

# Accelerator Grant

2023 GRANT YEAR

The logo for the Legal Foundation of Washington, featuring the letters 'LAW' in a stylized, bold font. The 'L' is dark blue, the 'A' is orange, and the 'W' is teal.

**LEGAL FOUNDATION**

**OF WASHINGTON**

# LFW Grants Team



**Arielle Handforth**  
**Grants Coordinator**



**Emily Van Yuga**  
**Director of Grant Programs**

# The Legal Foundation of Washington



The Legal Foundation of Washington is a nonprofit organization created in 1984 at the direction of the Washington Supreme Court to distribute IOLTA funds to legal aid organizations across the state. LFW has more than 35 years of experience raising, managing, and distributing funds to achieve equal civil justice for low-income people.

LFW currently provides more than \$10 million a year in grants for direct civil legal aid and systemic advocacy.

# LFW believes equal justice is a right, not a privilege.

Our grantmaking brings this vision to life by targeting inequalities in the civil legal system, where people seeking justice in a wide variety of cases – including immigration, worker rights, housing, and domestic violence – are not entitled to a lawyer and left to navigate complex systems by themselves.

We know that creating fair access to civil justice requires undoing systemic racial oppression and reflect racial justice and inclusion in all of our grantmaking. We are committed to long-term systemic change and commit more than half of our funding to impact litigation and policy reform that advance rights for people living in poverty.

# LFW's Grants Programs

LFW works with both **restricted** and **unrestricted** funding, such as:

- Various government entities, including the Office of Civil Legal Aid and King County
- Individual donor and law firms
- Cy Pres awards
- Interest on Lawyers' Trust Accounts (IOLTA)

**Grant Opportunities** include:

- Partnership Grants
- Race Equity Grants
- Accelerator Grants

# Background

For many years, LFW has had a “One-Year Special Grant” program, funding critical, time-sensitive legal aid projects outside of the long-term scope of Partnership Grants. The program has enabled LFW to be responsive to the emerging needs of the communities we serve.

This year, we renamed the program “Accelerator Grants” to more clearly articulate their purpose, which is to accelerate time-sensitive, impactful civil justice work that would benefit from a one-time infusion of funds.

# Accelerator Grants

**Accelerator Grants** are **one-time** grants designed to accelerate **time-sensitive** civil justice work and launch impactful projects. The grants support **innovative** and **responsive** initiatives that would benefit from a one-time infusion of funds.

We seek to fund civil justice organizations doing **strong anti-racist work**, **centering historically excluded communities**, and **impacting long-lasting systemic change**.

Accelerator Grants prioritize civil justice work for groups that have been disproportionately under-resourced by legal aid, including:

- **Native and Indigenous peoples,**
- **clients without lawful immigration status, and**
- **the civil/criminal divide for re-entry and justice-system impacted individuals.**

# Grant Specifics



Who can apply: Civil legal aid providers or organizations in partnership with civil legal aid providers are eligible to apply.

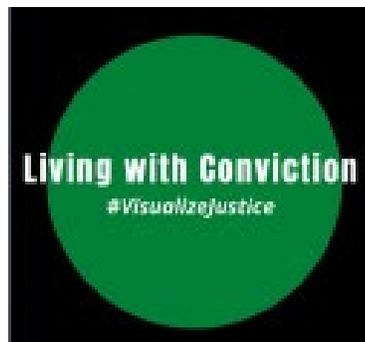


Grant term: January 1, 2023 – December 31, 2023



Award amounts: \$20,000-\$100,000 per grant

# Projects Funded in 2022



Living with Conviction launched and promoted a new app, Justice in Motion, to strengthen their Legal Empowerment program to more effectively and efficiently help justice-involved people of color and with low incomes seek and obtain relief from overly burdensome court debt, aka “legal financial obligations” or “LFOs.”



NoHLA and WAISN engaged in legal advocacy for establishing a statewide healthcare system for residents without lawful immigration status and provided training to immigrants and immigrant-serving organizations on their eligibility for health coverage/services and resources to enable their participation in seeking system changes to remove barriers to care.

# Examples of Ineligible Projects

- Ongoing expenses
- Budget shortfalls
- Trainings for staff and/or board



Questions

# Accelerator Grant Process

1

Brief Letter of Intent (LOI) due  
August 22



2

Selected organizations will be  
invited to submit a full  
application due October 7

# How to apply:

## GRANT PORTAL



### Logon Page

**Email Address\***

The Email Address\* field is required.

**Password\***

The Password\* field is required.

[Log On](#) [Create New Account](#)

[Forgot your Password?](#)

#### Welcome to LFW's Grant Portal

##### First Time Here?

Click "Create New Account". Be sure to keep this login information for your organization's records.

If you need assistance, please refer to our [training materials](#).

##### Been Here Before?

If you have already used LFW's Grant Portal, but have forgotten your password, please click "Forgot Your Password?" and follow the instructions.

If you have applied to one of LFW's grant programs before, but not using this new system, please refer to the "First Time Here?" instructions above.

##### Not Sure?

If you believe your organization already has a profile but you are unsure of the login information, DO NOT create a new profile. Doing so could result in loss of historical information for your organization. Instead, please contact Emily Van Yuga, Grants Coordinator, at [emily@legalfoundation.org](mailto:emily@legalfoundation.org)

### Steps to apply:

- Go to our website, [www.legalfoundation.org](http://www.legalfoundation.org)
- Click on "Grantmaking" at the top of the page then "Current Opportunities" on the left side
- Review instructions then create an account by clicking the teal "Log In" button in the upper right corner
- After creating, in the Grant Portal, click "APPLY" and the 2023 Accelerator Grant LOI will appear

# Letter of Intent Questions

## Organizational Information

- Organizational Mission and Vision
- Current Board Members
- Organizational Demographics
- BIPOC Leadership
- Anti-Racist Practices

## Project Proposal

- Please describe the time-sensitive civil justice work that needs one-time funding.

## Project Budget

- Any format is welcome, including using the text box.

# Letter of Intent Tips

- Maximum character limit applied
- Can copy previous answers
- Submissions accepted in languages other than English
- LFW can provide feedback in advance to submitting your LOI before *August 12*

Feel free to email me at [arielle@legalfoundation.org](mailto:arielle@legalfoundation.org) or schedule a 15 min call with LFW's Grants Coordinator through Calendly if you have any questions or would like to discuss your proposal using this link: [calendly.com/arielle-lfw](https://calendly.com/arielle-lfw)

# Timeline for Accelerator Grants





# Questions

Please type your questions in the chat box, Q&A, or raise your hand to be unmuted.

If you think of a question later or would like to provide feedback,

email me at [arielle@legalfoundation.org](mailto:arielle@legalfoundation.org)