

HICO 2021: Our 2nd Grant Cycle Review

Introduction:

The Proposal Assessment Committee (PAC) is nearing completion of its second set of grants for our High Impact Community Outreach program (HICO). As you know, HICO was established with \$100,000 of initial funding and the UUCSF website was set-up as the touch point for communication. PAC has made a significant effort to establish an equitable and sustainable process for the longer-term. We expect every year to build upon the prior one with new relationships and new ways for our congregation to partner with local charitable organizations. Just as a reminder PAC continues to support: 1) a formal application process, 2) establish a focus for grants, 3) monitor a designated email account, 4) get the word out via press releases and appearances, 5) research/evaluate proposals, and 6) engage with grantees to foster connection with our congregation. It is our hope that the HICO program grants will help Members and Friends find new connections and take pride in having an important impact in our community.

HICO's Focus 2021:

PAC's strategy is to have a specific "Focus" each cycle targeting specific populations and special needs. This approach helps keep the number of applications to manageable levels but, more importantly, provides some discipline or focus as we evaluate the applications. Potential grantees must satisfy at least one of these criteria and preferable one in each category.

This is the second year of the pandemic as well as our HICO program. Our 2021 Focus shifted from the immediate dislocations generated by COVID to the populations and needs that have been underserved, excluded and require support.

Populations:

- Children and Families
- Single Mothers
- People of Color

Needs:

- Early Childhood Education
- Healing of the Earth and Climate Change
- Cultural Sharing, Teaching and Exploring
- Health Care Access and Equity

This strategy continues to help us frame our conversations. The 2021 targeted approach elicited a more modest response as we received 8 applications (vs 15 last cycle) with a total request of \$73,200. The applicants and a short description of the projects follow.

HICO Applications received for June/July Grant Cycle

<u>Organization</u>	<u>\$ Request</u>	<u>Short Description</u>
Centro Corazon de Maria	10,000	Support 15 women led households through the winter, emphasizing parenting and preschool readiness
Hampton Community Outreach	6,200	Youth mental health program for pre-teens/teens in need of counseling
Maureen's Haven	10,000	Year-round support for homeless brought on by COVID. Transportation for vaccination, health care and food
Southampton African American Museum	10,000	Sharing SH African American History. Advancing 3-Theme programing and integrating high-tech exhibits
The Retreat	7,000	Nurturing children via story time. An inclusive message of diversity, compassion and healthy relationships
Herstory	13,000	Young Adult education in schools. Teaching diversity via migrants sharing their stories via book/curriculum.
Sepa Mujer	7,000	Get Latinos vaccinated for COVID. Education to overcome fear, misinformation and assist in providing access
Rural Migrant Ministries	<u>10,000</u>	Support Rural Women's entrepreneurial efforts in developing Coop enterprises in their Riverhead office
TOTAL	73,200	

Bolded Organizations will be Grantees

The high quality of the projects proposed as well as their diversity was a testament to the dedication and creativity of the institutions. Each proposal had merit and it would have been a blessing to be able to honor each request. HICO limits grants to one per year and we are on a 9-month cycle so, prior grantees could not apply in 2021. That said, four of the eight proposals were from organizations that had applied last year. COVID was still a factor with vaccinations for reluctant populations an important issue. There were proposals from organizations up-island working to enhance their presence/impact on the East End. The PAC spent considerable time discussing the potential impact of proposed projects, their scope, sustainability, prospects for success and the dollar amount of grants. The continuity with earlier projects and requests was of interest. Our change in focus brought out several new ideas which were extremely exciting. It was relatively easy for the PAC to find common ground identifying projects that were outstanding and deserving of an award.

In our September 2020 report to the Board, the PAC projected a \$30,000 outlay for 2021. HICO now has an ability to accept donations and there has been a \$250 contribution. As a result, we stretched the budget marginally. The quality of the proposed projects, the needs of the targeted populations and

our ability to make an impact combined to generate a total award for our second grant cycle of \$31,000. Details are in the table:

Grant Scheme:

<u>Organization</u>	<u>\$ Ask</u>	<u>\$ Grant</u>	<u>% of Ask</u>
Centro Corazon de Maria	10,000	7,000	70%
Hampton Community Outreach	6,200	5,000	81%
Maureen’s Haven	10,000	7,000	70%
Southampton African American Museum	10,000	7,000	70%
The Retreat	<u>7,000</u>	<u>5,000</u>	<u>71%</u>
Total	43,200	31,000	72%

Future HICO Awards

The PAC feels good about the targeted nine-month award schedule. It helps generate new applicants and keeps the buzz alive. The work associated with soliciting applications, evaluating projects and follow-ups with grant recipients is considerable. Evaluations can be quite taxing as PAC has been proactive in identifying grassroot institutions with smaller budgets and staff. It is fair to say that these fledgling institutions lack the resources and ability to provide comprehensive reporting. We will continue to use the “Meet and Greet” program as a way of introducing the congregation to our award recipients.

The tentative schedule for awards is:

September 2020	\$41,175
July 2021	\$31,000
April 2022	\$28,075

This schedule is based on HICO’s original grant/mandate of \$100,000 plus any known contributions

Next Steps:

- Having informed the Board of our decision, we will reach out to the Treasurer to draw up checks for the appropriate agencies
- Draft a formal Announcement to distribute to the press
- Communicate to the 8 agencies our decisions

- Communicate to the congregation HICO's actions via email, the UUCSF website and a prospective Sunday service
- Start planning how to facilitate a broader relationship with agencies that express interest.

Grant Recipients and Projects

A summary of the projects that will receive awards:

Organization: Centro Corazon de Maria (CCDM)

Grant Request: \$10,000

Award: \$7,000

Focus 2020: Population Served: Children and Families, Single Mothers, People of Color

Needs: Childhood Education, Mental Health

Town(s) Riverhead, Southampton

Description: CCDM is a center of direct service for materially poor people, primarily Latinx women immigrants on the East End of Long Island. The focus is to provide education, assistance and advocacy thereby building capacity for these women to succeed and thrive. They serve more than 900 Latinx immigrants who are largely undocumented via English and life skills classes as well as computer, parenting, health and nutritional education.

Approved Project: CCDM recognizes the importance of high-quality early education as well as the role of the parent as the child's first teacher. They created the program "Madres Protagonistas" (Mothers as Protagonists) last year. The program addresses the loneliness and isolation of being a single undocumented parent on the East End. The program provides a stipend to 15 women over the winter months when work is harder to find. The women's "job" is to attend parenting skill building classes as well as a program for their children. Mothers engage in literacy and cognitive skill building activities with the program's goal to improve access of these children to high quality preschool experiences in the future. The camaraderie of the participants as well as the identification of early developmental issues in children are important unanticipated benefits of the program.

Organization: Hampton Community Outreach (formerly Hamptons Art Camp)

Grant Request: \$6,200

Award: \$5,000

Focus 2020: Population Served: Children

Needs: Mental Health

Town(s): Southampton, Easthampton, Shinnecock Nation

Description: Hampton Community Outreach works to bridge the opportunity gap for underserved communities elevating the quality of life of local children, families and seniors. The current programs center around four pillars: 1) Child-Centered Outreach, 2) Mental Health, 3) Food Outreach and 4) Crisis Outreach.

Approved Project: The mental health challenges experienced by young adults post pandemic remains considerable. There is a scarcity of resources to counsel and treat adolescents as well as a lack of funds to pay for these services. Hampton Community Outreach has designed a “Youth Mental Health” program that begins with empathy and builds toward a lasting set of behavioral tools. With local school partners they will establish a series of support groups for teenagers and pre-teens to develop positive coping skills, identifying unproductive thought patterns and alleviating isolation. Well qualified bilingual and culturally competent therapists have been identified to support up to 5 weekly support groups through the 2021-22 school year.

Organization: Maureen’s Haven

Grant Request: \$10,000

Award: \$7,000

Focus 2020: Population Served: People of Color
Needs: Health Care + Food

Town(s): Riverhead, Southampton, East Hampton, Shelter Island, Southold, Shinnecock Nation

Description: Maureen’s Haven protects and supports the homeless on the East End by providing shelter, support services and compassionate care for individuals in need. They provide access to case management and programs as well as a safe place to stay.

Approved Project: COVID has been particularly challenging for the homeless. Maureen’s Haven has realigned many services to better meet the needs of the population. To get their clients vaccinated, Maureen’s Haven has provided information, education and **transportation**. For example, vaccination for the Latino community is being supported by evening/weekend hours at vaccination sites. Access to medical care is improving with Maureen’s Haven’s ability to transport plus cooperation with local health care providers. Finally, a “Summer Weekend Lunch Program” was launched as a lack of meals continues despite the pandemic’s impact diminishing. This grant largely supports the sharp increase in transportation costs that generate positive outcomes of increased vaccinations, health care access and food insecurity.

Organization: Southampton African American Museum (SAAM)

Grant Request: \$10,000

Award: \$7,000

Focus 2020: Population Served: People of Color
Needs: Cultural Teaching

Town(s): Riverhead, Southampton, East Hampton, Shelter Island, Southold, Shinnecock Nation

Description: The Southampton African American Museum has been in the works for many years with its grand opening on Juneteenth of this year. It honors Emanuel Seymore’s journey as part of the great migration north. The restored Barbershop celebrates its history as “The Gathering Place” and promotes an understanding and appreciation of Black culture and its impact on our community.

Approved Project: SAAM's objective/goal is to create a "Three Themed Program" educational tool. The themes are: 1) The Great Migration History, 2) History of the Black Barbershop/Beauty Parlor, 3) The Extraordinary History of Pyrrhus Concer. SAAM has partnered with many resources including Stony Brook University to expand research. This grant will help bring a high-tech approach to communicating research/exhibits to the Hamptons. Creating a more tech savvy personal experience will encourage young people to embrace their history and the contribution of Blacks and people of color to our community.

Organization: The Retreat

Grant Request: \$7,000

Award: \$5,000

Focus 2020: Population Served: Children
Needs: Early Childhood Education, Cultural

Town(s): Southampton, East Hampton

Description: The Retreat provides safety, shelter and support to victims of domestic abuse, dating violence, sexual assault, stalking and bullying. The work is geared toward breaking the cycle of family violence. Increased awareness and prevention education are integral parts of their efforts to make our community safer for families.

Approved Project: The Retreat has put together a program to nurture children's (3-8 year-olds) minds in these turbulent times. The prevention education team created "Getting Along Story Time". It initially targeted loneliness and isolation but has expanded to address the critical issues of the value of each individual and the beauty of differences, inclusion and equality. It celebrates diversity, compassion the importance of developing healthy interpersonal relationships. The live program uses stories, song and art to convey these powerful messages. The Retreat will partner with several well-known childcare providers to deliver 20-25 sessions over the year.

Respectively Submitted to UUCSF's Board of Trustees on July 15, 2021

Proposal Assessment Committee: Jeanne Hoeing, David Holstein, Celia Josephson and Lora Tucker