First 5 LA Early Childhood Policy Advocacy Fund

Reimagining Systems Fund

APPLICATION INFORMATION SESSION
3/30/2023
Overview

- Background – First 5 LA Early Childhood Policy Advocacy Fund
- EC PAF Co-Design Process
- EC PAF Values
- EC PAF Grant Pools
- Reimagining Systems Fund (RSF)
- RSF Funding Priorities
- RSF Application
- RSF Timeline
- Questions
Early Childhood Policy Advocacy Fund (EC PAF) Background

• First 5 LA - Whole Child, Whole Family Framework

• Long-Term Systems Outcomes

  ❖ **Equitable:** Public systems eliminate systemic biases in mindsets, policies, procedures, and practices

  ❖ **Power Sharing:** Communities and public systems share power in the development, implementation, and improvement of policies, procedures, and practices that impact children and families

  ❖ **Financing:** The financing mechanisms of public systems are sufficient and incentivize a whole child, whole family, prevention-oriented approach

  ❖ **Accessible:** Public systems are connected, aligned, and seamless
EC PAF Co-Design Process

The Design Team - a diversity of lived experiences

History of Policy - Families and Children, by Patricia Karimi-Taleghani (October 2022)

Learning from the Field - Listening Sessions (July 2022 - February 2023)
EC PAF Values

• Centering and operationalizing equity
• Expanding and sustaining diverse organizations to impact policy, implementation, and systems
• Integrating knowledge and input of people with lived experiences, as they are critical for identifying and solving systemic problems
• Re-balancing power relationships and dynamics
• Adding more inclusive voices and perspectives to improve policymaking processes - especially agenda setting and policy implementation
• Shifting narratives toward equitable treatment of people both within the community and within administrative systems
• Increasing access for grassroots organizations and community members to get involved in systems change
EC PAF Grant Pools

Reimagining Systems Fund

- Grants of $250K - $350K
- 501(c)(3) and fiscally-sponsored organizations
- Working towards changing public systems most critical to children prenatal to 5 and their families AND led by community members w/lived experience of inequities

Community Opportunities Flexible Fund

- $2,500 - $85K in grants, stipends, contracts, and honoraria
- Organizations and volunteer efforts
- Build community connections and voice of people most impacted to change systems affecting children prenatal to 5 and their families
Reimagining Systems Fund (RSF)

- $250,000 - $350,000 to nonprofits active in Los Angeles County
- 501(c)(3) organizations and fiscally-sponsored organizations
- Organizations of any size and partnerships of 2 or more organizations are welcome
- Under First 5 LA’s bylaws, funding cannot be used for grassroots lobbying activities
RSF - Funding Priorities

- Organizations with meaningful involvement and leadership in decision-making by community members negatively impacted by the systems they are advocating to reimagine.

- Engage in systems or policy change affecting children prenatal to 5 and their families, including but not limited to: agenda setting, narrative change, policy change, practice change, budget/financing changes, community mobilizing, relationship-building, and implementation and/or policy monitoring.

- Are addressing in a meaningful way one or more of First 5 LA’s long-term systems outcome areas: Equitable; Power Sharing; Financing; Accessible.
Areas of Policy & Systems Change

- **Agenda setting** - getting issues recognized, acknowledged, and/or prioritized
- **Narrative change** - developing common language, shifting how an issue is thought about and/or changing beliefs of the public, policymakers, or other actors in a system
- **Policy change** - shifting the rules, regulations, and/or priorities of a government or other public-serving agencies
- **Practice change** - shifting how organizations or institutions work to make a meaningful impact
- **Budget/financing changes** - advocating for how money/resources are allocated or distributed
- **Community mobilizing** - movement-building and/or meaningfully including community in the work
- **Relationship-building** - increasing connections or communication between actors, networks, or coalitions to move the work forward
- **Implementation and/or policy monitoring** - follow-up or monitoring of changes to rules, regulations, practices, or priorities to ensure a meaningful impact
RSF – Application Review Criteria

**Systems Impact:** The proposal demonstrates the potential to create meaningful system change (policies, processes, institutions, common practices, etc.) impacting children prenatal to 5 and their families in LA County.

**Equitable/meaningful involvement:** The proposed work attempts to address root causes of inequitable systems and is led by community members who have lived experiences with inequities.

**Actionable:** The proposal seems feasible within the described timeframe and budget. The applicant appears to have the capacity, capability, and knowledge to execute the work.
RSF - How to Apply

Information: https://communitypartners.org/landing-page/ecpaf/

A full proposal consists of the following:

1. Application form completed via Submittable.
2. Response to the five (5) required narrative questions, uploaded through your Submittable application (in Word or PDF format).
3. Completed budget template, uploaded through your Submittable application (in Excel format).
4. Organization’s financial statements from the most recently completed fiscal year, audited if available (in PDF or Excel format).
RSF - Timeline

Applications Due: Friday, April 21, 2023

Award Notification: Late May 2023

Start of Year 1 Grant: June or July 2023
Resources

Visit: https://communitypartners.org/landing-page/ecpaf/

Contact: Priscilla Romero at promero@communitypartners.org
Questions?
Thank You!