Intent to Apply for the 2022-2023 WFMN Community Response Grant

Community Response Fund

Rolling RFP Process

Please use the link to access and submit your responses to the Intent to Apply for WFMN Community Respond Grant Form.

Purpose

Women’s Foundation of Minnesota (WFMN) is dedicated to investing in innovative solutions for gender & racial justice that ensure the safety and well-being of women, girls, and gender-expansive people in Minnesota. WFMN responds to community-specific needs with investments in healing, support, and restoration for women, girls, gender-expansive people, and their families affected by trauma, violence, and erasure (including current, generational, historical, physical, psychological).

Through the Community Response Fund, WFMN invests in programs that ensure safe and healthy lives through grants to organizations and programs that respond quickly to emerging community needs that impact women, girls, and gender-expansive communities.

This year, the Fund will prioritize holistic well-being and reproductive justice in response to the continuous violation of reproductive rights and the increased demand faced by Minnesota health care providers. Funding will support reproductive justice, healing justice, and emergent community needs.

The Community Response Fund has two priorities:

1) **To protect** bodily autonomy and the full spectrum of reproductive healthcare. This includes abortion access, healing, and wellness for women, girls, and gender-expansive people.

2) **To respond** to critical needs of impacted communities. This includes policies and crises that violate human rights, gaps in general operating funding, and pandemic-related issues.

Examples of previous funded programs include those organizing in response to harmful policy changes, convening women-led organizations to strategize and create solidarity, and community efforts that address policies that violate human rights.

Request for Proposal Timeline
Applications will be reviewed on a rolling basis, for the duration that funding is available. The “Intent to Apply” forms will be reviewed within one week of the submission date. If determined to be eligible, WFMN will invite applicants to apply with instructions to complete the application in the WFMN web portal. Applications submitted to the web portal will be reviewed. If awarded, funds will be received after two weeks of review from the participatory grantmaking committee.

**Grounding the Work**

For the WFMN, overall holistic well-being means reproductive justice and healing justice. This includes the mind, body, spirit, and community wellness are foundational to accessing opportunities and is essential to creating a state in which all people can be healthy, whole, and safe.

**Reproductive Justice:** Reproductive justice is based on the belief that all women and people who become pregnant have the right to have children; the right to not have children and; the right to nurture the children we have in a safe and healthy environment. The reproductive justice movement acknowledges the ways in which intersecting factors, such as race and social class, limit the freedom of marginalized women to make informed choices about pregnancy by imposing oppressive circumstances or restricting access to services. This includes access to contraception, comprehensive sex education, prevention and care for sexually transmitted infections, alternative birth options, adequate prenatal and pregnancy care, domestic violence assistance, adequate wages to support families, and safe homes. This definition is informed and inspired by SisterSong Women of Color Reproductive Health Collective.

**Healing Justice:** Healing justice is based on the belief that everyone deserves the conditions that stop harm on the mind, body, and spirit; and allows them to fully engage in self-care. It is also an evolving political framework shaped by economic and racial justice that recenters the role of healing in liberation to transform, intervene, and respond to generational trauma and violence in our movements, communities, and lives and to regenerate traditions of resilient practices that have been lost or stolen due to supremacy culture and systems. This definition is informed and inspired by the Kindred Southern Healing Collective.

**ANALYSIS OF PROBLEMS AND SOLUTIONS**
Gender - How are women, girls, men, and boys differently or disproportionately affected, represented, or impacted? How and why? What gender norms limit or impact equity?

Race - How are racial and ethnic communities differently or disproportionately affected, represented, or impacted? How and why?

Place - How are rural, suburban, or urban communities differently or disproportionately affected?

Additional Identities - How do additional identity groups, including sovereignty, class, age, ability, sexual orientation, and immigration status differently or disproportionately limit or impact equity? How and why?

The Foundation uses an Intersectional Equity Framework™ to examine how gender, race, place (geography), and additional identities (ethnicity, sovereignty, socioeconomic class, age, disability, LGBTQ+, and immigration status, etc.) affect communities’ ability to access and participate in systems in order to target solutions.

Grant Information
Grant Type
Grants are one-year investment of $10,000 in general operating support.

Funding Eligibility
• Organizations driving innovative solutions that advance gender and racial justice by increasing access to community power & leadership, safety, holistic well-being & reproductive justice, and economic justice in Minnesota.
• Programs must operate in Minnesota and serve Black, Indigenous, women of color and/or gender-expansive people.
• Organizations who serve Black, Indigenous, and women of color who live in rural areas, identify as LGBTQ+, and/or live with a disability are highly encouraged to apply.
• Organization must be willing to submit a short learning evaluation at the end of their grant agreement.
• Organization and program must align with the Women’s Foundation mission, vision, and core values of Hope, Generosity, Courage, Inclusion, and Belonging.
• Organizations should be prepared to speak to how they use a gender lens and intersectional lens in their programming and work. Organizations should apply if serving at least 50 to 75 percent women, girls, and gender-expansive people to ensure that organizations are committed to working with these groups and are advocates in the movement to create a place where all women, girls, and gender-expansive people thrive.

*Our definition of woman is anyone who identifies as a woman. The program is inclusive of transgender, gender nonconforming, gender nonbinary, and all gender-expansive people who experience gender-based structural harm.

**Funding Criteria for Community Response Fund**
• The organization’s financial condition is stable.
• Demonstrated ability to work in partnership with other organizations.
• Demonstrated commitment to gender and racial justice using a multi-issue, multi-solution framework.
• Board members, staff, and volunteers are representative of the population served and are represented in decision-making roles in the organization.
• Inclusive organizations that value the perspectives and contributions of all people and that strive to incorporate the needs and viewpoints of diverse communities in the design and implementation of programs.

**Eligible Programs Include:**
• Nonprofit tax-exempt organizations and schools that operate programs in Minnesota
• Unincorporated organizations with a tax-exempt fiscal sponsor
• American Indian Nations

**The following activities or groups are NOT eligible for funding:**
• Scholarships to attend college, university, technical or certificate programs
• Projects within religious institutions that do not align with the mission and values of the Women’s Foundation of Minnesota
• Retroactive support of projects or activities
• Fundraising events
• Individuals
• Organizations that may be deemed discriminatory based on race, creed, color, ethnicity, national origin, religion, sex, sexual orientation, gender expression, age, physical or mental ability, veteran status, military obligation, immigration status, and marital status
• An organization that limits or opposes a woman’s right to self-determination
• Reduction of an operating deficit or to liquidate existing debt and or not in good standing with the Internal Revenue Service

How to Apply
Click the Intent to Apply for WFMN Community Respond Grant Form to start the application process. Once applicants have completed the intent to apply form, they will be contacted to apply with instructions to complete the rest of the application in the WFMN online grant portal if eligible.

Questions?
If you have any questions about the review process or need assistance, please contact Erika Idrovo-Cuesta, by phone at 612-236-1814 or email, erika@wfmn.org.

Preview of Intent to Apply Form
Please use the link to access and submit your responses to the Intent to Apply for WFMN Community Respond Grant Form.

Name of Organization:
Mailing Address:
Organization Website:
Contact Person:
Contact Person’s Title:
Contact Person’s Email:
Contact Person’s Phone Number:
Federal Taxpayer Identification Number (if applicable):
Does the organization have 501 (c) (3) status?
If no, please provide information about your Fiscal Sponsor (Ex: Name of Fiscal Sponsor and Contact Information for Executive Director and Fiscal Sponsor’s Mailing Address):
Total Project Budget:
Grant Amount Requested:

Planning Proposal Description: Please answer each question in one to two paragraphs.
1. Please give a brief description of how the grant funds will address an emerging, urgent, or vital need in the community you are serving and your intended outcomes.

2. Does your organization and the project use an intersectional analysis to find solutions?

Thank you for your interest in the WFMN Community Response Grant Application!