

Chiron Fund

Complete Application & Evaluation Materials Packet

Impact Area: *Access to high-quality, affordable, mental health care*

Issued February 20, 2020

PROPOSAL DEADLINE EXTENDED TO 3:00PM CENTRAL TIME FRIDAY, APRIL 10, 2020

~~Proposals due by 12:00 pm (noon) Central Time on Thursday, April 2, 2020~~

Please apply here: <https://stlgives.org/>



OVERVIEW

The purpose of the Chiron Fund is “to fund promising projects of nonprofit organizations with a strong track record of facilitating positive change for individuals living in economically challenging circumstances.” Chiron is a Greek symbol that represents the “wounded healer.” With this grounding in healing, the Chiron Fund focuses on fostering empathic understanding of the circumstances of those whose lives are touched by this work.

The Chiron Fund is a component fund of the St. Louis Community Foundation, offering financial support to organizations for projects that meaningfully address *mental health care, basic needs, or education/training for youth and young adults*. The Fund operates on the belief that when the most vulnerable individuals in a community are respected and supported in their growth and development, those individuals’ lives will stabilize. In turn, communities will be strengthened, offering a better quality of life for all in the present and the future. Successful applicants will be able to demonstrate a strong organizational commitment to and effective implementation of principles of non-discrimination, anti-racism and equity, and effective inclusion.

IMPACT AREAS

The Chiron Fund is seeking partners demonstrating commitment to providing programs and/or services to individuals living in economically challenging circumstances in Saint Louis City and Saint Louis County. The Chiron Fund is open to proposals for project funding and capacity building. Projects accepted for funding will be designed to significantly impact one of the following priorities:

- **Impact Area 1:** Access to high-quality, affordable, **mental health care** (ex: counseling, psychiatry, adjunctive therapeutic interventions)
- **Impact Area 2:** Access to **basic needs** (ex: adequate food, shelter, health care, household equipment/furnishings)
- **Impact Area 3:** Access to **education and training opportunities** for youth and young adults, ages 0-26.

In the 2020-2021 funding year, applications will be accepted in Impact Area 1 only.

This first round of grant funding in the Mental Health Care impact area offers up to five years of funding for community-based organizations to forge partnerships that will grow their capacity to provide high quality mental health services. The Chiron Fund’s goal is to support organizations that work with people who are unlikely to access mental health services directly from typical mental health providers. These organizations will work in collaboration with mental health providers to develop programming – their own or contracted with that traditional provider - that serves the mental health needs of the communities in which they work. The nontraditional organization will grow in their understanding of and ability to meet their constituents’ needs; the traditional provider will have a doorway into neighborhoods and communities that they may not otherwise reach.

Examples of projects include:

- A training program on a mental health intervention for staff of a community-based organization followed by implementation funding

- A pilot program partnering a community-based organization with licensed providers that offer easily accessible mental health services
- A planning grant to determine how a community-based organization can provide mental wellness programming for their community
- Other opportunities for bringing mental health care to traditionally underserved populations

ELIGIBILITY

The Chiron Fund defines eligible organizations as any 501(c)3 nonprofit organization that meets the requirements outlined in this RFP. Preference will be given to invited applicants. Additionally, organizations applying for funding must serve residents of Saint Louis City and/or Saint Louis County. Grants may range from \$5,000 to \$30,000 per year for up to five years. Eligibility for second through fifth year funding will be based on successful implementation of project goals as documented by an annual evaluation and report, as well as timely completion of an acceptable funding renewal application. Project proposals must address sustainability after funding is completed by indicating how the organization intends to maintain delivery of programs or services in the impact area after the five-year period has elapsed. The Chiron Fund’s Project Advisory Team particularly favors applications that demonstrate effective collaborative partnership between a community-based organization and at least one other organization.

EXCLUSIONS

The Chiron Fund does not provide funding to be expended on the following interests/entities:

- Individuals
- Organizations or projects designed to evangelize or proselytize
- Political action groups, lobbying activities, or projects designed to directly influence political outcomes
- Employee salaries
- Vehicles
- Debt reduction
- Endowments
- Publications
- Fundraising events

Proposals that are not aligned with the Chiron Fund’s statement on inclusive practices, outlined in the Fund Overview, will not be considered.

TIMELINE for 2020-2021 FUNDED PROJECTS

February 3, 2020	Request for Proposals released
April 2, 2020	Grant proposals due at noon
May 11 – 14, 2020	Site visit
June 2020	Grants awarded
July 2020	Funds to be disbursed
December 30, 2020	Mid-Year Progress Statement due
June 7, 2021	Year-End Evaluation Report and Funding Renewal Application due
June 2021	Renewal Grants awarded with Timeline for 2021-2022 Funded Projects
July 2021	Second Year funds to be disbursed

APPLICATION

The application for funding through the Chiron Fund may be found on the St. Louis Community Foundation's on-line grant portal at <https://www.grantinterface.com/Home/Logon?urlkey=stlgives>. As well as the application questions, complete applications will include:

- Copy of current organizational OPERATING BUDGET
- LETTERS OF SUPPORT from partnering organizations, if applicable
- LIST OF BOARD MEMBERS and STAFF with full names and affiliations
- Organization's most recent AUDITED FINANCIAL STATEMENT or IRS FORM 990
- Most recent ANNUAL REPORT

QUESTIONS

Please contact us with questions about the Chiron Fund and this Request for Proposals.

Elizabeth George- Director of Community Investment 314.880.4956 egeorge@stlgives.org

Josina Greene- Donor Relations & Services Manager 314.880.4955 jgreene@stlgives.org

CHIRON FUND -- 2020 FUNDED PROJECT MID-YEAR PROGRESS STATEMENT

Please respond reflectively to all of the following questions. Attempt to limit your total narrative to approximately two – three pages. [NOTE: The Chiron Fund’s Project Advisory Team will reply to request more information if a change in the original scope or budgeted use of funds is requested through the Mid-Year Progress Statement.]

Part 1- Project Implementation Update

1. To date, which project goals have been substantially addressed?
2. To date, which project goals are in progress?
3. To date, which project goals have yet to be addressed at all?
4. During the course of the project, what is transpiring differently from what you anticipated?
5. Based upon current conditions, are there things that you would like to do differently in utilizing the remaining grant award for the current year? If so, what?
6. What impact do you anticipate the full implementation of the project will have on the population you serve? Your staff? The community?

Part 2- Project Budget Update (Income & Expenses)

Using the originally approved budget, please provide a mid-year accounting of amounts spent in each expense category to date. If additional funding has been secured by your organization for this project or a closely related project in the same area of impact for the current year, please make a note of the amount and purpose of such funding.

CHIRON FUND -- 2020 FUNDED PROJECT YEAR-END EVALUATION REPORT

Please respond reflectively to all of the following questions. Attempt to limit your total narrative to approximately three - four pages.

Part 1- Project Evaluation

1. Has the grant expanded or made a difference in the quality of the services that you provide and/or in your organizational capacity and effectiveness? If so, in what way(s)? If not, what circumstances or obstacles impeded or limited your work? Present the data you collected in the course of the project and explain how it informs your responses to these questions.
2. What impact did the grant have on the population you serve? Your staff? The community?
3. During the course of the project, what transpired that differed from what you anticipated?
4. What did you learn from your pursuit of the goals and objectives that you established?
5. Are there things that you wish you would have done differently in utilizing the grant award? If so, what?
6. What were the primary lessons that you and your staff learned from this grant project? How might they impact your future thinking, performance, or services?
7. What steps has your organization taken to ensure that your commitment to providing effective programs and/or services in this impact area will continue in the long term?
8. If the project involved collaboration with other organizations, please comment on the process of teaming together, including pros and cons that emerged.

Part 2- Project Budget Update (Income & Expenses)

Using the originally approved budget, please provide an accounting of amounts spent in each expense category to date. If additional funding was secured by your organization for this project or a closely related project in the same area of impact for the grant year, please make a note of the amount and purpose of such funding.

CHIRON FUND -- 2020 FUNDED PROJECT RENEWAL APPLICATION COVER PAGE

Check One Option:

____ 1. Applying for funding for Year 2 (2021-2022) to continue the current project. Please go to <https://stlgives.org/> to provide the following:

- Any updates to your organizational information, including leadership, contact information, programs and services, of diversity initiatives
- An updated Organization Demographic form
- An updated Board list
- Any updates, changes, or refinements to your project scope from the previous year’s project
- An updated Project Budget including amount requested
- An updated organization budget
- Your organization’s most recent audit

____ 2. Applying for funding for Year 2 (2021-2022) for a new or different project/program. Please complete a new application outlining the new or different project/program. The application may be found at: <https://stlgives.org/>

____ 3. Declining opportunity to apply for continued funding for Year 2 (2021-2022) for the following reason:

NOTE:

If option 3 is selected, signature of Executive Director will appear below, and the remainder of the application will be blank.

Executive Director’s Signature, printed name & date