

Appalachian Community Fund  
507 South Gay Street, Suite 1120  
Knoxville, TN 37902  
865.523.5783  
[www.appalachiancommunityfund.org](http://www.appalachiancommunityfund.org)

GLBTQ Initiative Fund  
no deadline



The Appalachian Community Fund (ACF) was founded in 1987 to bring new resources and provide grants to groups for community organizing and social change in the Central region of Appalachia (East Tennessee, Eastern Kentucky, Southwest Virginia and all of West Virginia). Grants are given to community-based organizations that address underlying causes of the economic and social distress of the region. ACF seeks to build a long-term resource base and expand community philanthropy in the region. In almost 25 years, ACF has given away over \$5 million to community organizations.

ACF funds work that takes place in the Central Appalachian region: West Virginia, Eastern Kentucky, Southwest Virginia, and East Tennessee. We use the Appalachian Regional Commission designation for Appalachian counties in these states.

**IN 2006 A DONOR GIFT ENABLED ACF TO ESTABLISH THE GAY/LESBIAN/BISEXUAL/ TRANSGENDER/QUESTIONING (GLBTQ) INITIATIVE FUND TO DEVELOP RESOURCES AND MAKE GRANTS TO GLBTQ ORGANIZING EFFORTS IN APPALACHIA'S COMMUNITIES. OTHER FUNDERS HAVE ADDED TO THE FUND AND TWO SMALL GRANTS HAVE BEEN MADE FROM THE FUND UP TO NOW.**

**THE INTENT OF THE FUND IS FOR ORGANIZATION BUILDING AND FURTHERING THE BUILDING OF GAY AND LESBIAN COMMUNITY INSTITUTIONAL RESOURCES, AS WELL AS BUILDING CAPACITY IN LGBTQ EFFORTS. ACF ALSO WILL LOOK FOR NEW AND EMERGING EFFORTS, WORK WITH LGBTQ YOUTH, AND NETWORKING AND CONNECTING WITH OTHER LGBTQ WORK IN CENTRAL APPALACHIA. THERE ARE NO DEADLINES AND ONLY TWO-THREE GRANTS WILL BE AWARDED IN A YEAR AS WE CONTINUE TO ADD RESOURCES TO THE FUND.**

**APPLICATIONS MUST MEET THE BASIC ACF CRITERIA FOR SOCIAL CHANGE AND MUST BE COMMUNITY LED. ADDITIONALLY, THE PROPOSAL MUST SHOW AN UNDERSTANDING AND SOME ANALYSIS OF STRUCTURAL RACISM.**

## **FUNDING GUIDELINES**

### **GENERAL ELIGIBILITY AND CRITERIA FOR FUNDING:**

- 501c3 tax exempt status, or a 501c3 fiscal sponsor is not required in order to receive ACF funding through this program. However, it would be helpful if you call us to talk about it.
- The organization or project must be in Appalachian counties of Tennessee, Kentucky, Virginia, or West Virginia. If you are based outside the region, the proposal must include a specific workplan for the Appalachian portion of the work.
- The organization or project must show evidence of working for social change through one or more of the following:
  1. *Organizing and action led by people working to control their own lives.*

2. *Educating communities about the root causes of oppression and injustice.*
3. *Eliminating barriers to full participation in society (i.e. racism, sexism, classism, homophobia, ageism, able-ism, and exclusion from decision-making processes).*
4. *Focusing on efforts to change cultural, social, political, and economic systems and institutions that accommodate and perpetuate social injustice.*
5. *Creating and modeling democratic cultural, social, political and economic systems.*
6. *Connecting local issues with national and global concerns.*
7. *Networking, collaborating, and cooperating with other change agents working toward similar goals.*

**ACF defines Social Change as the movement of people toward the establishment of environmental, economic, racial and social justice and the re-distribution of wealth, power and resources through the methods listed above.**

ACF welcomes applications from new organizations, those working on emerging issues and those with diverse constituencies whose diversity is reflected in their leadership. ACF believes that representative diversity reflects an organization's commitment to anti-oppression, democratic decision-making and involvement of community individuals most affected by the issues being addressed in the proposal. ACF supports using a wide range of tools to work for social change including community organizing, coalition building, community education, training, cultural work, and advocacy. In the case of requests to fund a resource for organizing such as videos or publications or the like, there must be a close connection to grassroots organizing efforts. We also look at how the community or the people the resource is created for are involved in shaping and directing it.

### **Grant Amount**

The maximum grant for the GLBTQ program is \$2,000. The grant is to be used within one calendar year of receipt. A report on use of funds is required at the end of that year.

### **To Apply**

Application may be by a letter of 2-4 pages, plus cover sheet, budget, list of board or leadership group. This can be faxed or emailed. The letter should include:

- the amount requested
- the need being addressed
- how this addresses building organizations, capacity and community resources for LGBTQ organizing
- how the organization meets ACF General Fund (social change) guidelines
- the project budget and a letter regarding 501c3 status can be attached

### **Deadline**

Proposals are accepted anytime. Each request will be considered on an individual basis in a timely manner.

### **Assistance**

For questions about eligibility, applications, or the funding process, call or write the foundation at 865.523.5783, 507 South Gay Street, Suite 1120, Knoxville, TN 37902. You may also reach ACF by e-mailing us at [info@appalachiancommunityfund.org](mailto:info@appalachiancommunityfund.org).

**ACF DOES NOT FUND:**

Profit-making organizations.

Electoral lobbying for initiatives or public office.

Individual efforts.

Major capital projects.

Social services organizations unless they demonstrate some analysis and strategies to challenge the systems that lead to the problem.

**PLEASE REVIEW THIS BEFORE SUBMITTING YOUR PROPOSAL.**  
**INCOMPLETE APPLICATIONS CAN'T BE CONSIDERED.**

***A complete proposal contains:***

- **Cover sheet.**
- **Narrative of 2-4 pages.**
- **Budget for the grant request**
- **If available, budget report/expense and income report for your last fiscal year.**
- **A list of your leadership. This could be steering committee, organizing group, advisory group, board and staff, etc. Please include information: (name, gender, race, ethnicity, occupation, location, sexual orientation, or any other helpful information).**
- **Four (4) copies of the complete application.**
- **One copy of your IRS letter or your fiscal sponsor letter and their IRS letter. If you don't have a 501© 3 tax exemption or sponsor, please contact the office.**

**Additional information**

- **Please save your binders and plastic report covers – it's much easier on us if you just clip each complete proposal together with a paper clip, and attach any supporting materials.**
- **You can include one copy of your newsletter or one copy of other supporting material, but please don't send multiple copies of supplementary materials such as news clippings.**
- **We will acknowledge receipt of your application. Emailed or faxed proposals will not be accepted.**
- **Final reports from any previous ACF grants must be submitted before any future grants monies are released.**
- ***If you have any questions about anything in this proposal application, please don't hesitate to call us at 865.523.5783.***

Send proposal to Margo Miller, Appalachian Community Fund, 507 South Gay Street, Suite 1120, Knoxville, TN 37902.

**APPALACHIAN COMMUNITY FUND  
GRANT APPLICATION COVER SHEET**

Date of Application: \_\_\_\_\_

Contact person(s) and title: \_\_\_\_\_

Organization name and year founded: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone \_\_\_\_\_ Email and website \_\_\_\_\_

Requested amount \$ \_\_\_\_\_ Total organizational budget \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Type of request: General support \_\_\_\_ Project \_\_\_\_\_ Start-up \_\_\_\_\_

If project funding is requested, project title and budget amount: \_\_\_\_\_

Have you ever received ACF funding? \_\_\_\_\_ For which programs?  Seize the Moment,  Technical Assistance,  Alice Jennings Fund,  Appalachia Fund,  Media Justice,  Gay and Lesbian Initiative.  Annual General Program.

Please give a brief statement of your organization's mission, a summary of the project or grant request and two accomplishments of your organization in the last three years. Please do not attach extra pages for this section.