

LESBIAN, GAY, BISEXUAL, TRANSGENDER & STRAIGHT ALLIANCE FUND Guidelines and Instructions

Who We Are:

The Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender & Straight (LGBT-Straight) Alliance Fund is a special project of the Community Foundation for Southern Arizona (CFSA). It was formed through an alliance with the National Lesbian and Gay Community Funding Partnership. Established in 1993, the Partnership was founded to impact the chronic pattern of under-funding of programs that benefit the Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, and Transgender community and to support efforts to address these issues within the field of philanthropy.

In 1999, the Community Foundation for Southern Arizona was awarded a two-year, \$100,000 *challenge grant* from the Partnership. The purpose of this project was to expand funding opportunities and resources for LGBT organizations in Tucson and rural southern Arizona (Pima, Cochise and Santa Cruz counties) in collaboration with straight allies and friends. *The challenge was met.* The Alliance Fund has made 90 grants totaling nearly \$405,000 since 2000.

The LGBT-Straight Alliance Fund's Mission is:

To develop and enhance resources to benefit the LGBT community in Southern Arizona through philanthropy, endowment building, and collaboration with straight allies and friends

LGBT-Straight Alliance Fund Envisions:

A diverse and caring Southern Arizona community whose philanthropy meets the need of all of its members.

Grant Awards

The Alliance Fund will award grants up to \$5,000. Most are funded by caring individuals in Southern Arizona who include the LGBTQ community in their philanthropy. Alliance Fund grants also include: the **Matkin-Sincox Tribute Award** which honors the achievements of Noel Matkin and Jim Sincox, life-partners and champions of recognizing and celebrating diversity in Tucson and Southern Arizona; and the **Leos-McCall Annual Award**, founded and named for Jim Leos and Clint McCall, life-partners and major contributors to the success and well-being of the LGBT community in Tucson and Southern Arizona. The Alliance Fund also obtains funds for grants from the **Walt Whitman Fund**, an anonymous endowment to benefit LGBTQ youth, and from its own endowment that is funded by philanthropic members of the Southern Arizona community.

We encourage funding applications for projects that target or serve LGBTQ youth, in particular youth of color, young women, transgender and gender non-conforming youth, low-income youth, and projects serving youth living in rural areas.

We seek to fund a diversity of organizations, populations, programs and geographic areas. We highly encourage applications from rural areas.

Funding Restrictions

The Alliance Fund will not provide grants for:

- Individuals
- Campaigns to elect public officials or influence legislation/lobbying

- Capital fund drives
- Debt reduction
- Endowments
- Fundraising events
- Scholarships, fellowships and tuition reimbursement
- Programs or projects inconsistent with federal, state and local non-discrimination statutes regarding equal employment opportunities
- Projects that promote religious activities (although faith-based organizations are eligible to apply for non-religious activities)
- Programs outside of Pima, Cochise and Santa Cruz counties
- Research projects with no direct or relatively-immediate impact on programs or people
- HIV/AIDS direct treatment programs (Contact Ruth Hillman for information about Ryan White Title II funds for Pima County and Shannon Smith for Graham, Greenlee, Cochise, and Santa Cruz Counties at CFSA, 520-770-0800). The Alliance Fund *will consider projects* that involve HIV/AIDS prevention and those that provide services to persons with HIV/AIDS that are not considered primary treatment programs.

Organizations are not required to have IRS 501(c)(3) nonprofit status. Grassroots organizations or groups that have come together for a program consistent with the interests of the LGBT-Straight Alliance Fund are eligible to apply. To be considered for funding, groups without tax-exempt status must have a governing/advisory board that consists of five or more people and have a clear statement of purpose and decision-making process.

Areas of Interest

The LGBT-Straight Alliance Fund will make grants in the following interest areas:

Please note: *the examples listed below are for illustrative purposes only. The Fund will give equal consideration to other programs that fall within, at least, one of the five interest areas.*

1. *Youth and Parent-Youth Issues*: Increasing support for LGBTQ individuals and their parents/families. Examples might include:
 - Programs for parents and/or children who are alienated from one another because of sexual orientation or gender identity issues
 - Projects that provide support to individuals “coming out” to family
 - Projects that aid LGBTQ youth who are particularly disenfranchised, e.g., youth of color, rural youth, low-income youth, gender non-conforming or questioning youth, young women, and other youth in particular need of assistance
2. *Human Services Issues*: Improving health care, substance abuse treatment, and social services. Examples might include:
 - Access to informed medical professionals for transgender people
 - Shelter for LGBT victims of domestic violence
 - Programs to address substance abuse among LGBTQ people
3. *Political Advocacy & Involvement*: Educating legislators and working for changes that promote civil rights for all. Examples might include:
 - Increase the involvement of LGBT people in the political process
 - Educating LGBTQ people to be activists and do community organizing
 - Work for political change in Arizona (but not to directly support candidates or influence specific legislation)
 - Work that creates equity, increases the well-being of LGBTQ communities, and advances gender, racial, and economic justice
4. *Education Issues*: Educating both the larger community and the LGBTQ community to

promote inclusion, health and well-being. Examples might include:

- Educating heterosexuals about LGBTQ issues, including broad issues such as gender expression
- Educating students (high school and college), teachers, and school administrators about LGBTQ issues
- Educating the LGBTQ community about being philanthropic
- Educating social service providers about LGBTQ issues

5. *LGBTQ Community Infrastructure*: Giving organizations the tools they need to be effective.

Examples might include:

- Funding staff positions
- Strengthening organizational skills (boards and staff members)
- Increasing solidarity among groups working on related social justice issues (i.e. immigration, women's rights, racism, poverty)
- Enhancing and/or improving existing programs

PROPOSAL PROCESS

Please submit **an original of each item in the following order:**

- A completed Project Summary form and a completed Project Budget form.
- A completed Organizational Leadership Roster or similar listing.
- A copy of your **diversity statement or policy**.
- A narrative describing the proposed project for which you are requesting funds. This narrative should be a maximum of three (3) typed pages, minimum of 12-point type, white paper only. Please respond to the following statements/questions in this order and use the headings indicated.
 - NEED: Describe the need in the community for your project, including any collaborations you intend.
 - IMPACT: Tell us who will be impacted by your project. Be as specific as possible about the population(s) you are targeting.
 - GOALS: State *measurable* goals for the proposed project; discuss anticipated benefits for the participants/clients.
 - PROJECT DESIGN: Describe the project for which funding is requested. Include project activities, methods of outreach and participant recruitment, and staffing. Include the total number of people to be served.
 - EVALUATION: Describe how you will know if your project is successful (how you will measure outcomes).
 - ORGANIZATIONAL CAPACITY: Describe your experience working with LGBT persons. Briefly list the qualifications/experience of key leadership staff that illustrate why they can be expected to succeed.

Label each of the headings “A-F” as shown above and provide the appropriate narrative text. This makes the application easier to read. You can determine how much space to use for each answer, **as long as the narrative does not exceed three pages.**

NOTE: It is very important that you identify the “area of interest” your project fits into. See the previous page for the list.

Please provide **one copy** of the following (please paper clip to the original):

- Financial statements for your **parent** organization that include an income and expense sheet from the most recent year and a current organizational annual budget OR a statement of explanation if these are not available.
- Your IRS 501(c)(3) determination letter (if applicable).

Please DO NOT:
**fax or e-mail application packets*
**put proposals in binders or covers*
**include attachments that are not requested*
**submit videotapes or DVDs*

Site Visit

Every organization that meets the requirements and submits a completed application by the deadline will be rated for quality by a grant panel. Given funding limitations, proposals rated sufficiently high by the panel will receive a site visit to learn more about the project and funding request.

Site visits will be held during the period of October 20-22, 2010. If your project qualifies, you will be notified as soon as your site visit is scheduled. If not, we will also inform you of that fact.

The *person who will manage the project* for which you are seeking support from the Alliance Fund *must attend the site visit.* At least one member of your governing/advisory board should also attend. Due to the logistics involved in making the arrangements, your site visit day and time will be assigned. Thank you in advance for accommodating the Alliance Fund in our attempt to be efficient and thorough.

Reporting Requirements

Grantees must submit a 6-month progress report by email and a final (written) year-end report. Format will be furnished.

Expectations for Acknowledgement of LGBT-Straight Alliance Fund Support

Recipients of Alliance Fund grants agree to acknowledge support on their public project materials using the Alliance Fund logo and/or a statement such as “This project is supported in part by funds from the LGBT-Straight Alliance Fund, a special project of the Community Foundation for Southern Arizona.” We also request that grantees include acknowledgement and the Alliance Fund logo on their website, with a link back to the Alliance Fund homepage. Logo/website packages will be sent to funded projects.

Application Deadline

Completed application packets are due to the Community Foundation for Southern Arizona **no later than Sept. 24, 2010.** Applications received after the deadline will not be considered for funding.

Address Proposals to:
Felipe Caldeira, Program Coordinator
LGBT-Straight Alliance Fund
Community Foundation for Southern Arizona
2250 E. Broadway Blvd.
Tucson, AZ 85719

Questions?

Contact Doug Noffsinger at: douglas.noffsinger@comcast.net or Felipe Caldeira, Alliance Fund Program Coordinator, at: alliancefund@cfsoaz.org.

Visit the Alliance Fund Website (www.alliancefund.org) for grant information and other information on the Fund and our sponsors and allies.