



For Immediate Release

Carlos Vega Fund for Social Justice Invites Applications for the 9th Round of Mini Grants

The Carlos Vega Fund for Social Justice is inviting applications for the ninth round of mini grants. For more than forty years, Carlos Vega fought for social justice in the Greater Holyoke area. In 2010, a small group of family and friends started the Fund to support the kind of social justice initiatives that were important to Carlos.

The Carlos Vega Fund for Social Justice awards small grants, typically ranging from \$250 to \$1,000, to individuals and non-profit groups for a specific, one-time program or project that addresses the basic causes of injustice, fosters change, and promotes self-help and empowerment. The purpose of the grants is to support the efforts of those who are addressing issues of poverty and oppression, particularly for people who are marginalized by our society.

Previous mini grants have supported a variety of organizations and initiatives including: Boys and Girls Club of Greater Holyoke, Inc. for the Holyoke Safe Neighborhood Initiative Back to School Event; Care Center for Healthy Meals for Care Center Students; Don't Take That Receipt for summer educational programming; Granby Public Schools for Mindfulness Materials; Home City Development for the Leaders in Training Program; MA Jobs with Justice for Youth Organizing for Policy Change Workshops; New Horizons for the Helping Hands Youth Empowerment Program; OneHolyoke CDC for Flats Community Neighbor Circles; and Plunge Arts for the Connect with Arts Project at Girls, Inc.

Applications must be received by March 16, 2020, and grants will be awarded on May 8, 2020. Grantees are expected to attend the awards ceremony. For further information and/or to obtain an application, please visit the *Carlos Vega Fund for Social Justice* website at <http://www.carlosvegafund.org/> or contact Aaron Vega at carlosvegafund.413@gmail.com or 413-522-0268.

The Carlos Vega Fund for Social Justice is administered through the Community Foundation of Western Massachusetts and is overseen by an advisory committee. Since 2012, the Fund has awarded \$48,686 to thirty-three organizations in the greater Holyoke area.

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