

Sozosei Foundation Community Fund

Community Foundation of San Joaquin

Program Overview and Description

The **Community Foundation of San Joaquin** is pleased to invite eligible non-profit organizations serving residents of the cities of Stockton, Tracy, Lathrop and/or Manteca to submit *video* or *written* requests for grant funding from the Sozosei Foundation Community Fund.

The **Sozosei Foundation Community Fund** was established at the Community Foundation of San Joaquin in 2021 to support community-based initiatives that serve under-resourced and marginalized local communities in Stockton, Tracy, Lathrop or Manteca which promote: **arts, food security, health and well-being, racial justice, and social and legal services**. Requests will also be accepted for organizational capacity building. Examples of organizational capacity building includes, but is not limited to: strategic planning, Executive coaching, and DEI organizational coaching. If seeking funding for organizational capacity building, be sure to describe how your request will support advancing the mission of your organization.

Note: Requests for funding must support project specific work, and/or organizational capacity building (you may request funding for one or both.) Within this area of focus, preference in the application evaluation process will be given to organizations that are: 1) minority led; 2) serving Black, Indigenous, and People of Color (BIPOC); 3) have not previously received funding through the Sozosei Foundation Community Fund; and 4) organizations with operating budgets less than one million dollars.

AVAILABLE FUNDING

The Sozosei Foundation Community Fund has committed a total of up to \$67,000 for this current grant program. The grant amount ranges an applicant may request under this program is **\$5,000 - \$15,000 (maximum)**.

TIMEFRAME FOR USING GRANT MONIES

The timeframe to expend grant monies is December 2021 - September 2022.

ELIGIBILITY CRITERIA

The Sozosei Foundation Community Fund will accept grant applications from organizations that meet ALL of the following criteria:

- Nonprofit organizations that are tax-exempt under Section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code, classified as a public charity, not as a “private foundation” under section for 509(a), are designated a 509(a)(1) or 509(a)(2) organization, or fiscally sponsored organization
- Serving residents of Stockton, Tracy, Lathrop or Manteca

SELECTION CRITERIA

The Sozosei Foundation Community Fund will accept grant requests from eligible organizations seeking funding for projects or activities that directly align with the Sozosei Foundation Community Fund grants program. In its grantmaking, the Community Foundation believes that equity, inclusion and diversity are core to our impact in the community. No effort to serve our community is too small nor insignificant. As these values align with the Sozosei Foundation Community Fund, we are encouraging nonprofit organizations to apply which have budgets of under one million dollars and are committed to meeting a need in their community. This criteria will guide the application review process of the Sozosei Foundation Community Fund Committee.

REPORTING REQUIREMENTS

There will be a six-month progress report and twelve-month closeout grant report. The following are examples of qualitative and quantitative metrics that grantees will be required to report on (not all of the below will apply to every funded project).

- Changes in quality of life for those who were served or benefited, as evidenced by personal stories.
- Changes in quality of life in the community that was served by the funded project as evidenced by stories, continued engagement of community members in the project/activity, and/or replication of the program or activity.
- Increased awareness of the issue being addressed, or desired narrative shift was achieved or advanced (e.g., via press, publications, social media activity/hits, requests for speaking/presenting on issue, etc.).
- Social justice/racial equity was advanced through the work supported with grant funds
- Number of people served by project
- Number of people who were trained or developed new skills as a result of the project.
- If a service program, uptake of positive or desired changes in habits or behaviors of individuals served.
- Indirect impacts or new opportunities created as a result of the grant (such as unexpected replication of program, new collaborations or partnerships formed).

SUBMISSION REVIEW TIMELINE

Below are the approximate dates for accepting proposal submissions and grant award announcements.

- **Applications Open** – Organizations may begin the grant application process on October 1, 2021.
- **Grant Proposal Due Date** – Grant proposals must be submitted on or before October 29, 2021 at 5:00 p.m. (PST).

- **Approximate Grant Proposal Review** – Grant proposals will be reviewed by the Sozosei Foundation Community Fund Committee, with final award determinations made in November 2021.
- **Approximate Date Funds Available** – Grant funding will be made available in December 2021.

REQUEST FOR TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE

Requests for technical assistance with using our online grant portal, including any questions about the Sozosei Foundation Community Fund grant application, should be directed to Louis Ponick by e-mail at lponick@cfofsj.org with the subject line “Sozosei Foundation Community Fund” or by calling 209-943-2375.

Organizational Information (Required)

Eligibility Criteria*

Before proceeding, please indicate if your organization meets ALL the following eligibility criteria:

- Nonprofit organizations that are tax-exempt under Section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code, classified as a public charity, not as a “private foundation” under section for 509(a), are designated a 509(a)(1) or 509(a)(2) organization, or fiscally sponsored
- Serving residents of Stockton, Tracy, Lathrop or Manteca

Choices

Yes, our organization meets ALL the eligibility requirements

No, our organization does not meet ALL the eligibility requirements

Reporting Requirements*

If awarded a grant, will your organization be able to track and report on the qualitative and quantitative metrics that apply to your project or activity (see description of Reporting Requirements in the Program Overview above).

Choices

Yes

No

Organization Name*

Please state the name of the applicant organization applying for grant funding (if this project involves multiple organizations, please state the name of the lead organization).

Character Limit: 250

Does your organization primarily serve Black, Indigenous, and People of Color (BIPOC)*

Choices

- Yes
- No

Is your organization minority led?*

Minority led is defined as organization's whose staff is 50 percent or more minority, and whose board is 50 percent or more minority.

Choices

- Yes
- No

Please provide a demographic breakdown of your board and staff*

This should include a breakdown of the gender, and race/ethnicity of your organizations board of directors and the organizations staff (for example: our board is 50% female and 50% male, and 25% African American, 25% Hispanic, 25% Asian/Pacific Islander, and 25% White. Our staff is...)

Character Limit: 500

Organization's Total Operating Budget*

Please upload a file containing your organization's total operating budget for its current fiscal year.

File Size Limit: 5 MB

What Primary Area of Work Are You Seeking Grant Funding to Support?*

Choices

- Arts
- Food security
- Health and well-being
- Racial justice
- Social and legal services
- Organizational Capacity Building

What Secondary Area of Work Will Grant Funding Support, If Applicable

If you are seeking grant funding for a single area of work, you may skip this question.

Choices

- Arts
- Food security
- Health and well-being
- Racial justice
- Social and legal serving
- Organizational Capacity Building

Geographic Area(s) Served*

Please mark all applicable areas that your proposed project or activity will serve.

Choices

Lathrop
Manteca
Stockton
Tracy

Grant Application (Required)

Grant Application Submission Options*

For the next section of the grant application you have two options for submitting your responses to the application questions:

- **Option 1.** You may answer the grant application questions in a video, and provide a link to view your video grant application, or
- **Option 2.** You may complete the written grant application questions and submit your application that way

There is no preference on whether you submit a grant application by providing a link to a video or by submitting the written application.

Before you continue, please tell us how you will be submitting your responses to the grant application questions below:

Choices

Option 1: I am answering the grant application questions in a video

Option 2: I am submitting a written grant application

Project Name*

Please state the name of the project you are requesting funding for (this is the name that would be used to identify the project to the general public).

Character Limit: 250

Amount of Grant Funding Requested*

What is the amount of grant funding being requested from the Sozosei Foundation Community Fund (*grant range is \$5,000 - \$15,000*).

Character Limit: 20

Option 1: Video Grant Application

If you are submitting a video grant application, please provide a link to your video application below. You will need to save your video on the cloud, YouTube, or other location where a link can be provided for viewing. Videos should NOT exceed 10 minutes. After you have provided a link to your video application below, you may skip the next section for the written applications and proceed to the Application Acknowledgement section to sign and submit your application. Be sure to answer all the following questions in your video application:

- Provide a brief description of your organization.
- Tell us how many individuals will be served by the project between Dec 2021 - Sept 2022.
- Describe the specific issue(s) your project will address (arts, food security, health and well-being, racial justice, and social and legal services), and how grant funding will be utilized to address the issue(s). Be sure to state how funds would be used for your project, and if this is for a new, expanded, or existing project. If your organization is also partnering with other organizations on this project, please share more about those partnerships. If requesting funding for organizational capacity building, describe how funds would support advancing the mission of your organization.
- Describe any specific groups of individuals/populations your project will serve (for example: specific demographic groups or geographic communities, neighborhoods, ages, racial or ethnic groups, etc.) Be sure to state your rationale for selecting those group(s).

Option 1: Link to Video Application

Provide the link to your video application here. If you are submitting your grant application by answering the questions in writing, please skip this section and complete Option 2 below.

Character Limit: 2000

Option 2: Written Grant Application

If you are submitting a written grant application, please answer ALL the questions below. If you are submitting a video grant application, you may skip this section and proceed to the Application Acknowledgement section to sign and submit your application.

Organization Description

Please provide a brief description of the applicant organization.

Character Limit: 750

Amount of Individuals to be Served

Please approximate how many individuals will be directly served by this project during the time period December 2021 - September 2022. *For example:* how many people do you expect to serve by the program/ or how many people will benefit from the funded activity. If the request includes organizational capacity building, please include the number of staff and/or board members who will benefit.

Character Limit: 100

Project Description

Please describe the problem/specific issue(s) your project will address as it relates to one or more of the five area(s) of focus of the grant (arts, food security, health and well-being, racial justice, and social and legal services), and how grant funding will be utilized to address the identified problem/issue(s). Be sure to state how these monies would allow you to implement your project, and if this is for a new, expanded, or existing project or activity. If the applicant organization is also partnering with other organizations on this project, please share more about those partnerships here. If the request includes organizational capacity building, tell us your plans for that (*for example*, do you plan to hire a consultant for specific coaching or trainings for staff or the board? Will you hire someone to take your organization through a strategic planning process, etc.) Be sure to describe how your request will support advancing the mission of your organization.

Character Limit: 1500

Target Population Description

Please describe any specific groups of individuals this proposed project will serve (for example: specific demographic groups or geographic communities, neighborhoods, ages, racial or ethnic groups, etc.) Be sure to state your rationale for selecting those group(s).

Character Limit: 1000

Applicant Acknowledgement

Acknowledgement*

Please mark here to indicate that the applicant has read and understands the Sozosei Foundation Community Fund's 2021 Grants Program and Eligibility Criteria, is aware that not all applicants will receive funding, and that some applicants may receive partial funding, and that the information contained in this Grant Request is true and correct.

Choices

The applicant hereby acknowledges the above