



## **Guidelines for WRJ Microgrants**

Women of Reform Judaism is proud to announce a microgrant opportunity for your WRJ-affiliated women's group. Any new or innovative project or program that relates to engagement or social justice qualifies for this grant opportunity.

There are currently two microgrant opportunities available. First, a women's group is eligible for a grant to engage women around timely issues in the pursuit of social justice, including any work related to WRJ resolutions or high-priority issues. Additionally, a women's group is eligible to receive a grant for a program or project that promotes engagement in the areas of sisterhood/community building, spirituality, or personal enrichment and growth. **Your program does not have to meet both criteria to apply.** Either engagement and/or social justice activities qualify for a grant. Multiple WRJ-affiliated women's groups may collaborate on a program.

Grants between \$500-\$2,500 will be awarded.\* A WRJ-affiliated women's group may only submit one grant proposal per year. The grant funds will be reimbursed after the program has been completed, unless other arrangements have been made.

### **Who can apply?**

Any WRJ-affiliated women's group can apply for a WRJ Microgrant. The Microgrant is not currently available to individual WRJ members.

Multiple WRJ-affiliated women's groups may collaborate on a program. Only one women's group should submit the application, listing all participating groups. A program cannot be submitted more than once. In addition, we encourage you to partner with other groups within your congregation or community.

### **How to apply**

Carefully read the guidelines and application before beginning! **Once you begin an application, you will not be able to return to edit it, so you may want to prepare your responses in a word document first.**

**[Click this link to apply for a WRJ Microgrant](#)**

If you need assistance please contact WRJ Program Fellow **Nicki Braun** at: [NBraun@wrj.org](mailto:NBraun@wrj.org).

**Applications are open between January 5, 2026, and June 30, 2026.**

By submitting your application, you authorize WRJ to use this project or program in our videos, website and in other publications.

## **2026 Timeline**

**Microgrants will be awarded on a rolling basis. Applications for 2026 open on January 5, 2026, and must be submitted by June 30, 2026.**

After completing your application, please allow up to 75 days for committee review and to hear back about your application decision.

**Programs can commence from March 1, 2026, and must be completed by December 31, 2026. Only new and innovative programs qualify.** The program must have a significant impact for its target audience. Content, creativity, quality and innovation are all criteria for determining grant eligibility.

**Please note: Microgrants will not be awarded for ongoing programs, to fund the operations of the women's group or temple, or for funds used as a pass-through to support other organizations. Each Women's Group/Sisterhood can only submit one application per year. If the program is awarded a Microgrant, it will not be eligible to apply for an Or Ami Award.**

Grantees will be required to acknowledge WRJ's support and use WRJ branding at the program. Following the completion of the program, grantees will be required to complete a post program survey/evaluation, documenting the experience and outcome of the program, and submitting program receipts.

## **Evaluation Criteria**

Microgrant applications are evaluated on the following scale:

- 1 = Not included/addressed
- 2 = Below average
- 3 = Average
- 4 = Above Average
- 5 = Exceptional

## **Program/Project Focus**

The program shows clear alignment with WRJ's vision and mission.

- For Social Justice – Advocates for WRJ resolutions and initiatives, and is based on current interest or need of WRJ

- For Engagement – Fosters community building, engages both current and potential new members, and includes opportunity for personal enrichment or growth

### **Content**

The program is original, creative and innovative, and/or addresses a WRJ need in a unique way.

### **Audience**

The target audience is clearly defined, and the application directly addresses how the target audience will benefit from the program. The program is also accessible for all (e.g. people with disabilities, affordable for all, transportation options considered)

### **Impact**

The program and application includes:

- A clear intent for positive impact for the target audience
- The number of possible program attendees
- An opportunity for growth of the Women's Group (increased membership potential)
- Opportunities for partnership and building bridges both inside and outside the Women's Group
- Intent to promote diversity, equity and inclusion
- Opportunity for leadership development

### **Goals**

Goals and program intent are clearly stated, and a plan is in place to achieve the goals

### **Evaluations**

A clear evaluation method is provided, assessing the success of the program

### **Budget**

The budget is included in the application, and funding requested is reasonable and appropriate for the scope of the program

**For more information, please contact WRJ Program Fellow Nicki Braun at: [NBraun@wrj.org](mailto:NBraun@wrj.org) or 212-650-4061.**

\* The social justice grants would not be possible without the generous support of WRJ Immediate Past President, Sara Charney, and her husband Rick Charney, and WRJ Board Member, Deborah Lelchuk, and her husband Dan Lelchuk. Their dedication to social justice is profound, rooted in Jewish values, and helps create a compassionate world for all. We thank them for making this initiative possible.

The engagement grants are made possible by the support of Joanne Fried, who created our Engagement Fund. We thank Joanne and appreciate everything she has done to help WRJ expand our programming and support our sisterhoods and districts.