



Youth Advocacy Grant

Promoting Youth Advocacy

Spirit of Youth is working to improve the behavioral health of Anchorage youth. Local community needs assessments have identified youth and young adult mental health as a high priority in Anchorage and suggest community efforts should provide programming to prevent suicidal ideation and feelings of hopelessness and being all alone in life.

Youth and young adults' mental health is impacted by the context in which they live. Environmental strategies incorporate prevention efforts aimed at changing or influencing community conditions, standards, institutions, structures, systems and policies.

It is essential that youth and young adults are included in program planning and implementation in initiatives that target them. This grant will provide funding for initiatives that focus on environmental strategies to promote youth and young adult mental health in Anchorage which include youth in their implementation.

Goals

The Youth Advocacy Grant is specifically intended to support youth led projects that meet the following goals:

- Increase advocacy skills among Anchorage youth
- Provide forums to discuss issues impacting the context/environment for youth in Anchorage
- Explore factors that impact youth mental health

Grant Requirements

Deadlines & Timeline

Applications Due: December 9

Funding Announcement: December 23

Project Completion: May 15, 2022

Final Report: June 15, 2022

Grant Funding Limits

The funding is for one project with a budget of up to \$17,000.

Budget

Allowable expenses may include:

- Paid staff time
- Consultants
- Supplies
- Equipment
- Incentives
- Facility rental
- Printing
- Distribution
- Value of volunteer time
- Youth Stipends

If you are a volunteer organization that does not pay staff, consider how much time volunteers will give to the project. Your organization can be compensated up to \$28.19 per hour for volunteer time. These funds may be used to support other projects/programs for your organization. For example: If 5 volunteers each give 10 hours of time, that's 50 hours multiplied by roughly \$28.19 per hour, or \$1,410 for your organization's future efforts.

Sample budgets are found in the application.

Evaluation

The recipient will work with Spirit of Youth's evaluator to design and implement a participant survey to collect project outcomes that will be shared with Spirit of Youth. Demographic data on participants will also need to be collected and shared with Spirit of Youth.

Grant Project Team

Projects are intended to support youth-led initiatives within the 12-24 year old age range. Priority will be given to proposals reaching this age group.

Spirit of Youth requires a "Youth Representative" and an "Organizational Representative" to lead the Grant Project Team. The Team will carry out the implementation of the project, and the Youth Representative and Organizational Representative will be the main points of contact between Spirit of Youth staff and their Team.

The Team will be required to participate in bi-monthly meetings with representatives from Spirit of Youth.

Project Expectations and Proposal Criteria

Project proposals should be clear and have an achievable project plan and clear measures of success. Spirit of Youth understands that projects may shift and become more focused throughout the project timeframe.

Goals: Projects must meet at least two of the goals detailed in this document.

Aim: Grants are meant to support projects involving 12-24 year-olds in the Municipality of Anchorage that impact the condition for youth in Anchorage that impact mental health.

Priority: We will give priority to youth led initiatives within the 12-24 year old age range. Additionally, some populations of youth may be more vulnerable to experiencing mental health challenges, including LGBTQ+ youth, youth who experience disabilities, and other groups who are traditionally under-served. Priority will also be extended to projects seeking to work within these populations.

Youth Involvement: Projects will receive higher scores that involve youth in leadership roles, in decision-making, and project proposal development and implementation. We also value youth and adult partnerships that foster support, respect, and shared values. Often these projects will give youth participants new opportunities and experiences, and in some cases even help students learn a new skill.

Adult Roles: Adult mentoring is vital to the success of projects. Adults are especially valuable in organization, scheduling, and logistical roles. Adults can lend expertise and professional mentoring.

Impact: Projects will receive higher scores if they have a plan for lasting impact.

Who is Eligible to Apply?

Spirit of Youth is looking to be inclusive in its award so that youth organizations, schools, and other non-profit 501(c)(3) organizations are eligible to submit proposals. Applicants must serve the Municipality of Anchorage for this project.

Who Cannot Apply?

Individuals, for-profit, 501(c)(4) or (c)(6) organizations based organizations are not eligible. Applications are also not eligible if they promote lobbying, fundraising, electioneering, or are partisan. Applications will not be eligible if they discriminate based on, but not limited to, race, ethnicity, gender, sexual preference, marital status, age, ability, or creed. Organizations with focused demographic targets remain eligible.

Evaluation

A scoring rubric is provided. This will guide the selection committee as they review all applications.

Additional Requirements

Project goals may target a specific population, but activities may not exclude groups or individuals outside of that population.

Roles of Sponsoring Organization and Partners

Spirit of Youth (Granting Organization)

Spirit of Youth is dedicated to creating, promoting and recognizing youth involvement in communities across Alaska.

Our vision statement is: All Alaskan youth are heard, included and empowered.

Spirit of Youth builds resilience in youth by encouraging participation in the community. We celebrate and recognize hard working, inspiring young people and youth groups.

For more information:

Contact: info@spiritofyouth.org

Visit: www.spiritofyouth.org for more information about this and other programs.

Call: Karen Zeman 907-272-2875

Appendix B - Evaluation Rubric

Grant Proposal	Points available	Notes
Proposals are evaluated based on the following:	100 points	
Project is clearly stated, shows an understanding of the goals in the RFP, and demonstrates how it is achievable.	35	
Evidence of youth involvement in the proposal, decision making, and future implementation.	15	
Target group of youth identified. Higher score for projects that address priority populations.	10	
Project impact is described, including measures of success.	20	
Commitment to meet project requirements including realistic timeline and a clear and actionable budget.	10	
Overall completeness and quality of proposal.	10	