



2023 RAINBOW GRANTS APPLICATION GUIDE

MISSION OF THE COMMUNITY ONE FOUNDATION

Community One Foundation creates a strong, vibrant, and diverse community by supporting individuals and groups that enhance the development of the 2SLGBTQQ+ (Two-Spirit, Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender, Transsexual, Intersex, Queer, and Questioning) communities in the Greater Toronto Area (the “GTA”) including Toronto, Durham, Peel, and York regions, as well as Halton Region.

ELEVATING & RESPECTING INDIGENOUS & EQUITY-DESERVING COMMUNITIES

The Community One Foundation firmly believes in holding up the resistance of Indigenous Peoples and the voices of queer, trans, and Two-Spirit Indigenous Peoples in our communities. We are always striving to support anti-/de-colonial initiatives and move toward reconciliation and Indigenous sovereignty.

We welcome and embrace programs/initiatives and activities that will support and elevate people in alignment to these beliefs – both driven from within and in partnership/consultation with these communities.

WHAT IS COMMUNITY ONE FOUNDATION’S RAINBOW GRANTS PROGRAM?

Community One Foundation offers a variety of funding opportunities for groups, registered charities, and individuals to respond to community needs and meet the charitable interests of our donors. Community One Foundation awards Rainbow Grants annually to groups and organizations carrying out projects within the GTA (including Toronto, Durham, York, Halton and Peel Regions) in the areas of health & social services, arts & culture, education, and research & advocacy. Grants may also be made to individuals for projects that will have a demonstrable impact on the broader community.

Grant-funded activities for the 2023 Rainbow Grants must take place between the dates of July 1, 2023 and March 31, 2024.

For tips & tricks in writing a winning grant application, check out our [2022 Grant Writing Workshop here](#). Community One strongly encourages applications that prioritize and center the work of Two-Spirit, Indigenous, Black, People of Colour, Trans, Non-binary, and other equity deserving communities.

For 2023, there continue to be 3 Rainbow Grant categories:

- The James Stewart Rainbow Grant
- Foundation Rainbow Grants
- General Fund Rainbow Grants

Community One Foundation prioritizes granting seed money to new or groundbreaking ideas that have a difficult time accessing funding through mainstream sources.

Rainbow Grants are not intended to provide ongoing operating support for projects or programs.

However, we respect that projects may take time to become self-sustaining or find other sources of funding.

KEY DATES

- March 15, 2023 – Applications Open
- March 16, 2023 – Rainbow Grants Grant Writing Workshop
- May 1, 2023 – Applications Close
- Mid-May – Rainbow Grants Committee Meets to Make Funding Decisions
- Late May – Funding Decisions Announced
- Late June – Rainbow Grants Ceremony

RAINBOW GRANTS – OVERVIEW

1. James Stewart Rainbow Grant - \$10,000

The James Stewart Grant stream awards up to \$10,000 to a community-based organization that has direct impact within the Greater Toronto Area. ***This grant is available only to registered charities.*** This grant stream focuses on one or more of the following key areas:

- Seeding new and innovative projects to combat discrimination based on sexual/gender identities and creating an atmosphere of respect and acceptance.
- Supporting needed but underfunded services to 2SLGBTIQ+ individuals and families.
- Providing programming specifically aimed at supporting newcomers to Canada who have identified themselves within 2SLGBTIQ+ communities.

2. Foundation Rainbow Grants - \$7,500

The Foundation Grant stream provides up to \$7,500 in funding **to registered charities and those who have an agreement with a registered charity to act as their trustee.** A grant of \$7,500 for one project would be an exceptional situation. Grants are more generally in the \$3,000 to \$4,500 range.

3. General Rainbow Grants - \$1,500

The General Grant stream provides up to \$1,500 in funding and is open to individuals and groups not eligible for Foundation Grants. **Charitable status is not a requirement for this stream.** We advise applicants to apply for amounts between \$1,000 and \$1,500. The minimum grant in this category is \$750. Those applying for this stream in particular should be aware that it is a competitive process; it is recommended that you consider securing a trustee and applying for a Foundation Grant whenever possible.

Please note that each applicant is only eligible to apply under one category. However, if an organization has more than one project in which they are applying for grants, the organization can request a grant under different categories for each project.

RAINBOW GRANTS – APPLICATION PROCESS

The deadline for submitting 2023 Grant Applications is 5 pm (EST) Monday, May 1st, 2023

Grant Applications submitted Online

All grants will be submitted to Community One through the online *Zengine* application management platform. A link will be provided on the Community One Foundation website once applications open. Once there you will register an account using an email address and a password. Once registered you may complete the online form. Drafts of your application can be saved at any point and returned to later for completion. **Please ensure that completed applications are submitted by hitting the “Submit” button at the end of the application. Otherwise, applications remain in “draft” mode and will not be considered complete nor accepted.**

If you have other questions, [please email Karen Arthurton, our Rainbow Grants Chair.](#)

COMPLETING THE FORM ONLINE

PART A – APPLICANT SUMMARY

Grant Category

Please select the category your project most closely aligns with: Arts & Culture; Health & Social Services; or Research Education & Advocacy. We match applications with grant reviewers with the relevant expertise. ***If your project covers more than one area, please select the best fit on the checklist page, but indicate how it crosses areas under the Project Detail section.***

Project Name

Please provide a descriptive name for your project; the project name should not be the name of the organization or individual applying for funding.

Are you a first-time applicant?

If yes, please list the name(s) of any previous projects funded by Rainbow Grants.

How does your project meet the needs of equity-deserving community members (QT-BIPOC)?

Priority will be given to first time applicants and members of queer and trans, Black, Indigenous, People of Colour groups.

PART B – APPLICANT AND PROJECT OVERVIEW

Please note that some questions vary according to the type of grant applied for i.e., General Grants vs. James Stewart or Foundation Grants. Please read the questions carefully.

Applicant Contact Name

Please ensure that the contact person will be available between the dates that applications are submitted,

and results are notified. The contact person should be able to respond to questions about the project and will receive all correspondence about the application and its result. This should be the individual managing the project.

Project Summary

Generally, this section should provide a brief overview of the projects' activities and aims and its key beneficiaries. ***Please see the Project Details section below.*** The Project Summary should be 2 to 3 sentences or 100 words maximum. Please do not write "See Application". Community One Foundation will publish this summary in Foundation publicity materials.

Amount Requested

Please see the Granting Overview section above for more information about maximum and average request amounts. Please note that for Foundation Grants, organizations are restricted to a total dollar request of \$7,500 per organization (although this does not include instances where a charity is also acting as the trustee for a group or individual). Multiple project requests are acceptable, but the total dollar request should not exceed \$7,500 unless the projects are being applied for under separate categories (Foundation Grants and James Stewart Community Grants). For General Grants, requests should not be more than \$1,500. Funds are not intended for projects that will be almost complete by the time grants are awarded in June 2024 nor for multi-year projects. ***Please see the Budget Template Form for information on eligible/ineligible expenses.***

PART C – APPLICANT BACKGROUND INFORMATION

Organization / Applicant Information

Please provide a brief summary of your group or organization, including when it was established and a brief summary of its mission & goals. For individuals, please briefly describe your mission, goals, experience, and how you came to be active in the community in your specific area, craft or artistry. You may want to include particular issues or challenges that you, your community and/or organization are facing.

PARTS D & E – PROJECT DETAIL and ACTIVITY PLAN

These sections should generally highlight why the project is needed and how you hope to achieve your goals. You should demonstrate how your project will have an impact on the community, that it has realistic goals, and that you have the necessary resources to complete the project.

Project Name

This will be the same name used in Part A (see above).

Project Timeframe

Please outline the anticipated start and end dates for the proposed activities. Grants can be made for projects of any length but grant activities for the 2023 cycle must take place between June 1, 2023 and March 31, 2024.

Beneficiaries

Please provide a clear description of who will benefit from the project (within the GTA; by GTA we mean

Toronto, York, Peel, Durham and Halton Regions) and how they will benefit; also, an estimated number of community members/participants/clients who will benefit from the initiative.

Additional Material

If any additional information or supplemental material may help grant reviewers understand the organization, the capacity you have to carry out the proposed project, or how the proposed project will look, please submit them with your application. Examples of additional material include annual reports, financial statements, brochures, videos, etc.

PART F – PAST APPLICATIONS

Previous Applications

Please indicate whether any individuals or organizations involved in the proposed project have applied for funding from the Community One Foundation in the past five years – including grants from the Foundation’s former Pride Grants Program. If you have received funding in previous years for projects, you must have submitted all required reporting documentation in order to be considered for funding. If you received a grant in 2022, please ensure that your final report is submitted no later than **February 28th, 2023**. If there have been delays with your 2022 project activities but your activities will be complete and your report submitted by the end of March 2023, please contact the Rainbow Grants Committee as soon as possible.

PART G – COLLABORATION

Community One Foundations requests that successful grant applicants communicate that their projects were funded in part by a grant from Community One Foundation. We would like to support projects in the community not only through granting, but also through promotion. An initiative continues at Community One Foundation to cross-promote our grantees and their projects through Community One Foundation’s social media (*Facebook, Twitter, Instagram, Linked In, and Website*). We ask our grantees whether they would like to be involved in this initiative. Please note that whether successful applicants choose to participate, Community One reserves the right to publish the organizations/projects who have received a grant both on our website and through other communication materials.

PART H – SIGN-OFF

This section must be completed. For groups or charitable organizations, the signatory must be an authorized signatory of the organization. Otherwise, the signature should be the applicant. The signature acts as certification that all of the information in the application is true and complete. It also certifies that if funds are awarded they will be used for the purposes described in this proposal and that the applicant will abide by the policies and requirements of the Foundation. It is the responsibility of the applicant to forward any information changes to the Foundation as soon as possible.

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

LETTERS OF REFERENCE

Please attach **two (2) letters** from individuals or organizations (“referees”) familiar with the applicant but not associated with the proposed project. Letters should include the names, telephone numbers and email addresses of the referee and may be followed up on. **Letters must be specifically in support of the project**, and not just the organization or individual applying. Ideally referees should be at ‘arms-length’ from the applicant and their project but should be familiar with and able to vouch for the applicant and their work. References should indicate the context they know the applicant in and how long they have known them, and should comment on the experience, skills and capacity of the applicant to carry out this specific

project. For returning applicants, please ensure an updated reference letter. **REFERENCE LETTERS CANNOT BE REUSED AND MUST BE UNIQUE, OTHERWISE THE APPLICATION WILL BE DISQUALIFIED.**

GRANTING PROCESS/TIMELINE

The Grants Allocation Committee, composed of a broad range of community members, reviews all grants in May 2023. All applicants will receive notification regarding their grant by mid-May 2023.

Successful grant applicants will be invited to attend the Rainbow Grants Event, which will take place in late June 2023. It is at this event where successful applicants will be awarded their cheques and will have the opportunity to meet other members of the community who have supported or been impacted by the Rainbow Grants program.

For any successful grant applicant who is unable to attend the event, the grant cheque will be mailed immediately following the event to the address provided on the grant application form.

REQUIREMENTS OF GRANT RECIPIENTS

All grant recipients must sign and return the Letter of Agreement prior to receiving funds from Community One Foundation. The Letter of Agreement will be sent with the acceptance notification in mid-May. All grant recipients must report back to Community One Foundation on their progress. Depending on the length of the project, the recipient may be required to complete an interim progress report along with a final progress report. ***Failure to report will have an impact on future grant applications.***

2023 APPLICATION DEADLINE

**APPLICATIONS MUST BE COMPLETED & SUBMITTED ONLINE BY
Monday, May 1st, 2023 - BY 5:00 PM (EST)**

Application Submission & Working Portal (“Zengine”)
https://webportalapp.com/appform/rainbow_grants_2023

LATE OR INCOMPLETE APPLICATIONS WILL NOT BE ACCEPTED
PLEASE PRINT A COPY OF YOUR COMPLETED APPLICATION FOR YOUR RECORDS.

For more information or any questions - please call 416-920-5422 or
Email karthurt@torontomu.ca with a CC to grants@communityone.ca

Please note that the Rainbow Grants are administered by Community One Foundation volunteers.
Please allow at least 48 hours for a response.