



**Summary Information Email address:** dan.turben@parknationalbank.com

**Date:** June 24, 2021

**Project Title:** *Community Research on Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion in Aid of Multi-Cultural and Current-Issue Education in the Oakwood City School District*

**Name of Applicant(s):** the Oakwood Inclusion Coalition (OIC)

**Affiliated School(s):** While the OIC is not a part of or an affiliate of the Oakwood City School District, the organization has had since its founding in 2020 the counsel of Dr. Kyle Ramey, Superintendent of the District. Dr. Ramey serves as a member of the OIC's Leadership Team and thereby represents the interests of the District relative to the mission of the OIC. Dr. Ramey participated in Leadership Team discussions that led to the decision to commission a Community Research initiative.

**Total Amount Requested:** \$5,000 - \$10,000. *Note: The total cost of the Community Research will be \$15,000 per an initial estimate provided with an RFP was sent to a professional research firm in the Dayton area.. The OIC would be pleased to engage the Oakwood Schools Foundation as a major contributor and collaborator in the initiative, hence the suggested range of this request. The OIC is a 501(c)(3) organization.*

**Estimated Number of Students who will Benefit:**

All students in the Oakwood City School District, both in the near and long term, will appreciate the benefits that will arise from this research. This benefit will occur as the project will support the activities of the OIC in its mission to study, promote, and celebrate a more inclusive community. Understanding the dynamics that surround issues of diversity, equity, and inclusion and, more broadly, multi-cultural awareness, will benefit all residents of Oakwood and all students who receive their formative education through the Oakwood City School District. To this end, the activities of the OIC that will be planned and implemented as a result of this Community Research will significantly enrich the Oakwood community culture and notably prepare our students to be distinguished Oakwood School District graduates and informed citizens of the communities they join and contribute to in their adult lives.

In addition to providing an eventual benefit to all Oakwood students, this Community Research initiative will generally aid the Oakwood City School District as it will provide valuable data not only about the racial, cultural, and ethnic composition of the city but about perspectives on and aspirations around questions of diversity, equity, and inclusion subjects interviewed in the research (including Oakwood and non-Oakwood residents).

**Confirmation of Approval:**

I have approval from the building principal(s). N/A per the explanation above under Affiliated School(s) This request includes technology and accordingly Daniel H. Turben, as representative of the OIC, has consulted with Matt Sproat and/or members of the Oakwood technology department.

**Primary Contact Information Name:** Daniel H. Turben

**Department / Title:** Member-at-Large, Leadership Team, Oakwood Inclusion Coalition

**E-mail Address:** dan.turben@parknationalbank.com

**Affiliated School(s):** N/A (see above)

**Project Title:** *Community Research on Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion in Aid of Multi-Cultural and Current-Issue Education in the Oakwood City School District*

### **Grant Summary**

**Please provide a one-paragraph description of your project:**

The OIC seeks the support of the Oakwood School Foundation in partial support of funding a community research initiative that would yield important data about Oakwood in relation to matters of diversity, equity, and inclusion. Conducted independently by a professional firm, this research will specifically explore the nature of Oakwood, its history and reputation, how Oakwood is perceived, and how participants in the research would like to see the City and its residents continue along a course of maintaining an inclusive community. Since the Oakwood City School District is central to the quality of Oakwood as a community and its relations with and reputation vis-à-vis surrounding communities and populations, research of this nature will yield valuable information that will aid the District in educating students (pre-K through 12<sup>th</sup> grade) and ready them for competitive placement in colleges, universities, and other post-graduation pursuits and successful, contributing lives in multi-cultural communities throughout the United States and abroad.

**Goals and Objectives: How does this project enhance the curriculum:**

Questions and concerns, controversies and debate around race and, more particularly, diversity, equity, and inclusion increasingly form a central feature and a growing dimension of public discourse, public policy, and cultural change in the United States and across the globe. In this contemporary environment, students who have derived the benefit of a curriculum that is enriched by various multi-cultural dimensions and investigations into current and ongoing dynamics around diversity, equity, and inclusion will appreciate a higher quality education and a level of preparedness for higher education and working lives consonant with what Oakwood regularly delivers as a school system of national excellence. To this end, this project, once its data becomes available and is constructively analyzed and applied by the District toward curricular enhancement, will enhance the curriculum by aiding the School District in preparing its teachers and educating Oakwood students for studying and developing a more nuanced understanding of the myriad dynamics around the formation, maintenance, and improvement of the Oakwood community and in the communities our students will enter into after graduation from Oakwood City Schools.

**Evaluation (How will you measure the effectiveness of this initiative? How will you assess whether the goals have been accomplished?):**

Measurement of the OIC's effectiveness in commissioning this Community Research and in analyzing and sharing its results with the Oakwood City School District will occur through quarterly events that will allow the organization to gauge how well the community is addressing issues of diversity, equity, and inclusion. Most particularly in relation to this grant request, the OIC intends to work closely with Dr. Ramey and his Oakwood City Schools District staff toward the effective translation of the research data into curricular modification and innovation in aid of the continued excellence and contemporary engagement that Oakwood residents have come to expect and appreciate about education in the District.

**Budget:**

Please provide a detailed breakdown of all projected expenses, including shipping costs and any ongoing maintenance fees.

Again, the total projected cost of this Community Research project is estimated to be \$15,000; this figure was obtained through an initial RFP.

Please also be sure to include the TOTAL AMOUNT being requested: \$5,000 - \$10,000.

To submit your grant request, please send it to: [contact@oakwoodschooolsfoundation.org](mailto:contact@oakwoodschooolsfoundation.org). You will receive an e-mail confirmation including a copy of the submitted grant information. If you need to change or add information to your grant after it has been submitted, you can edit and resubmit. Please forward a copy of your grant application to the building principal(s), which will fulfill the building principal approval requirement.

If the grant request is funded, you will be asked to submit a brief final grant report. The final grant report highlights the impact of the project to the grants review committee and the outcomes are shared with the Oakwood School District as well as the Oakwood community.

Questions? Contact Bre Andrews, OSF Director, 297-5332 or e-mail: [bre@oakwood](mailto:bre@oakwood)