

The Together We Flourish Initiative

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

WHAT IS THE TOGETHR WE FLOURISH INITIATIVE?

The Together We Flourish Initiative is a participatory grantmaking program of the Prince Charitable Trusts. The main goal of the Initiative is to support Black and Latine serving organizations on the south and west side of Chicago that are working at the intersection of the arts and nature.

WHAT IS THE TOGETHER WE FLOURISH INITIATIVE GRANTMAKING PROCESS?

The grantmaking process is shaped by a nine-member advisory group, known as the Flourish Collective. The Collective developed the Together We Flourish Request for Proposals, will review each proposal using a scoring tool, and make its final recommendations to the Prince Charitable Trusts Board of Directors for approval.

WHAT MAKES FOR A SUCCESSFUL GRANT APPLICATION?

The strongest applications are those that: 1) fully demonstrate the intersection between arts and nature; 2) are clearly aligned with at least one of the Together We Flourish's focus areas (Mind, Body, and Soil or Placemaking/Placekeeping); 3) are centered on the south or west side of Chicago; 4) is Black or Latine-serving; 5) does not exceed the maximum organizational budget requirement of \$500,000; and 6) provides programs that are accessible, inclusive, and free or at no cost.

DOES THE TOGETHER WE FLOURISH INITIATIVE AWARD GRANTS TO INDIVIDUALS?

No, Together We Flourish Initiative grants can only be awarded to organizations or their fiscal sponsors. We cannot fund individuals.

WHAT IF MY ORGANIZATION DOES NOT HAVE 501(C)(3) STATUS?

The Together We Flourish Initiative supports non-profit organizations, including those that do not have 501(c)3 status. Fiscal sponsorship for those organizations without tax-exempt status is required.

WHAT DO YOU MEAN WHEN YOU SAY LATINE AND BLACK-SERVING?

Those that serve individuals from predominantly Black and Latine communities or whose total number of program participants are predominately Black and Latine.

WHY DOES THIS INITIATIVE PRIORTIZE BLACK AND LATINE SERVING ORGANIZATIONS?

Anyone can apply for a grant through this rfp, but the priority of this particular Initiative is on Black and Latine-serving organizations. This is primarily determined by life expectancy rates and adverse environmental impacts in Chicago.

WHAT IF MY ORGANIZATION IS NOT CHICAGO-BASED?

While not as competitive as some other applications, this is not necessarily a barrier to receiving a Together We Flourish grant. The organization must demonstrate a solid track record of providing programming on the south or west side of Chicago, and especially to Black and Latine program participants.

ARE THERE SPECIFIC NEIGHBORHOODS THAT YOU ARE LOOKING TO FUND IN?

No, they just have to be on the south or west side of Chicago.

CAN LOCAL CHAPTERS OF NATIONAL ORGANIZATIONS APPLY?

Yes, when the chapter has a strong presence on the south and west side of Chicago.

CAN MORE THAN ONE ORGANIZATION HAVE THE SAME FISCAL SPONSOR? AND DO THEY HAVE TO BE LOCATED IN CHICAGO?

Yes, one organization can serve as a fiscal sponsor to more than one organization

as long as there is a signed fiscal sponsor agreement in place for each of those entities. And the fiscal sponsor does not have to be based in Chicago or Illinois.

WILL UNSUCCESSFUL APPLICANTS RECEIVE FEEDBACK?

Yes, they can by sending an inquiry to flourishcollective@princetrusts.org.

HOW MANY GRANTS WILL BE AWARDED?

The actual number of grants that will be awarded is unknown. Based on the total grant pot of roughly \$250,000 and the grant range, we expect that there are going to likely be between 16 and 20 grants awarded in 2026.

WHAT IS THE TYPICAL GRANT AMOUNT AWARDED?

This is the first year that this funding opportunity is being offered, so it is unknown what the typical grant amount will be, but the grant range is between \$5,000 and \$15,000.

HOW CAN GRANT FUNDS BE USED?

Together We Flourish offers both general operating support and project-specific support. Grant funds, including any income earned on those funds, may only be used for charitable, scientific, literary, or educational purposes consistent with Section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code, the Grantee's tax-exempt status, and all applicable laws.

IS THIS OPPORTUNITY OPEN TO ORGANIZATIONS NEW TO PRINCE OR ARE IN THEIR EARLY STAGE OF DEVELOPMENT/NEWLY LAUNCHED?

Yes, organizations new to Prince Charitable Trusts or are in an early development stage of its organizational growth are encouraged to apply.

DOES TOGETHER WE FLOURISH OFFER ADDITIONAL SUPPORT SUCH AS MENTORSHIP, NETWORKING, OR CAPACITY-BUILDING OPPORTUNITIES?

We wish that we had the capacity to do this, but at the moment none of these things are being offered. We will take the question under advisement for future rfps.

CAN WE SCHEDULE A VIRTUAL CONVERSATION TO LEARN MORE ABOUT THIS OPPORTUNITY?

Unfortunately, we have limited capacity thus scheduling virtual conversations are not always possible. We highly recommend that any remaining questions be sent to flourishcollective@princetrusts.org