

Powerbuilding Grants RFP

Through this grant opportunity, CSPI seeks to encourage projects that will strengthen the power of [culturally specific and cross-racial organizations](#), including those led by Black, Indigenous, and other people of color. We are excited to fund the critical and often unseen community and powerbuilding work that is critical for successful policy passage and supports sustaining the movement towards an equitable food system. Successful projects will include three core activities: convening community members, building skills and power, and co-creating programmatic and policy solutions to pressing issues in the food system. Important considerations for the project should include power sharing, accountability, and accessibility.

Some examples could include a storytelling project, the development of an advisory board or coalition made of those closest to the issues, or something completely different. Over the grant cycle, powerbuilding grantees will meet monthly to build relationships, share resources, and co-design a narrative change project together to disrupt and reframe issues related to advancing an equitable food system using video, social media, and other media. *Ultimately, proposed projects should build on the strengths of cultural traditions and community connections as they seek to address the systemic and power structures that drive health and racial inequities.*

Note: Applications may be submitted for up to \$50,000 in direct costs and up to \$10,000 in indirect costs (totaling \$60,000) for a duration of 15 months. We anticipate awarding a total of four powerbuilding grants for 2022-23.

Application Requirements and Priorities

- We will prioritize organizations that are founded, led, and mission oriented to serve Black, Indigenous, and other communities of color (BIPOC) that have been subject to chronic underinvestment.
- Experience leading or collaborating on culturally responsive community engagement projects and activities
- While this is not an exhaustive list, we are prioritizing applications led by BIPOC-led groups working with the following communities: Black trans women, Indigenous/Native American communities, people who are transient/experiencing homelessness, returning citizens, youth and families with children experiencing food insecurity, LGBTQ+ and gender expansive youth, and/or immigrants and refugees.
- Organizations that center and advance an intersectional approach in their work, prioritizing the communities that experience overlapping oppressions in addition to race and ethnicity, including gender identity, immigration status, sexual orientation, and people with disabilities.
- Projects with strategies that contribute to advancing an equitable food system – from production, processing, distribution & access, to healthy and culturally appropriate food, retail & marketing, reduced use of packaging and plastics, land use conservation, and sustainability.

Accessibility

We are committed to making our application process and grant opportunities accessible to the people with whom we hope to collaborate and build long-term relationships -- including folks whose first language is not English and people with disabilities. A few of the practices we deploy upon request include:

- Interpretation and/or translation services
- Large print and audio recordings of our application and instructions
- Technical assistance with grant writing if you are less familiar and/or are seeking support in completing this grant application.

The deadline for Letter of Interest (LOI) submission is Sunday, June 12, 2022, at 11:59PM EST. All LOIs should be submitted through CSPI's Online Grant Management System.

For information on how to apply online, please visit our [website](#). More details about our grantmaking are also available in our 2022 Grant Applicant Guide. For any other questions you may have about this specific funding opportunity or our application process in general, please don't hesitate to reach out to us at grants@cspinet.org.