

Latino Giving - Houston
2012 REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS

*All materials must **BE RECEIVED** by 5 p.m. Central Standard Time on **Monday, May 7, 2012.***

Overview

The mission of Latino Giving - Houston (LGH) is to encourage philanthropy in the Latino community, to contribute to the community in a strategic and meaningful way and to bring a new source of funding to nonprofit organizations serving the Latino community throughout the Greater Houston area. Our strength lies in our collective giving; by pooling our funds, we make a more effective, powerful impact together than we could through individual contributions. Latino Giving - Houston provides the opportunity to learn about issues, organizations and giving opportunities in the Latino community, and aims to pass on a tradition of philanthropy to a new generation.

In 2012, Latino Giving - Houston will distribute one grant for \$8,000 to support Latino-focused organizations, projects and activities throughout the Greater Houston area. Nonprofit, tax-exempt 501(c)3 organizations (or projects with a fiscal sponsor meeting this designation) are eligible to apply. New and emerging organizations or programs meeting these criteria are welcome to apply. Applicants must meet Latino Giving – Houston’s mission in that the proposed activity or project serves Latinos in the Greater Houston area.

For additional information about Latino Giving - Houston, please go to our website at www.latinogivinghouston.org.

Eligibility

- Proposed programs must benefit the Latino community.
- Proposed programs must serve individuals in Harris, Fort Bend, Montgomery, Brazoria, Galveston, Liberty, Waller, and/or Chambers counties.
- Organization must either have a 501(c)3 designation or have a fiscal sponsor with a 501(c)3 designation.
- Organization should demonstrate broad-based support from the community.
- Organization should demonstrate organizational fiscal responsibility.
- Organization should demonstrate responsible board governance through 100% board giving and 75% attendance rate.
- Organization should demonstrate that it provides services without discriminating on the basis of gender, sexual orientation, ability, age or religion.

Latino Giving – Houston will not award grants for the following:

- Memorials
- Partisan, political lobbying or legislative activities
- General fund drives or annual appeals
- Fraternal, sectarian and religious organizations where the grant is intended for the principal benefit of the organization’s own members or adherents, or where the grant is intended for inherently religious activities
- Private foundations
- Legal expenses incurred in any action by or against the organization
- Fundraising activities or events

Review Process/Timeline

LGH has a three-part Grant Application process:

- (1) **Grant Application:** Each organization must submit a completed Grant Application. You will also be asked to submit various supporting documents (see Grant Checklist on page 4). Grant applications must be received by

the submission deadline of Monday, May 7, 2012 (5:00pm CST). The LGH Grants Committee will review all Grant Applications and select 4 organizations to participate in Round 2, which involves Site Visits.

- (2) Site Visit: Members of LGH will conduct the site visits, which will provide an opportunity for members to meet the people behind the organization requesting funding. Site visits include one-on-one interviews with selected representatives from the organization and generally last two (2) hours and will be scheduled for June/July 2012.
- (3) Annual Meeting: Information about each organization will be sent to all LGH members. At or before the meeting, LGH's members will then vote on the grant recipients, with each member casting one vote and the majority deciding the final grant recipient. The annual meeting will take place in August. Upon completion of the voting process, the grant check will be distributed to one organization by September 2012.

Evaluation

LGH requires that the grant recipient submit an evaluation report upon expenditure of grant funds. All grant funds should be expended within one year of receipt of the grant or you may be asked to forfeit the remainder. LGH emphasizes the use of evaluation to measure program progress and outcomes, promote learning from experience, improve program performance and encourage our grantees to build effective self-evaluation plans into their projects. Copies of the report form can be found on our website at www.latinogivinghouston.org.

Submission

Completed Grant Applications may be submitted by:

- (1) Emailing an electronic copy of a complete application plus supporting documents to:
LatinoGiving@gmail.com
Note: PDF format.

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GRANT APPLICATION CHECKLIST

All of the following documents must be received for the application to be considered complete:

- A completed grant application
- A detailed program budget (if applying for program funding)
- Letters of support (optional; please limit to 3)
- Organization must complete a nonprofit profile on DonorHouston
 - For assistance with this task, please contact
 - Eileen Alexander, Greater Houston Community Foundation, 713-333-2200 or ealexander@ghcf.org
 - Profiles must have been updated within the past 12 months from **Monday, May 7, 2012.**

If the organization is applying through a fiscal sponsor, the fiscal sponsor must provide the following:

- A letter of commitment from the fiscal sponsor
- Fiscal sponsors must complete a nonprofit profile on DonorHouston