### Grants 101

**Equipping Young Changemakers** 

Melissa Diamond

#### About Me

- Experience on both sides of the grant process
  - Applying on behalf of non-profits and multi-laterals
    - Local, national and international organizations
    - \$1,000-\$32 million
  - Foundation Advisory Boards

## What is a Grant?

## Funding for an organization that does not have to be repaid

- Often for non-profits
- Achieve shared interests of grant maker and grantee

#### Different types

- Government, University, Foundation
- General Operating, Project-Based
- Open Calls for Proposals vs. Invitation Only

#### An Opportunity

## Why Pursue Grants?



Sustainably support projects



Scale your impact



Build credibility for your organization

## What are YOU looking to fund?

Tell us about a project or organizational need you are interested in funding through grants

## Finding Grants



1) Speak the Funder's Language



2) Find Prospects



3) Track Applications and Prospects



4) Report & Communicate

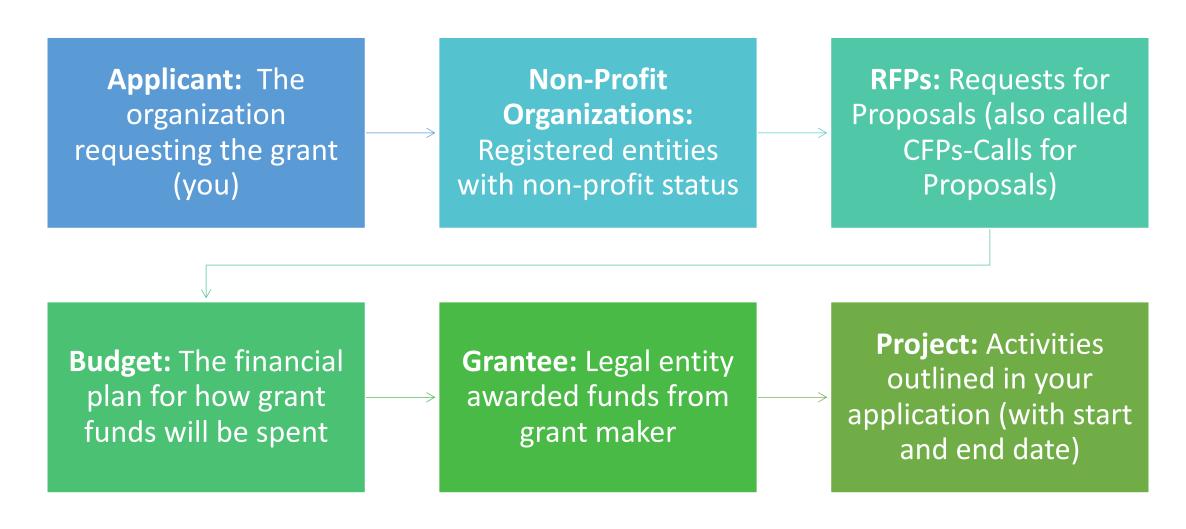


5) Cultivate Funder Relationships

## 1) Speak the Funder's Language

Understanding and applying key terms when searching, applying and engaging

## First...Some Important Terms



#### Know Your Prospective Funder



What are their priorities?



What are their 5 Ws?



## What are their selection criteria?

Frequent criteria include:

- Framing of Project Need
- Project Design Quality
- Quality of Evaluation Plan
- Scalability
- Organization/Team Qualifications



How to find the grants that are right for you and your organization

## Know Your Databases

#### Databases can show you grants by:

- Funder focus area
- Country
- Grant Size

## Provide details on past grantees and funded projects

• Find funders that support projects like yours

#### Places to get started

- Funds for NGOs (Free and Paid Versions)
- Foundation Directory Online (Paid)
- Grant Watch (Paid)
- Your local or university library

### Once You Have Prospects

#### Confirm

- Confirm your eligibility
  - If you're not sure, ASK
  - Start small and grow grant size: if you're making a leap (ie. \$5,000 to \$75,000), ask the funder first

#### Document

Track your prospects

#### Make Time

- Set aside time
  - Don't start your application the day before it's due!

#### **Collect Materials**

- Collect the required documents
  - Financials and annual reports are often required for \$10,000+

#### Draft

 Draft a customized narrative

#### Resources to Get Started



#### **The Pollination Project**

\$1,000 micro grants for social impact projects worldwide

Projects/organizations must be volunteer-run



#### **Catchafire**

Volunteer professionals can help with grants and other short-term projects

Sponsored subscriptions through community foundations

## 3) Track Applications & Prospects

Don't miss key deadlines

## Why Track?



Develop funding strategy



Quickly identify potential co-funders



Know when to follow up



Meet key deadlines

## Track Your Grants

	А	В	С	D	Е	F
1	Grant Focus	Amount	Due Date	Date of Submission	Link/Details	Results

# 4) Reporting To Funders

Give your funder exactly what they need



### Respect Your Funder

- Abide by agreed upon project deadlines
  - If you can't do so for any reason, communicate with your funder
- Be proactive
  - Reach out to your funder—don't wait for then to reach out to you!
- Give your funder the information and updates they need
  - Funders rely on this information to share with their stakeholders



## Different funders require different types of reports and levels of detail:

- Financial Reports
  - Receipts
  - Narratives
  - Alignment with Proposed Budget
- Project Narratives
- Outputs, Outcomes & Impact Data
  - Outputs-Services Delivered (ex. # of people trained, # of attendees)
  - Outcomes-Results of Outputs (ex. % of trainees whose stress levels decreased)
  - Impacts-The ultimate change you want to achieve (ex. a safer community for children)

## 5) Cultivate Funder Relationships

Build funding ecosystems for sustainable growth

#### Funder Recognition

- Find out how your funder likes to be recognized
  - Some funders like to be acknowledged on websites/in publications
  - Other funders prefer their contributions not be advertised

• Send thank you emails after calls



# After Your Grant Is Over

#### Stay in touch with your funders

Send regular updates about your work and organization

## Ask your funder for guidance on future funding opportunities

- Are you eligible for upcoming grants from the funder?
- May provide introductions to other funders and recommendations
  - When a funder makes an introduction for you, ALWAYS follow up

