

Proposal: Stake Holding Grants for Former Residents of Russell City and Descendants who are Seniors (65+)

Summary of the Reparative Justice Recommendation: Give out one-time stakeholding grants to former residents of Russell City. After that, use a lottery to give one-time stakeholding grants to as many senior descendants (people aged 65 and older) as possible. The grants for former residents could potentially be between \$3,250 and \$13,333, and the grants for senior descendants could be between \$500 and \$4,000. The exact amount depends on how many people qualify and how much money is available from the City of Hayward. Also, hire staff and consultants to make a list of former residents and their descendants. This list will help check who is eligible for the grants.

Reparative Justice Description and Justification: Basic income means giving regular, unconditional cash payments from the government to everyone in a community. One type of basic income is called a stakeholding grant, where people get a large, one-time payment. ⁱ In the United States ⁱⁱ and California, there are successful basic or guaranteed income programs that provide monthly payments of \$500 to \$1,200. ⁱⁱⁱ

People in the community, through surveys, public meetings, and a town hall, said that paying former Russell City residents and elders should be a top priority. Those who supported the proposal suggested the payments should be given as a single large amount. The Russell City Reparative Justice Project suggests giving up to 500 stakeholding grants to former Russell City residents and senior descendants, depending on how much money is available. If there is money left after paying former residents, additional grants will be issued to senior descendants of Russell City through a lottery. "Seniors" means people who are 65 years old and older.

The 1960 Census showed that about 1,549 people lived in Russell City before it was destroyed, and the City of Hayward has found more than 350 different property records. Because of this, it's important to first use available resources to pay former residents. It's also necessary to make a list of who is eligible to get these payments. The amount of the stakeholding grants should be as large as possible based on the City of Hayward's budget and the number of people who qualify.



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Eligibility Criteria:

To qualify for the stakeholding grants from the Russell City Reparative Justice Project, beneficiaries must:

1. Be a former resident of Russell City who can prove they lived there between 1960 and 1967 with valid documentation ^{iv}, or
2. Be a senior descendant (65 years old or older by December 31, 2024) who has at least one ancestor who lived in Russell City between 1960 and 1967. You must provide proof of your ancestor's residency and show that you are related to them. ^v

Reparative Justice Objectives:

- **Objective 1:** Make a list of living Russell City former residents using City of Hayward records, County of Alameda documents, and research with the Russell City community.
- **Objective 2:** Hire professional genealogists to create family trees of Russell City's former residents and descendants. They will also help find the public records needed to make the list of former residents and descendants.
- **Objective 3:** Initiate partnerships with academic departments at California State University, East Bay, and Chabot College to get student support with researching relevant public records held by the County of Alameda, Hayward Unified School District, and City of Hayward (e.g. Birth certificates, school records, marriage records, tax documents, etc).
- **Objective 4:** Start giving out the first group of stakeholding grants to former Russell City residents during the 2025-2026 fiscal year.
- **Objective 5:** Over four fiscal years, give out four more batches of stakeholding grants to former Russell City residents and descendants aged 65 and older, from the 2026-2027 fiscal year to the 2029-2030 fiscal year.
- **Objective 6:** Look for and apply for additional grants to provide stakeholding grants to more Russell City descendants.



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ⁱ Ackerman, B., Alstott, A., and Van Parijs, P. (2006). *Redesigning Distribution: Basic Income and Stakeholder Grants as Cornerstones for an Egalitarian Capitalism*.

ⁱⁱ The American Guaranteed Income Studies, [Research — Center for Guaranteed Income Research \(penncgir.org\)](https://www.penncgir.org)

ⁱⁱⁱ California Launches First State-Funded Guaranteed Income Pilot Programs, <https://www.gov.ca.gov/2023/11/03/launch-of-first-state-funded-guaranteed-income-pilot-programs/>

^{iv} Documentation to verify eligibility may include, but is not limited to, deeds, leases, rental agreements, tax documents, birth certificates, marriage certificates, school records, utility bills, bank statements, and/or insurance documents.

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