



Long Island Unity Fund

Invitation Only Request for Proposals

December 2025

OVERVIEW

The Long Island Unity Fund, a donor collaborative fund housed at The Trust, was established in 2020 to improve Long Island's social justice and civic leadership, build relationships, infrastructure, and skills to secure regional progress, and buttress Long Island's growing state and national influence through community-led grantmaking. The Fund creates an opportunity for collaborative leadership by Long Island leaders focused on a range of issues; these leaders guide a participatory grantmaking process aimed at strengthening community organizing on Long Island. The Fund supports grassroots initiatives that:

- Build community organizing infrastructure;
- Develop local leadership;
- Strengthen organizational capacity; and
- Provide opportunities for shared learning, collaboration, and collective action.

The Long Island Unity Fund invests in leaders, organizations, and movements by shifting resources to the very people building power who are simultaneously most affected by unjust policies and practices on Long Island. Funding decisions are guided by contributors to the Fund.

SUBMISSION MATERIALS

In a single PDF (no larger than 25 MB and all pages typed using a minimum of 12 pt font, single-spaced), combine the following materials:

1. A list of your board of directors, including professional affiliations. To establish independent governance, The Trust – Long Island expects boards to have at least five unrelated board members, no more than one of whom should be paid (typically the paid staff head).
2. A proposal narrative describing:
 - a) activities accomplished between January-June 2025, including any unexpected challenges hindering the goals of the Long Island Unity Fund or opportunities that furthered the mission;
 - b) activities planned between July-December 2025 and the outcomes you expect to achieve;

- c) how your participation in the LIUF is informing and supporting your individual organization's mission; and
- d) any additional comments.

(Please provide thoughtful and thorough answers that extend beyond a single sentence, ensuring clarity and completeness).

3. Your current year annual operating budget. **You do not need to submit a Form 990/Financial Audit unless requested.**

SUBMISSION INSTRUCTIONS

1. Assemble and merge items 1 – 3 (listed above) into a single PDF. Name it in the following format: “Applicant Organization Name.pdf”
2. Complete a Long Island Unity Fund (Invitation Only) Cover Sheet and upload your single PDF.
3. Once uploaded, check the certification box at the end of the cover sheet and click submit. You will get an email confirming the proposal has been received. This email will include—as a PDF attachment—the Cover Sheet you just completed. The email will be sent to the email address entered in the “Information about Person Completing this Form” field on the Proposal Cover Sheet.

All applications must be submitted electronically through The New York Community Trust’s Grantseeker Portal no later than 11:59 pm ET on Friday, December 12th. Please contact Sol Marie Alfonso-Jones, Senior Program Director at sjones@thenytrust.org with any questions.