



OAK PARK-RIVER FOREST Community Foundation

Community Grants - 2022 Request for Proposals

The Community Foundation is now accepting applications for 2022 Community Grants

The Community Grants program is guided by the Oak Park-River Forest Community Foundation's Mission and Vision:

Vision: A racially just society in which all members of our community thrive and prosper.

Mission: Unite community members to mobilize resources to advance a racially just society and equitable outcomes for residents of Oak Park, River Forest and surrounding communities.

Our core values: Equity, inclusivity, courage

ELIGIBILITY

- The applicant organization is qualified as a 501(c) (3) public charity or the applicant organization is operating under the fiscal agency of an organization that is a qualified 501(c)(3) public charity.
- If a past grantee, is in good standing with the OPRF Community Foundation.
- Serves one or more of the following communities in West Cook County: Oak Park, River Forest, Forest Park, Austin, Galewood, Berwyn, Cicero, Elmwood Park, Melrose Park and Maywood.

FUNDING PARAMETERS

- Grant support up to \$15,000 for one year
- Types of Grants: Project/Program or general operations
- Grants are awarded for one year
- Grant requests may be awarded with full or partial funding
- Grant funds provided by the Foundation to your organization, if awarded, are not to be used to discriminate per the Foundation's non-discrimination policy related to grant making
- Applicants are limited to one application during this grant cycle

FUNDING PRIORITIES

Grant priorities for 2022 are based on a participatory community needs assessment conducted by the Oak Park-River Forest Community Foundation over the period November 2021 to March 2022. Priority will be given to organizations that embrace and advance leadership of BIPOC with lived expertise in one or more of the thematic areas under the following priority areas:

1) **EDUCATION**

Programming, advocacy and capacity building that seeks to:

- a) Teach history of minority and marginalized groups including Native Americans; African Americans; LatinX; Asian Americans
- b) Address the racial achievement gap in education
- c) Increase access to a pipeline of quality education from early childhood to college
- d) Establish equitable standards for disciplinary actions
- e) Build confidence, knowledge, skills, and collective leadership of young people, ages 25 and under, while addressing the root causes of injustice and inequity in their lives.
- f) Support youth engagement in and increased access to extracurricular programming that promotes a sense of belonging for all participants

2) **HEALTH CARE and/or MENTAL HEALTH**

Programming, advocacy and capacity building that seeks to:

- a) Provide culturally sensitive, wraparound services for BIPOC families with mental health challenges
- b) Address structural barriers to mental health services
- c) Increase access to grocery stores and green spaces

3) **WEALTH AND REPRESENTATION**

Programming, advocacy and capacity building that seeks to support:

- a) Reparations focused on housing
- b) Increased access to banking/financial services
- c) Financial literacy and entrepreneurship training programs for youth and other community members
- d) Engagement of BIPOC community with valuable lived experience for critical decision-making in all priority areas.

4) **SAFETY AND HOUSING**

Programming, advocacy and capacity building that seeks to support:

- a) Violence protection, gang intervention and related youth development activities
- b) Youth engagement and leadership development that promotes a sense of purpose and belonging
- c) Systems change and advocacy to address housing instability and homelessness

KEY DATES

June 15, 2022, 8:30-9:30am OR 4:30-5:30pm:

Community Grants Proposal Information Session via Zoom: **RSVP by June 10**

Thursday, July 7, 2022: Application Deadline @5 pm; Proposals due via online submission

Week of October 25, 2022: Grant Decision Notifications

SUBMISSION INSTRUCTIONS

1. All applications must be submitted online at [Community Grants 2022 Application](#)

2. THE FOLLOWING DOCUMENTS ARE REQUIRED TO BE UPLOADED ONLINE:

- Timeline for program implementation, *if applying for program support*
- Statement on Diversity, Equity, Inclusion
- Diversity spreadsheet, supplied with RFP
- A list of current Board of Directors (include names and affiliations)
- Line item budget (both revenue and expenses) for the organization's current fiscal year compared to last fiscal year's actual budget (both revenue and expenses)
- For program requests, a one-year program budget (listing start and end dates), detailing expenses and identifying pending and committed revenue.
- A copy of your current IRS determination letter indicating 501(c)(3) public charity status
- Copy of the most recently filed Internal Revenue Service (IRS) Form 990
- Copy of most recent financial statement (audited, if available).
- If applicant is operating under a fiscal agent, please provide financial statements for both entities.

Questions? Contact:

Elizabeth Chadri, Program Director at 708-848-1560 or echadri@oprpcf.org