



## JUNIOR LEAGUE OF DENVER

### 2021-2022 Junior League of Denver Collaborative Impact Grants

The Junior League of Denver (JLD) Collaborative Impact Grants Committee is awarding up to \$25,000 to qualified local nonprofits that support improving the lives of women and families facing systemic poverty in the Denver metro area. This includes nonprofit programs focused on improving literacy rates and providing access to books, as well as other areas like homelessness, education, health and food security.

As an addition to our Collaborative Impact Grants process, the JLD is interested in building stronger partnerships with our community by offering a two-part approach for a successful program. Along with a monetary grant, we are committed to providing enthusiastic JLD members to fulfill volunteer opportunities related to the program of interest.

Funds will be awarded in May 2022, to be used by May 2023.

#### To qualify for a grant:

- Your agency must support improving the lives of women and families facing systemic poverty in the Denver metro area;
- Your agency must support the JLD's Mission of promoting voluntarism, developing the potential of women, and improving communities through the effective action and leadership of trained volunteers. This objective will be accomplished through providing an opportunity for JLD women to volunteer on a regular basis;
- The grant funds must be used to benefit the Denver metro community;
- Applicants must have a 501(c)(3) status with the IRS;
- Your agency must have a local board of directors;
- Your agency must have a non-discrimination policy.

Nonprofit organizations that meet the above guidelines are invited to submit a **Concept Letter** describing how the grant money would be used in conjunction with volunteer opportunities. The Grants Committee will review the concept letters and invite a number of semi-finalists to submit a full grant proposal. Site visits will be conducted with all semi-finalists.

**Concept Letter and attachments are due via email to [jldgrants@jld.org](mailto:jldgrants@jld.org) by 5 pm on Friday, September 17, 2021.** Please do not include non-requested attachments, including annual reports, brochures, videos, etc. If your agency is selected to submit a full grant proposal, you will receive further instructions and be asked to complete the Colorado Common Grant Application.

**Qualified applicants must submit the following:**

1. A concept letter (no longer than **four typed pages**) including:
  - a. A detailed description of how the project or program fits within improving the lives of women and families facing systemic poverty in the Denver metro area;
  - b. A model of how your agency will utilize JLD volunteers to support the project through regular volunteering, inclusive of describing the environment of the volunteer opportunity, any special training or requirements, who the volunteers will be working with, and the days/times volunteers are needed (see Attachment A);
  - c. Project/program time frame. Please keep in mind that most of our volunteers work outside the home during traditional working hours so the most accessible volunteer opportunities occur during the weeknights or weekends. Volunteer placements take place between August 2022 and May 2023;
  - d. Whom the grant will benefit (target population);
  - e. The project or program's immediate goals and the larger impact the project or program will have on the community;
  - f. How the agency will measure whether its goals and impact were accomplished;
  - g. Project sustainability (if applicable);
  - h. Amount of request (not to exceed \$25,000);
  - i. Agency contact information (including name, address, phone number, and email address)
  
2. Attachments (**each item is not to exceed one page**)
  - a. Organization Summary;
  - b. Budget sheet for the project/program listing expenses and brief descriptions of how each expense supports the proposal and who else you are planning on receiving funding from for this request (please list funder, requested amount, and current status);
  - c. Proof of your tax-exempt status;
  - d. Board of Directors list (please include names and company affiliations)

Requests will not be considered for:

- fundraising drives
- building fund/capital campaigns
- mileage reimbursement
- travel expenses
- scholarships
- research projects
- administrative staff salaries
- sectarian religious projects
- general operating funds

If you are aware that any JLD member is involved with your organization, please contact the chairs of the Grants Committee at [jldgrants@jld.org](mailto:jldgrants@jld.org). A JLD member who has a potential conflict of interest will remove herself from discussion and voting related to the JLD Grant, and the member will complete a JLD Conflict of Interest form to be filed with the JLD.

**Timeline:**

August 25, 2021	Community Open House
September 17, 2021	Concept Letter Due
September 24, 2021	Invitations to submit Colorado Common Grant Application
November 3, 2021	Colorado Common Grant Application Due
February 2022	Selection of Grant Recipients
May 2022	Funds Awarded

**More about the Junior League of Denver****OUR MISSION**

The Junior League of Denver, Incorporated (founded in 1918), is an organization of women committed to promoting voluntarism, developing the potential of women, and improving communities through the effective action and leadership of trained volunteers. Its purpose is exclusively educational and charitable.

**WHO WE ARE**

The Junior League of Denver (JLD) is a women's training organization that develops civic leaders committed to improving our community. We are currently working to improve literacy rates and provide access to books for children through the third grade. For nearly a decade, we have reached thousands of children and families through signature programs like Kids Connect and Read2Kids, as well as key partnerships like serving as a sponsor for One Book Colorado and working with Reading Partners Colorado. In addition to continuing these impactful literacy programs, the JLD is expanding its impact area to be inclusive of women and families facing systemic poverty. This work will build on the continued success of our literacy efforts by helping us engage in adjacent areas like homelessness, education, health and food security.

## **Attachment A – Creating an opportunity for Junior League of Denver volunteers**

A core requirement of this grant is to create an opportunity for women in the Junior League of Denver (JLD) to actively participate in your organization through regular volunteering, which in the JLD world is known as a “community placement”. Examples of current community placements include reading to kids at low-income Denver area schools and providing meals to women and children experiencing homelessness. Creating a placement within agencies who receive the grant funds allows the League to support the mission of the agency more than simply financially. JLD women are passionate, enthusiastic volunteers who have made significant impacts on many area nonprofits through dedication of their time and efforts.

A typical community placement with the JLD consists of a regular (monthly or bi-monthly) event at the partner agency where JLD women spend a few hours helping the agency achieve its vision and mission. Depending on the size of your agency and need for volunteers, the number of women who would be part of a placement with your agency could vary from four to 12+. Your agency will be provided with at least one woman from the JLD who would be in charge of coordinating the placement logistics with your agency; this person is known as the placement’s chair. The chair will work with a contact at your organization to decide the days/times of the volunteer events, the different tasks the JLD women will assist with, and how the JLD can assist in the planning and execution of the regular events.

The Concept Letter is your organization’s opportunity to present an initial model of how a JLD member placement could work within your organization. Organizations selected to complete a Common Colorado Grant Application will receive training and technical assistance from a member of the JLD Collaborative Impact Grants committee to design exactly how a JLD placement will look within your organization. Women on the Collaborative Impact Grants Committee are Active members of the JLD who have participated in several different League placements and fully understand what the League requires when partnering with a community organization for a member placement. A fully-developed concept for a JLD placement will be a deciding factor in awarding funds.