

Nonprofit Effectiveness Request For Proposal

OVERVIEW

Seattle Foundation has worked in various ways to further build the capacity of our local nonprofits and has participated in partnerships to ensure we have a stronger, more vibrant community for all.

For the most part, our investments have focused on strengthening the capacity of the capacity-building organizations in our community. And we are fortunate in King County to have a rich array of local capacity-building services. Many of these organizations were established to meet the specific needs of nonprofit organizations serving or based in communities of color.

This year, and going forward, Seattle Foundation is prioritizing our nonprofit capacity-building investments in programs that increase the effectiveness and long-term stability of nonprofit organizations serving or based in communities of color. This ensures that our investments align with our commitment to advancing racial equity and economic inclusion and support communities where there are the greatest inequities.

FUNDING PRIORITIES

Due to chronic underfunding and increased demands, organizations serving communities of color face tremendous opportunities and challenges at this time. In recognition of this reality, our Nonprofit Effectiveness program will invest in capacity building organizations and programs that support nonprofit organizations led by, serving, or based in communities of color and refugee, immigrant, low income and other communities that are impacted by systemic and institutional racism, marginalized and burdened by significant economic, educational, health, and social disparities. We seek to fund efforts that focus on customizing organizational and leadership support to ensure that nonprofits, serving people and communities who are most affected by inequities, are effective in achieving their goals.

We seek to fund:

1. Organizations with the experience and expertise to provide capacity-building programming to nonprofit organizations led by, serving or based in communities of color;
2. Organizations providing culturally responsive programs and supporting community organizations to be effective in their work and gain long-term stability and sustainability; and
3. Organizations with relationships built on trust to engage nonprofit organizations led by, serving or based in communities of color.

Funding will be awarded to organizations based on the following criteria:

Deadline: Nov. 1, 2019

Description: Annual grants ranging from \$25,000 to \$75,000 to support organizations providing capacity-building programs to communities of color

Eligibility: 501c3 organizations (or organizations with a 501c3 fiscal sponsor) working in King County, Washington.

Decisions: Grants will be awarded prior to Dec. 31, 2019

Contact: Ceil Erickson at
c.erickson@seattlefoundation.org

- Has professional and lived expertise and experience in capacity-building strategies and approaches.
- Currently provides programs to nonprofit organizations primarily led by, serving or based in communities of color.
- Demonstrates knowledge of communities of color and culturally responsive strategies to support the capacity of nonprofits and leaders within different communities to achieve their goals.
- Is tracking the results or effectiveness of strategies and has the ability to modify practices based on lessons learned.
- Has long-term, trusted relationships within communities of color and is well positioned to collaborate, engage and partner.
- Has a diverse staff and board and an organizational commitment to advancing racial and economic equity.

HOW TO SUBMIT A PROPOSAL AND CONTACT INFORMATION

Requests for proposals will be due Nov. 1, 2019 and grantees will be announced in December 2019.

Narrative Questions:

Please respond to the following questions. Narratives should range from 5 to 7 pages in length.

Organizational Overview:

1. Provide a brief summary of your organization's mission and programs.
2. Describe your organization's history of serving nonprofit organizations primarily led by, serving or based in communities of color.
3. Describe ways in which you are poised to be an effective provider of capacity-building programs to nonprofit organizations primarily led by, serving, or based in communities of color.
4. Describe your approach to strengthening and building capacity of nonprofit organizations primarily led by, serving or based in communities of color.
5. What programs do you offer that are aimed at supporting nonprofit organizations primarily led by, serving or based in communities of color? How does this program compliment or align with your other support programs?
6. Please share an example of a recent success story of a beneficiary of your programs.
7. How does your organization include and incorporate leadership roles (staff, board, consultants, and volunteers) that reflect diverse communities? How does your organization remain accountable to those communities?
8. How do you plan to track your success in building the capacity of nonprofit organizations primarily led by, serving or based in communities of color and their effectiveness in achieving their goals?

Attachments:

In addition to the narrative, please submit the following:

1. Organization information: name, address, contact's name, title, email, and phone, funding amount requested and purpose of grant request
2. Project budget and budget narrative
3. Current fiscal year organizational operating budget
4. Board List



1601 fifth avenue, suite 1900
seattle, wa 98101
📞 206.622.2294 📠 206.622.7673
seattlefoundation.org

To submit the application, please e-mail Ceil Erickson at c.erickson@seattlefoundation.org by 5 p.m. on Friday, Nov. 1