

Share the Plate criteria- UU Westport

- Is one of our Social Justice Committees in need of funding?
- Is there a crisis in our local (or extended) community that needs funding?
- Consider honoring the time of year/month, and which causes need advocacy and funding, i.e, October for Domestic Violence causes.
- The organization must be a 501(c)(3) organization.
 - No individual person is funded.
 - No start-ups are funded.
 - Organizations must demonstrate that funds will be used in programming that supports our UU values and is social justice focused.
 - Funds cannot be used as excess general operational funds.
- Evaluate leadership of organization: i.e., Indigenous founded and run for Indigenous-impact.
- Evaluate impact of programming: Impact of this type of programming on our local community gets priority OR if not local, is best option for the particular social justice priority.
- Consider relationship with our congregation: prior, long-standing relationship or are we trying to establish a relationship?
- Vetting of organizational financial and programmatic integrity:
 - Charity Navigator or Charity Watch for rating. If there is no rating, this is not dispositive, as it might indicate that the non-profit is small with revenue that does not meet the rating criteria, newer, or has not electronically filed IRS 990s (versus paper 990s).