



## Disability Inclusion Fund: Request for Proposal 2022

### **About Borealis Philanthropy**

Borealis Philanthropy is a philanthropic social justice intermediary that works to resource grassroots leaders and social justice movements for transformative change. We help funders expand their reach and strengthen their impact through donor collaboratives that support a variety of issues, communities, and movements. Borealis is home to nine donor collaboratives, including the Disability Inclusion Fund.

### **About the Disability Inclusion Fund**

**The Disability Inclusion Fund (DIF) is a \$20 million fund that supports U.S.-based groups run by and for people with disabilities to lead transformational change.** The Fund is supported by donors including the [Presidents' Council on Disability Inclusion in Philanthropy](#), which is comprised of foundation presidents who are committed to disability inclusion as part of improving diversity, equity, and inclusion within philanthropy.

The Disability Inclusion Fund utilizes a participatory grantmaking process. All grantees will be selected by a grantmaking committee of disability advocates and funders from the Presidents' Council.

We will be hosting an informational webinar on **May 25th, 2022 at 11am PST/2pm EST** to review the application process and answer applicant questions. Please register for the webinar [here](#). *ASL interpretation and real-time captioning will be provided. We will also record the session for those who cannot attend.*

### **All funding will be aligned with the Disability Inclusion Fund's guiding values:**

- **Participation:** Movement funding is accountable to the disability justice movement. Those most impacted by injustice/exclusion should be involved in strategies to advance justice/inclusion.
- **Intersectionality:** Acknowledging that disabled people have multiple and intersecting social and political identities that can influence their access and inclusion including race, gender identity, class, and sexual orientation.
- **Radical inclusion:** Deeply committed to removing barriers and ensuring access so that those most affected by intersecting identities can participate, valuing lived experience.
- **Leadership of those most impacted:** Emphasis is given to organizations led by



disabled people of color, queer, gender nonconforming and women with disabilities.

- **Cross-movement solidarity:** Intentional focus on collaboration and bridge-building amongst disability justice activists and across movements

## **What we fund**

We will prioritize funding organizations that meet the following criteria:

- Organizations that are disability-led with priority towards Black, Indigenous People of Color (BIPOC), queer and gender non-conforming, and women disability-led organizations. We define 'disability-led' as: the leadership in your organization are people with disabilities, including management staff/advisory committees/governing boards. We define leadership as at least 50% of your organization's leadership are people with disabilities i.e. the executive director, management staff, and advisory committee members or governing boards should be represented by a majority of people with disabilities.
- Work that engages other social movements and injustices for examples: The movement for Black lives, climate change, immigration rights, labor rights, racial justice, queer and trans liberation, etc.
- Work that brings other organizations, leaders, movements, and communities together to build power through relationships, coalitions and opportunities for collaboration.
- Work that drives narrative change by celebrating, creating, and uplifting the representation of disabled people in the arts, media, literature, and other creative works.
- Work that moves practices of disability inclusion and disability justice forward. Examples of this work include community organizing, mutual aid, advocacy, and/or policy work.

## **Eligibility**

- Your organizational budget must not exceed \$1.5 million
- Your organization must be U.S.-based or U.S. territory-based 501(c)3, fiscally sponsored, or LLC ([see FAQs for definitions](#))

## **Types of support we cannot provide:**

- Organizations that are non-U.S.-based or non-U.S. Territories
- Individuals
- Universities
- Hospitals
- Organizations or projects that only provide research. Organizations or

projects that provide research are eligible *only if they also* engage in community organizing, advocacy, and/or policy work.

- Organizations or projects that only provide direct service (i.e., Personal Care Attendants, durable medical equipment, behavioral or medical care, employment supportive programs, or adaptive sports, etc.). Organizations or projects that provide direct services are eligible *only if they also engage* in community organizing, advocacy, or policy work.



### **Level of Support**

The DIF will provide one-year grants. The grants we offer will be general operating support or program support and will range in size from \$30,000- \$100,000.

### **Grantmaking Process**

**Before you apply, please take the eligibility quiz**, if the eligibility quiz is successful you will be prompted to log into your online grants portal where you will have access to the application. You may access the eligibility quiz [here](#).

The DIF is committed to making all application materials available in multiple forms to be accessible to all. Alternative application options include ([Google form](#), phone conversations, Word doc, PDF, etc). To obtain and complete the application in alternative formats, please contact the Disability Inclusion Fund at [dif@borealisphilanthropy.org](mailto:dif@borealisphilanthropy.org) with the subject line: NEW DIF RFP 2022.

### **Contact**

- If you have questions, need technical assistance, or have technology issues in submitting your application please email [grants@borealisphilanthropy.org](mailto:grants@borealisphilanthropy.org)
- If you have questions about what we fund or eligibility for grants, please email [DIF@borealisphilanthropy.org](mailto:DIF@borealisphilanthropy.org)

In addition, please review the [Frequently Asked Questions](#).

If you previously applied for and or received a rapid response grant, you are still eligible to apply. Please be aware that the eligibility requirements for this application are different.

**The deadline for proposals is June 30th, 2022 by 8:59pm PT or 11:59pm ET.**

We will be hosting an informational webinar on **May 25th, 2022 at 11am PST/ 2pm EST** to review the application process and answer applicant questions. Please register for the webinar [here](#).

### **Notifications**

Applicants who submit proposals by the June 30, 2022 deadline will be notified about whether or not their project will be funded by **December 5, 2022**. Projects that are approved for funding will receive their grant awards once we receive their signed Grant



Agreement Letter.

### **Frequently Asked Questions**

We have put together answers to frequently asked questions, which include a list of proposal questions. [Read the FAQs](#). Here's the [link](#) to access the applicant webinar recording. If you have problems accessing the recording please contact [DIF@borealisphilanthropy.org](mailto:DIF@borealisphilanthropy.org)

### **Expenditure Responsibility**

All potential grantees that are non-501c3 organizations—that is, for-profit entities—including sole proprietors, LLCs, and corporations, will be required to take a few additional steps to ensure the grant funds are being used for charitable purposes. These steps include:

- As part of the grant application, provide evidence of other grants private or public sector to the organization. This can be a list of past grants made to your organization, for what purpose, and at what amount.
- After a grant is made, grant funds must be in separate banking accounts.
- Grantee reporting will be the same for non-501c3 and 501c-3 grantees.
- As part of the grant application, provide articles of incorporation, tax classification, or certification.