

# ACORN EQUALITY FUND

## Grant Application

### GRANT ELIGIBILITY

#### Should I apply?

If your organization meets the following criteria, we encourage you to apply.

Your organization:

- supports at least one of the following: education, health, or civil rights of gay, lesbian, bisexual, and transgender persons and their allies.
- is an IRS-recognized 501c3 nonprofit organization or has planned with an organization that is a 501c3 to act as your fiscal agent.
- serves the LGBT+ community in the counties served by Acorn Equality Fund (all counties in Illinois except Cook, Dupage, Grundy, Kane, Kendall, Lake, McHenry and Will),

#### How much should I request?

- Grant amounts typically range between \$500 - \$1,500. Please request an amount that is appropriate for your project.

#### What gets funded?

Grants are restricted to groups or organizations that advocate for the following within the LGBT+ community:

- **Education:** includes (but not limited to) public education, arts, film festivals, scholarship programs, teacher training, school materials, GSAs, and diversity training,
- **Health:** includes (but not limited to) HIV/AIDS/STDs, safe sex, health access, addiction/substance abuse, violence, health information, mental health, and gender reassignment-transgender issues (excluding direct care),
- **Civil Rights:** includes (but not limited to) non-discrimination in employment, housing, credit, access to healthcare, access to legal services, marriage/civil unions, adoption, parenting, and estate planning.

#### How do I proceed?

Determine which of the two following categories your request falls:

- **General Grant:** Program/project funding, event sponsorship, or general operating funding
- **Challenge Grant:** Challenge (or matching) grants help organizations to fundraise by using our grant to leverage additional donations to raised funds from other donors to match the grant awarded by AEF

All proposals and related materials are considered confidential.

Funded proposals may be used by AEF for public relations purposes and will follow all IRS reporting guidelines.

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Please submit this form as the cover of your grant application.

### Request for

- General Grant  
 Challenge Grant

### Program area

- Education  
 Health  
 Civil Rights

Name of Organization: \_\_\_\_\_

Name of Contact: \_\_\_\_\_

Title: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip Code: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ E-Mail: \_\_\_\_\_

Website and/or Facebook page (if applicable): \_\_\_\_\_

Amount of Request: \$ \_\_\_\_\_

### Please respond to the following (2,000 words maximum)

- 1) What is your mission statement?
- 2) What need are you meeting or hoping to meet in your community?
- 3) Describe the event or program(s) for which you are requesting funds.
- 4) What measurable outcome will be made possible by an Acorn Equality Fund grant?
- 5) Provide evidence of your organization's ability to complete this project successfully.
- 6) How will Acorn Equality Fund receive recognition for the grant?

### Please attach the following

- Event or program budget showing income and expenses (if applicable)
- Most recent year-end financial statement for the (501c3)
- Names, roles, and contact information of key persons involved
- IRS 501c3 determination letter