Applying For Youth Service Capacity-Building Grants

WEBINAR JULY 12, 2023

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Applying For Youth Service Capacity-Building Grants (YSCG)

Today’s Webinar

1. Background
2. Introduction
3. What We Fund
4. Past grantees
5. Q&A
6. Awards
7. Eligibility
8. Q&A
9. About the application
10. Selection Criteria
11. Where to Apply
12. Q&A
Supporting Organizations that are Tackling Inequality in NYC.

- William T. Grant Foundation’s longtime mission: “Supporting research to improve the lives of young people”

- Apart from research funding, we have provided Youth Service Grants since the 1970s
Overview of Youth Service Capacity-Building Grants

• Reduce inequality in youth outcomes by strengthening capacity of nonprofits that serve young people

• One application cycle per year; 3 new awards per year

• Provide $60,000 in support for capacity-building projects over three years
  
  **Year 1**: $30,000  
  **Year 2**: $20,000  
  **Year 3**: $10,000

• Grantee must obtain matching funding of $10,000 in Year 3 – do not need to know the source of this match at time of application

• **This year's deadline: Wed Sept 20, 2023, at 3pm EST**
What We Fund

Financial Management
• Develop financial systems and improve accounting practices
• Software upgrades and staff training

Board Development
• Plans to recruit new board members and/or train existing board members
• Board retreat
• Create board policies

Human Resource Management
• Personnel policy development
• Staff training

Organization/Program Planning
• Strategic planning
• Staff retreat
• Branding exercise or rebrand

Information Technology
• Software upgrade for office, database, website, etc.

Leadership Development
• Leadership succession planning
• Create and implement volunteer management/recruitment plan
• Management/leadership training

Communications
• Develop communications strategy
• Marketing and design needs (newsletter, brochure, annual reports, etc.)

Evaluation/Outcomes Systems
• Organization or program evaluation

Fundraising
• Development and implementation of fundraising strategy
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Organization</th>
<th>Need</th>
<th>Capacity-building plan</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Teachers &amp; Writers Collaborative</td>
<td>More reliable funding streams that weren’t subject to budget cuts</td>
<td>Hired full-time Development Director to build out a fundraising strategy</td>
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<td>The Gardiner Foundation</td>
<td>Planning, development, and program sustainability</td>
<td>Hired Program Planning Consultant to build a program expansion plan that includes staff recruitment and fundraising</td>
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<td>Brooklyn Boatworks</td>
<td>Centralized database of participants</td>
<td>Developed database system that’s integrated into their website</td>
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Questions?
Awards

Funding

• $60,000 three-year grant
  - **Year 1**: $30,000  **Year 2**: $20,000  **Year 3**: $10,000

• Grantee must obtain matching funds of $10,000 in Year 3

• 1 application per year; 3 new awards per year
Technical Assistance

• Community Resource Exchange - https://crenyc.org
• 1:1 customized assistance
• Peer-based learning and coaching

“The cohort meetings we had with other nonprofit leaders were particularly valuable. As nonprofit leaders, we are often alone and isolated and don’t get to have a formal look into leadership practices. No one is trained to be a good leader; we are frequently thrown into it. Therefore, I’ve appreciated the time to study the different aspects of leadership development as well as issues with which other nonprofit leaders struggle.” - Mary Greuser, Deputy Director of Programs at the Educational Video Center
Applicants must:

• Be a youth serving, community-based nonprofit located in any of NYC’s 5 boroughs

• Have direct contact with youth at point of service

• Meet all Organizational Eligibility criteria

• Meet one Reducing Inequality criteria
Organizational Eligibility

Must meet at all criteria:

- Serve youth ages 5 to 25.
  - At least 80% of youth participating in services must be in this age range.
  - If the organization also serves adults, at least 80% of the service recipients must be youth ages 5 - 25.

- Have their own 501(c)(3) tax-exemption OR operate under a fiscal sponsor that is a registered 501(c)(3). Confirmation of fiscal sponsorship agreement is required.

- The applying organization (not the fiscal sponsor) must have an operating budget between $250,000 and $1 million.
  - If the applying organization serves youth and other populations, its operating budget must be <$20 million and its youth services budget must be between $250,000 and $1 million.

- Have audited financial statements or certified financial statements from the applying organization or from the fiscal sponsor
  - Have a 990 for the applying organization (or explain your exemption). Or, if operating under fiscal sponsorship, the fiscal sponsor must have a 990.
Reducing Inequality Eligibility

Must meet **one** of the following criteria:

Provide youth services in one of the 11 community districts identified as having the highest community risk to child well-being by the Citizens’ Committee for Children. [Org does not have to be based in these areas]

**OR**

Have existing well-defined programming tailored specifically to Mexican-descent youth or to LGBTQ youth

**OR**

Have leaders (e.g., executive directors or CEOs) who are people of color and/or LGBTQ individuals

**Bronx:**
CD 1 – Mott Haven
CD 2 – Hunts Point
CD 3 – Morrisania
CD 4 – Concourse/Highbridge
CD 5 – University Heights
CD 6 – East Tremont
CD 7 – Bedford Park
CD 9 – Union Port/Soundview
CD 12 – Williamsbridge

**Brooklyn:**
CD 5 – East New York
CD 16 – Brownsville

If your org does not provide youth services in any of these locations, you are still eligible to apply if you meet either of the other 2 criteria
Reducing Inequality Eligibility

Must meet at least one of the following criteria:

Provide youth services in one of the ten community districts identified as having the highest community risk to child well-being by the Citizens’ Committee for Children

OR

Have existing well-defined programming tailored specifically to Mexican-descent youth or to LGBTQ youth

OR

Have leaders (e.g., executive directors or CEOs) who are people of color and/or LGBTQ individuals

If your existing programming is not designed specifically for Mexican-descent youth or LGBTQ youth, you are still eligible to apply if you meet either of the other 2 criteria.
Reducing Inequality Eligibility

Must meet at least one of the following criteria:

Provide youth services in one of the ten community districts identified as having the highest community risk to child well-being by the Citizens’ Committee for Children

OR

Have existing well-defined programming tailored specifically to Mexican-descent youth or to LGBTQ youth

OR

Have leaders (e.g., executive directors or CEOs) who are people of color and/or LGBTQ individuals

If your organization’s leadership does not identify as POC or LGBTQ, you are still eligible to apply if you meet either of the other 2 criteria.
Questions?
About the application

• Background information on the organization (two pages max – template on website)
• Narrative (six pages max – template on website)
• Total organization budget
• List of institutional funders
• List of board of directors
• Most recent audited financial statement or certified public accountant’s reviewed financial statements for the applying org or fiscal sponsor
• IRS Form 990 for the applying org or fiscal sponsor
• 501(c)(3) tax-exempt letter from the IRS for the applying org or fiscal sponsor
Selection Criteria

What we want to see:

• Clear descriptions of:
  • Org’s mission and current youth services
  • Org’s capacity-building plan and its strengths

• Compelling rationale for the plan
  • How did you identify the capacity-building need?
  • How will it improve your org and its services?

Competitive proposals will make the case that addressing this need will result in a strengthened organization and more effective services
Visit https://wtgrantfoundation.org/grants/youth-service-capacity-building-grants to download the application guide, submission instructions, and narrative templates.

Will need to create an account with our grants portal, SmartSimple, in order to submit.
Questions?

Deadline for applications: September 20, 2023 at 3PM EST
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wtgrantfoundation.org