BPI Impact Grant Guidelines 2020

BPI Impact Grants Program

BPI recognizes that there are groups/organizations doing powerful work in the black community that may not align with BPI’s current focus of equity in education. BPI’s Rethinking Philanthropy report outlines four core areas that deserve attention (education, jobs and wages, poverty and civic engagement). BPI also recognizes that there are local groups/organizations doing impactful work within the black community that are newer and/or have smaller budgets than their counterparts and believes it is important to invest in these groups.

BPI’s Impact Grants are designed to serve as investments of up to $1,000 in local programs, projects and initiatives that support issues impacting the black community in Forsyth County. In particular, BPI is looking for organizations/groups with annual budgets of less than $150,000.

BPI is accepting video applications rather than written applications to hopefully minimize the time it takes to apply. Please see information below for more details on how to apply.

Eligibility

- Organization’s work/project must be based on one of the four main areas highlighted in BPI’s Rethinking Philanthropy report and specifically impact the black community in Forsyth County.
- The organization/group must have an annual budget size under $150,000.
- If the organization/group does not have a 501(c)(3) nonprofit status, it must either have a fiscal agent that does have one or an organizational bank account.
- Organization/group must not proselytize or deny services based upon religious beliefs.

What and Who We Fund

BPI’s Impact Grants may be used for general operating and/or a specific program or project. The BPI Grants Committee will make grant decisions based on eligibility, creativity, current and potential impact of the organization/project, and demonstrated dedication and passion for the work. Strong preference will be given to:

- Black-led groups/organizations
- Organizations and programs that invest directly in predominately black neighborhoods (including 27101, 27105 and 27107)

Application Timeline:

- January 16th: Impact grant opportunity announced
- February 10th: Video application deadline (no exceptions)
- Week of February 24th: Notification of funding decisions
How to Apply:

- Organizations are asked to complete a short online form as well as upload a maximum 4-minute video which will serve as their application. If you need assistance gaining access to a computer or recording device, contact Andrea Hulighan at ahulighan@wsfoundation.org or (336)-714-3467.

- Submitting Video Applications:
  - Visit www.wsfoundation.org/bpi and scroll down to grants

- Questions organizations must answer in the video:
  1. Tell us about you. What is your mission and what issues are you trying to address with your work?
  2. If granted the $1,000 from BPI, what would you do with the funds?
  3. How does your organization and/or project align with one or more of the four main areas identified in BPI’s 2018 Rethinking Philanthropy report?
     - a. Read the full report at www.wsfoundation.org/bpi or use the following downloadable link: https://docs.wsfoundation.org/bpi/Rethinking+Philanthropy.pdf
  4. What impact are you hoping to make? How will you know you have been successful?

If you have any questions, contact Andrea Hulighan, Director of Strategic Initiatives at ahulighan@wsfoundation.org or (336)-714-3467