



Rose Youth Foundation
JEWISH YOUTH MAKING A DIFFERENCE

Request for Proposals

Deadline: Monday, February 27, 2012 at noon

Now in its eleventh year, Rose Youth Foundation is an initiative of Rose Community Foundation for Jewish high school students, grades 10 through 12, from throughout Greater Denver and Boulder. Each year, Rose Youth Foundation members work together to explore Jewish traditions of giving, identify needs in our community and learn about grantmaking approaches and strategies. We, the 23 members of Rose Youth Foundation, encompass the entire spectrum of Jewish faith and we believe that we have a responsibility to practice *tikkun olam*, the Jewish ideal of repairing the world, by working to improve our community.

We will make grants totaling \$60,000 to nonprofit organizations serving Greater Denver and Boulder. We have established four grant priorities. For two of these priorities, outlined below, we seek your proposals. We will not be accepting proposals for our other two priorities and instead will identify and make grants to organizations that support people who are homeless and individuals with special needs in becoming self-sufficient, demonstrating the Jewish teaching that the highest level of *tzedakah* (justice) is to aid someone in becoming self-sufficient.

This Request for Proposals invites you to submit a proposal in response to one of the following grant priorities. Up to \$48,000 is available to grant for these two priorities:

- 1. Inspiring Jewish teenagers to engage in and continue to be involved in Jewish life**
- 2. Supporting refugees in adapting to life in Greater Denver and Boulder and becoming self-sufficient**

Thank you for your consideration. We hope you will take advantage of this grant opportunity to further your efforts in strengthening our community. We look forward to receiving your proposals by **noon on Monday, February 27, 2012.**

Sincerely,

Rose Youth Foundation 2011-12 Members

Elizabeth Dansky, Co-Chair
Jordan Kastrinsky, Co-Chair
Jared Alswang, Communications Director
Brianna Andersen, Jewish Learning Director
Blake Oberfeld, Grants Manager
Noa Baumgarten
Margo Brown
Peri Cirbo

Max Frey
Sara Goldstein
Eitan Grinsteiner
Daniel Halpern
Simon Kaufman
Sam Payne
Yoni Rabinovich
Somer Reznick

Rachel Rockford
Josh Rubin
Lior Schinagel
Lauren Schusterman
Olivia Solow-Niederman
Jamie Spitz
Cale Wagner

1. Inspiring Jewish teenagers to engage in and continue to be involved in Jewish life

There is a disconnect between the people creating Jewish programs for teens and the teens served by these programs. We believe that in order to bridge this gap, teenagers must be involved in both the planning and leadership of the programs that seek to engage them. For this reason, we will only consider proposals that reflect the input of both adult staff and teen representatives. Few programs offer ongoing opportunities to meaningfully connect Jewish teenagers with their Jewish tradition. We believe that our generation has different needs than previous generations due to increased demands on our time, including academic and extracurricular pressures. We believe that teens are looking for opportunities that are more than purely social and that offer substantive ways to connect Jewish values, teachings and traditions to the modern world in which we live.

We believe that in high school, teens have both the need and desire to explore and develop their passions. Teens seek platforms to make a real difference in their communities and, as members of Rose Youth Foundation, we recognize that our Jewish tradition has a lot to teach us about how we can do just that. We seek to fund programs that understand that teens are capable of adult responsibilities and provide them with authentic, attractive and substantive leadership opportunities within the Jewish community that will both inspire them and help them stand out to potential college admissions officers and future employers.

We will fund:

New, revamped, or existing programs for teenagers post b'nai mitzvah age (in grades 7 through 12) that meet all of the following criteria:

- Incorporate a social aspect without being primarily social in purpose
- Have inspiring, meaningful and interesting content
- Give teens responsibility and leadership opportunities
- Empower teens to make a difference
- Blend secular and Jewish content
- Have specific outcomes
- Meet frequently (at least two times a month with a group of the same teens)
- Incorporate the findings from *Current Trends in Jewish Teen Participation with Out-of-School Activities*, which is available for download here:
<http://www.rcfdenver.org/reports/CurrentTrendsInJewishTeenParticipation0210.pdf>
- Have passionate and qualified adult leadership

We will give higher priority to programs that:

- Actively reach out to engage uninvolved teens and teens from underserved geographic areas in Jewish life
- Include teens from interfaith families
- Include teens from all denominations of Judaism
- Serve a specific and narrow age range, i.e. grades 7 and 8, grades 9 and 10, or grades 11 and 12, and that demonstrate an understanding of the ways teens' programming needs and interests change as they develop
- Have an application process

We will not fund:

- Residential summer camp, however camps may apply for camp-like programs during the school year
- Classroom based programs
- Programs that attempt to serve participants with a wide range of ages simultaneously
- Overhead costs not related to the program

2. Supporting refugees in adapting to life in Greater Denver and Boulder and becoming self-sufficient

Refugees must overcome many obstacles in adapting to life in a new country and community and becoming self-sufficient. These obstacles include, but are not limited to, language barriers and cultural differences. Navigating a new community and a new system of support services, adds an additional challenge.

We believe that providing educational services and case management resources will help refugees become self-sufficient—able to support themselves and their families, and successfully and meaningfully contribute to their newfound communities.

Knowing our history as a Jewish people, we find it our responsibility to provide aid for those who have fled persecution or genocide and understand their need for resources as many generations of Jewish people have faced similar circumstances.

We will fund:

Programs for adult refugees, over age 18, that provide one or more of the following:

- Classes in English as a second language (ESL)
- Classes that help refugees understand and adapt to their new cultural surroundings
- Classes in computer and technological literacy
- Job training and placement services
- Case management
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We will give higher priority to programs that:

- Promote cultural immersion, encouraging refugees to be involved in their new communities
- Provide childcare alongside adult programming

We will not fund:

- Services or programs for immigrants
- Overhead costs not related to the program

How to Apply

Deadline

All grant proposals must be received by noon on Monday, February 27, 2012. Due to the short decision-making timeline, **late or incomplete proposals may not be considered.**

Funds Available to Grant

Rose Youth Foundation will grant up to \$48,000 for this Request for Proposals. Applicants should be realistic and sensible in the amount they request and consider the total amount available when submitting their requests.

Eligibility Requirements

Rose Youth Foundation will accept proposals for programs from organizations that serve the seven-county Greater Denver area of Adams, Arapahoe, Boulder, Broomfield, Denver, Douglas and Jefferson counties. Programs with a broader geographic focus may apply; however, the proposal must address its relevance to people living within these seven counties and only services for this population will be funded.

Applicants must be nonprofit organizations with a tax-exempt classification from the Internal Revenue Service; a tax-supported institution such as a school or government agency; or, they must be sponsored by a tax-exempt organization.

Organizations with a pending grant request to Rose Community Foundation may also apply for this grant program.

Submission

Rose Youth Foundation has a preference for electronic submissions but will accept proposals electronically or by mail. Complete proposals, including all attachments, may be submitted via email to **grantsmanager@rcfdenver.org**. We prefer that your entire proposal is submitted as a single .pdf document, however we can accept separate attachments in the following formats: Microsoft Word, Excel documents and .pdf format. Scanned documents accompanying the proposal must be in .tif, .jpg, .bmp or .pdf formats. Proposals must be either electronically submitted or submitted in hard copy – no combination of these two formats is acceptable. All electronic submissions will be acknowledged within 48 business hours. If you do not receive an email acknowledgement, please contact Cheryl McDonald, grants manager, at 303.398.7446. Do not consider your proposal submitted until you receive an email acknowledgement. If you are unable to submit electronically, proposals must be printed on one side only, without staples, and mailed to

Rose Youth Foundation
c/o Grants Manager
600 South Cherry Street, Suite 1200
Denver, CO 80246-1712

Notification

All applicants, whether their request is granted or not, will be notified by April 30, 2012.

Questions

If you have any questions about Rose Youth Foundation's funding priorities or the requirements for submitting a proposal, please email your questions to Sarah Indyk, Jewish life initiatives manager, at sindyk@rcfdenver.org and a Rose Youth Foundation member will assist you.

Proposal Content and Format Requirements

Respond to each of the following questions and begin each section referencing the question to which you are responding by number. Limit your proposal to five pages plus required attachments. If submitted in hard copy, proposals must be printed on one side only, without staples. If a question is not applicable, explain why it is not applicable instead of writing "N/A."

1. Project or program title
2. Contact person's name, title, phone number and email address
3. Amount requested
4. Six possible site visit dates: Rose Youth Foundation will conduct site visits between March 12 and April 6. Please provide a list of three dates and times between 4:00 and 6:00 p.m., and three dates and times during the normal workday when your key staff could meet with a small group of Rose Youth Foundation members.
5. Elevator pitch: two or three sentences stating the purpose of your project or program
6. Describe the program or project for which you seek funding and explain how it aligns with one of the above grant priorities. Be sure to state the specific goals you seek to achieve during the one-year grant period and describe the activities involved. (400 word limit)
7. What is your target participant population for this program or project? How will you reach them? (250 word limit)
8. What is the impact you seek? What changes, benefits, results and improvements will occur because of the program for the participants? (250 word limit)
9. What measurable results will tell you that you are achieving impact and your desired goals and outcomes? Quantify this information including numeric goals whenever possible. (250 word limit)
10. What is your organization's mission? Why are you the right organization to execute this program or project? What is your history working with your intended target population? (250 word limit)
11. What impact will this one-time grant have on your program or project and how will you sustain it beyond this grant period? (200 word limit)
12. Describe the qualifications of the staff, volunteers and/or lay leadership that will plan, lead and run this program or project. (300 word limit)

Additional questions only for organizations submitting proposals in response to Priority1 – Inspiring Jewish teenagers to engage in and continue to be involved in Jewish life:

13. What role do(es) the adult leader(s) see themselves playing in the program and what experiences did those adults have as teenagers that led them to do the work they do with teens today? (200 word limit)

14. Who were the teens that consulted with you on the planning of this program, what input did they provide to help shape the program, and what is it about the program that makes them want to participate?
15. What authentic, substantive leadership opportunities will teens have through this program?
16. If you seek support to revamp an existing program, describe the steps will you take to revamp the program to address the specific issues outlined in the grant priority. (200 word limit)

Required Attachments:

1. A program budget showing all expenses and all sources of revenue for the program or project for which funds are requested including a budget narrative explaining in detail how you calculated each line item amount. List the amount of this grant request as pending revenue.
2. Your organization's operating budget for the current fiscal year, and the projected operating budget for the year for which funds are requested if different from the current fiscal year. This may be submitted in a budget-to-actual format if your organization uses that format.
3. Your organization's most recent fiscal year-end Statement of Financial Position (Balance Sheet)
4. Your organization's most recent fiscal year-end Statement of Activities (Income and Expense Statement)
5. A list of your organization's largest sources of funding and any sources of matching funds
6. Proof of your organization's tax-exempt status
7. Anti-discrimination statement adopted by your organization's board of directors