"The WORLD is worth saving"

Dick Fallow
Endowment for Social Justice
August 23, 1920 — April 13, 2013

2025 Dick Fallow Endowment for Social Justice
Grant Structure

This year's grant application period begins September 1 and ends October 15, 2025. As the Dick Fallow Endowment for Social Justice (Endowment) grows to a sufficient amount, it is anticipated that three grants will be awarded in each of the following three categories: Labor/Economic Justice, Environmental/Sustainability, and Democracy/Human Rights. The Endowment, through its Grant Selection Committee, reserves the right to issue grants to only one or two organization.

Criteria for grant applicants:

- Its work must serve the Quad Cities and immediate surrounding areas.
- It must be an organization and not an individual.
- It must fit under one of the three categories of serving the Quad Cities: Labor/Economic Justice, Environment/Sustainability, or Democracy/Human Rights.
- With some exceptions, the organization has to be locally chartered and not part of a national organization.
- The grant will be available to 501(c)3 organizations.

Grant Selection Process:

Once grants are submitted, after October 15, 2025, reviewers selected by the Endowment's Grants Selection Committee (Committee), will evaluate all applications.

The Committee will make its decision by the end of October, 2025, and will forward its recommendations to the PACG Board to ensure that the grant award does not violate the Endowment's tax-exempt status. The decision will be announced in November 2025, and the grant will be awarded in December 2025.

The PACG Board reserves the right to reject an applicant if it jeopardizes the integrity or the tax status of PACG or the Endowment. However, the Committee reserves the right to challenge that decision and request reconsideration before the PACG Board.

A majority vote of those present – meeting quorum requirements – will constitute approval or declination of the grant.

If a grant is not approved by the PACG Board, the Committee will submit an alternate. If, for whatever reason, a grant is not made in any of the categories by December 31 of the granting year, the grant funds shall roll over and be made available for applicants in the following year.

Description of each of the Grant Categories:

Labor/Economic Justice

Dick Fallow fought tirelessly against what he called "wage slavery" and economic inequality. As a child growing up in the 1930s, Dick witnessed the hopelessness of economic depression firsthand. Trains rolled into town carrying loads of unemployed men who would disembark hoping to find work. Their places on the train would be replaced by men who were just leaving that town unable to find work. Dick remained an organizer, inspirer, and mobilizer on behalf of workers' rights into his early 90s. He supported the rights of all workers to good wages, benefits like Social Security, health insurance, vacation and sick days, to dignified pensions and retiree health care, safe working conditions, and most of all: respect for the work we do. But it was in Organized Labor where Dick focused most of his efforts. Dick firmly believed that the rights of an individual worker were won by the efforts of all workers organizing collectively so that no man or woman was left behind. This was as central to Dick's philosophy as having political and civil rights. Democracy at work not only made for a life with dignity, it was good economic policy, too.

Environment/Sustainability

Dick Fallow held a great respect and love for the earth he inhabited. He was an organic farmer back when it was more "in vogue" to be a chemical gardener. He was appalled by the flippant use of pesticides and chemicals used by people in order to have a "magazine cover quality" yard, and he didn't hesitate to voice his opinions to those who used these products. He was equally concerned about the quality of our water due to factory dumping and farm chemical runoff and, again, did not hesitate to voice his opinion about those who put profit before safety. In his later years, he became interested in learning more about the horrors of animal confinement operations and the impact it has on the environment. Dick did not consume nor did he buy products he did not need. He was not impressed by the throw away mentality of our society, "Landfills," he would say, "just do not go away, they multiply." He was also dismayed by the slow progress by this country's switch from fossil fuels to sustainable energy. Dick was a true protector and friend to our planet, Earth.

Democracy/Human Rights

Dick Fallow envisioned a world where the human rights and dignity of all people were respected. He believed that everybody should have a voice – not only in their respective local, state, and Federal governments, but also in their workplaces, communities, and families. Dick truly believed in democracy with a small "d." Moreover, he was a great advocate for peace and justice. Into his mid-to-late-eighties, Dick joined local folks from Progressive Action for the Common Good on street corners in Moline and Davenport in the heat of summer and in blizzards to protest the Iraq War. He called for Justice not only for our wounded and dying troops, but also for the Iraqi people who suffered even greater casualties. Dick literally stood up for peace and justice everywhere as long as his health allowed, and then he fought on with his voice and with his great heart and soul. He always said he was appalled at this country's obsession with war – especially in the last century. Dick was a true champion of Peace.