

Justice Reinvestment Equity Program

Learning Community - Call for Applications

Application Deadline: Thursday, December 8, 2022 by 2pm PST

Are you part of a culturally specific or culturally responsive organization or group that is committed to reducing incarceration, promoting healing and advancing community safety in Oregon? Northwest Health Foundation (NWHF) invites your group to apply for our Learning Community to help plan the Justice Reinvestment Equity Program (JREP). Participating organizations will receive a \$10,000 grant to engage in this process.

Applications for the Learning Community open on November 3, 2022 and will be accepted until 2pm on December 8, 2022. We may consider additional applications after the application deadline, space permitting.

Please be sure to review the JREP Draft Plan and Frequently Asked Questions (FAQ) before reading this document. We also encourage you to register for the informational webinar on November 10, 2022 at 11am PST. A recording of the webinar will be posted to the JREP webpage.

Instructions on how to apply begin on page five.

Learn More

To learn more, visit northwesthealth.org/jrep.

Contact Us

We want to hear from you! If you're planning to apply or have questions, drop us a line.

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What is the Learning Community?

The Justice Reinvestment Equity Program (JREP) is a new funding program at NWHF. We are eager to learn from organizations led by and representing impacted communities about how JREP can best meet their needs and advance our shared goals.

Starting in January 2023, representatives from invited organizations will gather at virtual and in-person meetings to share their input on JREP. Representatives will also assess their organization's fit, capacity and readiness for the program during this time. These meetings will be an opportunity to connect with the NWHF team, hear from experts in the field and build relationships with other culturally specific organizations and culturally responsive providers. Outside of these meetings, representatives will hold conversations and conduct assessments about their participation with their organization's staff and leadership.

Through the Learning Community process, organizations will have the opportunity to guide the JREP Request for Proposals that will be released in May 2023. Participation in the Learning Community is not a promise on your part or NWHF's to receive JREP funding.

Participation and Expectations

- Around 20-30 organizations or groups will receive a \$10,000 grant to cover staffing, travel, lodging and other expenses related to their participation in the Learning Community.
- Organizations must bring the same two representatives to participate in all Learning Community meetings. This includes one person with decision-making authority, such as an executive director or board member, and one person who will be involved with implementing the JREP-funded project, such as a program staff member.
- Organizations are welcome to bring an additional two people to the Learning Community meetings. However, these individuals cannot attend in lieu of the same two representatives noted above.
- Organizations interested in building their internal capacity will have the opportunity to connect with the [Latino Coalition for Community Leadership \(LCCL\)](#). LCCL has nearly 20 years of experience providing culturally responsive technical assistance and capacity-building support to community-based organizations across the country. They work with all culturally specific organizations irrespective of the communities they serve.

Learning Community Convenings

Please hold the following dates to participate in the Learning Community process. Specific times and locations will be announced in January 2023.

January 19, 2022 - Welcome & orientation webinar

February 23, 2023 - Virtual meeting, half day

March 8, 2023 - Virtual meeting, half day

Week of April 3, 2023 (tbd) - In-person convening, multi-day (location tbd)

April 2023 - Planning for organizational growth and capacity-building provided by Latino Coalition for Community Leadership

February-May 2023 - NWHF conducts one-on-one meetings and/or site visits with groups

April-June 2023 - Request for Proposal response planning and technical support provided by Latino Coalition for Community Leadership

What will we know at the end of the Learning Community?

During this process, organizations will provide input on our JREP plans and assess their fit, capacity and readiness for the program. This may include conversations with your executive and board leadership and staff.

During the Learning Community process, groups will:

- Provide input on JREP, including its program/service priorities, geographic focus, grant structure, capacity building program and evaluation
- Assess interest, readiness and appetite to participate in JREP, including capacity-building needs
- Learn about the evaluation of JREP that the Oregon Criminal Justice Commission will conduct
- Identify organizational strengths, capacities and readiness to implement and/or expand culturally specific or responsive programming
- Assess willingness to be vulnerable and share internal systems with the Latino Coalition for Community Leadership to build internal capacity

Who should apply to join the Learning Community?

Applicants must be a culturally specific organization or culturally responsive service provider to participate in the Learning Community.

“Culturally responsive service” means a service that is respectful of, and relevant to, the beliefs, practices, cultures and linguistic needs of diverse consumer or client populations and communities whose members identify as having particular cultural or linguistic affiliations by virtue of their place of birth, ancestry or ethnic origin, religion, preferred language or language spoken at home. A culturally responsive service has the capacity to respond to the issues of diverse communities and require knowledge and capacity at systemic, organizational, professional and individual levels of intervention.

“Culturally specific organization” means an organization, or a program within an organization, that serves a particular cultural community, that is primarily staffed and led by members of that community and that demonstrates self-advocacy, positive cultural identity and intimate knowledge of the lived experience of the community, including but not limited to: (A) The impact of structural and individual racism or discrimination on the community; (B) Specific disparities in access to services and resources experienced by the community; and (C) Community strengths, cultural practices, beliefs and traditions.

We want to engage organizations and groups with a range of experience and capacity related to service provision. This includes:

- 501(c)(3) organizations, fiscally-sponsored groups and federally recognized tribes in Oregon with an established culturally specific or culturally responsive program or services that align with JREP’s goals
- New or emerging groups providing culturally specific or culturally responsive services to the community that are interested in incorporating as a 501(c)(3) organization or securing a fiscal sponsorship
- 501(c)(3) organizations, fiscally-sponsored groups, or federally recognized tribes in Oregon that are interested in developing a culturally specific or culturally responsive program or services

To plan for JREP, we want to convene a group of organizations that:

- Are ready to advance the goals of JREP through their work

- Align with JREP's geographic focus and program/service priorities (Please reach out to NWHF for a conversation before applying if your work falls outside of these priority areas)
- Have a track record of being an accountable partner
- Have an interest in engaging with a new grants program where funding beyond 2025 is not guaranteed
- Are ready to build and deepen relationships across organizations and geographies
- Are willing to participate in an assessment of their readiness and fit for JREP, which may require disclosing their internal systems and processes already in place to the Latino Coalition for Community Leadership

How to Apply

You can submit your Learning Community Application online here. The application is a Google Form and will not save your responses automatically. **We strongly recommend composing your responses to the application questions (listed below) in a Word processor** and then copying and pasting them into the application form to avoid losing your work.

Applications are due by 2pm on Thursday, December 8, 2022.

NWHF is committed to making this process accessible for anyone interested in applying. If the Google Form application is not accessible for you we are happy to work with you to submit your information another way. Please contact us at grants@northwesthealth.org for assistance.

The online application is intentionally simple and relatively brief. NWHF staff may reach out to you after we receive your application if we need additional information as we make funding decisions. Organizations selected to participate in the Learning Community will be asked to submit some additional information via our grant application portal and will also be asked to sign a Grant Agreement with NWHF. You should expect to hear back from us with a funding decision by December 23, 2022. Grant Agreements and payments will be sent in January 2023.

Application Questions

1. Contact information for the person completing the application.
2. Organization information, including organization name, EIN, tax status, address, website (if you have a website) and fiscal sponsor information (if you have a fiscal sponsor).
3. Please indicate the geographic area(s) that your organization or group currently serves: Coos County, Clackamas County, Jackson County, Jefferson County, Klamath County, Malheur County, Marion County, Multnomah County, Umatilla County, Washington County, Tribal communities in Oregon, Other.
4. Describe how your organization or group fits within JREP's definition of a culturally specific organization or culturally responsive provider.
[Limit 1,500 characters including spaces]
5. Describe the program and/or services your organization or group provides and how it/they align(s) with JREP's goals.
[Limit 1,500 characters including spaces]
6. Please indicate the kind of programs/services your organization provides:
 - Violence reduction programs (e.g. violence interruption mentors, after-school programs for youth)
 - Re-entry programs connected to education, workforce development and transitional supports
 - Services for victims, including incarcerated victims or victims on pretrial release
 - None of the above
 - Other
7. Tell us why your organization or group wants to join the Learning Community.
[1,000 characters including spaces]
8. The Learning Community is a space that will require active participation, self-reflection and involvement of your leadership, staff and board. It may also require disclosing your internal systems with the Latino Coalition for Community Leadership to help assess an organization or group's readiness for JREP. Can you fully commit to participating in this entire program including the dates below? Please explain any potential conflicts and how they will be addressed.

- January 19, 2023 - Welcome & orientation webinar
- February 23, 2023 - Virtual meeting, half day
- March 8, 2023 - Virtual meeting, half day
- Week of April 3, 2023 (tbd) - In-person convening, multi-day (location tbd)

9. Organizations and groups must bring the same two representatives to participate in the Learning Community meetings. This includes one person with decision-making authority, such as an executive director or board member, and one person who will be involved with implementing the JREP-funded project, such as a program staff member. Please tell us the names of the people who will be representing your organization or group and their roles within your organization or group.

Key Dates

November 3, 2022 - Call for applications opens

November 10, 2022 - Informational webinar - recording will be posted

December 8, 2022 - Review of applications begins

December 23, 2022 - Decisions announced

January 2023 - Grant agreements executed and awards disbursed

January 19, 2023 - Welcome & orientation webinar

February 23, 2023 - Virtual meeting, half day

March 8, 2023 - Virtual meeting, half day

Week of April 3, 2023 (tbd) - In-person convening, multi-day (location tbd)

January-April 2023 - One-on-one meetings with groups, site visits

Additional dates related to grantmaking, evaluation, and future funding can be found on the [JREP webpage](#).