

2018 LGBTQ Community Fund Program Guidelines

The LGBTQ Community Fund is a unique partnership between The Miami Foundation and the National LGBTQ Task Force, based in Washington, DC. Since 2005, the Task Force has produced two signature events in Greater Miami: the Winter Party Festival and the National LGBTQ Task Force Gala-Miami. To recognize the efforts of local LGBTQ leaders, the Task Force donates a share of the event proceeds to the Fund to support the local community.

The Miami Foundation has a long history of supporting nonprofits working on LGBTQ issues. Through the LGBTQ Community Fund, we work with an advisory committee of local community leaders, appointed by the Foundation, to award grants each year to organizations that can best advance the purpose of the Fund.

The Fund's Purpose

The LGBTQ Community Fund's goals are to:

1. Improve quality of life for LGBTQ residents in Greater Miami by focusing on issues that reflect key current and emerging needs, particularly for those facing the most challenging circumstances
2. Strengthen and expand organizations seeking to make a difference in the lives of people in the LGBTQ community

The Miami Foundation

The Miami Foundation partners with donors to champion their causes and improve local quality of life. Since 1967, we've done this by taking leadership on civic issues, investing in our community and nurturing philanthropy. Thanks to our more than 1,000 donors, we currently manage over \$360 million in assets and have made almost \$300 million in grants that create opportunities for residents, make Miami-Dade County more resilient and foster home-grown creativity.

Eligibility

Applicants should be nonprofit organizations that have:

- Demonstrated involvement in addressing LGBTQ issues
- Projects and programs that benefit Miami-Dade County residents
- 501(c)(3) tax-exempt status or projects with an established fiscal agent

Application process

Applicants must submit a proposal online. To access the online portal, please visit the [Grant Programs](#) page on our website. Each organization may submit one proposal. If a program is a collaborative effort between two or more nonprofits, partners must select one nonprofit to serve as lead applicant. Colleges and universities may submit up to two requests from different departments, which will be considered competitively against each other and other applications.

The Fund's Committee will evaluate requests and may conduct in-person interviews with applicants during the review process. Please note: interviews are for informational purposes and not indicative of funding decisions.

Grant amounts and use

Grants range from \$2,500 to \$15,000. Funds may be used for costs directly related to implementing a program, such as salaries of program staff or consultants, outreach, marketing, supplies, events or local travel. Proposals may include reasonable indirect costs. Funds cannot pay for memberships, fundraising events or campaigns, endowments, memorials or reducing deficits.

Focus Areas

The Fund seeks to create, enhance and expand quality programs that achieve clear results in the areas below. Applicants must select which focus area their proposal primarily addresses, and may also select one secondary area of focus (optional). Within each focus area, a proposal can reflect any of the elements described. The percentages reflect an estimated breakdown of how funds will be awarded.

Vulnerable Populations (50%): Support LGBTQ youth, trans people, seniors and others by providing critical health, housing, counseling or social support services and education.

Social Justice & Legal Advocacy (30%): Provide community education on LGBTQ issues, direct legal services, or protect and advance LGBTQ rights.

Arts & Culture (10%): Foster community building through arts and cultural events with LGBTQ focus or advance education and awareness of LGBTQ issues for those outside the community.

Capacity Building (10%): Strengthen the programs or operations of existing LGBTQ nonprofits or provide seed money for new LGBTQ nonprofits.

Proposal narrative questions (Online character counts include spaces)

1. Describe in one sentence the purpose of this grant request. (350 characters)
2. Summarize the organization's main programs and how many people are served each year. (500 characters)
3. What is the core community need or opportunity to be addressed and how does your program advance the goals of the LGBTQ Community Fund? (1,000 characters)
4. Describe your implementation plan including details about your goals, main activities, and timeline. How will the organization use its experience and expertise to be innovative in your approach? (2,000 characters)
5. If your project is dependent upon partner organizations, who are they and how will these partnerships maximize your efficiency and impact? (750 characters). *Optional: for each partner identified, provide a partnership commitment letter in support of the proposed program.*
6. Describe your capacity to implement the program including past results for this program or a similar one, key staff or volunteers and financial resources. How would you sustain the program without these funds once this grant ends? (750 characters)
7. State the main outcomes, up to three, you will measure to demonstrate your impact - *i.e., number or % of participants will achieve what result; as measured by what method.* (250 characters for each)

Required attachments (each must be a single document in PDF format)

- The Foundation's Proposal Budget Form from the [Grant Programs](#) webpage
- Organization's current annual operating budget
- Current Board of Directors List

Optional attachments (each must be a single document in PDF format)

- Partnership commitment letter(s)
- Most recent Statement of Financial Position (balance sheet)
- Most recent Statement of Activities (income statement)

Timeline

- Proposals due online: Thursday, July 12, 2018 by 4 p.m.
- Applicant interviews (at the discretion of the committee): Thursday, August 30 and Friday, August 31, 2018
- Estimated notification of grant awards: Friday, September 21, 2018
- Grant period: October 1, 2018 – September 30, 2019

For questions, please contact

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