

Justice and Witness Guidelines

Justice and Witness Ministry of the Illinois Conference of the UCC seeks to support projects which address the goals in the Charge and Mission statement as follows:

The Justice and Witness ministry shall advocate and coordinate Conference wide issues and concerns of justice and peace.

With God's help, we will facilitate the peace and justice work of churches of the UCC individually and collectively – as local congregations and the Illinois conference as a whole to build up the Body of Christ. We envision a world in which families, communities, both religious and political – the nation and the world establish care of the marginalized as our priority. Our work is centered in actively enabling and promoting the establishing of that priority.

Adopted September 2003

Suggested Criteria

- 1) Funds shall be used for projects that enable churches to explore and/or consider action on local and national issues. Because Wider Church Ministries the Conference Tuthill Fund and the Mayan and Angolan Ministries have raised funds for and supported Ministries in the wider world community, we will limit our funding to projects That relate to local and national concerns. (i.e. hunger, housing, U.S policy, anti-racism)
- 2) Funds will be given for specific projects with clear goals and/or specific outcomes. We will only consider a project for funding twice. It is not our intention to become an ongoing source of funding.
- 3) Ecumenical Advocacy Days and other programs which educate individuals and churches About the need for organizing and public policy work which require help for plane fare Or housing will be considered if the person (s) has a plan for how their work will increase the concern and work on specific issues.
- 4) Emerging issues that have not been named by General Synod, or IL Conference Resolutions will be considered for support if individuals or churches can show That a need exists and that it is not being addressed at the present time.
- 5) J and W may develop proposals and strategies which will enhance the work of J and W in the Conference

(Adopted by the Illinois Conference Council of the Illinois Conference in February 2008)