

CROSSROADS | FUND

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Community Organizing: Technology Funders Collaborative

Chicago and the nation are witnessing a tumultuous time in history – the novel coronavirus (COVID-19) has caused significant harm to people and further unveiled the inequities that exist in our society. Access to technology has surfaced as a key issue with many communities experiencing the technology divide.

Local Chicago foundations that support community organizing have come together to respond to this technology need. The foundations are committed to supporting innovative organizing strategies that now rely on technology more than ever. The support will be through rapid response technology grants that will be issued on a rolling basis and within 10 working days of receiving the request. Crossroads Fund will serve as the host organization for this collaborative.

Funding Criteria

Priority will be given to community organizing groups that have been funded by the following foundations in the last three years: Albert Pick Jr. Foundation, Comer Family Foundation, Conant Family Foundation, Crossroads Fund, Field Foundation, McCormick Foundation, Polk Bros Foundation, Woods Fund of Chicago and Wieboldt Foundation.

Funding requests can be for the following:

- Building organizational technology capacity to facilitate strategic base building, build new coalitions and partnerships
- Supporting an organization's technology infrastructure – network, hardware, software, internet access, cell phones, accessing digital meeting capacity, trainings etc.

Eligibility Criteria

- ✓ Applicants may request between up to \$10,000.
- ✓ Organizations with budgets under \$750,000
- ✓ Organizations that have been funded in the last three years by one or more of the above-mentioned foundations
- ✓ Funding should be used within 6 months.

Application Procedure

1. Email Katie Madden (Katie@crossroadsfund.org) answers to the above application questions.
2. **Submit a simple final report after 6 months answering the following questions:**
 - a. **What were the funds used for? What impact did the additional technology have on your organizing?**
 - b. **Do you have continued technology needs? If yes, what are they?**

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Technology Funders Collaborative Application Form

Organization Name	
Address	
Main Contact person	
Role in Organization	
Organization's current budget	
Funding Request	

Application Questions

1. Briefly describe your organization's current technology needs (network, hardware, software, internet access, cell phones, accessing digital meeting capacity, trainings etc.)
2. Do you need training or support with the proposed additional technology? If yes, is it part of the request?
3. What is the budget for your technology needs? Who else are you seeking funding from?
4. Which of the participating foundations below are you a grantee of? Select all that apply.
 - Albert Pick Jr. Foundation
 - Comer Family Foundation
 - Conant Family Foundation
 - Crossroads Fund
 - Field Foundation
 - McCormick Foundation
 - Polk Bros Foundation
 - Woods Fund of Chicago
 - Wieboldt Foundation