

JEWISH WOMEN'S FUND OF ATLANTA 2016 REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS

The Jewish Women's Fund of Atlanta expands opportunities in the lives of Jewish women and girls via effective grant-making, advocacy, and education through a gender lens. Our grants provide sustainable benefits to those we serve. We empower women to be leaders, philanthropists, and decision makers.

www.jewishatlanta.org/jwfa

2016 Request for Proposals

2016 Grant Cycle Application Instructions

The Jewish Women's Fund of Atlanta is now accepting Letters of Inquiry for the 2016 funding year. Before submitting a Letter of Inquiry (LOI), please review our Mission Statement, Core Values, and Grant Guidelines available in this document and on our website. This will assist you in understanding how we review your LOI. We would like to partner with you to achieve our mutual goals, and we invite you to contact Rachel Wasserman, Executive Director, at 678.222.3716 or rwasserman@jewishatlanta.org to set up a time to discuss your program or idea.

Step 1 – Letters of Inquiry

The Jewish Women's Fund of Atlanta accepts Letters of Inquiry (LOI) from tax-exempt organizations that qualify under section 501(c)3 of the Internal Revenue Code. Grants are not made to individuals.

For International Organizations: International organizations, including Israeli programs, may submit an LOI *by invitation only*. To request an invitation, please submit a 1-3 sentence description of your program to rwasserman@jewishatlanta.org no later than Friday, October 23, 2015. We will not be able to accept requests for invitations after that date. You will be notified in early November as to whether or not you are invited to submit an LOI, using the LOI guidelines below.

For Domestic Organizations: Domestic organizations seeking grant funding must submit an LOI by Monday, December 1, 2015. Programs may request up to \$10,000 in funding, with the following exception: in order to promote innovation, JWFA will consider proposals to incubate *Atlanta-based pilot programs* for a 2-year grant at a maximum of \$10,000 per year. All other programs will be considered for 1-year grants.

LOI Guidelines: The maximum length for an LOI is two (2) pages, including any cover pages or budget information. The LOI should include:

- Organization's name, mailing address, telephone, website, Facebook page
- Contact person's name, title, telephone number, and email address
- Mission and brief overview
- A description of the program, its objectives, methodology, and whether it is a new or existing program. Please be sure to explain how the program expands

opportunities for Jewish women and girls and fulfills the Mission and Core Values of the Jewish Women's Fund of Atlanta.

- Amount of funding request (maximum: \$10,000) and total annual program budget in USD (note: it is not necessary to submit a fully-detailed budget with the LOI)

LOIs are due by noon on Monday, December 1, 2015 and must be submitted as a single PDF document by email to rwasserman@jewishatlanta.org with the subject "Jewish Women's Fund of Atlanta LOI." **Please note that all communication about the grant process will occur via email; please notify JWFA about any email changes that may occur so we can properly contact you.**

Step 2 – Full Grant Proposals

The Jewish Women's Fund of Atlanta will review all Letters of Inquiry by mid-January 2016, after which time you will be notified as to whether or not you will be invited to submit a full proposal.

Step 3 – Interviews and Final Decisions

We may request a site visit or interview prior to making final determinations regarding grant allocations. We anticipate announcing allocations decisions by the middle of May 2016. Grantees will then be required to submit a minimum of two progress reports over the course of the year; details to follow.

2016 Grant Guidelines

Jewish Women's Fund of Atlanta Mission

The Jewish Women's Fund of Atlanta expands opportunities in the lives of Jewish women and girls via effective grant-making, advocacy, and education through a gender lens. Our grants provide sustainable benefits to those we serve. We empower women to be leaders, philanthropists, and decision makers. The Jewish Women's Fund of Atlanta is a proud philanthropic partner of Jewish Federation of Greater Atlanta.

Jewish Women's Fund of Atlanta Core Values

- We value repairing the world by supporting organizations and programs which promote social change for women and girls in the Jewish community.

- We strive to achieve Maimonides' highest level of tzedakah: helping someone help herself.
- We place a priority on grants that hold the promise of long-term, transformational community impact.
- We aim to be an educational vehicle for Jewish women in philanthropy and to advocate for the overall needs of Jewish women and girls.
- We value inclusion and active participation on the part of our Trustees and will strive for respect and consensus.
- We value collaboration with those who share our goals and will seek partnerships and encourage coalitions.

Defining Social Change

The Jewish Women's Fund of Atlanta is committed to expanding opportunities and promoting social change for Jewish women and girls. This means we focus on initiatives that address the underlying factors contributing to the challenges faced by Jewish girls and women.

Social change is a systemic approach seeking to alter cultural or social patterns. Social change for Jewish women and girls seeks to address the inequity and disparity within our community that works against women's empowerment, self-determination, economic empowerment, and gender equity. For example, social change programming approaches an issue such as the elimination of domestic violence in the Jewish community from a place of prevention, rather than funding direct services meeting the needs of victims who have already suffered abuse.

The Jewish Women's Fund of Atlanta seeks grantees who achieve social change by:

- Creating long-term changes in the lives of Jewish women and girls and their communities
- Addressing underlying causes of inequity, suffering, and disenfranchisement
- Identifying and testing innovative programming solutions
- Facilitating leadership development as well as the self-empowerment efforts of Jewish women and girls

Organizations We Fund

We accept grant proposals from programs and organizations creating social change for Jewish women and girls. Past grants have addressed legal empowerment, economic empowerment, girls and youth, leadership development, violence against women, and educational empowerment. Organizations may request specific program support or general operating support. JWFA seeks to fund projects that place an emphasis on sustainability, leveraged funding, and partnerships.

Eligibility

Grants are made only to tax-exempt organizations that qualify under section 501(c)3 of the Internal Revenue Code. Grants are not made to individuals. We cannot support all eligible projects. Please take the time to review our guidelines thoroughly to determine if your organization, program, initiative, or project meets our criteria.

Additional Grant Guidelines

Please note that JWFA's average grant award is \$6,950. Last year JWFA allocated a total of \$100,000. A complete list of past grants can be found on our website under "Our Grants." After three years of consecutive funding from JWFA, projects will be required to take one year off before re-applying for funding. This does not preclude the organization from applying for funding for a different project, provided it meets JWFA's mission, core values, and grant guidelines.