



Sisters of St. Joseph of Carondelet
St. Paul Province
Ministries Foundation

Bold Moves for Real Change

Partners in Ministry Grant Request

Name of Ministry Wisdom Ways Center for Spirituality

Program Director The Rev. Barbara Lund

Address S1890 Randolph Avenue

City St. Paul

State MN Zip 55105

Phone (651)696-2790

Email blund@wisdomwayscenter.org

Leadership Liaison to Ministry Cathy Steffens, CSJ

Phone (651-)690-7030

Email csteffens@csjstpaul.org

Amount Requested \$65,000.00 for the creation of an apprenticeship and formation program for the Transforming Soul and Society two year Spiritual Guidance Program. Wisdom Ways assumed operation of this program in 2015 when Woman Well closed. The program as started by Roaseann Giguere, CSJ in the early 1990's. We have graduated 40 people from 2015-2017 and 2017-2019. We need to cultivate and train 4 spiritual leaders in this program with a focus on communities of color and multifaiths. It requires an investment in two years of programs and training to wider our reach and meet the needs of the times.

Please attach the following required documents:

- Most Recent Financial Statement of Income and Expenditures for Current Fiscal Year
- Current Fiscal Year Budget

On a separate attachment, please answer both questions. Please limit your answers to 500 words.

- 1: How has your previous Partners In Ministry grant helped you fulfill your mission?
- 2: Have any unique situations affected your budget this year? How?
- 3: Have you previously received Ministries Foundation funding? Yes

If yes, what year(s)? 2015 and 2016--Special Kickstarter grants

Total funding received: \$40,00.00

Submitted by: Barbara Lund

Date: May 24, 2019

Board/Advisory Council Chairperson's Signature: Cathy Steffens

Date: May 23, 2019

First Period Requests are due before **August 1**

Second Period Requests are before **May 24**

Requests submitted after the period's due date will not be considered.

Submit completed Grant Requests to: ahowells@csjministriesfoundation.org

OR:

Partners in Ministry Grant
Sisters of St. Joseph of Carondelet Ministries Foundation
1884 Randolph Avenue
Saint Paul, MN 55105



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Amount Requested \$28,000.00 for the development of on-line programs through WW. This grant will support the investment in videography at programs, on-line formats and software to support the programs and community engagements, and the rource material and faculty for teaching the programs.

Please attach the following required documents:

- Most Recent Financial Statement of Income and Expenditures for Current Fiscal Year
- Current Fiscal Year Budget

On a separate attachment, please answer both questions. Please limit your answers to 500 words.

- 1: How has your previous Partners In Ministry grant helped you fulfill your mission? See narrative from other grant request for May 2019.
- 2: Have any unique situations affected your budget this year? How?
3. Have you previously received Ministries Foundation funding? see explanation from other grant request for May 2019.

If yes, what year(s)?

Total funding received:

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Wisdom Ways

Center for Spirituality

A ministry of the Sisters of St. Joseph

May 24, 2019

Partners in Ministry Grant Request for 2019

1: How has your previous Partners in Ministry grant helped you fulfill your mission?

In both 2015 and 2016, Wisdom Ways received a Kickstarter grant that allowed us to forge ahead with the vision of a Literary Conversations Project: A Place at the Table Part I and the following year Part II. This grant set the foundation for cultivating deeper relationships with local writers and poets focused on Spiritual Memoir and The Work of Words in Troubled Times. We knew there was a hunger for local leaders in the writing world and organizations rooted in the work with communities of color to come together and deepen engagement spiritually and to see a more just way forward in a fragmented society and church. Through the grant, we did the following:

Wisdom Ways worked to foster a community of writers and readers who, through words, stories, and poetry, nurture the search for meaning, the work of social justice, and a relationship with place:

- ❖ Weave connections between secular and sacred writing.
- ❖ Involve participants across faith traditions and spiritual circles.
- ❖ Build connections across racial and economic communities.
- ❖ Understand writing as a spiritual practice.
- ❖ Treat all writers, regardless of publishing success or genre, with equal regard.
- ❖ Nurture and support readers.
- ❖ Understand that stories can give meaning and purpose to humanity.
- ❖ Understand stories as a tool for creating the beloved community—that is, bringing about social justice.
- ❖ Uplift regional literature—writing of the cities, woodlands, prairies, and lakes of the upper Midwest—and nurture life-giving, responsible relationships to this place.

Wisdom Ways hosted a year-long monthly gathering for 10-15 women of color writers to meet and create together focused on the above vision. Three writers were trained in leadership facilitation and led ten monthly seed writing workshops influencing 150 participants over the ten-month sessions. Two writers of diverse racial and cultural backgrounds co-led monthly ten sessions to evoke wider stories of inclusion and this impacted 400 participants (average 40 per monthly session). Over the year, we hosted two large events with nationally acclaimed writers and this involved over 1000 people. The collaborations with organizations included St. Catherine University, Mizna and Arab Literary Association, Temple Israel, Unity Unitarian Church, United Theological Seminary, and local congregations. We hosted listening sessions with readers and writers, invited the circle of writers to lead programs at WW, and included poets and writers as features in the WW catalogs. Through the grant, the writing programs that were established are now self-sustaining. One area we began to work on was on-line programs given what we learned through the sessions over the two-year period. The current grant request arises out of that growing awareness for WW next step.

2. Have any unique situations affected your budget this year? How?

We continue to see a growing opportunity for on-line program offerings that cut across the intersections of the goals from the Literary Conversation Project. Our current budget does not allow for front-end investment for longer term strategies such as on-line work that involves professional expertise to meet the needs of the time for potential participants.