

## **AIDS Funding Collaborative 2017 Responsive Grant Review Criteria**

Grants from the AIDS Funding Collaborative are awarded on the basis of a review process involving the following steps:

- Review of Letters of Inquiry (LOIs) by the AFC Grant Committee;
- Site visits with organizations invited to submit a full proposal;
- Review of proposals by the AFC Grant Committee and final follow-up with organizations, as needed, to come to consensus on funding recommendations;
- Review and discussion of the AFC Grant Committee's written recommendations, and decision-making by majority vote of the full AFC advisory committee.

The AFC grant committee is comprised of AFC staff and members of the AFC's advisory committee representing our public and private funding partners, designated organizations, and community-at-large members.

In deciding whether or not to request a full proposal, the AFC assesses the available grantmaking dollars and the degree to which:

- The project is responsive to one of the four priorities (as outlined in the RFA) of:
  1. Harm Reduction
  2. Capacity Building
  3. PrEP
  4. PEP
- The need for the project is clear and demonstrates service to individuals living in the most affected neighborhoods and populations
- The project relates to the National HIV/AIDS Strategy goals (resource: <https://www.aids.gov/federal-resources/national-hiv-aids-strategy/nhas-update.pdf>)
- The project has clear goals and measurable objectives
- The project's activities are fully conceptualized (with evidence to support them) and are designed to increase the likelihood that the program will be successful
- The proposed budget is reasonable and appropriate for the proposed project
- The organization meets the eligibility requirements, and has the leadership, staff, infrastructure, and expertise to carry out the project (e.g., history of successful outcomes; experience well-suited to the proposed project)
- The organization has an understanding of their/their project's role in the local HIV/AIDS continuum of care and is well linked to appropriate partners
- The application is complete, accurate, and meets the LOI application guidelines

As stated in the RFA, if all other review criteria are equivalent, AFC gives special consideration to projects that are collaborative in nature and/or utilize well-qualified people living with HIV in the conceptualization, delivery or evaluation of the project.

In reviewing invited proposals, the AFC assesses the above criteria and additionally determines the degree to which:

- The proposal addresses the questions raised during the review of the Letter of Inquiry
- The project and its benefits will live beyond the AFC's funding
- The application is complete, accurate, and meets the proposal application guidelines

Funding decisions are also influenced by the available dollars for the grantmaking cycle.

Questions about the RFA, application process, or review criteria can be directed to Lindsay Marcus, (216) 781-2944, x413 or [lmarcus@CommunitySolutions.com](mailto:lmarcus@CommunitySolutions.com).