

WESTERN REGION MEETING – December 12, 2020, 10 am

Via Zoom Conference call

Moderator	J.D. Ward			
Broadmoor	Eunice Brabec	Marian Hardin		
Calvary	Joni Lachman	Sally Durgan		
Chinatown	Laurene Chan	Jeanette Huie		
Ingleside	M.J. Gordon			
Mission Bay	Beth C.			
Noe Valley	Cindy Cake	David Brown		
Old First	Lori Yamauchi			
St. Andrews, Pacifica	Valerie Davidson			
Seventh Avenue	Susan Baker-Lehne			
Trinity	Mike Garoutte	Cathy Lehr		
Valley	Mary Jo Alderson	Robin Polastri		
Others	Jenny Warner	Naomi Hunter	Christian Bustos	Kirk Davis

J.D. Ward opened the meeting at 10:05 am with brief introductions of the committee members. Rev. Chris Geline led us in opening prayer.

The Committee received eight applications for this third round of funding. We determined that two applications did not meet the guidelines so today we have funding recommendations for six applicants. It was agreed by all that the summaries will be read and discussed first. Then we will vote yes or no on the committee's funding recommendations.

One question was posed about the status of this fund. There will be enough money for a fourth round and there is no plan to re-fuel the fund.

- 1. North Peninsula Food Pantry and Broadmoor Presbyterian Church (\$50,000)**
There were questions about the current state of their budget which looked like most of it has already been spent. During COVID, staff has not been able to maintain their fundraising activities and food donations have also decreased but the Director continues to write grant applications and is planning a virtual fundraising event in January. The budget item for dining room meals is not currently needed because the dining room is temporarily closed.
- 2. KAIROS HOPE and Lakeside Presbyterian Church (\$50,000)**
The budget needed some clarification. Questions focused on the connection with Lyrical Opposition and Lyrical Assembly. L.O. is a nonprofit collective of artists and not faith-based. L.A. is faith-based and not a non-profit organization. Mission Bay Church is their fiscal sponsor.
- 3. Siena Youth Center and Trinity Presbyterian Church (\$40,000)**
The youth center is located in the North Fair Oaks community of Redwood City. Residents are primarily low-income Latino. Staff has maintained some programs with the youth during COVID, both online and in-person.
- 4. Lyrical Assembly and Mission Bay Community Church (\$35,000)**
No questions.

5. San Francisco Achievers and Calvary Presbyterian Church (\$23,000)

The committee is recommending a \$20,000 reduction of their request (from \$43,000) due to a recent change in staffing and lack of capacity to supervise/monitor interns. The Executive Director recently left the position and the Board President is serving as the Interim Executive Director. \$20,000 is designated for SF Achievers and \$3,000 for Calvary.

6. Beyonce Mass (\$30,000)

The committee is recommending a \$20,000 reduction of their request (from \$50,000). Their budget includes providing for travel and housing expenses for musicians from Portugal which the committee felt was not the best use of our funds.

During the review of applications a few general questions arose. M.J. is concerned about the “looseness” of the budgets. With COVID-19 the organizations have been experiencing financial difficulties. The committee has received a mix of applications from both new and established programs. The new category of Dismantling Systemic Racism resulted in submissions of different types of programs.

How can those organizations measure systemic change and qualitative and quantitative impacts? For example, are they able to make any policy changes in their communities? This is a stronger impact than just dealing with the symptoms of structural racism.

Should we stipulate how groups use their grant funds? Since we didn't do that in the first two rounds, we can't impose that now. M.J. prefers that our funds go directly to the clientele and not so much for staff salaries. In most programs, it's people who are providing the direct services so it's justifiable to fund salaries.

Written reports from each grantee will be submitted to Presbytery. The Committee will discuss if reports can be provided to West Region members.

Each application was voted on separately. The votes were unanimous to approve the committee's recommendations for funding except for KAIROS Hope which received one No vote.

Total amount of grants: \$228,000.

The committee will notify the ministries as soon as possible. Announcement of the next round will be sent out later and posted on the Presbytery website.

Meeting adjourned with prayer by J.D. Ward.