

**Invitation to Apply for Funding
Roots & Branches Foundation 2018
*by invitation only***

Roots & Branches Foundation is an initiative of Rose Community Foundation that engages Jewish young adults, ages 25 to 40, in collaborative philanthropy. Each year, a new group of 19 members work together to identify needs in the community, learn about philanthropy and make grants in the greater Denver community.

In December 2018, we, the 12th group of Roots & Branches Foundation, will make grants totaling approximately \$45,000 to nonprofit organizations serving the greater Denver community that welcome and support immigrants, refugees and asylum seekers and work to reduce bias and discrimination against these groups.

People fleeing persecution, violence, and economic instability in their country of origin are coming to the United States for safety and survival, but too often they are met with hostility, xenophobia and systematic barriers to success in their new communities. We believe there is a need to provide immigrants, refugees and asylum seekers with services that support their basic human rights and needs, help them navigate a complex legal system, and build lives for themselves and their families that not only allow them to survive, but to thrive in a welcoming community.

While we recognize these issues are national and international in scale as a group of funders within a community foundation, our funding will focus on supporting local efforts in the Greater Denver community, where nearly one in 10 Colorado residents is an immigrant.¹ As a group of Jewish funders, our shared Jewish values have shaped our commitment to this issue. We are compelled by the Jewish concept of *ahavat ger*, you shall love the stranger; it guides us to ensure all are able to thrive. Further, the teaching *lo ta'amod al dam rei'echa*, do not stand idly by in the face of injustice, guides us to take action as immigrants, refugees and asylum seekers face systemic adversity. Anti-immigrant rhetoric, xenophobia and bias-motivated crimes are increasing nationally and in Colorado. There are currently 21 active hate groups in Colorado², of which two are explicitly anti-immigrant³. The history of the Jewish people is full of examples of what happens when people are treated as "other" and we will not allow what happened to our ancestors to happen again today.

We envision making grants that...

- encourage a welcoming Greater Denver community that benefits from diverse cultural and religious representation.
- empower grantees to be innovative, increase their capacity and achieve their desired impact.
- involve, include, celebrate and empower the people served to build on their strengths and assets, support them in ways they help define, and ultimately enable them to thrive.

¹New American Economy, *The Contributions of New Americans in Colorado* (August 2016)
<http://research.newamericaneconomy.org/wp-content/uploads/2017/02/nae-co-report.pdf>

² Southern Poverty Law Center, *Hate Map*, <https://www.splcenter.org/hate-map>

³ Southern Poverty Law Center, *Hate Map by State*, <https://www.splcenter.org/hate-map/by-state>

We will fund services that restore and preserve the dignity of individuals, families, communities and cultures, including, but not limited to: basic needs assistance, language learning, education, legal services, and job training and placement. We encourage organizations to inform their efforts with the input of the populations they serve. We will also fund efforts to reduce bias and discrimination against immigrants, refugees and asylum seekers.

Invitation to Apply: This funding opportunity is by invitation only. We have selected a small number of organizations, including yours, to reach out to. We invite you to provide information to help us understand the populations you serve, your approach, the services you provide and their impact. After we review your information, we may request a site visit to see your work in action.

Timeline: You will be notified at the end of October 2018 if your organization advances to our second round of consideration, which will involve a site visit. Site visits will be conducted throughout November 2018. Funding decisions will be announced December 20, 2018. Grant funds must be expended between January and December 2019.

Application Process: Applications must be submitted online. To create an account and view and complete the grant application, visit our [online grant application system](#). The information below is provided as a resource to help you prepare your proposal. Responses to all questions and all required attachments must be submitted online by 5:00 p.m. on October 11, 2018. If you have questions, please send them via email to Emily ekornhauser@rcfdenver.org; all current Roots & Branches members will be given the opportunity to provide feedback before we get back to you with an answer. As you consider your funding request, please keep in mind the total amount available to grant is \$45,000 and the group will likely make several grants ranging in amount from approximately \$9,000 to \$20,000.

1. Contact Information

- Program/Project(s) Name (Character Limit: 200)
- Executive Director's Name (Character Limit: 50)
- Name and Title of Primary Contact for this Proposal (Character Limit: 70)
- Primary Contact's Email Address (Character Limit: 50)
- Primary Contact's Phone Number (Character Limit: 20)

2. Programs/Projects and Population Served (Character Limit: 2,500)

Describe how your organization or program(s) work to solve the problem we seek to address. Include a description of how you indirectly or directly serve immigrants, refugees and asylum seekers and how the input, values, cultures and beliefs of the populations you serve inform the work you do. Include a brief description about how you reach the people you serve.

3. Outcomes and Impact (Character Limit: 2,500)

Describe the outcomes your organization or program(s) seek, the impact you have including past results, and how you measure your quantitative and qualitative success for each program. Optional: You may include a short story or example to demonstrate impact.

4. Budget

Please provide the following:

- The total amount requested. (Character Limit: 50)

- A short budget narrative describing the expenses and revenue. (Character Limit: 1,000)
- A detailed line item budget for all program expenses and revenue for each project proposed. Itemize each major budget category of expense and revenue, and the total cost of the program or project. In the case of revenue, include all funds available for the program or project. If there are grants, indicate whether the grants are pending, anticipated or secured. (File Size Limit: 1 MB)
- Your organization's annual operating budget for the fiscal year that includes 2019 (grants will be made in December 2018 for use in 2019) (File Size Limit: 1 MB)
- The most recent year-end statement of financial position (or balance sheet) (File Size Limit: 1 MB)
- The most recent year-end statement of activities (or income and expense or profit and loss statement) (File Size Limit: 1 MB)

5. Site Visit Dates and Times (Character Limit: 1,000)

Provide four possible dates and times between October 29 and November 25, 2018 when a small group of Roots & Branches members may visit your office or facility to learn more about the specific program or project(s) related to this funding opportunity between the hours of 8:00 a.m. and 6:00 p.m. *We ask that you please hold these dates and times until we are in touch in late-October to let you know if you have been selected for a site visit, and which of the provided dates we are able to visit.*