

NYSCU Grant Progress Report 2026

DEADLINE: This report of a 2026 grant received from the New York State Convention of Universalists in is due to Tom Hackett, Clerk ON OR BEFORE SEPTEMBER 30, 2026. Please use the form below to submit your report.

If there is a visual component to the program, please send a photo or two (labeled, please) or other appropriate visual. If there is an audio or video component, please include as well using the form upload below.

CONTACT: If your project is not yet underway or is just beginning, you may defer your report until 2027. Please inform the Clerk at NYSCUTom@gmail.com.

Email *

minister@uuroc.org

Organization Name *

First Universalist Church of Rochester, NY

Name of respondent *

Eileen Casey-Campbell

Phone number of respondent *

518-588-2219

Purpose of Grant *

Expanded programming for children and families

Amount of Grant *

\$6800

How was the money spent? *

OWL program costs:

A 4-6 grade OWL program for our largest age group of children, including one family from our neighbor congregation at the Unitarian Universalist Church of Canandaigua.

Curricula and materials: \$292.99

Facilitator Training: \$350

Participant lunches: \$300

Total: \$892.99

Playspace updates:

Installation of large motor play equipment in an previously unused room, where families can gather and children can engage in values-based play during RE. We hope this room will also serve as a potential rental space for family-friendly events like birthday parties as well as a potential community gathering place where we can offer occasional free drop-in indoor play time to local families.

Play equipment, furniture, and toys: \$2117.45

Total spent as of 9/30/26: \$3010.44

Planned Spending in '26-'27 program year:

Before/After Worship Care:

Extending current childcare staff hours before and after worship on Sunday mornings, allowing caregivers of small children to participate in church programming (choir, coffee hour volunteering, justice group meetings, spiritual deepening groups, etc) during that time.

Staff time \$1950 (increased from time of grant request, due to wage increases)

All Ages Community events:

A series of multigenerational community events that are open to the public as well as the congregation and service as a way to connect with the life of the congregation outside of worship.

Movies With Meaning dinners \$500

Puzzles and Pumpkins family fall event \$300

OWL program costs (additional):

Facilitator trainings to expand age range: \$700

Playspace updates (additional)

Final supplies/equipment purchases for space: \$350

Total planned spending: \$3800 (difference of approximately \$11 from grant received, to be drawn from church operating budget)

(Please see the video of our new play space, created by our children. We have parental permission to share it publicly. <https://drive.google.com/file/d/11AYcMk1uFogceMTyhOYYU9xVpm-ORxHp/view?usp=sharing>)

By your best estimate, how many people were/are being reached/served? *

Our whole congregation of ~140 members is being served. Around 30 families are most directly benefitting from OWL programming, the new play space, expanded childcare, or all three.

Multigenerational community events have served 30-50 participants at a time in the past, and we expect similar attendance this year.

How well have the *goals* of the program/project been met, and how has this determination been made? *

The goals have been well met, and are continuing to be met. The OWL program began this month and will meet monthly through the church year. The play space was in regular use, as of 9/1/26. The community events and expanded childcare hours are upcoming, in October-June of this program year.

What *concerns* developed in the course of the program/project? *

We needed more funds than anticipated for both OWL curricula and facilitator training as well as for childcare; however, our play space revitalization came in under budget due to congregant donations and volunteer time, making up the difference.

Project Completion Info

Is the project fully complete? *

☐ Yes

☒ No

IF THE PROJECT IS COMPLETE, what are the implications for the future?

IF THE PROJECT IS NOT COMPLETE, when will it be completed and evaluated, and by whom?

The complete grant will be used for expansion of our programming for children and families by the end of the program year, July 2026-June 2027. Our RE Committee and board will evaluate it. The expanded programming and use of revitalized program space will be ongoing, with the play space and OWL curricula lasting us many years. Our board will evaluate whether and how to incorporate expanded childcare and community event programming into our annual budget.

Upload Photo of Project or Other Supporting Document

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