SJA Justice Grants Awarded: This past week, our Justice Grant committee awarded the following grants for Fall of 2014 – a total of $33,000 to 9 incredible projects in which our parishioners are involved as committed volunteers and leaders. We thank all who applied for grants, the parishioners who provided letters of support for the applications, the committee members who spend much time and energy in discernment, and – finally - everyone who supports the SJA Outreach Fund, which makes these powerful grants possible.

Clare Housing: $4000 to help provide permanent, affordable, supportive housing to people living with HIV/AIDS. Letters of support from parishioners Theresa Leonard, Tom Cross and Jill Boit, Dale Olson and Cathy Meyer. What we learned: Stable housing has resulted in 75% of residents using less emergency care and crisis services. 80% experienced improved HIV-related health outcomes.

Cultural Jambalaya: $2000 to create a five part video series for classroom use, focusing on the contributions of Native Americans and early and recent immigrants to Minnesota. Letters of support from parishioners Ann Merrill and Joe Cavanaugh. What we learned: A previous series from the same creator focused on global culture and recently received its 4th national award for excellence in cultural education.

Give Us Wings: $3500 to fund business loans and grants, training and mentoring for 32 women in Uganda who have been widowed by war or abandoned, so that they can build their own businesses and establish a self-sustaining village bank to finance future projects. Letters of support from parishioners Charlane Pehoski and Merrily Pehoski. What we learned: Last year, every small business loan made by Give Us Wings in Kenya and Uganda was repaid.

Hospitality House Youth Development Christmas With Dignity Program: $4000 to offer low-income parents the dignity of choosing and buying holiday gifts for their children at drastically reduced prices they can afford. Letters of support from parishioners Joan Cornwell, Paula Larsen, Julie Vogl and Vicki Underland-Rosow. What we learned: By partnering with over 60 businesses and nonprofits and more than 500 volunteers, this program will serve more than 1250 children this year.

MN Fighting AIDS on Bikes/Red Ribbon Ride: $4000 to support the four-day, 300 mile ride’s mission of raising awareness of HIV as well as funds to support AIDS service organizations. Letters of support from parishioners Steve Kremer, Karen Waldron and Dick Voss. What we learned: St. Joan’s Team Oz has the most team members that have done all of the Red Ribbon Rides – 8 parishioners.

Our Saviour’s Community Services Housing Program: $3000 to support dignified emergency shelter as well as transitional and permanent supportive housing. Letters of support from parishioners Michelle Moran and Diane Haugesag. What we learned: Our grant will support the coordination of more than 1500 volunteers who help in providing and serving meals annually to shelter guests.

Urban Homeworks: $5000 to expand programs in which small multi-family properties in neighborhood clusters are reclaimed out of foreclosure, rehabilitated and rented or sold to low- to moderate-income households. Letters of support from parishioners Mike McCloskey, Paul Oman, Peter Knaeble and Jim Sapienza. What we learned: Urban Homeworks partners with over 60 local minority and female subcontractors and over 1,012 volunteers in rehabbing properties.

Wilder Foundation LGBTQ Caregiver Support Initiative: $3500 to train facilitators and develop support groups for lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender caregivers and elders. Letters of support from parishioners Ron Joki and Jay Pearson. What we learned: Wilder hosts listening sessions to identify community needs such as the gap in services for aging LGBTQ persons and their caregivers.

World Without Genocide Tents of Witness: $4000 to expand this interactive, traveling exhibit of ten tents and 5 action stations that educate about genocide and the actions we can all take to prevent genocide from happening again. There are also stories in each tent of refugees from these conflicts who now live in Minnesota. Letters of support from parishioners David Saumweber, Kathy Connolly and Rita Olk. What we learned: This exhibit has been seen by more than 12,000 people to date.
SJA Justice Fund Grants Fall 2014

Clare Housing: $4000
929 Central Avenue NE
Minneapolis, MN 55413
Attn: Chuck Peterson

Cultural Jambalaya: $2000
6059 Blake Rd.
Edina, MN 55436
Attn: Gail Shore

Give Us Wings: $3500
450 No. Syndicate St. Suite 290
St. Paul, MN 55104
Attn: Therese Dosch Anderson

Hospitality House Youth Development Christmas With Dignity Program: $4000
P.O. Box 11008
1220 Logan Ave. No.
Minneapolis, MN 55411
Attn: Deb McCullough

MN Fighting AIDS on Bikes/Red Ribbon Ride: $4000
4447 3rd Ave. So.
Minneapolis, MN 55419
Attn: Theresa Fetsch

Our Saviour’s Community Services Housing Program: $3000
2315 Chicago Ave. So.
Minneapolis, MN 55404
Attn: Kathleen Olsen

Urban Homeworks, Inc.: $5000
2015 Emerson Ave. No.
Minneapolis, MN 55411
Attn: Hannah Peterson

Wilder Foundation LGBTQ Caregiver Support Initiative: $3500
451 Lexington Parkway No.
St. Paul, MN 55104
Attn: Kirsten Johnson

World Without Genocide Tents of Witness: $4000
William Mitchell College of Law
875 Summit Ave.
St. Paul, MN 55105
Attn: Ellen Kennedy