

P/PP for Youth Development Grant Guidelines

Funder: California Community Foundation (in partnership with Liberty Hill Foundation)

Background: On February 5, 2019, the County of Los Angeles announced a new public/private partnership (P/PP) involving the Los Angeles County Probation Department (the County), Liberty Hill Foundation (Liberty Hill), and California Community Foundation (CCF). This collaboration will expand opportunities and resources for programs that keep youth out of the criminal justice system and help those in the system successfully transition back into the community.

This partnership marks an unprecedented effort to redirect public dollars to community-based organizations, with the support of philanthropic partners. This will allow for faster distribution of public funds, and an opportunity for organizations to access funding that may not have previously had the infrastructure to compete for county contracts.

The P/PP will fund community-based programs that strengthen educational, health, cultural and workforce programs and enhance the well-being, empowerment and development of youth, families, and communities. These strategies not only reduce recidivism, but prepare young people for excellence in education, the workforce, and provides the foundation for lifetime success.

In addition, the aim of this partnership is to build the long-term capacity of community-based organizations to apply for county resources. The P/PP will provide a capacity-building program focused specifically on developing organizational core competencies such as strategic planning, board and staff development, fundraising, and evaluation. This will include both customized coaching and cohort-based training, totaling approximately 75-100 hours of required staff time.

Project Description: CCF will award grants to community-based organizations that are centrally focused on addressing the unmet needs of **youth with prior/existing engagement in the juvenile justice system and/or youth whose circumstances have made them vulnerable to criminal justice system involvement**. Some indicators of need include family member arrest or incarceration, foster care, or youth who exhibit the following: chronic absenteeism, behavioral issues, or poor course grades. For the purposes of this opportunity, organizations must primarily serve youth ages 11 to 18, but are encouraged to provide continued support into early adulthood.

Funds and support structures associated with this opportunity are meant to accelerate the growth of community-based services, connect youth serving organizations to one another through cohort-based learning, and provide access to capacity-building assistance focused on continuous organizational and programmatic improvement.

Program activities may be focused on arts, wellness, educational attainment, leadership, workforce development, mentorship, youth organizing, or another engagement area. However, strong applicants will share a focus on multiple aspects of youth development – academic, identity, socio-emotional, wellness/mental health, and others – which will be integrated into their services.

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Goals: Our goal is to build a system that replaces the traditional structures of arrest and incarceration with one centered on youth development, rehabilitation, and opportunity. Together we will advance this vision and aligned goals to provide youth and families with supportive, asset-based, high-quality resources and opportunities to foster successful pathways to adulthood. Grantee partners will provide critical socio-emotional support that is proven to successfully prevent many youth from entering the juvenile justice system, while also cutting the recidivism rates of those who have. The aim is to improve outcomes that are predictive of positive youth development (academic, identity, socio-emotional, post-secondary/career readiness, mental/physical well-being).

Specifically, the partnership seeks to impact the following youth and community goals:

- Reduction in arrests, incarceration, and probation violations
- Reduction in youth school suspensions/expulsions
- Increase in school attendance
- Increase in academic progress
- Increase in civic/community engagement
- Higher rates of high school graduation
- Increase in post-secondary acceptance, enrollment, and completion
- Workforce readiness/job attainment

Grant amount: Applicants may apply for grants in the amounts of \$50,000, \$100,000 or \$150,000. Final award amounts will be determined by the organization's capacity, scalability and efficiency of their proposed program.

Number of awards: 10-20

Eligibility Criteria:

- Nonprofit organizations with 501(c)(3) status (fiscal sponsorship allowed).
- Organizations with current service delivery/programmatic experience.
- Permanent, full-time program staff.
- Staff capacity to manage evaluation and capacity building engagement expectations.
- Organizations currently serving youth impacted by the justice system (including family system involvement), crossover/foster care youth, or youth exhibit the following: chronic absenteeism, behavioral issues, or poor course grades.
- Program uses measurable indicators of success.
- Organizations with a track record of youth-focused educational, recreational, vocational, and/or cultural programming interested in or currently serving high needs youth. Program activities may be focused on arts, wellness, educational attainment, leadership, workforce development, mentorship, youth organizing, or another engagement area.

Competitive Preferences:

- Organizations with existing ties to the community they serve.

- Organizations that engage youth and local community in their programming design/implementation.

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- The learning cohort will represent geographic diversity to uplift areas that have high need and service gaps. Therefore, competitive preferences shall be given to organizations serving high needs areas within regions, such as Antelope Valley, South Bay, Gateway Cities, and San Gabriel Valley.
- Organizations that show how they have successfully met the following needs¹ of young people through activities that address multiple developmental areas². Applicants are encouraged to actively demonstrate how their program models support these areas through engaging, culturally-responsive activities that achieve results:
 - Academic. Skills and knowledge typically associated with K-12 education. This includes the four core content areas: mathematics, literacy, science, and social studies, as well as the subjects included in most requirements for a diploma, like art, health, and physical education.
 - Cognitive. Skills related to attention, perception and memory. These are the skills we draw upon to learn and retain knowledge like executive function, visual and auditory processing, reasoning, and short- and long-term memory.
 - Social-emotional. Skills and mindsets involved in the social process of learning and development. This domain includes social and emotional factors with links to well-being and academic success, like healthy adult attachment, stress management, self-regulation, and resilience.
 - Physical. Nutrition, fitness, and sleep, as well as vision, hearing, and dental health.
 - Mental. A state of well-being demonstrated by the ability to realize potential, cope with stress, work toward goals, and make meaningful social contributions and connections.
 - Identity. An individual's unique sense of purpose, including one's personal, collective, and cultural identities, as well as one's personal values.

¹ Jones, Kahn (2017). The Evidence Base for How We Learn: Supporting Students' Social, Emotional, and Academic Development: Consensus Statements of Evidence from the Council of Distinguished Scientists. National Commission on Social, Emotional, and Academic Development, The Aspen Institute.

² Osher, Cantor, Berg, Steyer, and Rose. (2018). Drivers of Human Development: How Relationships and Context Shape Learning and Development. *Applied Developmental Science*.

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APPLICATION INSTRUCTIONS

Community-based nonprofit organizations serving L.A. County are invited to submit applications for consideration.

Final consideration and grant disbursements will take place in June - July 2019.

Submissions will be accepted online only. Please note that organizations that have never submitted an application to CCF will need to set up an account. The account verification process can take up to 48 hours. Please be sure to allow sufficient time prior to the submission deadline.

Full County contract: <http://file.lacounty.gov/SDSInter/bos/supdocs/132706.pdf>

WEBINARS/INFORMATION SESSION(S)

We understand that the grant application process can be very time-intensive for our community partners. We recommend careful review of the attached guidelines. In addition, CCF, in partnership with Liberty Hill, will host 2 information sessions, as noted below. Following careful review of the funding guidelines and information provided through the information sessions, organizations with remaining questions may submit questions via email (and/or request a pre-scheduled 15-minute call).

All requests and communications are to be submitted to youthdevelopment@calfund.org.

Timeline:

Online Portal Opens for Application Submission	March 19, 2019
Online Webinar	Webinar #1: Tuesday, March 26th from 1-2:30pm https://global.gotomeeting.com/join/735902909 Webinar #2: Wednesday, April 3rd from 1-2:30pm https://global.gotomeeting.com/join/554340077 (This is recorded and put online website)
Online Registration Deadline	April 12, 2019 Organizations must register AND initiate application to provide service area data.
Application Submission Deadline	April 30, 2019 Selected applicants will be invited to host site visits in May-June 2019. All applicants will be notified of the status of their application by the end of June 2019. The anticipated grant period start date for applicants is July 1, 2019. Capacity building activities will begin as soon as applicants are notified they have been accepted into the program (may be prior to formal signed contract.)
Program Implementation	Grant cycle will span from July 2019 to February 2020, at which time the County contract will end or will be reviewed for renewal.

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Q&A

How will grants be decided?

CCF staff, in partnership with Liberty Hill staff, and trusted community partners (not eligible for this grant) will form a committee to review applications, conduct site visits and make final grant recommendations.

Must our organization be based in Los Angeles County to be eligible?

Organizations do not have to be headquartered in Los Angeles County, but must serve young people in Los Angeles County.

What are some examples of programmatic services?

Program activities may be focused on arts, wellness, educational attainment, leadership, workforce development, mentorship, youth organizing or another engagement area. Any programmatic approach must demonstrate any number of the multiple development areas listed above (Academic, Cognitive, Socio-emotional Learning, Physical, Mental, and Identity). Again, preference will be given to those that meet multiple developmental areas.

What is the anticipated size and timeline for grants?

Grants range in size, with respect to an organization's capacity, scalability and program efficiency. For this funding opportunity, we anticipate grant periods of up to one-year and grants ranging from \$50,000 – \$150,000 in total. In alignment with County contracting, grants will be awarded on an annual basis. Any opportunities for renewal and/or changes in award amounts will be reassessed annually.

If funded, how may the grant funds be used?

Proposals must support direct service projects and therefore, funds should support programmatic costs. A portion of grant funds may be used in support of indirect costs that advance the program such as staff salaries, equipment and travel.

Will there be an issue for organizations that employ staff with lived experience?

We acknowledge and value the vast expertise of people with lived experience serving youth populations, however for the purpose of this funding opportunity grantee partners' staff may not be on active probation or parole. Grantee staff with a criminal conviction record or pending criminal trial may not have access to Probation information or records unless such information has been fully disclosed to CCF/the County and assignment to this grant is approved in writing by the County. Both CCF & Liberty Hill will work with the L.A. County Probation Department to ensure that staff/organizations with experience in the justice system are not excluded from contributing to the goals of this Public Private Partnership. **Please note that all grantees will require a background check before their assigned staff can begin work on this grant.**

What is the definition of capacity building for the purposes of this project?

We define capacity building as the funding and technical assistance that helps nonprofits increase the specific capacities needed to deliver stronger programs, take risks, build connections, innovate and iterate. This partnership recognizes that a key strategy for achieving equitable outcomes in communities is to invest in the talent and leadership capacity of its community partners. We will provide capacity building partners, trainers and coaches to help build the capacity of organizations funded by this partnership through: assessment, coaching, training and cohort-based peer learning opportunities.

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What are data collection requirements?

All grantees will be responsible for sharing with our evaluation partner qualitative and quantitative data for analysis to enhance understanding of program strengths, challenges and promising practices. The data will vary by program type and will be tied to each grantee partner's grant objectives.

Can an organization be fiscally sponsored by another entity?

Yes, and in some instances where zero capacity exists, a regional or statewide provider may establish a service delivery partnership with a trusted and established local organization with little service delivery experience.

Will these funds need matching sources?

No.