

# RISE-NYC! APPLICATION GUIDELINES

**Respond, Inspire, Solve, Engage**

**Now more than ever**

## **Accelerating Economic Security for Women and Families in NYC**

Driven by our commitment to promote economic justice for New York City's women and families and in an effort to respond to their increased need during this economic downturn, The New York Women's Foundation® and its partners are inviting applications to the second year of **RISE-NYC!**

**RISE-NYC!** will mobilize financial and human resources to:

- Promote financial stability and economic security for women and families hardest hit by the crisis.
- Create opportunities for New Yorkers to volunteer their skills and talents to assist women and families dealing with a variety of challenges during this crisis.
- Align our responses with those from other sectors to maximize investments and accelerate solutions.

**RISE-NYC!** will fund New York City community-based organizations targeting women and families with specific emphasis on single female heads of households, underserved older women, and immigrants who lagged behind even during the boom economy. These groups of women and families are disproportionately impacted as retail, personal service, tourism and service sector companies downsize. Furthermore, the financial services sector, a fundamental source of employment in New York City, has contracted; severely impacting women and families, many of whom are facing economic difficulties and near-poverty conditions for the first time.

## **RISE-NYC! GRANT-MAKING GUIDELINES**

**RISE-NYC!** will make **one-year grants to maintain and expand existing programs** in the five boroughs of New York City that promote family stability and economic security for women and families impacted by the economic crisis. **Grant awards will not exceed \$75,000.**

**RISE-NYC!** is open to New York City nonprofit organizations **not currently** funded by the New York Women's Foundation.

## **PROGRAM AREAS**

**RISE-NYC!** seeks programs that create immediate responses and/or systemic change enabling women and families to maintain and restore family stability and economic security during the economic downturn. RISE-NYC! will fund programs in the following areas:

### **EDUCATION, TRAINING AND EMPLOYMENT**

We will fund programs that provide women with increased access to educational opportunities preparing them for higher paying jobs in high-growth, high-demand sectors such as technology, healthcare, green jobs, as well as nontraditional careers such as “shovel ready” jobs in construction.

### **BUSINESS DEVELOPMENT**

We will fund programs that help women and families build and increase assets through such approaches as microenterprise financing, development and training; small business development, and the creation of individual development accounts.

### **FAMILY STABILITY AND SAFETY**

We will fund programs that strengthen family stability utilizing a variety of strategies such as financial literacy and skills development; increasing access to work and income supports such as child care, after-school programs, and government benefits; and providing urgent mental health, domestic violence and other crisis intervention services.

## **LETTER OF INTENT INFORMATION SESSION**

The Foundation will host an information session on Thursday, July 1, 2010 from 3:00 PM to 5:00 PM. To register, email Megan Guzman, Program Officer, at [mguzman@nywvf.org](mailto:mguzman@nywvf.org) no later than Monday, June 28, 2010.

## **RISE-NYC! APPLICATION PROCESS**

### ***PROPOSALS ARE BY INVITATION ONLY***

New York City nonprofit organizations are required to submit a letter of intent *online* by 11:59 PM on Friday, July 16, 2010. The Foundation will not accept letters of intent after 11:59 PM, nor will it accept letters of intent that are not submitted online. Selected organizations will receive invitations to apply by Tuesday, August 3, 2010. Proposals will be due on Tuesday, August 31, 2010 by 11:59 PM and awards will be announced the week of December 6, 2010.

### **IMPORTANT DATES**

<b>Release of Application Guidelines</b>	Monday, June 21, 2010
<b>Information Session</b>	Thursday, July 1, 2010, 3:00 PM – 5:00 PM
<b>Letter of Intent Deadline</b>	Friday, July 16, 2010, 11:59 p.m.
<b>Invitation to submit proposal</b>	Selected organizations will receive invitations to submit proposals by Tuesday, August 3, 2010
<b>Proposal Submission Deadline</b>	Tuesday, August 31, 2010, 11:59 PM
<b>Site Visit Period</b>	Organizations invited to submit proposals will be visited between Thursday, September 30 and Thursday, October 28, 2010. Applicant organizations will have the opportunity to list preferred site visit dates in the proposal form
<b>Notification of funding decision</b>	Week of Monday, December 6, 2010
<b>Grant Year Begins</b>	Wednesday, December 22, 2010

## **RISE-NYC! CRITERIA**

**RISE-NYC!** welcomes **letters of intent** from organizations that:

- Are a registered 501(c)3 nonprofit organization;
- Are located within and serve the five boroughs of New York City;
- Are working towards gender, racial, economic and social justice;
- Are designed specifically for women and girls while addressing critical needs of disadvantaged and/or marginalized populations, particularly women and girls of color; immigrant and undocumented women and girls; lesbian, gay, bisexual or transgender individuals; women and girls with disabilities; older women; homeless women; survivors of domestic violence; ex-offenders; or other underserved populations;
- Emphasize community organizing and/or advocacy strategies in order to create meaningful institutional change in their communities;
- Are diverse and inclusive;
- Foster women's leadership, that is, women have the ability to influence decision-making by serving as Executive Director, on the organization's or program's leadership team, and/ or on the board of directors or an advisory committee;
- Encourage the involvement of program participants and constituents in the decision-making process and in assuming leadership positions;
- Encourage communication and shared understanding with men and/or boys as a way to further gender equity;
- Are community-based, which may be defined by geography, shared interest and/or heritage;

**RISE-NYC!** **does not** provide funds to:

- campaigns to elect candidates to public office
- capital fund projects
- endowments
- feasibility studies
- fundraising events
- individuals
- needs assessments
- programs located outside the five boroughs of New York City
- programs that do not comply with federal, state, or local equal employment statutes
- programs to promote religious activities
- public or private schools, colleges or universities
- real estate purchases
- summer-only programs

## **LETTER OF INTENT INSTRUCTIONS**

Visit [https://www.GrantRequest.com/SID\\_388?SA=SNA&FID=35013](https://www.GrantRequest.com/SID_388?SA=SNA&FID=35013) to access the RISE-NYC! Letter of Intent Application and submit your Letter of Intent electronically.

**Letters of Intent should be typed in 12 point font, single-spaced with 1” margins, and be no more than 3 pages. Letters of Intent should:**

- Describe the need for services.
- Describe the connection between the identified need and the economic recession.
- Describe the program to be funded including population to be served.
- Provide an overview of the organization’s experience in operating the program and serving population identified above.
- Provide an overview of the anticipated outcomes and impact of the program to the population served.
- List program area category, amount being requested, and the organization’s budget for fiscal years 2010 and 2011.
- Identify the organization’s leadership and program contact.

**Letters of Intent** should be addressed to:

*Megan Guzman  
Program Officer  
The New York Women’s Foundation  
434 West 33<sup>rd</sup> Street, 8<sup>th</sup> Floor  
New York, NY 10001-2601*

### **REMINDER**

**New York City nonprofit organizations are required to submit a letter of intent online by Friday, July 16, 2010 at 11:59 PM. Letters of Intent received after this time will not be considered.**

If you have any questions contact Megan Guzman, NYWF Program Officer, at 212-261-4364 or [mguzman@nywf.org](mailto:mguzman@nywf.org)

*The New York Women’s Foundation is a cross-cultural alliance of women helping low-income women and girls in the five boroughs to achieve sustained economic security through expanded opportunities. We work together to transform the conditions of poverty and to create an equitable and just future for low-income women and girls in New York City.*