

### **Grantmaking Philosophy**

The Peace Development Fund makes grants to community based organizations working for social justice. We believe that the change in values needed to establish a more just and peaceful world can come about only if it is strongly rooted in local communities that value the importance of building movements to create systemic social change. These are communities that view everyone, especially young people, as a vital force in the transformation of society. We recognize young people's ability to reshape our society, not only politically, but also spiritually and culturally.

The Peace Development Fund is committed to supporting organizations and projects that recognize that peace will never be sustained unless it is based on justice and an appreciation of both the diversity and unity of the human family. We understand peace to be a consequence of equitable relationships—with our fellow human beings and with the natural environment of which we are a part and on which we depend.

### **Funding Priorities**

#### **What We Fund:**

#### **Organizing to Shift Power:**

- Groups that are creating a power base that can hold leaders accountable to the people who are affected by their decisions.
- Groups that let their membership or constituents take the lead in collective action-planning and decision-making.
- Groups whose leadership comes directly from the people who are most affected by the issues they are organizing around.

#### **Working to Build a Movement:**

- Groups that organize in the local community, but make connections between local issues and a broader need for systemic change.
- Groups that provide a space for members to develop their political analyses at the same time as taking action for change.
- Groups that break down barriers within the progressive movement, by building strategic alliances between groups of different cultural or class backgrounds, or different issue areas.
- Groups that explore the root causes of injustice and have a long-term vision for the kind of social change they are working towards.

#### **Dismantling Oppression:**

- Groups and projects that are proactively engaged in a process of dismantling oppression, confronting privilege and challenging institutional structures that perpetuate oppression (both internal and external to the organization).
- Groups that are proactively making connections between the different forms of oppression (racism, heterosexism, sexism, ageism, classism, ableism, etc.), and its connections with injustice.

#### **Creating New Structures:**

- Groups that have organizational structures that allow power to flow “from the bottom up,” or are exploring a new way of organizing.
- Efforts to create new, community-based systems and structures (economic, political, cultural, religious, etc.) that are liberating, democratic and environmentally sustainable, and that promote healthy, sustainable communities.

## Other Funding Priorities:

- New or emerging organizations; efforts that have difficulty securing funds from other sources; organizing across national borders (Cross Border); climate change organizing at the local policy level; groups that have a genesis in Occupy, MeToo or Movement for Black Lives; collaborative peace and social justice initiatives led by women or youth; or issues that are not yet recognized by progressive funders.

## What We Do Not Fund:

- Programs with a primary geographic focus *outside of* the United States, U.S. Territories, Mexico and Haiti. If an organization is U.S.-based but works mostly outside of these areas, it should consider filling out an LOI for a Donor Advised Fund grant, which are reviewed on a rolling basis.
- Organizations not directly engaged in community organizing.
- Social services that are not linked to a clear organizing strategy.
- Individuals, or organizations with strong leadership from only one individual.
- Conferences, trainings and other one-time events.
- Audio-visual productions and distribution - TV, radio, publications, films, etc. (PDF *does* fund media work or audio-visual production as part of the general expenses of groups engaged in grassroots organizing).
- Research that is not directly linked to an organizing strategy (PDF *does* fund research as part of the general expenses of groups engaged in grassroots organizing).
- Academic institutions and scholarships.
- Other grantmaking organizations (unless they are your fiscal sponsor).
- Organizations with budgets larger than \$250,000.
- Lobbying activities.

## Application Procedure

**Step 1:** The first step in applying to the Peace Development Fund is to determine when the deadlines are for each particular funding program by going to our website, [www.peacedevelopmentfund.org](http://www.peacedevelopmentfund.org). PDF will not consider applications that are received more than 60 days before any given deadline. **Applications must be submitted on-line no later than 5:00 EST/Eastern Standard Time** on the day of the deadline. If the deadline falls on a weekend or public holiday, the deadline will be extended to the next business day.

**Step 2:** Applicants are required to complete our Application Form, available through an online portal accessed from our Community Organizing Grants webpage.

Please note that **we only accept applications online**, unless an exception is given beforehand. Applications mailed or emailed to our office without first contacting staff may not be included in the process.

**Step 3:** **Community Organizing Grants** are reviewed by a Screening Committee, who decides which applications will be invited into the grantmaking docket. This decision is generally made within *eight weeks* of the deadline, and all applicants will receive a notice at this time regarding the decision.

If an organization is invited into the grantmaking docket, we will require additional material, which is typically due within *two weeks* of notification. At that time, we will invite organizations to apply for The Sustainability Project, PDF's three-year capacity building program. We will also contact the group with some follow-up questions by phone or email and ask for references who can speak to the group's work. Decisions on grant awards are usually made within *four months* of the initial deadline.

**Step 4:** A final report is required for each grant awarded by the Peace Development Fund within *ten months* of receiving the grant. All grantees will be required to submit a written report describing the manner in which the funds have been spent and the progress made in accomplishing the purposes of the grant. The Final Report form will be available to complete in the grantee's online portal. **Groups that have**

received a grant from any PDF grantmaking fund (including Community Organizing and Donor Advised grants) due on or before March 31, 2020, and are seeking to apply should submit all grant reports by December 30, 2019. Groups who have not submitted final reports are ineligible for funding in this grants cycle.

## **Specific Information about PDF grants**

### **General Support vs. Project Support:**

The majority of grants awarded by PDF are for general support. We believe that the people on the ground know how best to spend the money. However, if an organization's mission is not within PDF's priorities but the organization has a program or project that is within the priorities, i.e. if the organization is a direct service organization, but has a major organizing component, then we would recommend that groups apply for a specific program or project. The total budget of the organization must be less than \$250,000.

The Board will not approve funding for a project that has already been completed or is nearly over by the time the grant award is considered. Applicants should keep this in mind when describing their programs.

### **Size of Grants:**

We recommend that groups request the full amount that the organization needs, since the grant size may be reduced from your initial request. Grant size may be determined by using the following criteria:

- Financial need and access to other sources of funding
- Current PDF funding priorities
- Resources raised by PDF
- Numbers of proposals received

| <b>Grant Fund</b>           | <b>Grant Range</b> | <b>Average Grant</b> |
|-----------------------------|--------------------|----------------------|
| Community Organizing Grants | \$2,500-\$10,000   | \$5,000              |

### **Frequency and Number of Grants:**

Generally, groups are eligible for one grant a year through each grantmaking fund. For example, if a group receives a Donor Advised grant, they are not eligible to apply to that fund until the following year, but they are still eligible to apply for the Community Organizing grant funds.

PDF grants are one-time grants without any guarantee of renewal. If a group has received three, sequential Community Organizing Grants, or a sequential one-year and two-year grant, they must wait at least two years before applying for a grant from this program. PDF typically does not provide multi-year grants or commitments.

### **Organizations without Tax-Exempt (501c3) Status:**

It is *not* necessary to have tax-exempt status to apply for a PDF grant. However, all funds provided by the Peace Development Fund must be used only to support activities that further the exempt purposes and activities of PDF, and grant recipients must submit reports to PDF as required by the grant contract. Each applicant or the applicant's fiscal sponsor must have a Federal Employer Identification Number (EIN).

### **Use of Application Forms and all Subsequent Reports:**

The Peace Development Fund is not endowed and each year must raise all grantmaking funds. The information provided in this application, on reference calls, as well as in all subsequent reports, may be shared with our donors and/or used in our publications and outreach. This information is helpful in showing donors, potential donors and other PDF supporters specific tangible examples of what you accomplish with PDF grants, and how donors' continued support will further the work of organizations such as your own. If you would prefer that we do not share your information with our donors or in our publications and outreach, please let us know.

**If you need additional information or have any questions, please feel free to contact us:**

Peace Development Fund  
413-256-8306 (East Coast)  
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