



Boomers Leading Change Matching Grant Opportunity Summer 2008

Introduction

In 2006, Rose Community Foundation was selected by The Atlantic Philanthropies as one of 30 U.S. community foundations to join a national effort to understand the potential for civic engagement among adults in their 50s and older. Civic engagement was defined as:

- work – fulltime, part-time, running a business or self-employment
- service – volunteering, political involvement and community leadership activities
- learning – formal education, gaining or improving job skills and self-enrichment

As a result, Rose Community Foundation launched Boomers Leading Change, an initiative to find out how 55- to 65-year olds in Metro Denver are thinking about their future. JVA Consulting conducted a community assessment from January through April 2007. (Highlights and the full report can be found at rcfdenver.org/initiatives_blc.)

The Boomers Leading Change community assessment identified four possible action steps for future consideration. At a June 2007 forum, Rose Community Foundation announced the Boomer Innovation Grants opportunity for individuals, a group of individuals, nonprofits, faith-based communities, businesses, learning institutions and/or government entities to take action in one or more of the four areas mentioned below.

Boomer Connecting Points and Networks

Mobilizing the time and talent of “the experienced generation” requires the creation of connecting points and networks where boomers can get information and resources to help them stay engaged in useful and meaningful ways.

Restructuring Institutions and Employment to Attract Boomers

Boomers want engaging work, learning and volunteer opportunities that offer flexibility and meaning. Institutions and employers need to structure themselves to attract this high-level human resource pool.

A Health Initiative

Boomers may be a partial solution to the ongoing challenges of health care—as health-care workers, volunteers exchanging service for health coverage, or as health policy advocates.

Work Force Development

Many boomers plan to work through their 60s and beyond, but often in a different kind of employment. Training in new job skills, entrepreneurship and self-employment will enable them to earn sufficient income while remaining productive.

At the same time, volunteer work groups in these same four areas were created and charged with creating specific project plans to engage the metro Denver boomer generation.

Twelve innovation grants were awarded and twelve new project ideas emerged from the work groups.

Now all 24 projects have the opportunity to apply for a one-time matching grant to expand or seed the projects. Applicants must secure matching dollars before receiving a Boomers Leading Change matching grant. Applicants may request up to 50 percent of the project's budget with a maximum request of \$10,000.



Request for Proposals Boomers Leading Change Matching Grants Grant Guidelines and Application Summer 2008

Rose Community Foundation will award matching grants to support Boomers Leading Change Innovation grants and/or new projects that emerged from the Boomers Leading Change work groups. The Foundation will act as fiscal sponsor through a streamlined request, review and award process. We strongly encourage you to take advantage of this **one-time opportunity** to support or expand projects that have emerged from the Boomers Leading Change initiative to date.

The Foundation will accept proposals that serve the seven-county Greater Denver area of Adams, Arapahoe, Boulder, Broomfield, Denver, Douglas and Jefferson counties. Projects with a broader geographic focus may apply; however, the proposal must address its relevance to people living within these seven counties.

Applicants should adhere to the format and content specifications listed below.

1. **Cover Letter:** One page tailored to address how the proposed project fits with what emerged from the Boomers Leading Change Community Assessment.
2. **Summary of Applicant/Organization:** One page with description of self, group, or organization including name, address, main contact person, phone, fax, email and web address.
3. **Purpose of Project:** No more than five pages that include a description of the project, its purpose and how you will achieve your expected goals and outcomes. Tell us about your program/project design and the impact you hope to have as it relates to one of the four action areas listed above. If applicable, list the number and qualifications of persons involved in the planning and execution. List all other sources of funding, potential funding, volunteer and/or in-kind support for this project and whether your work will continue in the future.
4. **Budget:** Provide a detailed **line-item budget** of all expenses and revenue and a **budget narrative** that describes clearly how specific line item numbers were derived, and how each one relates to the project. Please be specific about your strategy to secure funding necessary to obtain the matching grant. If the project is part of a larger project or program, please include detailed information. If part of a larger organizational budget, please include annual budget and financial statements, if available. Please note that applicants must secure commitments for matching dollars before receiving a Boomers Leading Change matching grant.

Applicants may apply for 50 percent of a project's budget or a maximum of \$10,000. Organizations with a pending grant request at Rose Community Foundation may also apply for this one time grant opportunity.

Attachments: If you are a tax-exempt organization, please provide a copy of the original IRS determination (or that of a sponsoring organization) indicating tax-exempt status, including federal identification number. Please state if you need a fiscal sponsor or if you are an independent contractor, business, or governmental agency. You may also include any hard copy materials that you feel are relevant. (No CDs or videos, please.)

Additional information may be requested at a later date.

Deadline:

Please submit **one original proposal request and one copy**. Electronic versions will be accepted. Please submit your request by noon on **Friday, October 3, 2008** to:

Chandra Al-Khafaji
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Boomers Leading Change Matching Grants
600 South Cherry Street, Suite 1200
Denver, CO 80246
Email submissions to calkhafaji@rcfdenver.org

Any questions, please contact Therese Ellery at 303.398.7413 or tellery@rcfdenver.org.

Funding decisions will be announced no later than December 1, 2008. All selected recipients will be required to submit a final report 30 days after the end of their grant period. A template for the final report will be provided.