# Strengthening Partner Capacity

2022 Guidelines (rev. Jan. 7, 2022)

## Eligibility

- It's easiest for us to accept grant applications from:
  - Not-for-profit organizations with a 501(c)(3) designation that are not private foundations;
  - Not-for-profit public benefit corporations;
  - o Public or diocesan school districts; or
  - Private or charter schools.
- We will be making grants to organizations currently providing services in one or more of these regions:
  - Massachusetts: Barnstable County, Dukes County, Essex County, Nantucket County
  - New York: Erie County, Niagara County
- At a minimum, grant partners currently provide prevention, treatment, and/or recovery services to people aged 26 years or younger from at least one of these populations:
  - People with intellectual disabilities (including autism spectrum disorders)
  - People with specific learning disabilities
  - o People with mental illness/mental health challenges
  - People with substance use disorders
- Our ideal grant partners serve one or more of the populations listed above <u>and</u> intentionally work to improve equitable outcomes for individuals with a host of individual identities relating to — alone or in combination – race, sexual identity, gender identity, immigration status, housing status, and other disability status.
- Note: Organizations <u>awarded</u> a Strengthening Partner Capacity Grant in the past 12 months are not eligible to apply for another Small Grant. Grant partners with an award from the first cycle in 2021 (April) may apply in the July 2022 cycle; those with awards from the second 2021 cycle (August) may apply in the November 2022 cycle. This waiting period doesn't apply to Programs & Services or Community Change grants.

# **Funding Availability**

- The maximum grant award for this opportunity is \$40,000.
- A total of \$1,600,000 is available, with \$400,000 awarded in each grant cycle.

## When Things Are Due (and When You'll Hear Back)

	Winter	Spring	Summer	Fall
Applications Due:	February 2, 2022	April 27, 2022	July 27, 2022	October 12, 2022
Decisions Sent:	March 9, 2022	June 8, 2022	September 7, 2022	November 16, 2022



#### What We're Most Interested in Funding

The Foundation is interested in funding requests that, "build and/or strengthen the systems, structures, cultures, skills, resources, and power that organizations need to serve their communities."

Here are some examples to get you thinking, but this is not a complete list of everything we'll consider

- Diversity, equity, inclusion
- Leadership development
- Mergers/affiliations
- Network/field-building events
- Organizational development
- Professional development

- Program design and planning
- Small capital projects/equipment purchases
- Technology planning/purchasing
- What are your ideas? (We're happy to discuss them!)

#### How to Apply

- Most of our grant requests come in through <u>the Foundation's grants portal</u>. If you don't need any sort of special consideration (see below), please submit your application here: <a href="https://thetowerfoundation.force.com">https://thetowerfoundation.force.com</a>
- For any of the following situations, please get in touch with a Program Officer to discuss your circumstances:
  - We are happy to take applications in non-written formats (e.g., video, audio). Nothing highly produced, though – keep it simple (but make sure you have good sound quality!).
  - Not one of the organization types listed above? No problem. We'll take proposals from groups or organizations that do not have non-profit status as long as they apply through a fiscal sponsor.
  - We are open to accepting proposals written for other funders.

#### How to Contact Us

If you have any questions that aren't covered in these guidelines, you'd like to discuss a special circumstance, or you want to see whether an idea you have for a grant is a good fit for the Foundation, please get in touch with one of our Program Officers.

- Schedule a phone call: <a href="https://calendly.com/towerfdn-program">https://calendly.com/towerfdn-program</a>
- Send us an email: info@thetowerfoundation.org