

New Congregation Development Grant Application Guidelines

Understanding that newly developing and *Emerging Congregations may require seed monies to plant a new congregation, the Heartland District of the Unitarian Universalist Association of Congregations will make small grants to such groups who meet the following criteria, either in writing or through an interview with the district Growth Coordinator or District Executive.

1. The interested person(s) have contacted the District Executive or Growth Coordinator as soon as there is interest in starting a new congregation. It is important to do this prior to the first organizational meeting of the developing congregation.
2. The developing congregation has reviewed the resource: “New Congregation Development: A Manual for Unitarian Universalist District Staff and Volunteers.”
<http://www.uua.org/documents/congservices/newcongdev.pdf>
3. The developing congregation is aware of the types of start-ups and can clearly articulate which type of start-up they perceive themselves to be.
4. A willingness of the developing congregation to be in partnership with other area UU congregations.
5. A willingness to be in right relationship with other area UU congregations.
6. A willingness to follow the procedures set forth in the “New Congregation Development” manual.
7. A willingness to work toward having professional leadership as soon as possible.
8. A willingness to ensure that leadership is broadly based among the members of the group.
9. The developing congregation can articulate who they are and know they want their programs to have spiritual quality, and they want social action to have a local focus.
10. The developing congregation will recognize the importance of providing a quality program for their children.

The developing congregation will, to the best of their ability, complete and return a Chalice Lighter Application to the district office by November 30, 2009. Applicants will not be held to the requirements for Fair Share giving and member participation in Chalice Lighters in applying for these grants. You can find the application by going to
http://www.heartlanduu.org/strong_&_growing.htm

**The designation, “Emerging Congregation” is granted after a developing congregation has a name, meeting address, and other contact information. Once the District Executive grants a developing congregation Emerging Congregation status, the congregation’s contact information will be submitted to be listed on the UUA congregation information web page as well as the Heartland District directory.*

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