

**AGENDA**  
**Human Rights Commission (HRC)**  
**Wednesday, July 3, 2019**  
**5:30 P.M.**

City Hall, Helling Conference Room  
410 E. Washington Street, Iowa City

1. Call Meeting to Order and Roll Call.
2. Public Comment of Items not on the Agenda. (*Commentators shall address the Commission for no more than 5 minutes. Commissioners shall not engage in discussion with the public concerning said items*).
3. Items to be discussed:
  - a. Social Justice and Racial Equity Grant FY2020 Process. (Commission decided to not take comment from the public on this agenda item).
  - b. Correspondence.
4. Adjournment.

*If you will need disability-related accommodations to participate in this meeting please contact the Equity Director, Stefanie Bowers, at 319-356-5022 or at stefanie-bowers@iowa-city.org. Early requests are strongly encouraged to allow sufficient time to meet your access needs.*

## **Part A. Requirements**

1. A letter of intent (LOI) should be submitted to the Commission prior to full grant applications. This is a simplified grant application that demonstrates to the Commission if the project is worth full review. Only 10 agencies will be invited to submit a full grant application and will be ranked by the Commission.
2. Grant funds should be available for some operational expenses. Every new activity calls for extended use of some resources that the organization already has. This takes away from their previous activities' support.
3. New and emerging grassroots organizations strong consideration in the funding process.
4. Place ineligible periods on organizations that have received prior funding from the social justice racial equity grant.
5. No consecutive year funding for projects.
6. The entire community/population served by the project must be in Iowa City.
7. There should be a maximum amount of \$25k requested by each program, ensuring that at least 3 programs may be funded within each term.
8. There is no minimum request.
9. Organizations that have received City of Iowa City funding through any department/grant within the last 2 years, whether it is a new project or not, is ineligible to receive funding.

## **Part B. The Application Form**

1. The application should provide a definition of social justice and racial equity.
2. Applicants should be encouraged to supply or give a narrative about how the proposed project came to be. What experientially prompted the project? Examples should be local and not based upon city or statewide statistics.
3. Application should ask applicant whether there is a “tidal wave” effect for this sort of program in our community or other communities?
4. Target population for the program needs to be clear and simplified.
5. Agencies must explain how their project answers the question: How does our project align with social justice or racial equity and is not just a social service?
6. Ask what are the deliverables (handouts, reports, flyers, presentations, etc) the program plans on giving to the community, both all of Iowa City and the directly affected community? How will they be distributed to the community?
7. A sustainability plan should be presented within the application for projects that wish to continue their project in the future (without SJRE grant funding), with specifics to funding (not just that the agency will continue to look for support). Priority shall be given to projects that expect a sustainable program to continue past the grant period. Not all projects must continue past the grant funding period if not appropriate.

## **Part C. The Rubric**

1. A smaller work group of Commission members that go through grants and make recommendation to entire Commission.
2. Questions should be weighted.

#### **Part D. The Selection Process**

8. There should be time set aside so that groups who have submitted applications can make in person presentations and can respond to questions from the commissioners.
9. Priority should be given to projects that vary on the target population.
10. The Commission may not skip past projects that are higher ranked in order to fully fund smaller/less costly projects during the selection process.
11. Partial funding may be given to the next ranked project, if it is clearly stated if the project may continue with these less funds. If the project cannot continue without full funding, the Commission will keep the leftover funds for future grant cycles or whatever the City Council sees fit to do with these funds.
12. Organizations will be given priority if they are new (established within the last 5 years) in order to encourage new agencies in Iowa City.

#### **Part E. Miscellaneous**

1. Applicants should be strongly encouraged to attend an informational session or an open house on the grant prior to applying.
2. Demonstrate at the end of first funding cycle making significant progress towards the project/outcome.
3. Attendance cannot be the only outcome and/or performance measure of a program. More evaluation of the project's impact must be reported back to the Commission.
4. Organizations must give presentations to the Commission at a scheduled Commission meeting, and at a public forum on their project after completion of the project. The forum will be a publicized event, open to the public.

## Correspondence

Stefanie Bowers

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**From:** Noemi Ford <noemiford@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Monday, June 10, 2019 8:44 AM  
**To:** Stefanie Bowers  
**Subject:** thoughts

Dear Stefanie,

I know I have not sent you more info re:the grant application, because i have a hard time putting it into words. Mostly, I just want to see an agreement and definition on what social justice means, specifically how we see that need in Iowa City and then make adjustments according to these to the rubricks. I can not make these decisions alone, so I am looking forward to the dialogue and team decision.

I wanted to back some needs by the statistical data on social and financial inequalities in our city. It however seems that any area of social justice dis proportionally impacts African Americans, if we just look at numbers and also by percentage of population. Now comes to the mind, what is justice? Serving the largest disadvantaged part of the population or the most disadvantaged one, independently of their size compared to the whole population. That may not the be the same group. Also, should we spread the grant among many disadvantaged groups, or just the one that has been suffering the most.

I do not have answers, but these were my thoughts.

Let me know

Thanks

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