

Reconstructing Judaism's Auerbach Ignition Grant

Supporting Reconstructionist rabbinical students, recent graduates and students enrolled in Leading Through Innovation

2021-2022

Reconstructing Judaism is delighted to award a total of \$8,000 in Ignition Grants to support innovation that strengthens Jewish community and engages the un/under engaged. We support change makers in the Reconstructionist Community and those from across seminaries because of our commitment to foster emerging expressions of Jewish life—always helping to shape what it means to be Jewish today and to imagine the Jewish future.

Multiple awards in the amount of up to \$1,000 each will be given to seed small-scale projects led by a student(s) presently enrolled at RRC, a recent graduate(s) (2019 or later) and students currently enrolled in the inter-seminary course Leading Through Innovation (LTI). Up to \$4,000 is available to Reconstructionist community students and rabbis *and an additional* \$4,000 is available for students currently enrolled in the inter-seminary course, LTI.

This year's grant provides support from the Ritualwell.org platform and staff for marketing; social media reach; educational design and more.

Timeline: Ignition Grant applications will be accepted on a rolling basis from April 1, 2021 through May 14, 2021. Proposals should be submitted to Cyd Weissman, cweissman@reconstructingjudaism.org. Award emails will be sent within 10 days of receipt. Projects should conclude by November 2021.

Grant Criteria:

1. Project tests an innovative pilot for Jewish living and engagement in America; 2. Must serve Jews outside of New York City and Los Angeles; 3. Demonstrate potential for expansion into a larger-scale project; and 4. Welcomes women, LGBTQ+ and Jews of Color among all other applicants.

Grant funds cannot be used to employ staff from Reconstructing Judaism, RRC, The Glean Network, Clal or a participating seminary. Students can receive a maximum of one Ignition Grant per application cycle.

Recipients will provide a final grant report about what they were able to accomplish and most importantly, what they learned. Recipients commit to 3 zoom gatherings to share ongoing learning and challenges with fellow recipients. We may also ask recipients to share the stories of their work with the communications departments at Reconstructing Judaism and Clal.

Be bold. Be willing to fail and to learn in order to meet a challenge or explore an opportunity in the Jewish community. Reconstructing Judaism's

Auerbach Ignition Grant Application

Provide cover page with contact information.

Limit application to 2 pages double-spaced. Please answer the following questions:

1. A 1-sentence summary of your project
2. What is the problem or challenge you are trying to solve? Why is this problem or challenge important? Elaborate as needed.
3. Overview of Your Solution:
 - What is your project? JTBD (Who do you seek to serve, and why?)
 - Who is the main constituent group for your project? Why did you choose this constituent group?
 - What are the Jobs to Be Done of your constituent group? How did you discern these insights?

- What is your solution to these problems? What features help constituents meet their needs, relieve pains, and create gains?
4. What makes your project unique?
 5. Include a project plan and budget.
 6. Your big why! Share a little about yourself. Why does this project matter to you?

Questions: Connect with Cyd Weissman, Vice President, Innovation and Impact, Reconstructing Judaism at cweissman@reconstructingjudaism.org.

With appreciation to the Beatrice Fox Auerbach Foundation Advisory Fund I/Schiro (SFS), a donor-advised fund at the Jewish Community Fund of Greater Hartford.