

Justice Oregon for Black Lives Collaborative Planning Grant

In 2020, Meyer Memorial Trust established the Justice Oregon for Black Lives initiative, an innovative five-year grant program with \$25 million in funding specifically for the Black community in Oregon. Since that time, 105 groups have been funded all over the state. At the midpoint of the program, we want to fund big ideas with lasting impact for Black Oregonians. We know that big ideas take time and effort to implement. We're now offering a one-time collaborative planning grant so that you and your organizational partners have resources to do that big picture planning and thinking.

These collaborative planning grants of up to \$200,000 will be awarded to a lead applicant and then divided among the organizations involved in the planning process. Our hope is that a planning grant of this size includes coverage for additional staff time and other support, like hiring a coordinator, facilitator or other planning partners.

We encourage your collaboratives to consider Justice Oregon's priority areas, which include:

- *Justice for Black queer/trans communities*
- *Food/Land Justice*
- *Black Arts*
- *Health/Wellness*
- *Economic Development*
- *Housing*
- *Civic Engagement*
- *Recruitment and retention of Black educators and administrators and STEM/STEAM for Black students*
- *Justice for Immigrant and Refugee Populations*
- *Environmental Justice/Climate Justice*
- *Reimagining Public Safety*

To apply: Select an organization to serve as the lead applicant. The lead organization must be an eligible 501(c)(3) public charity, government or tribal entity, or religious institution that will submit this application and receive any resulting grant on behalf of the collaborative. If the collaborative is fiscally sponsored, the fiscal sponsor is the grantee and will directly receive any resulting grant award from Meyer.

The application for this planning grant is available from early June until Wednesday September 13, 2023 at 5pm.

Duration of grant:

6 to 12 months. Planning grant period ends Fall 2024.

Your final report for this grant will consist of:

- Number of meetings held
- General takeaways from those meetings
- A decision on whether you'd like to move forward with the project
 - If your collaborative is planning to move forward, your report should include a detailed description and/or plan of your collaborative's "big idea"

Please talk to organizations that you would like to collaborate with prior to submission. Our expectation is that one organization will submit the application on behalf of the collaborative.

For more information about how Meyer approaches collaborative proposals please visit <https://mmt.org/apply/applicant-resources/collaborative-proposals>

If you have questions about the application, you can email your Justice Oregon for Black Lives program contact at justice-oregon@mmt.org or in the online application by clicking the chat bubble icon on any of the pages in the form. The program contact will typically respond within 1-3 business days.

Please note: an invitation to complete an application is not a guarantee of funding.

Application Questions

We will collect basic contact and financial information from the lead applicant and then ask the questions below. Questions below are for review and preparation only. You will submit your final application through our Giving Data platform.

Proposal Information

Start Date (should be after November 2023)

Term (length in months, should be after November 2024)

1. Which organizations will you collaborate with and which roles will they play in this collaborative*?

**Please note; we define a collaborative as three or more organizations working towards a common goal.*

2. How have your organizations worked together in the past?
3. What are some initial thoughts on what you'd like the time to plan?
4. How will your idea have a lasting impact for the Black community? How might you approach measuring the impacts of the collaborative's project?

Project Budget

Amount Requested from Meyer:

For this initial planning grant, the request should be under \$200,000.

Total Project Budget:

How you plan to spend the requested funds:

Supplemental Upload

Project Budget (required)

Organizational Financials (optional)

Other (optional)

(See example budgets below):

Sample Budget for Sample Collaboration with Existing Staff and 5 Organizations		
Expense	Cost	Total
Organizational grants to cover staff time	\$25,000 (x5 orgs)	\$125,000
Additional grant to x organization to cover staff time for meeting planning, distribution of notes, logistics support, etc.	\$20,000	\$20,000

Two-day planning retreat at a retreat center for 25 people	\$10,000	\$10,000
Professional facilitator for planning retreat and 3 subsequent meetings	\$10,000	\$10,000
Logistics costs for collaboration meetings (food, venue, etc.)	\$5,000	\$5,000
Total Budget and Request		\$170,000

Sample Budget for Three Organizations Who Hire Staff		
Expense	Cost	Total
Salary and benefits for additional staff person to coordinate planning process	\$90,000	\$90,000
Regrants for 3 organizations	\$25,000 (x3 organizations)	\$75,000
Professional facilitator for planning retreat and 10 subsequent meetings	\$15,000	\$15,000
Logistics costs for collaboration meetings (food, venue, etc.)	\$5,000	\$5,000
Two-day planning retreat at a retreat center for 25 people	\$10,000	\$10,000
Community meeting(s) to engage with plan/ideas	\$250 gift cards (20)	\$5,000

Total Budget and Request	\$200,000
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Criteria

Eligibility Information:

Collaborative includes at least three organizations/entities with one current Justice Oregon grantee identified as the lead applicant.

Proposal Review Considerations:

- Proposal has focused strategies designed to support Black communities, liberation and resilience.
- Proposal aligns with Justice Oregon's key priorities and goals.
- Participating organizations have a commitment to equity and understand how to advance diversity, equity and inclusion.
- Collaborative's idea/proposed scope of outcomes is greater than what could be accomplished by one entity alone.
- Participating organizations are varied in size, approach, geography, etc.
- Proposal demonstrates potential for lasting impact for the Black community.

Frequently Asked Questions

1. Can I apply as part of a collaborative if I already have funding from Justice Oregon?

Yes. We know many Justice Oregon grantees are already working across issue areas with partners formally and informally. By funding collaboratives, *(which we define as three or more organizations working towards a common goal)* we hope to formally support these partnerships to create a larger impact.

2. Collaboratives often require a lot of staff time and money. How will this funding support our capacity to do the work?

We've heard repeatedly from grantees and community partners that entering a collaborative process can be overwhelming. We hope to ease this process by funding staff positions for coordination of the collaboratives, data collection and other emergent needs. Justice Oregon is also partnering with technical assistance providers to ensure access to the necessary tools, resources and cohorts required to successfully coordinate this work. We hope that by providing funds for this important planning work, organizations will be supported to dream big on their collaborative project.

3. What's the expected timeline for starting the work?

We strongly believe that collaborating and working on "big ideas" necessitates time to pause, breathe and imagine. We will do this by creating a multi-step process:

- 1) First, collaboratives will apply for a planning grant that would cover the first 6-12 months of work. The application for this planning grant is available from early June until Wednesday September 13, 2023 at 5pm.

- 2) After the initial application is approved by Meyer leadership, funding of up to \$200,000 per selected collaborative will be released in December 2023.

- 3) In 2024, collaboratives will have the time to hire staff, finalize planning and begin the work. Collaboratives will deliver their final plans to Justice Oregon staff by the end of 2024. By late 2024/early 2025, selected collaboratives will be funded for their "big idea" projects.

The plan can be reworked and added upon as needed throughout the lifecycle of the collaborative.

4. What types of data are you hoping to collect through the collaborative process?
All collaboratives should think about what impact looks like for the communities they intend to serve. Once collaboratives reach the project phase, we hope they can identify common metrics that include a mix of community-wide measures and local/state statistics to guide the work. We also hope the groups can

engage in self-assessments to ensure the collaborative is increasing capacity for all of the partners involved.

5. My organization is not interested in working within a collaborative. Will you have another open call for individual organizations?

At this time, the main focus of Justice Oregon is providing collaborative funding opportunities.

We strongly encourage current Justice Oregon grantees to stay connected with Meyer's program team as we anticipate additional grant opportunities through our new funding priorities later this year. [All new funding opportunities](#) are announced in our newsletter and posted on our website.