



## REACH FUND LETTER OF INTEREST INSTRUCTIONS

*We are beginning the REACH Fund process with an open request for letters of interest. LOIs are due October 30. A selected group of LOI respondents will be invited to submit a full proposal on January 7, 2019.*

**BACKGROUND:** The REACH Fund seeks to build the capacity of the nonprofit sector to address issues of racial and intersectional equity and inclusion and to address the gap between interest and capacity in the sector to pursue racial equity. The Fund will invest in supporting and lifting up the work of those who are innovating and developing promising practices. In addition to grantmaking, the collaborative will include a learning component focused on sharing strategies and approaches across the cohort of grantees.

Grantees for the REACH Fund will be racial equity practitioners. We are looking to fund the individuals and institutions working closely with nonprofit groups on the ground to advance their racial equity work internally and externally and who are independent consultants — individual consultants, a team of individual consultants, capacity building organizations, or firms — meeting the following criteria:

- Staff leading the racial equity work have demonstrated years of experience doing racial equity work [training, strategy, practice and policy development and coaching] in and for the nonprofit sector;
- An articulated commitment to racial equity principles internally and externally and an understanding of redesigning systems and structures to create racially equitable outcomes;
- Leadership staff team is racially diverse;
- Interest and commitment to actively participate in creating and strengthening communities of practice to advance the knowledge of racial equity in the field; and
- A current and potential nonprofit clientele who will benefit from the practitioners' participation in this collaborative and who will participate in the communities of practice cohort of this Fund. Nonprofit clientele can be local, regional or national.

### **GRANTMAKING STRATEGY**

The REACH Fund is a one-year grant with grants distributed in May 2019. However, understanding that this work requires sustained effort and investment, our intention is to move towards multi-year, deeper investment in the second grant cycle. The REACH Fund will include a **three-part strategy** as follows:

- **Grants** (combined program/general support) to racial equity practitioners. Part of the grant will be general operating and support the grantees practice and part of the grant will be applied to practitioners supporting on-the-ground groups needing racial equity support. Practitioners will be able to select the nonprofit(s) they support. These organizations can be existing or new clients.
- **Communities of practice** – the collaborative will create opportunities for grantees and capacity builders to share lessons learned, strengthen their respective practice and identify the ways in which the larger sector can benefit from this shared knowledge. Communities of practice will include both the racial equity practitioners AND the groups that receive the support for direct racial equity work and will include in-person convenings.

*If you have any questions about your REACH Fund grant request, please contact Maya T. Sandifor,  
mtsandifor@borealisphilanthropy.org/510-754-5624*



- **Communications** - the collaborative will communicate to two key audiences – sharing lessons and knowledge for others undergoing racial equity work; sharing stories and case studies to make the case for philanthropy to provide greater investment for this work.

Grants are combined program and general support and will range from \$50,000 - \$150,000

**LOI DEADLINE:** October 30, 2018

#### HOW TO APPLY

- 1. Create an account or log on:** We use an online proposal system that can be accessed [here](#). The hyperlink is: <https://www.grantinterface.com/Home/Logon?urlkey=borealisphilanthropy>
  - **New Users:** please click on "Create New Account" to complete the registration process and create your login credentials. Be sure to keep this login information for your organization's records. *TIP: This email address is the one we will use to communicate with you if we have questions, which sometimes require immediate response. We suggest using an email address that is available to anyone at your organization who needs to access the application.*
  - **Existing Users:** Please enter your credentials and log in. If you forgot your password, please use the "Forgot your Password" link to the left to reset your password.
  - **Not Sure?** If you think that you or someone at your organization has already registered in the system, DO NOT create a new account. Please contact Tashie Sloley, Senior Grants Manger, at [tsloley@borealisphilanthropy.org](mailto:tsloley@borealisphilanthropy.org) to receive your username and password.
- 2. Begin your Letter of Interest:**

Upon logging in select "apply" from the upper menu, then select "Racial Equity Accelerating Change Fund-Year 1" and click "apply."
- 3. Complete and submit your Letter of Interest:** Unfinished applications can be accessed using the same link: <https://www.grantinterface.com/Home/Logon?urlkey=borealisphilanthropy>

#### Application Checklist

*No attachments required for the LOI stage.*