

Overview and FAQ for KCR Fund Community Grantmaking Panel

What is the Kensington Community Resilience Fund (KCR Fund)?

The [KCR Fund](#) is a public-private-community partnership between Kensington community members, the City of Philadelphia, and regional funders to address the community impacts of the opioid crisis in the Kensington, Harrowgate, and Fairhill neighborhoods. The Fund uses a community-driven grantmaking process that honors the experience of community members, giving them resources and decision-making power to fund the organizations and programs that are most important to them.

What is the KCR Fund Community Grantmaking Panel and how does the process work?

The Community Grantmaking Panel (CGP) will have the job of reviewing and evaluating applications submitted by organizations seeking funding from the KCR Fund. Our partner and Fund administrator Bread & Roses Community Fund will facilitate this work and help CGP members come to agreement on a set of grantees to recommend for funding.

The CGP's work will be informed by issue areas, eligibility criteria and other guidelines decided on by the KCR Fund's Community Advisory Committee made up of individuals from Kensington-area nonprofit, civic, and faith leaders. Find more info at [KCR Fund website](#) and in the [Request for Proposals \(RFP\)](#).

CGP members will work in two ways: group discussions/meetings, and independent review of a set of assigned applications. Bread & Roses will support CGP members each step of the way until they come to agreement on a set of grantees to recommend for funding.

These will be submitted to the KCR Fund Steering committee of funders and city representatives that is responsible with overseeing management functions of the Fund. The Steering Committee will authorize the grants based upon the funding recommendations offered by the CGP.

I have never reviewed a grant application before. Can I still participate?

YES! CGP members **do not need any prior experience** reviewing grant applications. Bread & Roses Community Fund will provide training and facilitation support throughout the entire process. Bread & Roses brings over 40 years of experience with community-driven grantmaking and will provide all the training needed for CGP members to feel comfortable and confident in their recommendations.

What will I be expected to do on the CGP? What is the time commitment?

We anticipate a **total time commitment of 20-25 hours during the month of June**. A few things to note:

- Meetings will be scheduled to accommodate CGP's work schedules as much as possible, for example, holding sessions after business hours
- About half of this time will be spent doing independent review of applications so members can fit this into their schedules as they see fit

A more detailed breakdown of expected activities includes:

- Attend an orientation meeting (up to 2 hours) to meet fellow participants, learn about guidelines for the Fund, and review the process, role, and expectations of the CGP
- Attend two (2) 1.5-hour training sessions to support participants in application review. Sessions will help to build shared understanding of focus areas and evaluation criteria and provide instruction on grant review and scoring

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- Review and evaluate applications for planning grants through online grant portal (5-10 applications/participant)
- Attend two (2) two-hour grant review sessions to discuss applications and allocate funds according to the quality of applications;
- (Optional) Participate as best you can in the KCR Fund Learning Community with the goal of building cohesion and capacity among residents and the provider community to support greater resilience and service delivery within the Kensington community.

Will I be compensated for my time?

We value the contributions of CGP members and recognize the considerable time commitment this work will require. Each CGP member will receive a \$500 stipend.

If I work or volunteer with an organization based in Kensington, will my participation in the CGP prevent them from being eligible for a grant from the KCR Fund?

No it will not. At the start of the process, CGP members will identify any organizations they have a significant relationship with that might be a conflict of interest. If any of those organizations has submitted an application, that member will not be involved in reviewing or discussing their application to avoid bringing any bias to those discussions.

How do I participate?

If you would like to participate, [please CLICK HERE to complete the CGP application](#) by **Friday May 14**. Our goal is for the CGP to represent the diverse fabric that makes up the Kensington/Harrowgate/Fairhill communities. The application will collect information that helps us ensure that members reflect this diversity and can commit to the work required for this role.

KCR Fund Administrator Bread & Roses Community Fund will work with the Steering Committee to review CGP applications and identify a group of approximately 20 members that represent a diverse range of backgrounds, experiences, and perspectives, including those with lived experience.

Who will be leading the effort?

Project leadership from the city of Philadelphia includes Joanna Otero-Cruz, Deputy Managing Director for Community Services, Eva Gladstein, Deputy Managing Director for Health and Human Services, and Noelle Foizen, Director of the Opioid Response Unit, and Damaris Feliciano, Director of Community Relations & Strategic Initiatives. Ashley Feuer-Edwards of AFE Strategies is a consultant for this effort, providing overall project management and fundraising support. Bread & Roses Community Fund is the Fund Administrator and lead facilitator for all community participation.

I have more questions. Who do I contact?

Please submit questions to Damaris Feliciano at Damaris.Feliciano@phila.gov