/churches can be granted funding for three consecutive years and then must skip a year. Further, they can only be granted funding four times over the lifetime of their charter.

### Procedures for all Local Church Applicants

Ask for a letter of endorsement from your respective United Church of Christ Conference. *(This is required for local churches and is suggested for all others.)*

Give careful attention to ensure that your grant reflects JWM's mission. JWM's Mission Statement is: *to speak and act prophetically through community mobilization, leadership training, issues education, public witness and public policy advocacy.*

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 online at [www.ucc.org/nin/resources/nin-grant-application-form.pdf](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 calendar 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 may be used for programming purposes. Grants should focus on strengthening justice advocacy rather than funding charitable projects.***

## Mail Completed Applications to:

Justice and Witness Ministries  
United Church of Christ  
Attention: Donyale Copeland  
700 Prospect Ave.  
Cleveland, Ohio 44115-1100  
or email to [nin@ucc.org](mailto:nin@ucc.org)

## After Grant Funds are Expended

After grant funds are expended, it is required that recipients send a story of transformation, including photographs, to Justice and Witness Ministries via email or US Postal mail. ***Please indicate the impact of the grant on your program's success (a story of transformation form may be downloaded for your convenience at our NIN website)*** These stories and pictures may 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.***

**REMINDER:** Organizations/churches can be granted funding for three consecutive years and then must skip a year. Further, they can only be granted funding four times over the lifetime of their charter.

***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 [www.ucc.org/nin/](http://www.ucc.org/nin/)***