



Liberty Vote! Proposal Deadline: April 9, 2021

Change. Not Charity.

Liberty Vote! is Liberty Hill's program to support electoral organizing that complements the grassroots organizing campaigns supported through other foundation priority areas. It is the primary grantmaking program to support 501(c)(4) organizations and provides **general operating support grants up to \$50,000 for community and electoral organizing in Los Angeles County**. **Liberty Vote! aims to build electoral power in communities most impacted by systemic oppression in order to achieve justice and equity.**

Liberty Hill believes that lasting social change emerges from community organizing and social change movements. We apply an overarching **racial justice lens** to our grantmaking, recognizing that the distinct mark of racism is power – collective, systemic, societal power that requires fundamental institutional change to undo it. Liberty Vote! supports models of electoral organizing within organizations in low-income, communities of color that:

- utilize an integrated voter engagement model, connecting the short-term, cyclical work of voter education, outreach, and mobilization to the year-round work of organizing communities, developing grassroots leadership, and waging campaigns
- are driven by a broad and growing base of people who are directly impacted by injustice
- develop leaders from a membership base for the purpose of furthering the organization's mission
- build power and increase impact over time
- have a clear plan to win concrete electoral change, including systemic or institutional changes to policies, practices, regulations, laws, as well as advance progressive governance
- aim to transform the electorate and reshape notions of citizenship and civic participation among those whose voices are often suppressed or overlooked
- incorporate multiple organizing strategies such as engaging strategic allies, coalition building, inside-outside strategy, research, advocacy, and/or communications
- advance racial justice by addressing institutional policies and practices that cause racial inequities
- link local efforts to broader social movements
- are representative of the geographic and ethnic/racial diversity of Los Angeles County.

APPLICATION INFORMATION

- 1) All interested organizations, including those previously funded by Liberty Hill, are asked to fill out an interest form due February 8. You will be informed by March 1 if you are invited to submit this application, after filling out the form.
- 2) There are two informational webinars (not required) on January 27 and 28.
- 3) Application due on April 9, 2021 (only for invited organizations - see next page).
- 4) Online site visits will be conducted throughout April and May 2021 with Liberty Hill staff and Community Funding Board.
- 5) Organizations will be informed of grant decisions by August 1, 2021.

If invited to apply, please submit a written proposal from your organization that includes the following:

- 1) **NARRATIVE** (Word format): Please respond to the questions on page 2, not to exceed 6 pages (and shorter is fine!). *If you have proposals or reports used for other funders that you feel sufficiently capture the answers to the questions below, you may submit those documents in lieu of the proposal narrative questions (any length is fine).*
- 2) **DEMOGRAPHIC SHEET** (Word format): Complete the Demographic Sheet on page 3.
- 3) **BUDGET** (any document format): Attach your current organization's budget.
- 4) **IF YOUR ORGANIZATION DID NOT RECEIVE A 2020 LIBERTY VOTE! OR FUND FOR CHANGE GRANT:** Please submit the following:
 - Organizational chart, including volunteers or community members who play leadership role
 - Roster of your current governing board

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- ❑ List of your current sources of funding (individual contributions, membership dues, contracts, foundations, etc.). Please list any institutional funders (e.g., foundations, corporations, etc.)

5) **OPTIONAL:** Recent supporting materials, if desired (e.g., brochures, slide decks, photos, video links, etc.)

Please submit your proposal by email to grants@libertyhill.org with the subject line “2021 Liberty Vote application”

If you have any questions, please reach out to Joanna Kabat, Director of Grantmaking and Capacity Building: jkabat@libertyhill.org

PROPOSAL NARRATIVE

Please respond to the appropriate questions below, not to exceed 6 pages (and shorter is fine!). *If you have proposals or reports used for other funders that you feel sufficiently capture the answers to the questions below, you may submit those documents in lieu of the proposal narrative questions (any length is fine).*

For the questions below, **members** are defined broadly as individuals impacted by the systems you seek to change who are engaged in organizational campaigns. **Leaders** are defined broadly as unpaid members or participants with leadership roles in the organization, not staff. **Institutional/government policies and practices** refer to public or government policies, practices, regulations, and laws, and corporate policies and practices. This includes enactment of new laws, regulations, and official practices as well as enforcement/implementation of existing laws and regulations.

These are guidelines and we ask that you share if you define this work differently. Liberty Hill is always seeking to expand our understanding of how our grantees define and relate to organizing structures.

1. How will your organization utilize an integrated voter engagement model? Specifically, how will your organization leverage prior or upcoming elections to build a movement for justice and equity, connecting the short-term, cyclical work of voter education, outreach, and mobilization to the year-round work of organizing communities, developing grassroots leadership, and waging campaigns?
2. What electoral or legislative campaigns for changing institutional/government policies and practices does your organization aim to make progress on this coming year? You may want to consider the following in your answers:
 - How is this work responsive to the needs in your community and shifts in the landscape?
 - What is the significance or impact of these changes (e.g. how many people will benefit, how much money will be leveraged, etc.)?
 - What organizations do/will you collaborate with to drive institutional change? What is the nature of these collaborations and your role in them? (coalitions, partnerships, etc.)
 - What strategies are you using to achieve these goals (e.g. integrated voter engagement, inside-outside strategies, research and reports, mobilization, etc.)?
3. How will your organization work to sustain or expand your community membership base (e.g. outreach and engagement activities, membership drives, training, etc.)? How will your organization sustain or expand your leadership development efforts in the coming year (e.g. engagement on campaign development, increasing number of leaders on formal governing bodies, etc.)? What geographic areas and impacted populations are you targeting to organize within LA County?
4. Liberty Hill values how your work contributes to culture and narrative shifts (efforts to change hearts & minds). What are your goals for shifting the narrative around how the general public understands your goals and campaigns?
5. What is your organization’s capacity to meet your stated goals? What are your needs (e.g. new staff, board development, resources, evaluation)? *Answers to this question help us in the development of capacity building programs offered to grantees. If you are more comfortable providing this information in a personal conversation please let us know.*

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Demographic Sheet

Liberty Hill wants to understand the demographics of organizations that we support through our grantmaking and other programs. In the chart below please indicate (using numbers, not percentages) of the racial/ethnic, gender, sexual orientation and age compositions for each leadership group in the columns below. If it is meaningful for you to further differentiate beyond the categories in the rows provided below, please do so. This information is maintained internally and individual organizational statistics are not shared publicly. Aggregated data may be shared in Liberty Hill public materials to demonstrate the scope and reach of our funding programs, but will not be tied to individual organizations or communities. Please reach out if you have concerns about sharing this data.

Organization Name: _____

Geographic Areas served (please use whatever descriptors are most meaningful for your organization, e.g. neighborhood names, zip codes, tribal land, supervisorial or city council districts): _____

	Governing Board	Executive Director(s)	Staff	Organization Members (non staff)	Organization Leaders (non-staff)
RACE / ETHNICITY					
African American/Black					
Asian/Pacific Islander					
Arab/Middle Eastern/South Asian					
Hispanic/Latinx					
Native American/Indigenous					
White (Non-Hispanic)					
Other:					
GENDER					
Cis-Female					
Trans-Female					
Cis-Male					
Trans-Male					
Gender Queer / Non-Binary					
Other					
SEXUAL ORIENTATION					
Lesbian/Gay/Bisexual/Queer					
Heterosexual					
Other					
AGE					
17 and Younger					
18-24					
25-29					
30-39					
40-59					
60 and Older					

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