

Youth Fund for Social Change

What is the Youth Fund for Social Change (Youth Fund)?

The Youth Fund provides resources to youth working on social justice issues in their communities. The Youth Fund supports youth activists who want to change and challenge existing policies and/or organized structures that prevent their communities from achieving equality.

What projects does the Youth Fund support?

Given recent high-profile incidents of violence in Chicago, our Youth Fund grantmaking committee and grantees are concerned about youth and community violence. More importantly, we are distressed by the lack of support for youth-driven and grassroots groups addressing the root causes of violence. Although a good portion of our grantmaking has always addressed youth and community violence, **this year, priority will be given to projects working to address youth violence in communities, schools, neighborhoods etc.** Projects may also cover the relationship between community violence and such issues as education and schools, health, environment, incarceration, media, racism, discrimination, voting, etc.

Some examples of the above and other projects are:

- ✓ Violence – youth working on: alternatives to the criminal justice system, peer to peer intervention, pursuit of strategies to reduce police harassment of youth, strategies to improve public safety in your neighborhood.
- ✓ Community – youth working to find solutions to overall issues of equality like access to education, healthcare, jobs and political power: working on alternatives to detention and incarceration.
- ✓ Education and schools – youth organizing for: restorative justice programs in schools, representation on school boards, alternatives to military recruitment on campus, or programs that address sexual harassment, homophobia, gender, or ability stereotypes/oppression.
- ✓ Health – youth organizing to expand reproductive health and comprehensive sex education.
- ✓ Environment – youth organizing around: lead clean up in their community, environmental pollution, or access to cleaner and better transit.
- ✓ Media – youth holding corporate media accountable by demanding that the public airwaves promote justice and peace rather than hate, violence and war.

Grant amounts are between \$1,000 to \$5,000 depending on the size of the project and what it will cover.

Who can apply?

- Youth (age limit is 26 years) with an existing project or a concrete new idea on achieving social change.
- Youth Organizations that have youth-lead projects that focus on social change issues. Youth must serve as decision-makers in creating and carrying out the project.
- ***Special Funding is reserved for youth working together across neighborhoods, race, class, education, ability, sexual orientation, gender, etc. This could take the form of working together on a project or having joint workshops, trainings etc.***

We would like....

- ✓ Youth projects to be in the Chicago metropolitan area (City of Chicago and Suburbs) and Northeast Indiana.
- ✓ The projects to be connected to a nonprofit organization with a 501(c) (3) status, fiscal sponsor or have an organizational bank account. **We cannot fund individuals.**
- ✓ The projects to be campaigns, ongoing or just getting started, with the hope that it will continue.
- ✓ Applications to be in our office by **February 1st, 2010**. We will have site visits from February 22nd to March 8th 2010 and funding decisions will be made by March 30th, 2010.

To apply for funding...

- ✓ Fill out the grant application form.
- ✓ Answer the questions below as fully as you can (two pages maximum).
- ✓ Fill out or have someone help you fill out the attached forms.

Mail **four (4) copies** of the completed application to:

Youth Fund for Social Change
Crossroads Fund
3411 West Diversey, Suite 20
Chicago, IL 60647

Email application to: Tim@crossroadsfund.org

Application Checklist

Each completed application must include:

- Grant Application Form** (form provided)
 - Project Narrative** (2 pages or less)
 - Budget** (form provided)
 - Demographics** (form provided)
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Project Narrative

Please answer the following questions about your project (2-page maximum) and attach to application:

1. What do you plan to do?
2. Why are you doing it? What problems or needs are you addressing?
3. How does your project address youth violence?
4. Does this build upon the work you did last year? If so, how?
5. How many adults are working on the project? What are they doing?
6. How many people will the project have an impact on?
7. Are you working with other youth groups? If yes, who and how?
8. What is your time line?
9. Tell us what you want to accomplish in a year?

Grant Application Form

Contact Name _____

Group Name _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Contact Phone # _____ Contact Email _____

Project Title _____

Project Description _____

Who are you serving or targeting? For example: *all residents of Cook County* or *all youth in Woodlawn* or *low income immigrant youth in Rogers Park*, etc.

How much money do you want from us? _____ What is the total cost of the project? _____

Are you associated with a nonprofit with a 501c 3 status? If yes, who? _____

Address _____

Do you have a fiscal agent (a group which manages your money) If yes, who? _____

Address _____

Do you have a group bank account? _____

Sample Youth Fund Budget Form

Income

Where will you get your money from?

Will it cover the full project?

Money from	Amount		
Examples:			
Crossroads Fund	\$1,000.00		
Community fundraiser	\$1,000.00		
Car Wash	\$1,000.00		
		Total	\$3,000.00

Expense

How are you going to spend the money?

(Your expenses should not be more than your income)

Expense	Amount		
Examples:			
Printing posters	\$200.00		
Transport	\$300.00		
Food/beverages for 12 meetings for 20 people	\$500.00		
Salary/stipends	\$2,000.00		
		Total	\$3,000.00

Actual Youth Fund Budget Form

Income

Where will you get your money from?

Will it cover the full project?

Money from	Amount		
		Total	

Expense

How are you going to spend the money?

(Your expenses should not be more than your income)

Expense	Amount		
		Total	

Youth Fund Demographics Form (leave blank if not applicable)

	STAFF (HOW MANY)	ACTIVE VOLUNTEERS (HOW MANY)	MEMBERS (HOW MANY)	BOARD MEMBERS (HOW MANY)
FEMALE				
MALE				
OTHER				
AFRICAN AMERICAN				
AFRICAN/AFRICAN CARRIBEAN				
ARAB				
ASIAN/PACIFIC ISLANDERS				
LATINA/LATINO				
NATIVE AMERICAN				
CAUCASIAN/WHITE				
MULTIRACIAL				
PEOPLE WITH DISABILITIES				
IMMIGRANTS				
TRANSGENDER				
LESBIAN/GAY/BI				
PRISONERS				
OTHER				
TOTAL				

Who do we mean by:

- **Staff:** how many people get paid to work?
- **Volunteers:** how many people work but **do not** get paid?
- **Members:** how many peers (other youths) are working with you on your project?
- **Board members:** how many people oversee the project/program (and are not staff)?