

Request for Proposals

Kensington Community Resilience Fund

Overview of the Kensington Community Resilience Fund:

Rich in civic pride, cultural diversity, and neighbors who care deeply about one another and their community, the Greater Kensington neighborhood of Eastern North Philadelphia embodies the meaning of community resilience. As a result of years of disinvestment and lack of economic opportunity, this community has been particularly devastated by the ongoing opioid epidemic in Philadelphia. The COVID-19 pandemic has exacerbated these conditions while bringing significant economic challenges for families and local businesses.

Through these challenges, residents and community-based organizations have joined together to support one another and advocate for the quality of life improvements and opportunities they deserve. Area CDCs and social services agencies, faith-based organizations, and civic associations work tirelessly to build a community where community members can live safely and provide for themselves, but have been asked to do far too much with far too few resources.

The Kensington Community Resilience Fund (KCR Fund) answers this need through grants that will advance three key pillars - **community empowerment, neighborhood investment, and economic opportunity**. Core to its approach is a **participatory grantmaking process** that elevates resident and community provider experiences and priorities, placing the power to make funding decisions in the hands of those who know best – community members.

A public-private-community partnership between the community, regional funders, and the city of Philadelphia, the KCR Fund will work to advance the following goals:

- **To promote wellness, build resilience, and improve the quality of life** in the greater Kensington community
- **To increase agency and support equity and racial/social justice** by having community partners and residents direct funding decisions
- **To build cohesion and connectivity** among community providers, residents, and city agencies to support collaboration, information sharing, and alignment of services
- **To expand capacity of participants** - both organizations and individuals to pursue sustainable, quality-of life focused programming to support the community
- **To serve as a catalyst and build the infrastructure** to support long-term, sustained investment and partnership with Funders in the Kensington community

Grant Focus Areas and Guiding Principles:

Informed by resident surveys and determined by community providers and residents on the KCR Fund's Community Advisory Committee, **the KCR Fund will provide grants targeting the following six issue areas that have been identified as being most important to community residents**. Applicants should be able to demonstrate how their work aligns with, advances, and supports **at least one** of these areas.

- Public Safety and Gun Violence
- Youth Development (birth to age 24)

- Workforce Development and Training
- Beautification and Blight Removal
- Connecting Residents to Resources
- Building Resilience Addressing Community Trauma

In addition to these issue areas, KCR Fund **grantees should share a commitment to advancing the following guiding principles that cut across all key issues**, either currently or in their future work:

- Building social cohesion, collaboration, and connectivity
- Utilizing trauma-informed principles and practices
- Being informed by community voices
- Advancing equity and racial and social justice
- Demonstrating cultural competency and relevance
- Being informed by data, evidence, and best practices

Grantee Eligibility:

The KCR Fund encourages any organization located or providing services in the Kensington community (see boundaries below) to apply for this new place-based funding opportunity. **We particularly encourage smaller and grassroots organizations/projects** to apply. Additional eligibility requirements include:

- Must be physically located within the following boundaries in the Kensington, Harrowgate, and Fairhill communities, or bring a track record of providing programming/services in this area: Lehigh Avenue to Erie Avenue / 5th Street to Frankford Avenue
- Have current 501(c)3 IRS status OR a fiscal sponsor with 501(c)3 status* and be in good standing with the IRS, including faith-based organizations (*We can help applicants identify a fiscal sponsor if they do not already have one)
- Can demonstrate that funds from this grant will benefit community members living in the boundaries noted above
- Can document how work supports at least one of the six funding issue areas stated above
- Can document and report on use of grant funds
- Demonstrate a commitment to equity and inclusion with respect to race, ethnicity, socioeconomic status, gender, sexual orientation, age, physical and cognitive ability, immigration status, and religion, among participants, board members, leadership team and staff
- Have decision makers (board members, leadership team, staff) that reflect the communities being served by the organization/project

Grant Award Size and Uses:

All grants will provide flexible, **general operating support in the amount of \$10,000**. This level is intended to give grantees of all sizes the ability to think creatively about their work and to work sustainably over the one-year grant period, including being able to provide fair compensation to those carrying out the work. Small, grassroots organizations and community groups are far too often asked to work from a scarcity model and the KCR Fund seeks to rectify this mindset.

For example, for those who might typically seek smaller (\$500-\$1000) grants for one-time projects like cleanups or block parties, we encourage thinking about ways to build these projects out for a more sustainable impact. Please contact grants@breadrosesfund.org if you would like to discuss your proposal.

As general operating grants, funding can support a wide range of uses, including overhead costs (salaries, rent, etc.), program costs, training, events, supplies, stipends, etc. These grants are intended to give organizations and projects as much flexibility as possible to carry out their work supporting the Kensington community.

Application Due Date:

The deadline for this fund is **Wednesday, May 26th, 2021**. Because of the volume of applications, we cannot accept applications after this point. We anticipate a second round of funding to open in fall 2021.

Proposal Requirements and Submission Instructions:

- Applicants will need to answer the questions outlined below.
- All proposals should be submitted through the online application portal on the [KCRF Fund website](#). If you have any problems using the online portal please contact grants@breadrosesfund.org.
- In addition to the narrative, organizations will need to provide the following documents:
 - For 501(c)3 applicants, provide your IRS determination letter
 - For fiscally sponsored applicants, provide a letter of support from fiscal sponsor and a copy of their IRS determination letter
 - Budget template (attached)
 - Financial statement template (attached)
 - Organization Composition chart (attached)

Application Questions:

Proposal Summary

- Please summarize in a short paragraph the purpose of your organization.
- Briefly explain why your organization is requesting this grant, what outcomes you hope to achieve during the grant period, and how you will spend the funds if a grant is made.

Organizational Overview

- Summarize organizational history
- State your mission
- Describe your organization's current programs, activities, and recent accomplishments

Community Served

- Describe the communities most impacted by your organization's work. Be specific about geographic location/neighborhoods and demographics such as race, ethnicity, socioeconomic status, gender, sexual orientation, age, physical or cognitive ability, immigration status, and/or religion. Tell us how the communities you serve are represented in your organization's board of directors, leadership team, and staff.
- Tell us how your organization centers the voices of community members in designing your programs and activities. How do community members build new knowledge and skills to support your organization's work? How is leadership developed among your constituents?
- Organization Composition Chart (table attached)
 - The first line of the organization composition chart asks for the total number of people in each position for your organization. Please use percentages for the remainder of the table.
 - "Active Members" refers to people that have attended meetings, events, demonstrations, or actions that your organization has hosted. These percentages can be estimates.
 - "Other Leadership" refers to any volunteer leaders with decision-making power who are not on the board of directors, including member leaders, advisory committee members, etc.

Statement of Need

- What problem or need is your organization working to address?

Planned Activities and Outcome

- What will you do with the grant and what do you hope to achieve?
- How will this funding make a difference for your organization and the communities with which you work?

Alignment with Fund Focus Areas and Guiding Principles

- Does your work align with at least one of the Fund's stated focus areas? If so, please describe how it supports this/these focus area(s)?
- How does your organization and your work reflect with the guiding principles outlined for the fund? If you are not currently aligned with these, please share how you anticipate working toward these principles in the future.

Anticipated Impact of Grant Dollars

- How will you know if your work is successful?
- How do you anticipate this grant will impact your organization or the work you are doing?

Financial Information

- What is the size of your organization's budget for the current fiscal year?
- What are your top three funding sources?
- Include previous fiscal year financial statement (table attached)
 - Please explain anything you'd like us to know about your previous year's financial statement.
- Include current organizational budget (table attached)

- Please provide a budget narrative. Explain how your organization's budget relates to your overall work and/or proposed activities, especially if your organization has an operating budget that exceeds \$500,000

Helpful Information and Tips:

- **Information Session:** Interested applicants are invited to attend a virtual information session on **Thursday, May 6 from 2:00-3:00 PM**. This information session **is not mandatory** but is encouraged for any organizations with questions about the process, application questions, or other details about the fund.
 - The information session will be recorded and posted on the KCR Fund website
 - Spanish interpretation will be available
 - Please register prior to attending so we can share additional information with you after the session. Registration and link to attend on [KCR Fund webpage](#).
- **Questions:** Please submit questions to grants@breadrosesfund.org. Questions and answers will be posted on the [KCR Fund website](#) on a rolling basis. We encourage you to check the Q&A for additional information.
- **Fiscal Sponsorship:** For organizations seeking a fiscal sponsor to comply with eligibility requirements, please contact us at grants@breadrosesfund.org to discuss the specifics of your project/organization. We can help connect you with potential fiscal sponsor.
- **Spanish Availability:** The print Request for Proposals and online application will be available in both Spanish and English.

Additional Background on the KCR Fund:

Participatory Process and Learning Community:

Grantmaking priorities, levels, and eligibility criteria have been developed and approved by a **Community Advisory Committee** is comprised of individuals representing Kensington-serving community-based organizations, civic associations, and faith-based organizations, many of whom are also Kensington residents.

Grant applications will be reviewed and evaluated by a **Community Grantmaking Panel** that is comprised entirely of Kensington residents. These residents will provide recommendations for grants to the KCR Fund **Steering Committee**, which includes funders and city representatives charged with overseeing the management functions of the Fund. The Steering Committee will provide final approval for the release of funding as proposed by the Community Grantmaking Panel.

In addition to funding support provided, grantees of the KCR Fund will be eligible to participate in a **Peer Learning Community** that will offer training, capacity building, and peer networking. Specific content shared through the Learning Community will be developed based on input from grantees and other community participants.

History of the KCR Fund:

The genesis of this Fund is the work of the Philadelphia Resilience Project (PRP), launched in 2018 as a holistic, multi-faceted emergency response to the situation on the ground in Kensington. The PRP activated and engaged 35 City agencies, as well as a diverse range of community providers, civic organizations, and neighborhood groups, and continued the extensive resident engagement that began with the Gurney Street encampment resolution process in 2017. The PRP has since transitioned into the Opioid Response Unit (ORU), a permanent office charged with implementing a set of long-term strategies to address the opioid crisis in key hot spots, including Kensington. A key mission embodied by both the PRP and ORU has been to mobilize community response, both among residents and partners on the ground, but also among the funding community in order to target critically needed resources and investments into the Kensington Community.

In the spring of 2020, the Opioid Response Resource Mobilization Advisory Committee (ORRMAC), comprised of individuals from the funding community, corporate sector, and other institutional partner organizations, was established by the Managing Director's Office and the ORU, in order to support the City's efforts around funder engagement and coordination. Since the ORRMAC launched, members have explored various opportunities to support the Kensington community, with several members providing grants for various rapid response needs related to COVID-19, while others have led the planning of a pooled fund to leverage investments of a wide range of funders. This KCR Fund is the result of these efforts.

Financial Statement For The Most Recently Completed Fiscal Year

Organization Name:

Dates of Fiscal Year Being Reported:

Income from:	Last Completed Fiscal Year
Foundation Grants	
Corporate Donations	
Individual Donations	
Government Grants/Contracts	
Membership Dues	
In-Kind Donations	
Earned Income	
Other, please specify:	
Total Actual Income for Your Organization in the Last Completed Fiscal Year	\$ -
*****	*****
Expenses for:	Last Completed Fiscal Year
Salaries, Benefits, & Taxes	
Consultants	
Rent & Utilities	
Office Supplies & Equipment	
Phone & Website	
Postage & Printing	
Professional Development, Conferences & Membership Dues	
Meetings Expenses (food, childcare, etc.)	
Travel	
Other, please specify:	
Total Expenses for Your Organization in the Last Completed Fiscal Year	\$ -

Current Organizational Budget

Organization Name:

Dates of Current Fiscal Year:

Income from:	Current Fiscal Year
Foundation Grants	
Corporate Donations	
Individual Donations	
Government Grants/Contracts	
Membership Dues	
In-Kind Donations	
Earned Income	
Other, please specify:	
Total Projected Income for Your Organization	\$ -
*****	*****
Expenses for:	Current Fiscal Year
Salaries, Benefits, & Taxes	
Consultants	
Rent & Utilities	
Office Supplies & Equipment	
Phone & Website	
Postage & Printing	
Professional Development, Conferences & Membership Dues	
Meetings Expenses (food, childcare, etc.)	
Travel	
Other, please specify:	
Total Projected Expenses for Your Organization	\$ -

*	Total Number of Staff	Board (Total Number of People)	Other Leadership (Total Number of People)	Active Members (Total Number of people)
Number of People in Organization				
Race	Staff (%)	Board (%)	Other Leadership (%)	Active Members (%)
Asian/South Asian/Pacific Island Descent				
Black/African Descent				
Latina/o/x Descent				
Middle Eastern Descent				
Multiracial				
Native American/Indigenous Descent				
White/European Descent				
Total should be 100%	0	0	0	0
Immigration Status	Staff (%)	Board (%)	Other Leadership (%)	Active Members (%)
Immigrant/Refugee				
US Born				
Total should be 100%	0	0	0	0
Current Class Position	Staff (%)	Board (%)	Other Leadership (%)	Active Members (%)
Low Income/Poor				
Working Class				
Middle Class				
Upper Class				
Total should be 100%	0	0	0	0
Gender	Staff (%)	Board (%)	Other Leadership (%)	Active Members (%)
Women				
Men				

Non-binary/ gender non-conforming				
Total should be 100%	0	0	0	0
Trans* Identified	Staff (%)	Board (%)	Other Leadership (%)	Active Members (%)
Yes				
No				
Don't Know				
Total should be 100%	0	0	0	0
Sexual Orientation	Staff (%)	Board (%)	Other Leadership (%)	Active Members (%)
Lesbian/Gay/Bisexual/Queer				
Heterosexual/Straight				
Total should be 100%	0	0	0	0
Ability	Staff (%)	Board (%)	Other Leadership (%)	Active Members (%)
With Disability				
Without Disability				
Total should be 100%	0	0	0	0
Age	Staff (%)	Board (%)	Other Leadership (%)	Active Members (%)
0-17				
18-30				
31-64				
64+				
Total should be 100%	0	0	0	0