

Title: **Innovate for Good seeks ideas from teens**
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Innovate for Good seeks ideas from teens

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By **Marci Hladik**
YourHub Contributor

Rose Community Foundation announced Innovate for Good 2016, a philanthropic challenge focused on making the greater Denver community a better place to live. And who better to answer this year's Innovate for Good question — “What idea could you bring to life to empower youth to make the community better?” — with fresh perspective and insight, than local youth?

Through May 31, youth (ages 13-18), as well as adults working as equal partners with youth, can submit their ideas through an online platform at rcfdenver.org/innovateforgood. Submissions require written responses, as well as a 60-second video.

Innovate for Good 2016 will award up to \$250,000 in grants and support to implement the winning ideas. All projects must be:

Innovative: A creative or entrepreneurial project that is specific and focused enough to be easily explained and understood, and ambitious enough to be ground breaking and inspire a community.

Empowering: The project empowers youth as community lead-

ers in real and meaningful ways. They recognize their strengths and abilities and act on them to “do good” in the community.

Poised for Impact: Ready to make a positive difference within one year. Projects should make a difference in the community, not just for the youth involved.

Just getting started: Currently in idea, planning, or pilot stage. We applaud projects that are already up and running, but they should not apply to Innovate for Good.

Denver-Based and Denver-serving: Designed, implemented and serving a community within Adams, Arapahoe, Boulder, Broomfield, Denver, Douglas or Jefferson counties.

And, finally, consistent with Rose Community Foundation's mission, vision and anti-discrimination Statement.

“More than ever, as the greater Denver community continues to grow, empowering youth to inspire change can have great benefits for the next generation,” said Lisa Robinson, Rose Community Foundation trustee and chairwoman of the

Innovate for Good Committee. “They have the energy, talent and potential to share innovative ideas, and we felt it was time to tap directly into their experiences and perspective.”

The submission deadline is May 31. Following a review process with more than 200 community members, semi-finalists will be announced in July. Finalists will be announced in August and winners will be selected and celebrated in September.

Visit rcfdenver.org/innovateforgood for more information, or e-mail Sarah Indyk, director of special projects, at sindyk@rcfdenver.org, with questions.

“We believe Denver's youth can do great things,” Robinson said. “And, through the Innovate for Good project, we are thrilled to give them a voice and the resources to help make our community even better.”

Marci Hladik is director of operations and information for Rose Community Foundation.