

Generation Now Circle 2025

Application Deadline: Tuesday, February 18, 2025 at 8 a.m.

Learn together, to give together

Rose Community Foundation is excited to launch the third cohort of the Generation Now Circle, a giving circle that brings together a diverse group of talented and engaged individuals ages 25 – 40 to get involved in collaborative philanthropy. During the program, members will:

- Grant approximately \$50,000 to nonprofit organizations in the Greater Denver region.
- Explore emerging community issues and innovative local solutions.
- Learn about and put into practice Rose Community Foundation's approach to grantmaking which encourages trust and relationship-building between funder and grantee organizations.
- Identify values with which to build meaningful relationships with a group of diverse peers.
- Become a part of Rose Community Foundation's network of donors and partners.

The Commitment

We are seeking applicants who feel they have something to contribute to and gain from this collaborative group experience. We encourage participants to have an open mind and be curious about the process and what can be learned from peer members and community voices.

Members are required to:

- Attend and participate in all meetings; one pre-approved absence is permitted. *If participants have symptoms of illness, a remote option will be made available to still participate in meetings.*
- Engage fully in the process, including spending time connecting with fellow members, researching community issues, reading relevant materials and grant proposals, and meeting with nonprofits for Site Visits that will take place late August through early September during regular business hours.
- Carefully read, understand and accept Rose Community Foundation's Conflict of Interest Policy, Confidentiality Agreement, and Media Authorization and Release prior to participation in the program.
- Make a personally meaningful donation to the Generation Now Circle grantmaking pool. *We recognize members have diverse circumstances, and we believe philanthropy is*

defined by intention and commitment, not by gift size, so there is no recommended donation amount. Individual gift size is kept confidential and will not be shared among the group.

Decision Making Structure

Members of Generation Now Circle work together in the spirit of consensus; all voices and perspectives are considered before a final decision is reached. This kind of collaboration requires participants to be curious, open, patient and committed to the process, not just the outcomes. Working as a team in this way is rewarding, but we recognize it is not for everyone. We ask applicants to consider their comfort with group collaboration before applying. Rose Community Foundation staff support the group and facilitate its meetings, learning and discussions.

Meeting Schedule

Members will meet for seven meetings on Tuesday evenings from 5:30 - 8 p.m. between April and September 2025. Meetings will be held in-person at Rose Community Foundation (4500 Cherry Creek Drive S, Suite 900, Denver) unless otherwise noted. We recommend taking note of meeting dates and times before applying to ensure the program schedule works for you.

- **April 8**
- **May 6**
- **June 3**
- **July 29** from 5:30 – 6:30 p.m. **Virtual**
- **August 12**
- **September 9**
- **September 30**

Teambuilding

We believe that trust and community building are the foundation for collaborative teamwork. To nurture group connection, we will kick-off the 2025 cohort with a Welcome Social Hour on the evening of **Tuesday, April 1** (time and location TBA). Additionally, mid-way through the program on **Tuesday, June 24** we will host a dinner for participants and their plus one to pause, reflect, and celebrate the work of the cohort. We also encourage participants to get to know one another outside of meetings and events by going on walks, meeting for coffee, or connecting in other ways.

Site Visits

As part of the grantmaking due-diligence and learning process, participants will conduct site visits with key staff at the non-profit organizations the group is considering funding. Meetings will take place with a small group of cohort peers and will be scheduled between **August 20 - September 8** during weekday work hours. We ask each participant to attend two of these meetings based on their availability.

Grantmaking Funds

Rose Community Foundation seeds the group's grantmaking with \$30,000 and provides a dollar-for-dollar match for members' combined contributions, up to \$10,000. All members are asked to make a personally meaningful donation. There is no recommended contribution amount and all amounts donated are confidential. 100% of member contributions are donated to the community.

Member Eligibility

All applicants should reside within the Greater Denver community – Adams, Arapahoe, Boulder, Broomfield, Denver, Douglas and Jefferson counties – and be between the ages of 25 and 40 years old. You do not need to be of a certain income level, wealth status or earning potential. We welcome members who can bring a diversity of voices, life experiences and perspectives to the program.

Application and Selection Process

Applicants are strongly encouraged to **schedule an informational phone call** with Rose Community Foundation staff to better understand the program, the commitment, and ask any questions **before applying**.

- [Click here to schedule with Emily Kornhauser](#), director of collaborative philanthropy, on Thursdays.
- [Click here to schedule with Mary Kerr](#), philanthropic services coordinator, on Tuesdays
- [Click here to schedule with Carmelita Galicia-Munoz](#), philanthropy advisor, on Mondays and Fridays

Please submit your online written application by 8:00 a.m. on Tuesday, February 18, 2024. Once you create a login and password, you will be able to save and return to your application before submitting.

All applications are reviewed by a selection committee comprised of Rose Community Foundation staff and community partners. In reviewing applications and selecting

members, the selection committee considers the varied perspectives, demographics, professional background, and lived experiences of the applicants as a cohort and the degree to which each applicant stands to benefit from and contribute to the giving circle experience. All applicants will be notified of selection decisions on March 7, 2025.

If you have questions about the program or applying, please contact Emily Kornhauser, Director of Collaborative Philanthropy, at ekornhauser@rcfdenver.org or 303-398-7417.

CONTACT INFORMATION

First Name

Last Name

Email Address

Cell Phone Number

Street Address

Address Line 2

City, State, Zip

How did you hear about Generation Now Circle?

PERSONAL INFORMATION

Generation Now Circle strives to bring together a diverse group of participants so that members can learn from one another's unique perspectives and experiences. We recognize and respect that personal identity is multi-faceted, and we invite applicants to share with us as much about their identity as they are comfortable. This information helps us create an inclusive and balanced group during the selection process. If you are uncomfortable responding to any of the demographic questions, please write "prefer not to say".

Age as of April 2025

Gender Identity

Preferred Pronouns

Sexual Orientation

Please describe your race and ethnicity

Please describe your religious, cultural or faith affiliation(s)

Do you identify as a person with a disability or other chronic condition?

- Yes
- No
- Prefer not to say

Current Profession, Employer, and/or Job Title(s)

Person Interests or Hobbies

Current Volunteer Commitments

How long have you lived in the Greater Denver or Boulder area?

Relationship Status

- Single
- Partnered / in a committed relationship

Do you have children?

- Yes
- No

We believe meetings are better with a meal! Please let us know of any dietary restrictions or preferences, we try to be as accommodating as possible:

We strive to host inclusive meetings that enable all individuals, including individuals with physical and invisible disabilities, to engage fully. Do you require any accessibility accommodations?

APPLICATION

Please use details and examples in responding to the application questions below. There are no "right" answers. Diversity of experience and perspective is an important selection criterion for us, so your answers should help the selection committee hear your authentic voice. Responses to long answer questions should be one to two paragraphs in length and a maximum of 200 words. At the bottom of the screen, there is a button you can use to save your progress.

1a. We want to get to know you! Tell us about yourself in a short third person bio. Include your academic and professional journey, life achievements, extracurricular interests, surprising facts, hopes and dreams. *If you are selected, these bios will be shared with your fellow members.*

1b. Upload a headshot to accompany your bio. *Please select a high-resolution photo with only you in the frame. This will be used for the program and shared with peer members if you are selected.*

2. Why are you interested in participating in the Generation Now Circle? What do you hope to gain or learn from this experience? In what ways will the group benefit from your participation?

3. Tell us about someone or something that inspires you to give your time, talent, money, or experience. *Stories can reference a value, a cultural tradition, a faith teaching, someone in your family, someone you wish you knew, someone who is living now or who lived long ago.*

4. Describe a significant professional, volunteer or academic accomplishment that has impacted you. *What was meaningful to you about this experience? What did you learn or take away from this experience?*