

**NATIONAL COUNCIL OF JEWISH  
WOMEN  
South Cook Section  
A FAITH IN THE FUTURE.  
A BELIEF IN ACTION.®**

**To: Principals**

**From: The National Council of Jewish Women, South Cook Section, Mini-Grants Committee**

**Subject: Funding for Innovative Projects in Education**

The National Council of Jewish Women (NCJW), South Cook Section, will award a limited number of grants to local elementary and junior high school instructional personnel (grades K-8) for innovative projects that supplement the classroom curriculum. Priority will be given to the most creative and original ideas as determined by the NCJW mini-grant advisory committee. Each mini-grant will be in an amount up to \$350.

The NCJW Mini Grant Project has been offered for 25 years. In this time, the South Cook Section has provided funding for over 325 projects and has awarded over \$60,000. As a Section, we are delighted to offer this opportunity to local schools and teachers. What excites us most is to see the remarkable and dedicated teachers who work in our schools. We are also pleased that many principals and districts foster an excitement in teaching and learning that goes beyond the regular requirements of education. Although some principals have encouraged applications in their schools (and some applied themselves when they were teachers), we want to make sure you are all aware that although we are the National Council of Jewish Women, we are in no way expecting applications to be religious in content. We also encourage any principals who have questions about the grant to please call either Evelyn Rosen ([708-798-0138](tel:708-798-0138)) or Nancy Burrows ([708-799-2267](tel:708-799-2267) or [708-651-0762](tel:708-651-0762)).

Enclosed are application forms with further instructions. Applications are also available on our website: <http://ncjwsouthcook.org/mini-grants/>. Scroll down to mini-grants. Please discuss this program with your faculty as soon as possible and encourage them to apply. A teacher may submit more than one application; however, due to limited funds only one proposal per applicant may be funded. Several applicants may work together to submit a single project. Prior grant recipients are welcome to apply, provided they have followed past mini-grant recipient guidelines, including submitting a year end report.

Applications must be received by Evelyn Rosen by Friday, November 20, 2017 and are limited to 1 page. You will be notified of the committee's decision in late December. Funds will be distributed in January, so that projects may be implemented during the remainder of the school year. Publicity regarding these innovative programs should mention that funding was provided by NCJW, South Cook Section.

**Applicants are to contact their principal for application forms. Principals must sign the application to ensure that the project has full support of the principal, and that funds and materials are not already available in your school or school system. Applicants must mail or deliver forms (10 copies) to Evelyn Rosen, Chairperson, NCJW Mini-Grants, 1421 Berry Lane, Flossmoor, IL 60422 by or on November 20.**

**It is the intent of the National Council of Jewish Women, South Cook Section that any reusable items or articles purchased or acquired by mini-grant recipients continue to be available to the recipients, as long as they remain instructional personnel in their present school district. Should a recipient leave the district, NCJW, South Cook Section, intends that those items purchased with mini-grant funds remain in the district if they can continue to be used, as determined by the principal. If the mini-grant recipient leaves the employ of the school prior to the receipt of the funds, the principal shall inform the committee, and the funds will be awarded to a runner-up, as determined during the proposal review process. If, for some reason, the project is not carried out, the principal will return the funds to NCJW, South Cook Section. Recipients are required to submit an evaluation of the project by June 1, 2018.**

**Founded in 1893, the National Council of Jewish Women is the nation's oldest Jewish women's organization. Education, advocacy, and community service form NCJW's combined approach to its areas of concern. NCJW develops and implements programs which affect the lives of people of all ages, races and backgrounds. Among South Cook Section, NCJW projects are HIPPIE, Adopt a School, Aunt Martha's, Respond Now, South Suburban Family Shelter and Camp Quality. Please contact Co-chairs Evelyn Rosen 798-0138 or Nancy Burrows, 799-2267 or 708-651-0762 with any questions.**

**Thank you for your cooperation and participation.**