

# NewMexicoWomen.Org Adolescent Girls of Color Open Grant Cycle 2019-2020 Request for Proposals

## Background on NewMexicoWomen.Org

NewMexicoWomen.Org (NMW.O) works to advance opportunities for self-identified women and girls statewide so that they can lead self-sufficient, healthy, and empowered lives. In 2016-2017, NMW.O undertook a research and community engagement process aimed at deepening our knowledge around how to most effectively continue our gender equity work in New Mexico. Through this process, communities emphasized the critical role that root causes such as historical trauma and colonization, patriarchy, and structural racism have upon the well-being of women and their communities. These root causes lie at the heart of gender justice in New Mexico. Based upon these findings, NewMexicoWomen.Org published a two-part community-based research report entitled, *The Heart of Gender Justice in New Mexico: Intersectionality, Economic Security, and Health Equity*, which has informed our strategic focus on gender justice and healing, our grant making, and other initiatives. From 2019 – 2021 our gender justice and healing work will include support for organizations and programs specifically serving adolescent girls of color.

The root causes mentioned above create barriers to improving outcomes for children, and particularly adolescent girls of color. To address these causes, investment is needed in programs that create spaces for girls of color to build power, shift dominant narratives, and find supportive advocates.

## Objectives of the 2019 Adolescent Girls of Color Grants:

- Strengthen the gender justice movement in New Mexico by partnering primarily with organizations working with and/or serving adolescent girls of color, as well as low income and rural communities working on behalf of adolescent girls in New Mexico.
- Foster community health by supporting culturally rooted and relevant healing programs and efforts for adolescent girls of color.
- Educate decision-makers and community members on the dynamics of racism, patriarchy, and colonization and the effects they have on adolescent girls of color.
- Increase our understanding of how organizations and communities across the state define and work towards gender justice and healing for adolescent girls of color.

## Why Adolescent Girls of Color?

We define **adolescence** as the transitional phase of growth and development between childhood and adulthood. Drawing on the World Health Organization (WHO) and others, we define an **adolescent** as any person between the ages of 10 and 21.<sup>1</sup> NMW.O takes an intersectional approach when defining adolescent girls of color, which is inclusive of transgender, two-spirited, and gender nonconforming or non-binary adolescents and youth.

Data indicates that adolescent girls of color face significant systemic barriers to success such as poverty, violence and failed safety nets. These conditions often persist throughout adulthood. When a girl is set up for success during adolescence, she will see life-long effects, and so will her community. When their rights

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<sup>1</sup> <https://www.britannica.com/science/adolescence>



are fully realized, adolescent girls of color positively impact both their own lives and entire communities, transforming structures of poverty and inequity in ways that benefit everyone.<sup>2</sup>

In 2018 and 2019, New Mexico fell to 50th in the nation in child well-being after ranking 49th for the four years prior. This means, for example, that 30% of our children are at, or below the poverty level and 37% of New Mexico high school girls reported experiencing persistent feelings of sadness or hopelessness within the past month. In terms of education, 75% of our fourth graders are not proficient in reading and 80% are not proficient in math. Proficiency rates for adolescent girls in New Mexico are 29% lower than the national average.

Based on these statistics and the historical lack of investment in girls of color in New Mexico and nationwide, concerted and intentional investment is needed in programs focused on building power, justice, and healing for girls of color.

## Grant Cycle Details

**Grant Range:** \$15,000 - \$20,000 of unrestricted general operating funds for one year, with a possibility for regranting.

**Deadline:** On or before July 26, 2019.

**Focus of Funding:** Grants will go toward organizations or programs that support adolescent girls of color, with an emphasis on work that encompasses gender justice and healing. Please use the narrative section of your proposal to present how your organization or project intends to or does address either or both gender justice and healing as it relates to your work with adolescent girls of color. Additionally, please describe how this work is in alignment with the objectives described above.

### Eligible Applicants:

- Organizations and programs that are working with and for adolescent girls of color in New Mexico, especially those that are supporting the well-being and leadership of young women of color as change agents.
- Specifically, organizations or programs that are working toward:
  - building power and grassroots movements with and for adolescent girls of color,
  - developing leadership,
  - improving girls' health and wellbeing, and
  - other relevant efforts to support gender justice and healing.

**Directions:** To be considered for this grant opportunity, complete the application below, uploading required documents where indicated. Applicants will be notified of their status by October 2019. If you have questions, or need technical assistance, please email us at [info@newmexicowomen.org](mailto:info@newmexicowomen.org).

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<sup>2</sup> <https://novofoundation.org/advancing-adolescent-girls-rights/strategic-approach/>

**Organization General Information Cover Page**

Organization Name:

Organization Address:

Organization Phone Number:

Organization Website:

Executive Director (ED):

ED Contact E-mail:

ED Contact Phone Number:

Mission of Organization:

Organization Federal ID# (EIN):

Organization Total Annual Budget: \$

**Grant Application Information**

Primary Contact for this Grant Application and Title:

Contact Phone Number:

Contact Email:

Project Title (if applicable):

Brief Project or Program Description (one paragraph of 150 words maximum):

Age group of participants served:

Race or ethnicity of participants served:

Gender of participants served:

Other relevant demographic or identity information regarding participants served:

Projected number of participants served:

Amount you are requesting: \$

Areas served (please list all NM Counties, Pueblos and Tribes that the project will serve):

**If using a Fiscal Sponsor/Agent, please provide the following information for the Sponsor Organization**

Fiscal Sponsor Organization Name:

Organization Address:

Contact Name:

Phone Number:

Contact E-mail:

Fiscal Sponsor's EIN #:

**Proposal Narrative**

1. Describe your organization or project's work. **(Maximum 1200 words)**
  - a. How does your organization or project serve adolescent girls of color?
  - b. How does your organization center or include the voices and leadership of adolescent girls of color in your decision-making and programming?
  - c. What are the goals of the work or project that serve(s) adolescent girls of color?
  - d. What are the activities related to the work or project that serve(s) adolescent girls of color?
  - e. Does your organization or project work on gender justice and/or healing? If yes, please provide more details about your approach to gender justice and healing in your work.
  
2. With which partners will you collaborate for the project? Please describe their role and/or area of focus. **(Maximum 150 words)**
  
3. How will you evaluate this program and its impact? **(Maximum 150 words)**

**Attachments**

- Current Year Organizational Budget (Please include other sources of funding which supports your work to serve adolescent girls of color)
- List of Board of Directors with Contact Information

**Signatures**

**By completing the fields below, the organization certifies that the submission of this application has been authorized by the organization's Executive Director and/or Board of Directors.**

**Name of Person Authorizing**

**Title of Person Authorizing**

**Authorization Date**