

**Request for Proposals**  
**Papitto Opportunity Connection**  
**June 2024**  
**Grantmaking: POC Million Dollar Innovation Challenge**

**Organizational Background**

The Papitto Opportunity Connection (POC) is a non-profit private foundation dedicated to listening and working together with non-profit organizations in Rhode Island supporting diversity, equity and inclusion. It is POC's mission to empower and create individual success stories by investing in programs designed to create systemic change for Rhode Island's communities most in need.

Rhode Island is a state of 1 million people, and because of our size, we have a unique opportunity to accomplish our goals through aggressively funding unique and sometimes out-of-the-box programs. Operating on a model of trust-based philanthropy, we are constantly learning based upon active community participation and engagement.

**Project Description**

POC is seeking proposals from Rhode Island-based 501(c)(3) non-profits designed to support programming that will create systemic change for communities most in need in Rhode Island in the areas of education, skills training, business, healthcare, and housing. ***The Papitto Opportunity Connection Million Dollar Innovation Challenge will award two (2) \$1 million grants during this competitive RFP process.***

Organizations applying for these grants are *strongly encouraged* to collaborate with other 501(c)(3) non-profits to leverage resources and cultivate partnerships. The organizations selected for these grants will have the opportunity to apply for addition funding from POC in the future, but organizations should not count on future funding as it is not guaranteed.

**Grantmaking Limitations**

There are several categories of activities that POC does not fund under any circumstances which, are:

- building construction
- capital campaigns
- lobbying of government entities
- political campaigns or events
- endowments
- programs that do not primarily benefit people inside the State of Rhode Island

Also, POC does NOT allow fiscal sponsors for grantmaking.

## Grant Eligibility

- Open to all Rhode Island-based organizations with tax exempt status under Section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Service Code and that are in good standing with the Rhode Island Secretary of State.
- Programs seeking funding, whether new or existing, must be focused on serving Rhode Island's communities most in need.
- An organization that previously received a POC grant must be current on all reporting. If the organization's report is not yet due, an interim report summarizing the progress of the grant must be included in this application.

## RFP Requirements and Timeline

- The RFP process will open on June 1, 2024.
  - Applications are due by 11:59 pm on Monday, June 17, 2024 and must be submitted online via the portal on the POC website at <https://pocfoundation.com/> **Applications provided directly to a POC trustee, advisory board member, or the director of grants and public relations will NOT be considered.**
  - Incomplete or late applications will not be considered.
  - All applications must be signed by the person writing the grant and by an executive-level member of the organization.

## RFP Application

On the portal, you will be prompted to provide the following information:

Please acknowledge the following:

\_\_\_\_\_ I understand use of a Fiscal Sponsor is NOT allowed and any application using a fiscal sponsor will be rejected.

\_\_\_\_\_ I understand this is a one-year, \$1 million grant that may NOT be subject to renewal.

\_\_\_\_\_ I understand my organization will be required to provide quarterly reporting and will be subject to occasional site visits by the Papitto Opportunity Connection.

Date:

Legal Name of Organization:  
(if using a DBA, please include also)

Federal Tax ID or EIN:

Mailing Address:

CEO or Executive Director:

Email Address:

Telephone Number:

Name of Individual Writing Grant:

Email Address:

Telephone Number:

**Reporting:**

While POC operates on a model of trust-based philanthropy, we do require quarterly reporting for a \$1 million grant and occasional site visits to understand program success.

**Contact Information for Questions and Deadlines:**

The deadline for submission is 11:59 pm, Monday, June 17, 2024. Please contact Gregg Perry, director of grants and public relations if you have any questions.

[gperry@pocfoundation.com](mailto:gperry@pocfoundation.com) or 401-808-6534

**Required Documents**

- Rhode Island Secretary of State Letter of Good Standing
- IRS Form W-9 or 501(c)3 Certificate
- IRS Form 990 for most recent year
- Organizational Budget
- Program Budget

**Please tell us about your organization by proving the following information**

(If this is a joint application, please provide the required information for all applicants.)

- If this is a joint application, please list all other non-profit partners and the percentage of responsibility for each.
- The names and titles of your executive leadership team
- The names of the members of your board of directors
- An overview of your organization's mission and work
- Your organization's annual budget
- The number of Rhode Islanders that your organization serves annually
- The cities/towns of Rhode Island in which your organization works

**Please tell us how you would use this one-year, \$1 million grant from POC by answering the following questions.**

(If this is a joint application, detail the percentage of responsibility that will be undertaken by each organizational partner.)

- What is the program you are asking POC to fund? Provide a detailed description.
- What is the need for this program? Please provide specific data to support your case.
- Which communities (cities & towns) would this program serve?
- What would be the impact of this \$1-million grant for the communities your program serves?
- Is this a new program, or are you seeking to grow or elevate an existing program? Please explain.
- What is the budget for this program?
- What percentage of this program budget will come from this \$1 million grant from POC?
- How much of this grant would provide administrative support?
- How much of this grant would provide operations support?
- Are you able to access matching grants for this program? If so, please provide details about where those funds would come from and how much would come from each funder.
- Please explain what will happen to this program when POC's one-year funding ends.
- If your organization were to receive \$1 million from POC, do you have the resources to manage, plan and map the work you are proposing? Please explain.
- How would you measure the success of this program and how it leads to systemic change? Please provide the key performance metrics that you would use.