



Jews of Color Initiative



Empowering and Engaging Jews of Color in the East Bay

Background

The Jews of Color Initiative is a national effort that seeks to build and advance the professional, organizational, and communal field for Jews of Color. Framed by the concepts of racial justice and equity and centering the voices and experiences of Jews of Color, we are dedicated to grantmaking, research, and community education.

Based on our 2019 study, *Counting Inconsistencies*, we can approximate that Jews of Color represent at least 12-15% of American Jews, and that the future of American Jewry will be increasingly diverse. As such, more work is needed to better engage and empower Jews of Color in our institutions and communities.

Purpose

We are passionate about supporting forward-thinking and effective East Bay leaders and organizations in building their capacity to advance and institutionalize **Empowering and Engaging Jews of Color**. Established in partnership with the Rodan Family Foundation, grants up to \$50,000 will be made to leaders, organizations, and partners across the East Bay to *engage and empower Jews of Color* in the region.

We will seed pilot programs and early-stage efforts that foster strategic, inclusive, anti-racist environments, and create successful approaches that engage and empower Jews of Color. Grants will be awarded on a rolling basis as long as funds are available. Proposals under \$5,000 will go through an expedited process. For a limited number of proposals, there is potential for two-year grants, not to exceed \$50,000 per year (\$100,000 total).

We prioritize funding organizations and efforts that demonstrate experience with and capacity for Jewish racial diversity, and intentionally develop and nurture environments in which our multiracial Jewish community can thrive.

Projects we support will focus on:

1. Fostering a sense of shared identity for Jews of Color
2. Developing, refining, and reinforcing standards of practice with a lens of justice and equity
3. Documenting and advancing the knowledge base of Jews of Color
4. Building and nurturing Jews of Color leadership and grassroots support
5. Cultivating an environment that is focused on supporting Jews of Color in policy and practice

Funds may be used to hire consultants, dedicate staff time, convene stakeholders, conduct trainings, or other activities in alignment with the guidelines above.

Eligibility and Criteria:

- Jewish organizations that are registered 501(c)(3) non-profits or have fiscal sponsorship and serve the East Bay.
- Proven commitment to racial justice and equity and to making this work an ongoing priority.
- Availability and readiness of dedicated leadership, staff, and resources to drive organizational change.
- Ability to share learnings and document clear and authentic measures of success.

Application Process and Timeline:

Deliverables	Timeline
--------------	----------



Jews of Color Initiative



Application released	Monday, November 2, 2020
Zoom information webinar (register here)	Thursday, November 19, 2020 1:00 pm PST
Proposal Submission	We will be reviewing grant proposals on an ongoing basis as long as funds are available. Please note that we will not be able to fund every proposal. For grants over \$5,000, proposals must be submitted by December 23, 2020 to be reviewed by our Grant Advisory Committee.
Grantees Informed	For grants under \$5,000, expect to hear back within 3 weeks. For grants over \$5,000, grantees will be informed by mid-January 2021.
Final Report	End of the fiscal year upon completion of project

Applicants are highly encouraged to participate in the informational Zoom webinar ([register here](#)).

Please contact Gabi Kuhn, Program Officer, at gabi@jewsofcolorinitiative.org for any guidance or questions before applying.