FACULTY RESEARCH GRANTS IN SOCIAL JUSTICE
Call for Proposals – 2024-2025 Fellowships

BACKGROUND

Founded in 2010, the Social Justice Institute works towards equal access to opportunity for all people through understanding and addressing the root causes of social injustice and by developing innovative solutions. One way that the Institute seeks to achieve this vision is by supporting synergistic research and scholarship. To that end, the Institute has established a grant-mining fund for seeding faculty research and projects that advance social justice work from humanistic inquiry to action research.

AVAILABLE FUNDS

The Social Justice Institute is currently making funds available to tenured or tenure-track faculty members or other faculty who can demonstrate a long-term commitment to social justice at CWRU. The funds will support research related to social justice in any discipline. Social justice is defined as eradicating systems of power and oppression with the purpose of advancing fairness and equality through the redistribution of resources and opportunities and exalting human dignity and respect.

The small grants will range from $2,500 to $10,000 (up to a total of $10,000). Up to four awards are expected, subject to the number and quality of applications. The Institute is not obligated to award grants in any given year.

ELIGIBILITY

To receive funding the proposed research must be focused on issues relevant to social justice. The proposed research may use field-specific primary and/or secondary sources. This may include research in archives and manuscript collections, artwork and musical scores, data collection and analysis, and examination of existing databases and literatures.

The proposed research may be premised on any discipline, e.g. humanities and the arts, social science, medicine, nursing, social work, etc. Applications to conduct clinical trials will not be accepted.

For all applications, **the Principal Investigator must be a CWRU faculty member.** Faculty members are permitted to partner with postdoctoral fellows, graduate students or undergraduate students.

FUNDING PERIOD

Projects may range in duration up to 24 months. Ideally, proposals should be initiated

within four-six weeks of award notification.

APPLICATION PROCESS AND DEADLINE
The application must be submitted c/o Ayesha Bell Hardaway, SJI Director, via email to socialjustice@case.edu **by 5:00 pm on Friday, March 29, 2024.** Applications will be reviewed and selected by a subcommittee of the Social Justice Institute. Awards will be announced by May or June 2024.

Faculty whose research projects require IRB review must apply for such review within 14 business days of receiving award notification. In all cases, projects requiring IRB approval must receive such approval prior to work being commenced.

A complete application must include the following:

- A short summary of the work directed to the lay public (500 characters only)

- A brief biography of the PI and any Co-Investigators that includes a demonstrated commitment to social justice through teaching, research, and/or service. (one page maximum)

- A detailed budget and budget justification. Applications lacking sufficient budgetary detail will be returned to the applicant as ineligible.

- A letter of support from the applicant's Department Chair, Center Director or Division Chief, as appropriate.

- A proposal of **no more than three single-spaced pages** in length (based on Arial font sized 11, ½ inch margins). References and figures may be uploaded as PDF or Word document files in an Appendix section of the application. The proposal must address the questions/topics listed below (if applicable) and should be arranged accordingly:
    o What is the goal of the proposed activity?
    o How does it relate to and promote social justice? Explain how the project connects to the mission and current activities of the Social Justice Institute.
    o How will the work be performed?
    o Describe the role of CWRU faculty (and partners or co-investigators and other key personnel, if applicable) and their qualifications for the work.
    o What outcomes do you expect? How will the project/outcomes be evaluated? What do you expect to learn as a result of the project?
    o What products (if any) will be produced to implement or evaluate the effort?
    o Describe feasibility issues for completing the project and how they will be addressed.
    o How will the proposed research lead to possible publication and/or the development of additional research proposals to sustain the project?

CONDITIONS
Examples of allowable use of funding include:
- Costs of material needed for project implementation, e.g. production of recruitment materials
- Gift cards to incentivize research participants for time to participate in activities such as interviews or focus groups

CONDITIONS (cont'd)
- Salary support for a research or graduate assistant involved in the research or project
- Reasonable travel costs incurred to implement the research

No faculty salary support or indirect costs will be provided. Carryover of funds requires an extension request. Grants may not be used to fund costs already incurred prior to the date of the award or for research that has already been completed.

REQUIRED ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

The applicant agrees to acknowledge the Social Justice Institute on all relevant presentations and publications. For example: *This publication was made possible through funding provided by the Social Justice Institute of Case Western Reserve University. Its contents are solely the responsibility of the authors and do not necessarily represent the official views of the Social Justice Institute or Case Western Reserve University.*

The applicant further agrees to allow the Social Justice Institute to retain and publicly share copies of the final project.

REVIEW PROCESS AND CRITERIA

Applications will undergo review by a committee constituted by the Social Justice Institute for this purpose. The review will take into consideration the following:
1. The extent to which the proposal addresses the root causes of social injustice
2. The extent to which the proposed research or project is innovative
3. Involvement of one or more community partners
4. The likelihood that the research or project, if successful, will lead to future funding for research or the implementation of an intervention
5. The likelihood that the proposed research or project will leave something of value within the community following its conclusion
6. The degree to which the proposed research is consistent with the mission of the Social Justice Institute
7. The quality of the plan to evaluate/assess the research or project's success and impact

Preference will be given to proposals that are likely to lead to the production of data, findings that will provide the basis for publications and future funding proposals, and proposals that leave something of value within the community following the conclusion of the research or project.

REPORTING GUIDELINES

All grantees are required to submit a final report within 30 days following the funding period. Projects lasting longer than six months are required to submit an interim report at the halfway point. They will also be required to provide information on the funding status of the research initiated with this grant, as well as related publications in each of the succeeding four years (when applicable). Reports should include copies of any deliverables identified in the proposal (questionnaires, report cards, presentations,

etc.). Grantees may be asked to present project methods or results to various CWRU and/or community audiences.

QUESTIONS
Questions regarding the grants or proposals should be directed to Ayesha Bell Hardaway at 216.368.6360 or ayesha.hardaway@case.edu.