

# 2025 Grant Information Packet

Lewis & Clark College  
Center for Social Change &  
Community Involvement



# About the Grant

The Nielson Social Change Innovation Grant program is facilitated by the Center for Social Change and Community Involvement. Nielson Social Change Innovation Grants support Lewis & Clark College undergraduate student-initiated projects and are designed to:

Made possible through the generosity of Patrick Nielson '71 and his wife Dorris Nielson, the Nielson Social Change Innovation Grant provides Lewis & Clark College undergraduate students with funds to cover costs such as equipment or technology, educational resources, travel expenses, or other items used to strengthen grassroots efforts for progressive, systemic social change. This fund prioritizes applications that address community outreach and education, leadership development, root cause and power analysis, and coalition building. Proposals that directly address racial equity and social justice will be prioritized.



Grant recipients may receive an award between the range of \$500 - \$5,000. Grants will be given annually to the individuals or groups (undergraduates only) who submits a winning proposal.

# The Nielson Social Change Innovation Grant supports projects that:



Fund effective and transformative social change initiatives



Encourage innovation and creativity to explore what is possible



Equip communities that our students care about, both locally and globally, with the tools required to positively impact social change



Develop and test ideas, solve problems, and create opportunities

# Project Timeline 2025



# Meet the 2024 Recipients

## Índigo Araya '24

Araya launched Transflorar, a project that drew its inspiration from the ongoing struggles of the trans and non-binary community, as well as from the resilience and advocacy of local activists in Costa Rica.

This project achieved remarkable success in fostering inclusivity, resilience, and empowerment among Costa Rica's trans and non-binary communities. By equipping participants with tools to advocate for themselves and their communities, the project created a ripple effect of positive change.

## Nichole Champion '25

Nichole Champion launched the Holistic Wellness Initiative (HWI) in partnership with Portland State University's Inquiry for Justice program, which made a significant impact on underserved high school students in Multnomah County by blending wellness practices with social justice education that addresses the systemic challenges that disenfranchised communities face.

HWI achieved remarkable success in empowering 29 disenfranchised high school students by providing them tools to manage the emotional toll of systemic oppression. Through activities such as yoga, art therapy, nature walks, and mental health workshops, students experienced improved mental and emotional well-being.



Read Their Project Reports Here

# Contact Info



## Center for Social Change and Community Involvement

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