

chicago foundation for women

Small Grant and Donor Advised Fund Award - Descriptions

Between Friends	Capacity Building Support	Amount: \$2,500
<p>Project Name: Capacity Building Support</p> <p>Proposed Use of Funds: Between Friend’s board is interested in a capacity-building project to work on an actionable equity plan for the organization. Led by Vega Partners, this will include a guided working session for the Board and leadership to produce a plan together.</p> <p>Domestic violence is intrinsically linked to all forms of systemic violence, and the Board of Between Friends has discussed at length what efforts should be taken to ensure the agency is an equitable and anti-racist organization. Between Friends Board of Directors members recently participated in a Diversity, Equity & Inclusion (DEI) training from Vega Partners through a partnership with the McCormick Health & Wellness Network. The proposed seminar and guided work session will expand on that training, ensuring that the entire Board and agency leadership share the same understanding of DEI matters and that the Board is prepared to carry out a plan to ensure the organization is operating with an equity lens.</p>		
Crossroad Fund	Chicago Racial Justice Pooled Fund	Amount: \$15,000
<p>Project Name: Chicago Racial Justice Pooled Fund</p> <p>Proposed Use of Funds: The Chicago Racial Justice Pooled Fund’s goal is to raise and move \$3M to Chicago organizations building and sustaining movements for justice that center Black lives and address anti-Blackness. The Fund will support organizations addressing structural racism in all its forms, creating an opportunity for philanthropy to act on equity statements generated in the aftermath of George Floyd’s murder. A pooled fund reduces the burden on organizations since they won’t have to apply to each foundation using different formats; it also reduces the burden on individual foundations to create, expand or staff a new program area.</p>		
National Asian Pacific American Women’s Forum	Jo & Art Moore Family Advised Fund	Amount: \$2,000
<p>Project Name: General Operating Support - Georgia Voting Outreach</p> <p>Proposed Use of Funds: The mission of the National Asian Pacific American Women's Forum (NAPAWF) is to build collective power of all Asian American and Pacific Islander (AAPI) women and girls to gain full agency over our lives, our families, and our communities. NAPAWF is the leading national multi-issue organization that advocates and organizes within a reproductive justice framework. It engages in five core strategies: base-building and leadership development, grassroots organizing, policy advocacy, research and strategic communications, and strategic coalition building.</p>		

In anticipation of the Georgia Senate run-off election, NAPAWF will hire canvassers to call and text voters, conduct digital voter outreach, send postcards to voters with election information in their respective languages, and more.

Rivendell Theatre Ensemble	Jo & Art Moore Family Advised Fund	Amount: \$2,000
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Project Name: General Operating Support

Proposed Use of Funds:
 Founded in 1994, Rivendell is dedicated to advancing the lives of women through theatre. Rivendell was born out of the specific need that women theatre artists are vastly underrepresented in American theatre. This dramatic gender imbalance limits career opportunities for women artists, helping to perpetuate the disparity. Since our inception, Rivendell has grown to fill an important role in the Chicago theatre community as the only Equity theatre in Chicago committed to women’s stories. Rivendell has become a leader in new play development, a major port for new writers, and today, offers a brick and mortar artistic home for women theater artists to develop their work. We counteract the long-distorted makeup of American theatre. Rivendell has presented 46 productions in our 23-year history. 68% of our productions have been written by women, 84% directed by women, and 85% of the artistic team comprised of women.

Shriver Center on Poverty Law	Jo & Art Moore Family Advised Fund	Amount: \$3,000
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Project Name: Women's Law and Policy Initiative

Proposed Use of Funds:
 The mission of the Shriver Center on Poverty Law (Shriver Center) is to provide leadership in advancing laws and policies that secure justice to improve the lives and opportunities of people living in poverty.

The Shriver Center’s Women Law and Policy Initiative (WLPI) creates and promotes legal and policy solutions to improve the lives of low-income women and girls. The WLPI draws on the lived experiences of women and girls to help secure their rights and combat the barriers they face in accessing training, employment, housing, family law, healthcare, public benefits, and safety. The current WLPI agenda centers on two goals: (1) ensuring economic justice for low-income women, particularly in the workplace and (2) promoting freedom from gender-based violence. In light of its workload, the Shriver Center transitioned leadership of the Ensuring Success in School coalition to CAASE earlier this year. The WLPI’s work is especially critical as the pandemic and resulting economic crisis persist, and as women, girls, and families across Illinois struggle to safely live, work, and prosper.

In March, the Shriver Center quickly mobilized its Advocacy and Communications teams to address the emerging COVID-19 health and economic crisis. Shriver Center staff provided a comprehensive set of suggestions to Governor Pritzker’s team about measures it should adopt to address the needs of people, including women and girls, living in poverty. Similar communications were sent to the Illinois Supreme Court, Mayor Lightfoot, President Preckwinkle, the Illinois congressional delegation, and others. Many of the Shriver Center’s recommendations were implemented, including: suspending Medicaid redeterminations to keep people in health coverage; expediting applications for SNAP, TANF, and WIC; permitting SNAP recipients to use their benefits to order groceries online; disbursing stimulus payments to undocumented immigrants; halting all evictions and foreclosures from being executed in Illinois; and more. The Shriver Center also successfully advocated for expanded language in the City’s Anti-Retaliation Ordinance, which prohibits employers from taking adverse action against employees for obeying quarantine, isolation, and other orders related to the pandemic. The Shriver Center will continue to work with federal, state, and local authorities to explore the safe implementation of its other recommendations

and advocacy efforts; advocate for temporary solutions to be made permanent; and urge the State to extend protections to all populations, regardless of income or immigration status.

The Chicago Community Foundation	Immigrant Funders Collaborative	Amount: \$5,000
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Project Name: Immigrant Funders Collaborative

Proposed Use of Funds:

A group of Illinois funders formed the original collaborative (Illinois DACA Relief Initiative/IDRI) in 2012, in response to the Obama administration's Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals (DACA) policy. In 2014, IDRI was renamed and its focus broadened, to encompass both DACA and new administrative immigration actions. In 2017, IFC's focus is extended to address challenges and opportunities in immigrant communities related to shifts in immigration policy. IFC will serve as a collaborative funding project, designed to respond to the need for immediate action by and capacity-building for non-profits to assist Illinois immigrants and refugees affected by executive orders and other policy changes related to immigration. A project management consultant has been retained to provide project support: planning assistance, grants review, grants management, programming, grantee convening, and research and production of an evaluation report.