

JEWISH WOMEN'S FUND OF ATLANTA 2017 REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS

Jewish Women's Fund of Atlanta expands opportunities in the lives of Jewish women and girls via effective grant-making, advocacy, and education through a gender lens. Our grants provide sustainable benefits to those we serve. We empower women to be leaders, philanthropists, and decision makers.

www.jwfatlanta.org

2017 Request for Proposals

2017 Grant Cycle Application Instructions

Jewish Women's Fund of Atlanta is now accepting Letters of Inquiry for the 2017 funding year. Before submitting a Letter of Inquiry (LOI), please review our Mission Statement, Core Values, and Grant Guidelines available in this document and on our website. This will assist you in understanding how we review your LOI. We would like to partner with you to achieve our mutual goals, and we invite you to contact Rachel Wasserman, Executive Director, at 678.222.3716 or rwasserman@jewishatlanta.org to set up a time to discuss your program or idea.

Step 1 – Letters of Inquiry

Jewish Women's Fund of Atlanta accepts Letters of Inquiry (LOI) from tax-exempt organizations that qualify under section 501(c)3 of the Internal Revenue Code. Grants are not made to individuals.

For Domestic Organizations: Domestic organizations seeking grant funding must submit an LOI by December 31, 2016. In order to promote innovation, JWFA will consider proposals to incubate *Atlanta-based pilot programs* for a 2-year grant. All other programs will be considered for 1-year grant terms.

For International Organizations: International organizations, including Israeli programs, may submit an LOI *by invitation only*.

For Current JWFA Grantee Partners: JWFA 2016 Grantee Partners do not need to submit an LOI, provided they are requesting funding for the same program in 2017. Please note: after three years of consecutive funding from JWFA, a program must take a year off before applying again. In such instances, organizations may apply for a different program and should submit an LOI by December 31, 2016.

LOI Guidelines: The maximum length for an LOI is two (2) pages, including any cover pages or budget information. Budgets and program design components should reflect the timeline: 7/1/17 – 6/30/18. The LOI should include:

- Organization's name, mailing address, telephone, website, Facebook page
- Contact person's name, title, telephone number, and email address
- Mission and brief overview

- A description of the program, its objectives, methodology, and whether it is a new or existing program. Please be sure to explain how the program expands opportunities for Jewish women and girls and fulfills the Mission and Core Values of Jewish Women’s Fund of Atlanta.
- Please note which indicator(s) of social change your project utilizes (shifting definitions, shifting behavior, shifting engagement, shifting policies, maintaining earlier progress).
- Amount of funding request (please note: average JWFA grants are \$7,800) and total annual program budget in USD (note: it is not necessary to submit a fully-detailed budget with the LOI)

LOIs are due by December 31, 2016 and must be submitted as a single PDF document by email to rwasserman@jewishatlanta.org with the subject “Jewish Women’s Fund of Atlanta LOI.” **Please note that all communication about the grant process will occur via email; please notify JWFA about any email changes that may occur so we can properly contact you.**

Step 2 – Full Grant Proposals

Jewish Women’s Fund of Atlanta will review all Letters of Inquiry by late January 2017, after which time you will be notified as to whether or not you will be invited to submit a full proposal.

Step 3 – Interviews and Final Decisions

We may request a site visit or interview prior to making final determinations regarding grant allocations. Interviews will be conducted April 24-27, 2017. Final decisions will be made in May 2017. Grantees will then be required to adhere to reporting and oversight guidelines; details to follow.

2017 Grant Guidelines

Jewish Women’s Fund of Atlanta Mission

Jewish Women’s Fund of Atlanta expands opportunities in the lives of Jewish women and girls via effective grant-making, advocacy, and education through a gender lens. Our grants provide sustainable benefits to those we serve. We empower women to be leaders, philanthropists, and decision makers. Jewish Women’s Fund of Atlanta is a proud philanthropic partner of Jewish Federation of Greater Atlanta.

Jewish Women's Fund of Atlanta Core Values

- We value repairing the world by supporting organizations and programs which promote social change for women and girls in the Jewish community.
- We strive to achieve Maimonides' highest level of tzedakah: helping someone help herself.
- We place a priority on grants that hold the promise of long-term, transformational community impact.
- We aim to be an educational vehicle for Jewish women in philanthropy and to advocate for the overall needs of Jewish women and girls.
- We value inclusion and active participation on the part of our Trustees and will strive for respect and consensus.
- We value collaboration with those who share our goals and will seek partnerships and encourage coalitions.

Defining Social Change

Jewish Women's Fund of Atlanta is committed to expanding opportunities and promoting social change for Jewish women and girls. This means we focus on initiatives that address the underlying factors contributing to the challenges faced by Jewish girls and women.

Social change is a systemic approach seeking to alter cultural or social patterns. Social change for Jewish women and girls seeks to address the inequity and disparity within our community that works against women's empowerment, self-determination, economic empowerment, and gender equity. For example, social change programming approaches an issue such as the elimination of domestic violence in the Jewish community from a place of prevention, rather than funding direct services meeting the needs of victims who have already suffered abuse.

Jewish Women's Fund of Atlanta seeks grantee partners who achieve social change by:

- Creating long-term changes in the lives of Jewish women and girls and their communities
- Addressing underlying causes of inequity, suffering, and disenfranchisement
- Identifying and testing innovative programming solutions
- Facilitating leadership development as well as the self-empowerment efforts of Jewish women and girls

There are five indicators of social change. In your LOI, you will be asked to tell us which indicator your program exhibits:

Indicator of Social Change	Definition	Typical Strategies/Activities	Example
Shifts in definition	An issue or idea is given new meaning. The community or society sees the issue differently as a result of your work.	Research, documentation of actual experiences, articulating concepts through writing and/or presentations.	Rape is understood as an act of violence with legal and civil consequences, not a sexual transgression.
Shifts in behavior	People are behaving differently (and for the better) in the community or larger society, usually building a sense of personal empowerment.	Immediate support for individuals and families in need and/or for organizations serving immediate needs.	Women seek appropriate health care for themselves/their families, and the community is providing more.
Shifts in engagement	More people are engaged in an idea of action as a result of your work. Ideally, enough people get involved that they are noticed, voices are heard, and a “tipping point” is reached.	Community-based organizing and public education; media campaigns; networking; supporting a group to find a collective strength or identity.	A news report about gender inequality appears on the national news. Concerned citizens contact the organization to determine what they can do to help.
Shifts in policies	Organizational, local, regional, state, national, or international policy or practice has changed to better serve social change ideals.	Public policy reform, education and interaction with policy and system-level decision-makers.	As a result of the work, an organization’s policy changes to allow for greater participation of women.
Current position maintained	Earlier progress on issues is maintained in the face of opposition.	Strengthen organizations and leaders and their ability to withstand backlash and resistance to change.	Funding for breast cancer research is saved from budget cuts.

Organizations We Fund

We accept grant proposals from programs and organizations creating social change for Jewish women and girls. Past grants have addressed legal empowerment, economic empowerment, girls and youth, leadership development, violence against women, and educational

empowerment. Organizations may request specific program support or general operating support. JWFA seeks to fund projects that place an emphasis on sustainability, leveraged funding, and partnerships.

Eligibility

Grants are made only to tax-exempt organizations that qualify under section 501(c)3 of the Internal Revenue Code. Grants are not made to individuals. We cannot support all eligible projects. Please take the time to review our guidelines thoroughly to determine if your organization, program, initiative, or project meets our criteria.

Additional Grant Guidelines

Please note that JWFA's average grant award is \$7,800. A complete list of past grants can be found on our website. After three years of consecutive funding from JWFA, projects will be required to take one year off before re-applying for funding. This does not preclude the organization from applying for funding for a different project, provided it meets JWFA's mission, core values, and grant guidelines.