



## A Better Chicago Emergency Relief Fund Application

### Overview

Funds will support the urgent needs of young people and their families, with a specific focus on Black and Latinx youth due to the disproportionate impact of COVID-19 on these communities and the systemic inequities that exist in Chicago. Grants may be requested from nonprofit organizations for the following needs:

- Providing direct financial support (e.g. stipends to students who have lost work)
- Providing essential goods and services (e.g. groceries)
- Rapidly innovating to continue delivering high-quality programming (e.g. virtual instruction)

*Grant amount and duration will vary based on need, potential impact, and available funds. We anticipate making grants ranging from \$20K-\$100K over three to six months. We are currently providing funding for organizations serving youth and families in Cook County, DuPage County, Kane County, Lake County, McHenry County, and Will County.*

### Instructions

- To be considered for a grant from A Better Chicago's Emergency Relief Fund, please respond to the questions listed below. Be sure to focus all answers on the specific project or initiative for which you are seeking relief funding.
- Our goal is to make this application as accessible as possible. With that in mind, please feel free to submit any of the following:
  - Via email: [ERF@abetterchicago.org](mailto:ERF@abetterchicago.org)
    - Written responses (in email body or attached)
    - Voice or video recording
    - Proposals or other materials developed for other funders
  - Via [Google form](#)

*Note: When crafting answers from scratch, feel free to keep them brief (2-3 sentences each); however, there is no need to pare down longer answers if you're able to pull in existing content from other proposals or materials.*

## **Applicant Information**

- Organization:
- Organization Address:
- Executive director:
- Executive director e-mail:
- Application contact person (if different):
- Application contact email (if different):
- Application contact phone:
- If this proposal reflects a collaborative relief effort, please list partner organizations:

## **Relief Effort Details**

### *Need and target population*

1. Please explain the need for a relief grant, including how the COVID-19 crisis is creating or exacerbating the challenge you aim to address.
2. Who are you seeking to support through this effort? As relevant, please share demographic characteristics (e.g., age, race), socio-economic status, and geography (e.g., region or neighborhoods)

### *Approach and intended impact*

1. Describe the project/initiative. What specific programming or services will you provide? How does this differ from or expand upon your typical programming or services?
2. What is the intended impact(s) of this effort? In other words, if successful, what will be true because of it? How will you assess short-term progress toward that intended impact?

### *Potential reach*

1. Approximately how many individuals or families are you seeking to serve through this effort? Over what time frame?
2. What is your budget for this effort (in other words, estimated cost over and above expenses incurred through your typical programming)? What are the major cost drivers and their approximate amounts?

### *Reporting*

1. If you receive relief funding, what data or information related to this effort and its impact would you be able to report to A Better Chicago? (For example, details related to beneficiaries, services provided, impact on beneficiaries)

## **Additional Information**

1. What is your organization's overall budget for the current fiscal year?
2. When was your organization founded?
3. Does your organization have 501c3 status? If you are operating under a fiscal sponsorship, what organization is serving as your fiscal sponsor?

4. Please confirm that you will be able to provide the following if invited to advance in A Better Chicago's selection process OR explain why not:
  - 501c3 determination letter of your organization or fiscal sponsor
  - Financials:
    - Most recent audited financial statements
    - Current year budget
  - Hi-resolution logo
5. If A Better Chicago shares information received through this process with other funders considering relief-focused grants, would you like us to include your application?
6. How did you learn about the A Better Chicago Emergency Relief Fund?
7. **Optional:** If you would like to request a specific funding amount, please share it here. Please note that this is not required, as A Better Chicago will determine grant amounts based on a range of inputs, including need, potential impact, and available funds.
8. **Optional:** Beyond grant dollars, what could A Better Chicago potentially provide to support your relief efforts (e.g., infrastructure, capacity-building support)?