



2023 Seeding the Future Grant Funding Proposal Questions

Instructions (please note that these questions are intended to be submitted through the grant portal link posted [here](#)).

OVERVIEW:

As an institutional advocate focused on health justice and social justice, Deaconess Foundation will orient its abundant relationships and resources in pursuit of liberation within the next seven generations.

Deaconess recognizes that significant gaps in civic and community infrastructure to realize systems transformation and racial liberation:

- (1) Multidisciplinary (cross-sector) coordinated long-term measures to anchor and center individual and community healing and wellness, restoration, and reconciliation;
- (2) Community member-led redistribution of wealth;
- (3) Coordinated year-round base- and coalition-building; and
- (4) Shared narrative strategy.

Deaconess aims to act boldly with its power, influence and resources to pursue liberation within seven generations. This is an intentional and conscious movement in which our community freely exists, dreams and thrives in the absence of oppressive systems in a culture of solidarity, respect and dignity.

Components of the strategy include:

Building Beloved Community through:

- 1) intentional undoing and unlearning of internal and external practices and processes rooted in white supremacy culture to create a more anti-racist, intersectional, equitable and democratic workplace which mirrors the ways Deaconess Foundation shows up and exists in community and the broader ecosystem, and

2) elevating, celebrating, and inspiring the ecosystem in Missouri and Illinois by lifting up the liberated behaviors that are creating the conditions that lead to individual and community wellness and liberation.

Power Building through:

- 1) investing in the bistate area to support strong enduring civic agency and engagement for equitable participation in the democratic process to public policy,
- 2) catalyzing the local, regenerative economy based on reflective, responsive, and reciprocal relationships,
- 3) brokering interdisciplinary multigenerational collaboration, and
- 4) positioning Deaconess Center for Child Well-Being as public square and public good for community members.

For more detail about resources that are informing our work, see:

[Innovation Ambition Continuum](#)

[Social Change Ecosystem](#)

Seeding the Future Grants will provide between \$15,000 to \$20,000 in general operating support funding to advance efforts which promote health justice and social justice through coalition and base-building, grassroots advocacy, community organizing and/or public policy development/change that aim to improve conditions for community level well-being. Seeding the Future Grants are designed to be responsive to systems-change partners' efforts and propel our work in alignment with our [vision](#) for the next seven generations.

Grants will be awarded for one year with grant awards ranging from \$15,000 to \$20,000 per specified partner.

For more information about Deaconess funding guidelines, please visit [here](#) on our website.

The online portal is now open and requests for proposals may be submitted on a rolling basis in 2023. To be considered for the monthly review, proposals must be submitted by 11:59 pm on the following dates:

Friday, September 22, 2023

Friday, October 20, 2023

Friday, November 10, 2023

Beginning in 2024, Seeding the Future Grant funding proposals will be due quarterly via the online portal on the following dates:

Friday, February 23, 2024

Friday, May 31, 2024

Friday, August 30, 2024

Friday, November 1, 2024

PLEASE NOTE: For organizations that have previously submitted a 2023 Policy Campaign/Collaborative grant proposal, in lieu of submitting another proposal 2023 applicants will be invited for a check in interview to capture any updates in the breadth and scale of their efforts.

If you are a 2023 Policy Campaign/Collaborative Grant applicant that desires to be considered for 2023 Seeding the Future Grants, please email granthelp@deaconess.org denoting your request and a member of our grantmaking team will respond with confirmation of advancing your request forward for consideration.

If you have any questions or would like assistance, please contact Deleshā George, Program Manager via email at deleshag@deaconess.org.

Below are the specific questions that will be posted in the online portal for Seeding the Future Grants.

SECTION 1: Applicant Information

Applicant Legal Name (as shown on IRS Letter of Determination)

Doing Business As (if different from legal name)

Address, City, State, ZIP code

Area Code/Telephone #

Employer Identification Number (EIN) (as shown on IRS Letter of Determination Letter)

If you do not currently have a 501c3 IRS determination, you can denote an identified fiscal sponsor or contact Deaconess staff via granthelp@deaconess.org for assistance in identifying a fiscal sponsor to support your effort.

Organizational Website (Optional)

Executive Director (or Top Executive)

Prefix

Pronouns

First Name

Last Name

Area Code/Telephone #

Title

E-mail

Main Contact for this Proposal

Prefix

Pronouns

First Name

Last Name

Area Code/Telephone #

Title

E-mail

SECTION 2: Proposal Information

Organization's Mission/Vision Statement

Proposal Title

Systems Change Tactic (Please check all that apply):

- Community Organizing/Base-building
- Grassroots Advocacy
- Public Policy Development/Change
- Narrative Advocacy (A persuasive form of communication intended to influence audiences' real-world knowledge and beliefs and move them to take action)
- Healing Justice (Efforts that respond to intergenerational trauma and violence, facilitates healing and aims to transform systems from illness to well-being)
- Other (please specify):

Proposal Summary:

1) In 1000 words or less, provide a summary of your funding request defining how your effort will advance policy or systems that address the following gaps in civic and community infrastructure to realize systems transformation and racial liberation.

(a) Multidisciplinary (cross-sector) coordinated long-term measures to anchor and center

individual and community healing and wellness, restoration, and reconciliation;

(b) Community member-led redistribution of wealth;

(c) Coordinated year-round base- and coalition-building; and

(d) Shared narrative strategy.

Please include details about the desired impact you expect to achieve as a result of successful implementation:

- What is the issue your effort aims to solve? What is the civic and/or community infrastructure gap(s) the proposed effort will close?
- Who will be impacted by the proposed activities? Are there unintended impacts that you are making plans to address?
- How will the most affected people/communities share power in decision-making throughout the proposed effort timeframe to advance the desired change?
- Are you aware of any other efforts underway to address the issue your efforts aims to solve? How might you enhance, complement and/or avoid duplicating them?

Please describe your most valuable partnerships.

- Identify the level of ambition for change in your organization, constituency or network. Is it *incremental* (focuses on improving, rather than changing the performance of existing systems), *reform-oriented* (focuses on changing systems to address significant shortcomings), *transformative* (focuses on building entirely new systems based on radically different worldviews, values and narratives), or a *combination of levels*? (See page 3 of [Innovation Ambition Continuum](#) for more information)

2) *Optional*: Please select and respond to one of the prompts below.

- What are markers/hallmarks of liberation for the region? How does what you propose accelerate the journey to liberation?
- Where does the future need to be healed, and how does this effort seed a healed future?
- Drawing from creative inspiration (e.g. poets, philosophers, theologians, writers, musicians, counter-culture creators, children's expressions, dance, and design) where do you see glimmers of the future in the present?

Total amount Requested (maximum \$20,000 for one year)

Current Annual Organizational Budget

SECTION 3: Impact Demographics (options will vary per category)

- *Age Group* (Please indicate the age of those who will be most impacted as a result of this effort)
- *Ethnicity* (Please denote the ethnicity of those who will be most impacted as a result of this effort) If Other, please explain.
- *Gender* (Please denote gender of those who will be most impacted as a result of this effort)
- *Geographical Area Served* (Choose up to three. Search for the state (either Missouri or Illinois), then select the appropriate county from the drop-down menu.)

SECTION 4: Institutional Commitment to Liberation

- Please provide the racial/ethnic and gender demographics of your organization's staff and board.
- How does your work impact different racial/ethnic groups and/or intersectional identities?
- How does your organization aim to address racial and gender bias and inequities within your internal structures?
- Does your organization have established racial equity goals? If so, please describe and include details on how internal processes and systems are accessible and accountable to people of the global majority.
- How are the racial/ethnic groups most affected by your efforts represented in your organization's work (e.g. Board governance, organizational staff leadership)?
- How does your organization interrogate and replace existing policies that perpetuate harm with particular attention to race, gender, and disability?

SECTION 5: Impact and Learning

- How will you track and measure progress towards the desired change your work aims to address?
- How will you know the desired change has occurred? (e.g. this could be expressed as metrics, indicators, frameworks, or qualitative proof points.)

SECTION 6: Partnership Enhancement Support

Other than a funding investment, how can Deaconess advocate and/or engage to support this effort?

SECTION 7: Request Budget

Budget Narrative:

In 1000 words or fewer, detail the sources of revenue and primary expenses for your organization and how the funding will be used to support your proposed.

SECTION 8: Attachments

Supporting Documents:

To upload a file, click choose file, browse to the document on your computer and select it. When you return to this page, be sure to click the UPLOAD button to complete process.

Do we have your IRS Letter of Determination letter on file?

If YES, you do not have to upload it in the next field. If NO, please upload below.

Tax Status Determination Letter:

IRS Letter of Determination. NOTE: This is not the state sales and use tax exemption certificate. If there has been a name change, provide copies of the amended state certificate of incorporation and amended IRS Letter of Determination.

Memorandum of Understanding (MOU):

If applicable, if applying with a fiscal agent copy of a signed agreement letter/memorandum of understanding (MOU) between the applicant and the fiscal sponsor.

SECTION 9- Submission Agreement:

I certify to the best of my knowledge, that all information included in this proposal is correct. The tax-exempt status of this organization, or its fiscal agent, is still in effect. If a grant is awarded to this organization, then the proceeds of that grant will not be distributed or used to benefit any organization or individual supporting or engaged in applicable anti-terrorist

financing and asset control laws, statutes, and executive orders. In the space below, please type your legal name.

Signature, Executive Director (or authorizing official on behalf of the organization)

Date:

Reserved Rights

Deaconess Foundation reserves the right to: accept or reject any or all applications submitted; request additional information from any or all respondents; and contact respondents to ensure full understanding of and responsiveness to the solicitation requirements.

SAMPLE