



2019 Grant Cycle | Request for Proposals

Funding Decriminalization Movements

\$22,000 to be awarded in October 2019
to one nonprofit organization serving LGBTQ New York City

Stonewall Community Foundation is now accepting proposals for our 2019 Stonewall Quarter Share Grant Cycle. Please read this document carefully to determine whether you qualify to submit a proposal for funding.

Overview

Coordinated by Stonewall Community Foundation, Stonewall Quarter Share (SQS) is a network of young donors who, through volunteer service and collective giving, support LGBTQ causes throughout New York City. Each year, SQS members award one or more grants to advance programming and services that directly benefit LGBTQ New Yorkers.

This year, SQS is proud to announce it will be awarding **\$22,000**, its largest grant ever.

To honor the 50th anniversary of the Stonewall Uprising and the legacy of those who fought back against homophobic and transphobic policing and criminalization, this grant cycle centers organizations, programs, and initiatives that focus on decriminalization. Decriminalization here is defined as efforts to challenge or change the stigma, culture, and policies that criminalize (or functionally criminalize) aspects of queer people's lives and survival. Examples of decriminalization movements include, but are not limited to: sex work decriminalization; HIV decriminalization; those challenging the criminalization of homelessness and poverty; drug reform; criminal justice reform; immigration justice; and racial justice movements.

Background

The Stonewall Uprising was the result of lesbian, gay, bisexual, queer, transgender and gender nonconforming people fighting back against the criminalization of what they wore, how they expressed their gender, who they desired, and where they gathered. Fifty years later, our communities have made incredible progress but there is still much work to be done. Queer people – in particular, queer people who are Black or Latinx, engaged in sex work, HIV-positive, immigrants, refugees, asylum seekers, homeless, and/or poor – are disproportionately and adversely affected by stigma and laws that continue to criminalize our existence.

New York City has long led the way in the fight for LGBTQ liberation. As the City prepares to host LGBTQ people from around the globe for WorldPride, we hope to use this grant to strengthen New York's position as a global leader in the fights against criminalization.



This grant cycle seeks to support an organization or project that works to end the criminalization of LGBTQ people's existence and survival. Because criminalization is the result of a combination of mindsets, behaviors, and institutional structures, decriminalization strategies can include empowering a targeted group by ending stigma and shame, changing culture, or working to change policies and laws.

Proposals are due by noon on Thursday, August 1, 2019.

For grant usage, we ask that the applying organizations or programs tell us how funds would best be used. We believe that when foundations listen to their grantee partners, amazing things are made possible. In our grantmaking, we aim to demonstrate the willingness to listen and trust in the resourcefulness of the organizations we fund.

Eligibility

Organizations—including current and past Stonewall Community Foundation grant recipients—are eligible to apply if:

- The proposed work engages lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, and queer communities;
- The proposed work focuses primarily on one, some, or all of the five boroughs of New York City; and
- They have 501(c)(3) tax-exempt status as evidenced by an IRS-issued determination letter; **or** a formal written sponsorship agreement with a fiscal agent that has such status.

Preference will be given to organizations that are led by women, transgender, or non-binary people, or that explicitly center these groups in their work.

Restrictions

Our expectation for grant usage will align with what applicants outline in their proposals, whether that is for operating or infrastructural support, staffing, seed funding, or a specific campaign or project. We encourage applicants to take stock of what it is they need or their work demands, even if that is something for which funding has been elusive. As long as a compelling case is made as to how the work will support decriminalization movements in a meaningful way, the proposal will be considered for funding.

How to Apply

Please complete and submit the attached **cover page**, along with your **proposal** in PDF format, current fiscal year's **operating budget**, and a list of your **current foundation funders (if any)**.

Budget materials will help us evaluate your proposal. Budget documents should include revenue and expenses for both the current and prior fiscal years. You may submit them using your own templates.



Your proposal should be no longer than three (3) pages and should provide:

- A description of how the organization’s mission connects to decriminalization;
- A narrative detailing how this grant would be used to further decriminalization work; and
- A description of what success, relative to this grant, would look like and mean to your organization and the population(s) you serve, noting any specific goals and objectives you may have and any longer-term impact you anticipate from the grant.

Note: The cover page, budget materials, and funder list do not count towards the proposal page limit.

Please email all requested materials to grants@stonewallfoundation.org.

Completed proposals must be received by noon on Thursday, August 1, 2019.

Info Session

An informational conference call will be held on **Friday, June 21 at 2PM EST** to answer questions related to this RFP. You can join the call by dialing (515) 604-9350, access code 483625#.

Reporting Requirements

Format, timeline, and other specifics of reporting will be determined in consultation with the grant recipient.

Selection Process

Stonewall staff and the SQS Grants Committee will evaluate submissions and select 3-5 finalists on which the full SQS membership will vote. The proposal with the most votes will be sent to Stonewall’s Board of Directors for ratification.

Grant Presentation

The grant will be awarded in **early October 2019** at our annual Revel event. Representatives of the grantee organization or project are expected to attend to accept the grant.

About Stonewall Community Foundation

Stonewall Community Foundation is the only public foundation by and for New York City’s lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, and queer (LGBTQ) community.

Since 1990, Stonewall has invested nearly \$20 million in more than 600 organizations through donor-advised and discretionary grantmaking. We strengthen the LGBTQ movement by making smart, values-driven investments in dynamic organizations, projects, and leaders.



About Stonewall Quarter Share

Quarter Share provides financial support to Stonewall Community Foundation and other LGBTQ organizations in New York City; inspires a lifelong passion for philanthropy; develops the next generation of leaders in the LGBTQ community; and connects members through meaningful social, service, and educational events. For more information, please visit stonewallfoundation.org/sqs.

Recent grantees include Queens Community House, the New York Transgender Advocacy Group, Fostering Change for Children, Rainbow Heights Club, SAGE, and Trinity Community Connections.

Questions and Inquiries

Please call (212) 457-1341 or email grants@stonewallfoundation.org with any questions about this RFP, Stonewall Community Foundation, or Stonewall Quarter Share.

COMPLETED PROPOSALS MUST BE RECEIVED BY

NOON ON THURSDAY, AUGUST 1, 2019.

This Request for Proposals is issued by Stonewall Community Foundation



STONEWALL
Quarter Share

2019 Grant Cycle | Proposal Cover Page
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Applicant Information

Organization or Project Name (If fiscally sponsored)

Mission Statement (100 words or less)

Total Operating Expenses for Current Year

Total Operating Expenses for Previous Year

Which of the following best describes your organization or project?

- We work exclusively with the LGBTQ community
- Our client base is predominantly LGBTQ
- We work with the following subset(s) of the LGBTQ community:

Please indicate the geographic focus of your organization or project.

- Citywide
- Brooklyn
- Bronx
- Manhattan
- Queens
- Staten Island

Which of the following best describes your organization or project?

- We maintain our own 501(c)(3) status and our Employer Identification Number is
- We are a project of a larger host organization that has 501(c)(3) status*
- We are fiscally sponsored by an organization that has 501(c)(3) status*

**Please be sure to complete the Payee Information section on the following page.*

Total Number of Paid Staff (FTE)

Total Number of Board Members



Website

Primary Contact Person

Position or Title

Phone Number

Email Address

Address

City · State · Zip

How did you hear about this grant opportunity?

Describe your organization's leadership. What populations and communities are represented?

How long (approximately) did it take you to conceptualize, draft, and write this proposal? We use this information to assess whether the time and resources applicants invest are commensurate with the level of funding offered in this grant program.

Payee Information (Please complete only if you are a hosted or fiscally sponsored project)

Name of Host Organization or Fiscal Sponsor

Name of Primary Contact Person

Position or Title

Phone Number

Email Address



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Address

City · State · Zip

Employer Identification Number

Please be sure to attach a copy of your host or fiscal agent's determination letter, and your sponsorship agreement if applicable.

Acknowledgements

By checking this box, I acknowledge that, if we are a grant recipient, we will ensure organizational representation at the October Revel Gala.

The following staff would attend the reception to accept the grant:

Name of Representative 1

Name of Representative 2