



A Foundation for
Radical Possibility

Grant Announcement

About if, A Foundation for Radical Possibility

if, A Foundation for Radical Possibility envisions an equitable and just region and nation in which Black people and people of the global majority live powerfully, abundantly and beautifully in healthy, self-determined communities free of social, economic and ideological violence.

We achieve our vision by centering the leadership and expertise of Black people and people of the global majority in the Washington, DC region who live at the sharpest intersection of systems of oppression, in particular race, class and gender identity. We build relationships to transform how philanthropic, nonprofit and government resources are deployed to disrupt institutions and structures that perpetuate anti-black racism and other intersectional discriminatory harms. We share power and decision-making and we support organizations that build the people's power to demand and achieve justice. We take risks that others are not willing to take and we are comfortable seeding bold ideas and sparking innovation. We speak our truth and support platforms for communities to tell their own truths, and we heal ourselves and facilitate healing in our communities.

Within this framework, **if** is embedding community engagement in its Board structure, grantmaking and capacity building programs, communications, and healing justice work.

Grantmaking Strategy

Participatory Grantmaking

if is implementing a participatory grantmaking approach to our community power grantmaking program.

Participatory grantmaking cedes decisionmaking power about funding decisions – including the strategy and criteria behind those decisions – to the very communities that a foundation aims to serve. (Source: [*Deciding Together: Shifting Power and Resources Through Participatory Grantmaking, Grantcraft*](#))

The committee that will decide on the grants will be composed of community members from the District of Columbia, Prince George's and Montgomery Counties in Maryland, and Northern Virginia with lived experiences of racial inequities who are engaged in organizing and advocacy.

Funding Priorities

if will provide funding support for organizations that are:

- committed to racial equity and are operationalizing it
- undertaking community organizing or community engagement, and
- undertaking advocacy.

if will support the organizing of low-income patients/clients, workers, community members, immigrants, and others. **if** will also support community-based organizations and nonprofits that use advocacy strategies with a racial equity lens at the local, state and regional levels.

Advocacy for local, state, and regional policy change and systems reform is essential to achieve the change we envision. **if** defines advocacy as efforts to create local, state and regional policy change and systems reforms that benefit Black, Indigenous, Latinx, Asian/Pacific Islander, and people of color communities in the Washington, DC region. Activities could include community engagement and organizing among residents in low-income neighborhoods, development of policy recommendations, policy implementation and monitoring, budget and policy analysis, coalition or network building, convenings, stakeholder engagement and collective problem solving among diverse groups, campaigns, media and communication.

Grant amounts

Grant amounts up to \$15,000- \$20,000 will be awarded for two years. Based on the proposed work, **if** may award general support grants.

Eligibility

- Organizations must be:
 - ★ committed to racial equity and are operationalizing it
 - ★ undertaking community organizing or community engagement, and
 - ★ undertaking advocacy.
- Nonprofit organizations with tax-exempt status under Section 501(c) (3) of the Internal Revenue Code.
- Must be located in the Washington, DC metropolitan region: District of Columbia, Prince George's and Montgomery Counties in Maryland, and/or Northern Virginia.
- National organizations and academic institutions may apply in partnership with community-based nonprofit groups serving as lead organizations/applicants.
- Diversity of organization:
 - ★ Board must be composed of 50% or more people of color.
 - ★ Staff must be composed of 50% or more people of color.

Deadline

Proposals are due on June 30, 2023.

How to Submit Proposals

The Foundation will translate proposals that are submitted in a language other than English. Proposals (which can be written or through a video based on a one-page narrative) will be accepted. If there is another way to submit the proposal that is more accessible to you, please contact us before the deadline of June 30 to let us know.

For video proposals, submit a document which includes a link to the video, a transcript, diversity matrix, and budget. All proposals will be translated and a transcript is helpful for the video submissions.

Organizations may be invited to a virtual meeting with the participatory grantmaking committee to learn more about the organization's work and ask clarifying questions about the proposal. This meeting will occur on a Saturday.

Please see the proposal guidelines below and compile the required information. Once your documents are ready, please click this link to upload them: bit.ly/3nocUMK

Once you are on the website:

- Please click the "Apply" button.
- A new page will open. Please click the "Create New Account" button on the bottom right of the registration page.
- After creating the account, you will be asked to login again before you are able to enter your information and upload the documents.

If you have any questions or issues as you are completing the online application, please contact Kendra Allen, Program Officer, at kendra@iffdn.org or call (202) 939-3387.

Proposal Guidelines

First Page

- Organization Information:
 - ★ Name, address, telephone number and web address of organization
 - ★ EIN Number
 - if using a fiscal sponsor, provide the memorandum of agreement and fiscal sponsor’s organizational budget
 - ★ Email address and telephone number of Executive Director and/or lead contact
- Narrative (Please limit the narrative section to one page.):
 - ★ Provide a brief description of the organization’s organizing and advocacy work that advances racial equity and engagement with Black, Indigenous, Latinx, Asian/Pacific Islander, and people of color communities.

Second Page

- Provide the data showing the composition of the organization’s staff and board.

	Race/Ethnicity (add columns as needed)						Gender (add columns as needed)			Sexual Orientation
Please provide number of people (not %)	Black/ African American	Latinx	Asian/ Pacific Islander	White	Multi- racial/ ethnic	Other	Female	Male	Gender	LGBQIA
Staff										
Board of Directors										

Third Page

- Finances
 - ★ Please provide a summary of the organization budget for the current year, with key income and expense line items. Provide the organization budget in one page, if possible.
 - ★ Detailed project budget, if applicable