

chicago foundation for women

2022 Spring Grant Making – LBTQ Giving Council Awards

Affinity Community Services	Health	Award: \$1,000
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<p>Project Name: General Operating Support</p> <p>Organization Description and Proposed Use of Funds: Affinity Community Services has been a vehicle for social change by creating safe spaces, providing resources, and building connections for those living at the intersections of race, gender, sexual orientation, gender identity, economics, and age. Founded in the South side of Chicago to bring visibility and voice to Black people in LGBTQ+ communities and LGBTQ+ people in Black communities, Affinity is one of too few organizations to provide resources specifically to Black LGBTQ+ women, other LGBTQ+ communities of color, and gender nonconforming individuals. Affinity has served thousands since its inception through programming inclusive of support groups, HIV prevention services, and community resources, as well as collaboration with fellow community partners.</p>		
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One Roof Chicago	Health	Award: \$2,000
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<p>Project Name: General Operating</p> <p>Organization Description and Proposed Use of Funds: Founded in 2019, One Roof Chicago (ORC) is moving toward building a welcoming and inclusive intergenerational community for older adults and young people most in need of affirming housing, connection, and career development. ORC will combine:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mixed income housing for LGBTQ+ seniors, and older adults living with HIV -- including a continuum of care as residents' needs for assistance increase • Supportive housing at the same site for LGBTQ+ young adults impacted by homelessness • Job training for the youth in culturally competent senior care and a career ladder in a fast-growing sector of the economy <p>At the core of the project is the home, a place where LGBTQ+ older adults can age in safety, comfort and with the knowledge that they are accepted and celebrated. LGBTQ+ young people will have the security of their own space with resources and mentorship to make their goals a reality. ORC will be an inclusive environment where LGBTQ+ residents can thrive, surrounded by valued community.</p>		
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Transformative Justice Law Project of Illinois	Freedom from Violence	Award: \$4,000
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<p>Project Name: General Operating Support</p> <p>Organization Description and Proposed Use of Funds: Founded in 2008, founded as a group of social workers and activists and had this idea of providing holistic defense services to trans individuals. Part of the mission that guides our work is prioritizing the needs of black and brown sex workers and historically disenfranchised people, want to provide them legal representation. Flagship program is name-change program. In light of COVID-19 pandemic, they have shifted to provide the services virtually, meeting with clients over zoom or over the phone to identify their</p>		
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needs and then start the process of getting legal name change. Another piece of that as well is getting their needs met by referring them to other organizations - BSA, Broadway center to name a few - where there is a space to hold the name change clinics and have the opportunity to speak to a staff attorney. Also, can assist with getting orders of protection and expungement.

**Youth Empowerment
Performance Project
(YEPP)**

Freedom from Violence

Award: \$4,000

Project Name: General Operating Support

Organization Description and Proposed Use of Funds:

The Youth Empowerment Performance Project (YEPP) seeks a safe environment for LGBTQ youth experiencing homelessness to explore their history, investigate new ways to address their struggles, and celebrate their strengths through the process of developing a theatrical performance piece. At YEPP, we use harm reduction, social justice, transformative justice and education for liberation (theatre of the oppressed and popular education) frameworks to structure and guide our work. Growing out of the needs and passion of street-based youth at the Broadway Youth Center and the Night Ministry, combined with the unique performance art + trauma-informed social work skills of youth worker Bonsai Bermudez, YEPP started its first full independent healing-and-performance cycle with auditions in March 2011. Since then, 3 cohorts of youth participants have completed the program and brought 3 powerful original productions to the Chicago community.