

United Way of Buffalo & Erie County Request for Proposals

Next Generation United: Pitch 10

Next Generation United (NGU), an initiative of the United Way of Buffalo & Erie County, engages the knowledge, skills and creative energy of the next generation to identify, launch and foster innovative projects that elevate our community.

Next Generation United seeks interest from nonprofits that could use a grant of up to \$5,000 to advance their work in the Buffalo and Erie County community in the areas of education, financial stability, and/or health & wellness.

Requirements

All applicants must meet the following requirements:

- Grass Roots, Community-based, forward-facing organization addressing an issue of need in Buffalo or Erie County
- Organization has 501(c)(3) status or is affiliated with a 501(c)(3) certified organization

And at least one of the following:

- Millennial-led organization – *Executive Director and/or Board Chair should be a Millennial (age 21 through 35)*
- Incorporated no earlier than July 1, 2010
- Small and nimble – revenues of less than \$500,000 annually
- Benefits a millennial target audience

All applications must include a cover page (see section four), application letter and signed presentation agreement (see section five)

Submit completed application to nextgeneration@uwbec.org attention: Next Generation United Pitch 10 by **Monday, August 6, 2018 by the end of business (5 pm)**.

All completed applications must be sent in ONE PDF file. Failure to do so may result in disqualification.

Please make sure to answer ALL questions asked in Section One. Failure to do so WILL result in a loss of points.

Section One: How to Apply

To apply, send us a one to two page application letter, answering the following questions:

1. What is your organization trying to accomplish?
2. What would you do with the money? For example, is there a specific project you have on a wish-list? Is there a component of your organization that could use a one-time infusion of funds to expand?
3. Do you engage millennials in your organization? If so, how?
4. Short description of how you would utilize **up to** \$5,000.

Note: If you are doing work with any of the following special populations or special service needs, please include this in your narrative. We want to know about the work you are doing, or trying to accomplish.

Special Populations include: (a) Persons Living In Areas Of Concentrated Poverty; (b) Refugees and Immigrants; (c) Persons with Disabilities; (d) Veterans & Military Families; (e) New or Long Term Unemployed Individuals.

Special Service Needs include: (a) Service Navigation and Coordination; (b) Geographic Accessibility; (c) Cultural and Language Accessibility; (d) Importance of Community based, Non-Psychiatric Mental Health Services

Section Two: Finalist Pitch Session

Next Generation United Volunteers will score applications to determine the ten finalists. All ten finalists will be invited to present their ideas at the NGU sponsored Pitch 10 event. This event will take place on Thursday, September 20 at The Westin (250 Delaware Ave) at 5:00 pm.

This event is open to the public and all ten finalists will pitch their project to attendees. The first place winner shall be awarded a grant for up to \$5,000, and the second and third place winners shall each receive a grant for up to \$2,500. After all presentations have been completed attendees will have the opportunity to vote on who they would like to receive the three grants (1st place, 2nd place, 3rd place).)) Winners will be chosen by majority rules.

Finalists will be notified by August 22, 2018 if they have been selected to present at the event.

Over the course of the next 12 months we expect to make 2 grants of up to \$5,000 and 4 grants of up to \$2,500 at millennial-focused events. A single organization may only receive one grant in a calendar year.

If awarded, you will be responsible for reporting back to the Next Generation United Committee on how the grant was spent.

There will be a Pitch 10 Preview event in the evening of August 30th or September 6th. More details to come, but all pitching organizations will be invited to attend to network with NGU members who will be at Pitch 10.

Section Three: Scoring Rubric

Each proposal will be scored by at least 2 readers. They will evaluate the submitted RFP on a 60-point scale. Those two scores would be averaged, and the top ten proposals will be invited to the Next Generation United: Pitch 10 event.

1. 15 Points - Does the proposal clearly outline how the funds will be utilized, in a way that reflects the vision and goals of Next Generation United?
2. 15 Points - Does the proposal outline a project that is grassroots, community-focused and forward-facing?
3. 10 Points - Does the organization's proposal fall within a special population or special need? (*see section 1 for definition of special population or special need*).
4. 5 Points - How does the organization currently engage with millennials? Is this outlined in the funding proposal?
5. 5 Points - Does the organization have an Executive Director or Board Chair who is a millennial? What percentage of their board is comprised of millennials?
6. 5 Points - Does the organization have revenues of less than \$500,000
7. 5 Points - Is this a new organization (incorporated no earlier than July 1, 2010)?

Section Four: Cover Page Outline

Organization Name	List the official name of your organization.
Contact Person Name	Please list the name of the person who should be contacted regarding your application
Address	List the official address of your organization for mailing purposes; include city and ZIP code information.
Contact Telephone Number	List the main contact number for your organization in the space provided
Email	Please provide the email address for your organization's leader. This address will be used for official correspondence.

Website	Please provide your organization's website address (if you have one).
Source	Indicate how you received or learned about the RFP

Section Five

Next Generation United Presentation Agreement

Organization Name: _____

I, _____, agree to give a presentation to the board of Next Generation United regarding this grant proposal. I understand that my team may consist of ___ people and we will be given three minutes to present material in any style we choose. In addition, my team will answer follow-up questions from the audience regarding our presentation.

Signature