Call for Proposals from Programs Serving Immigrant Youth

Over the past year, dramatic shifts in immigration policy have generated increasing fear and anxiety in our city’s immigrant communities. The traumatic effects of escalating immigration enforcement coupled with uncertainty about Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals (DACA) have forced many young immigrant New Yorkers into the shadows. Legal permanent residents may be concerned about the stability of their status, and citizens are worried about being separated from parents and other family members.

Overwhelmed by fear and anxiety, the City’s young immigrants often turn to local, grassroots groups for help; these groups are tasked with responding quickly, appropriately, and effectively in the midst of rapid and often unpredictable policy changes that directly affect young people’s lives. To this end, The New York Community Trust (www.nycommunitytrust.org) is announcing a new grant opportunity for immigrant-led groups with established youth programs.

Grant Opportunity and Eligibility

The Trust invites local, immigrant-led nonprofits to submit proposals for grants to support programs that serve immigrants (and/or children of immigrants) under the age of 24. Proposals for programs that serve immigrant girls and young women as well as immigrant LGBTQ young people are encouraged. Programs may include, but are not limited to:

- Leadership development,
- Organizing or activism conducted by and for immigrant young people,
- Know-your-rights and emergency planning, and/or
- Professional and peer-based counseling or other mental health support services.

To be eligible to receive a grant, applicants must demonstrate that they:

- Are immigrant-led (i.e., a majority of the board and staff are immigrants),
- Are seeking funding for an existing, ongoing effort (not a new initiative),
- Have a history of youth- or immigrant-focused community organizing, advocacy, and support,
- Have an annual operating budget of less than $5 million, and
- Are based in and serve New York City.

Applicants should be 501(c)(3) nonprofits or have a 501(c)(3) as a funds administrator.
The Trust’s goal is to help organizations retain their focus on mission-driven activities while responding nimbly to changing needs and policies. Funding may be applied toward a wide variety of program-related expenses, with the exception of capital and building campaigns, endowments, deficit financing, and religious activities. Grants will range from $20,000 to $80,000 over two years per agency. We expect to award approximately $1 million in total grants.

Application Process

Please include the following in your proposal:

1. Copy of the proposal cover sheet that you have submitted online. You can complete and submit the proposal coversheet here: https://proposals.nycommunitytrust.org/.
2. Proposal narrative (please limit to seven single-spaced pages and use a 12 pt. font), that includes information about:
   a. History and track record of the program you are seeking funding for;
   b. Population that will benefit from the program (including geographic focus, racial and ethnic demographics, and the expected number of young people to be served during a two-year grant period), and
   c. Plan for helping immigrant youth cope with ongoing fluctuations in federal immigration policy and enforcement priorities over the coming two years.
3. Program budget, including expenses (you may include staff time and other organizational costs) and other sources of revenue.
4. List of the board of directors, including years with the organization.
5. Current organizational operating budget. (Please include income and expenses.)

The proposal should be sent to:

Ms. Sheila Dinkins  
The New York Community Trust  
909 Third Avenue, 22nd Floor  
New York, NY 10022

Proposals must be delivered by 4 p.m., Thursday, May 24, 2018, to the offices of The New York Community Trust, 909 Third Avenue, 22nd Floor, New York, NY 10022. Faxed and emailed proposals will not be accepted. Please note that this is not a postmark deadline. Proposals received after the deadline will not be considered.

Questions about this Request for Proposals may be emailed to svm@nyct-cfi.org; please include your contact information. Grants will be announced no later than December 2018.

Organizations submitting a proposal may attend a question and answer session held at The Trust’s offices (909 Third Avenue, 22nd Floor, New York, NY 10022) on Tuesday, May 8 at 3:30pm. Advance registration is required. If you are interested in joining us, please email Leanah Scott at ls@nyct-cfi.org by May 4 at 12:00 pm, and indicate your full name and organization. The space can accommodate only one person per organization.