## Small Grants and Donor Advised Fund Descriptions

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<tr>
<th><strong>Chicago Community Foundation</strong> 225 North Michigan Ave, Ste 2200 Chicago, IL 60601</th>
<th><strong>Immigrant Funders Collaborative – General Fund</strong></th>
<th><strong>Recommendation:</strong> $5,000</th>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Project Name:</strong> Immigrant Funders Collaborative</td>
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<td><strong>Proposed Use of Funds:</strong> 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.</td>
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<th><strong>Chicago Community Foundation</strong> 225 North Michigan Ave, Ste 2200 Chicago, IL 60601</th>
<th><strong>Workforce Funder Alliance – General Fund</strong></th>
<th><strong>Recommendation:</strong> $10,000</th>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Project Name:</strong> Chicagoland Workforce Funders Alliance</td>
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| **Proposed Use of Funds:** The Chicagoland Workforce Funders Alliance (CWFA or the Funder Alliance) was launched in May 2012 by five founding workforce funders: the Chicago Community Trust, the Joyce Foundation, the Lloyd A. Fry Foundation, the Robert R. McCormick Foundation, and the Polk Bros Foundation. The CWFA has a geographic scope that includes seven Illinois Counties: Cook, DuPage, Kane, Kendall, Lake, McHenry, and Will. Since its founding the Funder Alliance has grown from 5 to 14 pooled funders (Leadership Funders), and has facilitated funder collaboration with over 20 other funders as well. It is a funder collaborative housed at the Chicago Community Trust with four dedicated staff. The Funder Alliance has come to be seen as the region’s major convener of the philanthropic community interested in workforce development and employment. Using a combination of grant-making and civic leadership, the Funder Alliance has a unique position at the complex intersection point of workforce development, social justice, education, and economic development.

The Chicagoland Workforce Funder Alliance envisions an equitable and prosperous Chicagoland built by employer, worker, and community collaborations. Its mission is to foster these efforts, and to help ensure their impacts reduce racial disparities in employment and earnings. The primary function of the Funder Alliance is to build consensus in the region’s philanthropic community around shared initiatives that advance this shared mission, and it helped to organize those initiatives into a coherent strategic framework. The Funder Alliance’s framework has four strategic priorities and twelve goals under those priorities (listed in full at the end). It also leads and manages several initiatives to achieve those goals – some in the form of sector-based employer partnerships, shared web platforms, or worker organizing campaigns. Most of its initiatives fall under the first strategic priority, although they advance goals under others as well. For example, its first strategic priority that fits well with CFW’s economic mobility framework:

**Priority A:** Employer practice change that fosters the development of their current and future workforce.
• Goal 1: Expand work-based learning across sectors.
• Goal 2: Increase incumbent-worker pathways for frontline workers.
• Goal 3: Foster hiring and job re-design choices that increases access to quality jobs.
• Initiatives: Chicagoland Healthcare Workforce Collaborative; Financial Services Pipeline Initiative; Early Childhood Education Workforce Partnership; Innovation Labs; Network of Employer-Led Workforce Solutions; Public Health Workforce Collaborative

With decades of experience in supporting women’s economic mobility, CFW’s membership in the Funder Alliance a) aligns well with our giving strategy and investments in workforce development, job training, and worker organizing and power building; and b) offers an intersectional and gender lens to the network that other funders do not bring. Secondly, the collective impact of joining donor collaboratives remains: with a single contribution, we are able to leverage a larger pool of funding to support multiple initiatives and streams of work that our foundation would not otherwise be able to alone. The CWFA has several initiatives that fit with our goals to reduce the racial and gender wage gaps and support sector-based training that leads to good jobs. One includes the employer practice change initiatives, Priority A mentioned above, with a goal of improving who employers hire and the economic impact on those workers, such as the Early Childhood Education Workforce Partnership initiative: an industry workforce partnership convened by the City’s leading ECE Centers and CPS, focused on equitable hiring and improving retention and career pathways. Employer practices have historically driven racial wealth gaps wider; employer practice change is necessary to close them. Its other strategic priories are equally innovative and practical in touching advocacy and systems change, collaboration between employer partners and direct service nonprofits with access to talent, and organizing and building power with workers. See the remaining priority areas of the CWFA that these dollars would support below:

Priority B: The capacity and effectiveness of the workforce development system.
• Goal 4: Increase public/private/philanthropic funding of high-quality workforce development.
• Goal 5: Reduce workforce development barriers created by the social determinants of wealth.
• Goal 6: Increase alignment of the workforce development system through authentic collaboration.
• Initiatives: Pro Path Fund; Workforce Systems Collaborative; SNAP to Success Intermediary Pilot

Priority C: The power of workers in the labor market.
• Goal 7: Increase investments in worker-led organizations, practice models and movements.
• Goal 8: Establish worker rights and empowerment as integral to workforce development.
• Goal 9: Advance public policy that increases worker power.
• Initiatives: Raise the Floor Alliance; The Workers’ Rights Fund

Priority D: A dynamic and sustainable workforce funder collaborative.
• Goal 10: Increase the engagement of the Alliance’s Management Committee members.
• Goal 11: Increase the quality and frequency of CWFA connections to stakeholders.
• Goal 12: Increase the Alliance’s capacity to prioritize initiatives, and manage internal operations.
• Initiatives: CWFA Core Functions

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<th>NARAL</th>
<th>Fay Clayton Donor Advised Fund</th>
<th>Recommendation: $1,000</th>
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<tr>
<td>1156 15th Street NW</td>
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<td>Washington, DC 20005</td>
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Project Name: Chicagoland Workforce Funders Alliance

Proposed Use of Funds: NARAL Pro-Choice America Foundation was established in 1977 to provide a policy and educational component to the work of our sister organization, NARAL Pro-Choice America.
Mindful of the horrors of back-alley abortions and fueled by a strong conviction that women’s personal reproductive-health decisions are theirs alone, NARAL’s foundation arm gives voice to the 7 in 10 Americans who believe that abortion should remain legal and accessible.

With more than 2.5 million member activists representing every state in the union, we are on the front lines of the fight to preserve and expand reproductive freedom and abortion access in the 21st century. We believe in the power of people to make a difference, and we help to drive that positive change by educating Americans about the threats to reproductive freedom and holding bad actors accountable at every level.

Together, we can ensure an environment that guarantees every woman the right to informed and empowered choices.

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**Public Narrative**  
1245 S. Michigan Ave  
Chicago, IL 60605

**Grantee Capacity**  
Building - General Fund

**Recommendation:** $10,000

**Project Name:** Storytelling and Media Relations Training Series

**Proposed Use of Funds:**
For 32 years, Public Narrative has been teaching nonprofit thought leaders and staffers how to find and tell better stories. It’s vital that we tell our stories because storytelling is a powerful tool. It can connect all of us. Effective storytelling can also:
- further our goals,
- promote our organization,
- reinvigorate our staff,
- reconnect us to our mission and
- move our audiences to action.

But you have to consider what story you want to tell and how will that story reflect on your organization. Truth is we are all communicating all the time, but understanding how to do so effectively is what we teach.

**Chicago Foundation for Women is partnering with Public Narrative to offer grantees a Storytelling and Media Relations Training Series.** This series aims to help grantees:
- Increase knowledge of ways to communicate effectively about their organization’s work
- Increase confidence in communicating about their organization’s work, as spokespersons or otherwise
- Increase knowledge about the ways communications affect other aspects of their organization’s work (for example: fundraising, board development)
- Advance their organization’s mission.
- Change how they do their work.

**Training Sessions:**

**Virtual Session 1: Storytelling Training (90 minutes)**
Storytelling is the cornerstone of Public Narrative’s communications curriculum. We teach participants the importance of telling a story when talking about their work, their life and their experiences. Participants will learn to communicate effectively, identify best practices for digital storytelling that promotes their organization’s community engagement cohesively and demonstrate how stories can be used to nurture relationships. Participants will be equipped to engage diverse audiences online and offline.

**Virtual Session 2: Media Relations Training (90 minutes)**
Whether it’s an unexpected opportunity or an unwanted crisis, are you ready to respond to the media? Learn how to stay in control of your message in this session. Craft your elevator speech, learn interview
techniques and skills needed to present to different audiences. Learn to identify keywords, messaging and numbers relevant to your role as an effective spokesperson.

**Session 3: Pitch the Media (90 minutes)**
Participants will pitch their stories to invited journalists. While there is a chance journalists may publish their stories, it is not guaranteed. This session allows participants to establish a connection with journalists while gathering feedback from them directly.