

## NATIVE VOICES RISING 2019 PROPOSAL GUIDELINES

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Native Voices Rising (NVR) is a project of Common Counsel Foundation and Native Americans in Philanthropy. NVR provides general operating support grants that are intended to strengthen Native-led organizations that are building community leadership and power to improve the wellbeing of their communities. Eligible organizations are rooted in a Native community, led by Native people, hold a vision for change that improves the lives of Native community members, engage large numbers of community members to take action together and seek to improve the policies and rules that impact the community.).

The expected grant amount will be \$10,000, but could range between \$5,000 to \$10,000. CCF is continually working to raise additional funds for NVR and the number of available grants for the 2019 cycle will depend upon the total funding that is committed by new and existing funding partners.

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### 1. ELIGIBILITY

**Please review the Native Voices Rising eligibility guidelines, which are listed below and posted on the website [www.NativeVoicesRising.org](http://www.NativeVoicesRising.org). Only requests from organizations that meet the guidelines will be considered.**

### 2. PROPOSAL SUBMISSION PROCESS

If your organization fits all or most of the above eligibility criteria, then you may submit an online application to Common Counsel Foundation. Please submit your Application via our online grant portal. Note that if you are a new applicant, you will need to register to obtain a user account.

If you do have the technical capacity to submit via our online applications, we will also accept submissions of this application and accompanying attachments to [grants@nativevoicesrising.org](mailto:grants@nativevoicesrising.org).

**Timeline:** Native Voices Rising must receive complete proposals no later than **July 19, 2019 at 11:59pm PST**. Confirmation of your submission will be sent by email (*Note: please mark [administrator@grantinterface.com](mailto:administrator@grantinterface.com) as a safe sender to ensure you receive email notifications*). Final Decisions will be made in early November 2019.

# ELIGIBILITY GUIDELINES

## ELIGIBILITY

Before applying to Native Voices Rising, please review the following questions to determine whether you meet our funding guidelines:

- ❑ Is your organization based in and serving a Native community or population?
- ❑ Does your organization have a strong set of leaders and board members comprised of 51% Native Americans, who represent and are accountable to the community that is served?
- ❑ Does your organization have a leadership development or political education program for Native community members?
- ❑ Does your organization engage Native community members in determining priorities and the focus of its programs?
- ❑ Does your organization engage a significant number of community members to take collective action to promote public policy or campaign for corporate accountability to address the problems in your community (This can be at the tribal, local, state, national or international levels, as well as against corporate actors)?
- ❑ Do you have IRS 501 (c) 3 tax-exempt status, 7871 Designation or a fiscal sponsor who does?

## EXCLUSIONS (what we do NOT fund)

We are UNABLE to support the following:

- Organizations that are not based in the United States
- Grantmaking or re-granting institutions
- Capital campaigns, construction or renovation programs, endowments
- Scholarship funds or other aid to individuals
- Research or fellowships
- Land trusts/land acquisitions
- Government sponsored programs or programs undertaken by tax-supported institutions
- Films, books or other stand-alone documentation projects,
- Emergency funding

# NATIVE VOICES RISING FUND PROPOSAL FORM

**Organization Name:** \_\_\_\_\_  
**Contact Person(s) and Title(s):** \_\_\_\_\_  
**Street Address:** \_\_\_\_\_  
**City/State/Zip:** \_\_\_\_\_  
**Phone:** \_\_\_\_\_ **Fax:** \_\_\_\_\_  
**E-mail:** \_\_\_\_\_ **Website:** \_\_\_\_\_  
**Grant Funds Requested:** \_\_\_\_\_ **Organizational Budget:** \_\_\_\_\_  
**Fiscal Year End:** \_\_\_\_\_ **Year Organization was founded:** \_\_\_\_\_  
**Tax exempt status:** \_\_\_\_\_ **Employer Identification Number:** \_\_\_\_\_  
You must be a 501c3 non-profit organization or have a 7871 designation, or have a fiscal agent with one of the two.  
**Fiscal Agent/Sponsor (if applicable):** \_\_\_\_\_  
**Date Submitted:** \_\_\_\_\_

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**Please briefly answer the following questions on a separate document. Your proposal answers should be no more than three pages (not including this cover form, financials and attachments).**

1. State your organization's mission:

Briefly describe what your organization is currently trying to change and how, by describing your current programs and campaigns. Be sure to describe how you are engaging your community to take collective action towards improving their lives. If this includes advocacy for policy change or corporate accountability be sure to mention those activities. [3000 characters]

2. Please highlight any recent accomplishments. If you received an NVR grant in 2018, please provide a progress report on the activities named in your last grant application. [3000 characters]

3. Describe how you engage community members to determine the priorities of the organization. Please be specific. [3000 characters]

4. How many community members are actively involved in your organization on an ongoing basis? If your organization has recruitment goals please share. [2000 characters]

5. Describe ways that your organization develops the leadership skill or political knowledge of your members or constituents? [3000 characters]

6. Who are your key allies? In what coalitions, alliances or collaborative work do you participate? [1000 characters]

7. Have you identified elements of your organization that need to be strengthened to help you achieve your goals? (Note: NVR is interested in understanding the capacity building needs of Native-led organizations to inform the philanthropic sector regarding the specific organizational development needs of Native groups.) [1000 characters]

8. Is your organization doing work that impacts the individual, collective or environmental health of California Indians? If so, please describe this. [1500 characters]

9. Please list your revenue sources and the related funding amounts for this fiscal year (foundations, corporate, individual donors, government sponsors, events, etc.). For each source, please note if this funding is in-hand, pledged or prospective.
10. Please list two outside references familiar with your organization's work, including email and telephone contact information.
11. Please list when your fiscal year starts and ends:
12. Please provide your income and expense budget and actuals, as well your balance sheet, for the last fiscal year. Please also provide a proposed budget for your current fiscal year.

#### **ATTACHMENTS**

- Please share up to two relevant **articles, newsletters or video links that highlight your work.**

## NATIVE VOICES RISING FUND APPLICANT SURVEY

Along with the proposal, please complete and submit this Applicant Survey to Native Voices Rising. Please review the following and indicate which apply to your organization.

Your organization (check all that apply):

- Is based in and serves a Native community or population.
- Is based:
  - In a rural community
  - In an urban community
  - On a Native American Reservation
  - Other:
- Has a board (advisory or governance) and staff/volunteer leadership structure that is comprised of at least 51% Native Americans.
- At what level or levels does your organization focus its work (check all that apply):
  - Tribal
  - City/County
  - State
  - Federal
  - International
- Has a significant involvement of the following communities:
  - Youth
  - Women
  - Elders
  - LGBTQ
  - Differently abled
  - Other:
- Engages in intergenerational organizing where elders and youth share space, discussions and decisions.
- Engages in Community Organizing (For purposes of NVR checking this box means your group engages a large number of community members to work collectively to improve the daily lives of people in Native communities and provides leadership development opportunities for community members).
- Engages in Advocacy: (For purposes of NVR checking this box means your group seeks to positively impact the rules that govern Native community members lives).
- Provides Direct Services? If so, check the box below that most closely reflects the percent of time your organizational hours spent on service provision:
  - 25%
  - 50%
  - 75%
  - 100%
- Involves community members in decision-making, setting organizational priorities and leading the organization's issue-based work.
- Does voter engagement work? If so, do you

- Educate Voters
- Identify Voters
- Turnout Voters

Does reproductive health or justice work.

Which of the following strategies does your organization utilize (check all that apply)?

- Collaboration, including partnering in or with
  - Multi-racial coalitions/alliances or networks
  - Tribes and Agencies
  - Cross Sectoral coalitions/alliances or networks
- Communications, including
  - Strategic media campaigns
  - Social Media
  - Blogs
  - Newsletters
  - Emails
  - Community Meetings
  - Telephone calls
  - Other \_\_\_\_\_
- Tactics, including
  - Advocating for new rules or policies
  - Public testimony
  - Defining solutions to community problems
  - Litigation
  - Petition Drives
  - Corporate accountability or pressure to improve operations
  - Peaceful protest
  - Direct Action/Civil disobedience
  - Other \_\_\_\_\_
- Leadership Development, including
  - In-house education program
  - In-house skills building program
  - Participation with external training programs
  - Participation with conferences for a leadership development purpose
  - Participation leadership development processes that are rooted in Tribal social structure
  - Executive Coaching
  - Mentorship
  - Building political analysis to connect issues and understand how to take action
  - Other \_\_\_\_\_
- Storytelling, including through use of
  - Radio Interviews
  - Regular Radio Host
  - Film and Video production
  - Print media
  - Art

- Music
  - Theatre
  - Other \_\_\_\_\_
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- Research, including
    - Collecting data through surveys
    - Conducting needs assessments
    - Gathering oral history
    - Other \_\_\_\_\_

**Voter engagement activities (only complete this section if your organization conducts voter engagement). Please check all of the voter engagement activities that apply.**

**VOTER EDUCATION**

- The organization engages in voter education activities
  - Issue focused mailings
  - Telephone calls
  - In-person visits
  - Candidate surveys
  - Candidate forums
  - Other (please specify)

**VOTER REGISTRATION**

- The organization engages in nonpartisan voter registration

**VOTER MOBILIZATION**

- The organization engages in get-out-the-vote activities
  - Phone calls to voters identified
  - Door knocking of identified voters
  - Rides for identified voters
  - Other (please specify)

**VOTER PROTECTION**

- The organization operates voter protection programs
  - Know your rights program
  - Voter hotline
  - Other (please specify)