

9/2/2021

Hello,

This application is multiple pages.

Section one defines the Athena Proposal Statement for the 2021 grant cycle.

Section two will help you understand the Mission and Beliefs of the Athena Progressive Giving Circle.

Section three explains the Athena Progressive Giving Circle Grantee Guidelines.

Section four details the information that must be provided to Athena for consideration.

IMPORTANT: Grant funding must be used in Sarasota and/or Manatee counties in Florida.

If you would like additional information about this application please contact Katie Schwabach, Philanthropic Advisor, at the Community Foundation of Sarasota County via email at Katie@cfsarasota.org.

We look forward to hearing from you,

Athena Progressive Giving Circle

ATHENA Progressive Giving Circle

Section 1

ATHENA PROPOSAL STATEMENT 2021

Athena Progressive Giving Circle will fund up to \$15,000 for a single organization or up to \$20,000 for multiple organizations in a collaborative effort for the following:

Background

Gender-based violence (GBV) is an age-old violation, one made worse by the recent COVID pandemic. It is estimated that fully 35% of women experience GBV at some time in their lives. Gender-based violence does not discriminate by race, ethnicity, marital status, religion, or socio-economic position.

Many organizations do important work supporting those affected by this violence, offering safe shelter, legal services, and immediate practical needs such as food and diapers. Yet if we are to reduce – eliminate, even – GBV, we must address the root causes, the underlying social practices that perpetuate these abuses. Root causes include but are not limited to: (i) the widespread social acceptance of the superiority of men and their right to be dominant; (ii) the acceptance of economic inequality and economic dependence of women; (iii) legal and criminal justice systems controlled overwhelmingly by men and organized to reinforce male power; (iii) the acceptance of violence as normal male behavior, with few to no consequences for this violence, including the acceptance and availability of widespread gun usage.

The goal of the program is to assist in changing the underlying direct causes of GBV. No one small program will bring about these long-term changes, but we can and should be working toward that end.

Note: we acknowledge that men and non-binary people can be the victims of violence and that women can also be the perpetrators. However, the overwhelming majority of GBV is perpetrated by males against females and thus that is our focus here.

NOTE: Grant request cannot exceed \$15,000 for one organization or \$20,000 for a partnership.

NOTE: Grant application deadline is October 1, 2021.

ATHENA Progressive Giving Circle

Proposals

The Athena Progressive Giving Circle is accepting proposals from 501(c)3 nonprofit organizations serving Sarasota and/or Manatee counties for programs working to change one or more of the underlying causes of GBV.

Organizations are encouraged to propose creative programs addressing their understanding of the root causes of GBV. Some examples of interventions, below, are offered but are illustrative only. Collaborations with other suitable organizations are not required but are encouraged.

Proposals which address GBV through the lens of intersectionality, recognizing the particular environment faced by women of color, are also welcomed, and proposals which apply best practices in social change methodologies are desirable.

For example, a successfully funded program might include initiatives that:

- Develop and/or promote social messages to change the understanding of men's social position and rights
- Develop and/or promote programs with children and youth (boys and girls) which address their understanding of appropriate masculinity
- Work with other organizations to mainstream an understanding of GBV, helping them apply this to their own work, thus multiplying the potential for long-term social change
- Organize educational activities that encourage greater understanding of and appreciation for the root causes of GBV
- Develop and/or advocate for specific changes in local criminal justice or legal practices which would enhance the rights of women and girls experiencing GBV
- Develop and/or promote programs which shift the accountability and responsibility for preventing GBV to men

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Specifics

The proposals must specify the resources the agency will provide to the women/girls either directly or by collaborating with other entities so that each endeavor succeeds.

The Athena Application form is part of this proposal statement. The Application form includes questions that ask the agency to define finances, expected outcomes, and measurement tools which would demonstrate outcomes.

All those receiving funding from Athena must submit semi-annual presentations to the Circle including a written report which documents the efforts and outcomes. Athena will provide the questions to be answered.

Proposals must be submitted no later than 5:00 p.m. on Friday, October 1, 2021 to Katie Schwabach, Philanthropic Advisor: katie@cfsarasota.org.

Note: Proposals which engage in direct service provision to those experiencing GBV are not the focus of this funding.

The Athena Progressive Giving Circle is a component fund of the Community Foundation of Sarasota County, Inc.

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ATHENA Progressive Giving Circle

Section 2

GRANT APPLICATION - Athena

MISSION: The Athena Progressive Giving Circle (APGC) is a community of women funding programs/initiatives that meaningfully improve the lives of women and girls in our community. APGC is a component fund of the Community Foundation of Sarasota County.

ATHENA PROGRESSIVE GIVING CIRCLE BELIEFS:

- A. Every woman has the right to make her own decisions about issues important to her, including the management of her assets, education of herself, her children and health care choices, including reproductive rights.
- B. It is still necessary to use the lenses of race, gender, sexual orientation, ethnicity and religion to assure equality.

We will seek non-profit partners working on long-term solutions, who can demonstrate positive impact in the communities they serve. Grants will be awarded to U.S. IRS 501(c)3 and other tax-exempt organizations for programs or initiatives in Sarasota/Manatee counties in Florida.

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ATHENA Progressive Giving Circle

Section 3

GRANTEE GUIDELINES

GRANTEE ORGANIZATION CANDIDATES MUST:

1. Show an innovative, holistic, effective and direct approach to supporting women, girls.
2. Show a clear need for the funds and a plan for their use.
3. Demonstrate a deep commitment to their work.

ATHENA WILL NOT PROVIDE GRANTS TO THE FOLLOWING:

1. Organizations that discriminate against people because of age, race, creed, handicap, sexual orientation, gender identity, ethnicity or national origin.
2. Religious or sectarian organizations, unless engaged in a significant project benefiting the entire community.
3. Athletes, teams, sporting events or tournaments of any kind (amateur, professional) including charity golf or tennis tournaments.
4. Non-academic educational activities such as bands, choirs, proms, after proms, graduations, etc.
5. Fundraising events such as telethons or walk-a-thons.
6. Fashion shows beauty pageants or contestants.
7. Individuals, for any purpose (e.g. scholarships, hardship assistance, field trips).
8. Requests to support travel for groups or individuals when that is the primary reason for the proposals.
9. Political candidates or organizations.
10. Organizations in which Athena members are staff, volunteers or hold Board positions.

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ATHENA Progressive Giving Circle

Section 4

IN COMPLETING YOUR PROPOSAL, PLEASE PROVIDE THE FOLLOWING INFORMATION:

- 1. Name of organization seeking funding. Include the name, address, email and telephone of contact person.**
- 2. Name of program/initiative to be funded**
- 3. Amount requested**
- 4. Provide a detailed description of your program/initiative and how the grant would be utilized to achieve the objectives. Please refer to the Athena Proposal Statement 2020 for clarification on expected information.** Athena would like to see meaningful results associated with grants made. Consequently, specific programs/initiatives with clearly articulated objectives, measures, and milestones are most appealing.
- 5. What is the budget for the program/initiative? Provide as much detail as possible to explain how you will use the funds.** Non-profit partners must be prepared to provide reporting on use of funds and progress against objectives on an agreed upon schedule.
- 6. How does your program/initiative align with Athena's mission, beliefs and focus area?** Projects funded must reflect Athena's mission, focus areas and grantee guidelines.
- 7. Are there other sources of funding for the program/initiative proposed? If so, what is the origin? If not, how will the program be sustained after the initial funding?**
- 8. Is the program/initiative located in Sarasota or Manatee County? If both, please state.**
- 9. IF your organization does NOT have an active profile in [The Giving Partner](#), you must provide a copy of your organization's most recent 990 and a list of Board members.**

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