

Date: April 23, 2019

To: Executive Committee – AILA Texas/New Mexico/Oklahoma Chapter

From: Donations Committee

RE: 2019 AILA Donations Committee Report and Recommendations

INTRODUCTION

During the 2019 donation application period, the Chapter received 26 donation request applications. Donation funds available for distribution by the Chapter are \$80,000. Donations Committee members reviewed all 26 applications and supporting documentation. Given the available funds for distribution, together with the number of organizations seeking funding, the Donations Committee worked to ensure constructive, equitable, and a productive distribution of Chapter funds.

THE APPLICATION PROCESS

The Donations Committee was established by the Chapter in the spring of 2016 in an effort to ensure equity and transparency in donation allocations by the Chapter. The goal of the Donations Committee is to make donation recommendations to the Chapter based on a thorough review of donation applications. This year's Donations Committee was chaired by Jarred (J.J.) Slater of Houston, TX; and consisted of five other members: T. Douglas Stump of Oklahoma City, OK; Simon Azar-Farr of San Antonio, TX; Sarah Brown of Dallas, TX; Corina Farias of Austin, TX; and Rebecca Kitson of Albuquerque, NM.

The application process consisted of the following:

- Applicants were required to submit information in accordance with the Texas Chapter Grant Funding Checklist and Request Form which were available on the Texas Chapter website.
- All submissions were to be submitted online (or to Chapter Chair Olsi Vrapı).
- Applicants received email confirmation of their applications by the Chapter Chair.
- Chapter Chair reported to the Donations Committee that 26 applications were received (25 online submission and 1 e-mailed submission) and distributed application data and supporting documents received to the committee for review.
- The Donations Committee Members reviewed and analyzed each of the 26 applications.
- Members considered the amount requested by each organization, proposed use of funding, each organization's mission and programs, geographic region and type of population served, procedures adopted to verify income of those served, annual income, annual expenses, the organization's sources of funds, budget reliance on the amount requested to the chapter, and other notable details requested and provided with each submission.
- The Donations Committee members met via teleconference on April 23, 2019 to finalize all committee recommendations.

- The application process specifically does not provide for presentations to the Chapter at the spring meeting. Instead, recommendations by the Donations Committee are made based on a detailed review of documentation and information provided by each organization in accordance with the application process.
- Based on all of the applications and supporting documentation, the Committee made final donation recommendations based on the available funding of \$80,000.
- The Donations Committee Members believe that a comprehensive and just review of the applications took place and agreed to by a final unanimous vote to their recommendations.

FUNDING REQUESTS

Below is a summary of the funding requests received by the committee:

1. American Gateways requested \$25,000 for general operating support.
2. American Immigration Council (AIC) requested \$45,000 for general operational support for their litigation, research and policy work benefiting employment based, family, and removal issues.
3. ASISTA Immigrant Assistance requested \$10,000 for program support.
4. Baker Ripley in Houston requested \$10,000 for program support.
5. Catholic Charities of the Archdiocese of Oklahoma City requested \$15,000 for program support.
6. Catholic Charities of Central Texas requested \$10,000 for program support.
7. Catholic Charities of Dallas requested \$60,000 for general operating support.
8. Catholic Charities of the Diocese of Las Cruces requested \$15,000 for program support.
9. Catholic Charities of Eastern Oklahoma requested \$50,000 for program support.
10. Catholic Charities of New Mexico requested \$10,000 to fund a part-time administrative assistant.
11. Daya, Inc. of Houston requested \$10,000 for program support.
12. Diocesan Migrant & Refugee Services, Inc. of El Paso requested \$3,000
13. Doctors for Change requested \$5,000 for general operation support.
14. Human Rights First requested \$10,000 for program support.
15. Human Rights Initiative of North Texas requested \$15,000 for program support.
16. Immigrant Legal Resource Center (ILRC) requested \$20,000 for general operating support.
17. Justice for Our Neighbors of Houston/East Texas requested \$10,000 for program support.
18. Memorial Assistance Ministries requested \$10,000 for program support.
19. Migrant Center for Human Rights in San Antonio requested \$18,000 for program support.
20. MOSAIC Family Services of Dallas requested \$5,000 for general operating support, program support, and capital request.
21. New Mexico Immigrant Law Center (NMILC) requested \$20,000 for program support.
22. Opening Doors International Services, Inc. requested \$30,000 for general operating support.
23. The Rhizome Center for Migrants in Houston requested funds for general operating support.
24. Santa Fe Dreamers Project requested \$20,000 for program support.

25. University of Houston Law Foundation (UHLC Immigration Clinic) requested \$15,000 for program support.
26. YWCA of Tulsa requested \$10,000 for program support.

FUNDING RECOMMENDATIONS

As a result of a thorough review of all application information, the following are the Committee's recommendations:

- American Immigration Council (AIC) \$45,000
- American Gateways \$12,000
- New Mexico Immigrant Law Center (NMILC) \$11,000
- University of Houston Law Foundation \$11,000
- Diocesan Migrant & Refugee Services \$ 1,000

COMMENTS REGARDING THE GRANT FUNDING CHECKLIST

The Chapter's Grant Funding Checklist and Request Form were significantly modified in 2017 following recommendations from the 2016 Committee and Executive Committee. Since that time, the checklist requires applicants to provide documentation to clearly prove that organizations seeking Chapter's funds are in full compliance with IRS and BIA rules.

The checklist was created to afford the Chapter a better understanding of how Chapter funds are spent and who will benefit from services provided by organizations seeking such funds. Part III.7 was added to the Grant Funding Checklist in 2017 and requested a description of *how low-income applicants are screened* by organizations that are seeking Chapter's funds, to get a better understanding of criteria used to determine eligibility for said organizations' services.