

FR1ENDS of the CH1LDREN

2019 National Expansion Grants – Request for Applications

Friends of the Children is a national nonprofit that is breaking the cycle of generational poverty by giving children facing the highest risks the ability to create a new story. We do this by providing the most vulnerable children with a long-term, salaried, professional mentor, who we call a “Friend,” from kindergarten through high school graduation, 12.5 years – no matter what.

Our evidence-based model works:

- 83% of our youth graduate from high school
- 93% of our youth avoid the juvenile justice system
- 98% of our youth avoid early parenting

Expansion Our successful model is now in 15 locations, including four sites in Oregon (Portland, Gresham, Klamath Falls/Basin and Central Oregon); Austin, TX; Boston, MA; Charlotte, NC; Chicago, IL; Harlem and the South Bronx, NY; Los Angeles and San Francisco, CA; Seattle, WA; Tampa Bay, FL; and Cornwall, United Kingdom. We have a goal of being in 25 cities by 2025.

To meet our expansion goal, between now and August 31, 2019, Friends of the Children will be accepting applications to award four (4), \$200,000 Expansion Grants to communities that desire to replicate the Friends of the Children model.

Eligibility for this Competition

Friends of the Children commits to each individual youth for 12 ½ years. For this reason, Applicants must demonstrate a commitment not only to implementing the Friends of the Children Model with fidelity, they must also demonstrate that the expansion market has the ability to sustain the program beyond the period of this Expansion Grant award.

Accordingly, in order to be considered eligible for this competition, upon application **all Applicants must be able to prove (e.g., through letters of commitment, pledge forms, or balance statements) that they have already secured commitments from donors that total a minimum of \$850,000 for rural sites; \$1.5M for urban sites** (in the Application, the total may include the Expansion Grant award of \$200,000).

Application Requirements

Applications should be submitted in a narrative format and provide a detailed description of the applicant’s plan for growth/replication of the Friends of the Children Model.

NARRATIVE:

The Application Narrative should be no longer than 5 pages single spaced using 12 point font, at least single line spacing, with one inch margins. There is no page limit on attachments.

The Narrative should address each of the items listed in this section

1. Financial Commitments & Sustainability –

- Please provide a brief description of the work to date to secure funding and promote the Friends of the Children model in the target market.
- Please attach a list of funding secured & pledged by donor group (foundation, corporation, and individual donors).
- Please provide proof of funding secured, e.g., through letters of commitment, pledge forms, and/or balance statements.

2. Organizational Commitment & Understanding –

- Please describe how the Friends of the Children Model has the potential to address the specific needs of the children/youth in the target market.
- Please describe your plan to identify youth for selection/enrollment in the program. Include in this description the target population, your identified (or planned for) selection partners, and your planned-for annual enrollment goals.
- If you're already serving youth in the target market, please describe that service and why your current and future plans for the target market qualify as an "expansion" of service.

3. Local Champions & Community Support –

- Please attach a list of the community members (name, organizational affiliation) directly engaged as "local champions" to bring Friends of the Children to the target market.
- Please describe the work to date of those local champions (specific activities or events, PR and marketing, community forums to secure buy-in, etc.) and what you believe are the next steps in terms of formally establishing a Board of Directors for the expansion site.

4. Strategic Partnerships and Collaboration –

- Please describe your current or proposed collaborations with specific education, child welfare and/or community partners to support and strengthen the launch and ongoing sustainability of the expansion site.
- Please include as attachments to this applications Letters of Commitment from your current or proposed school, child welfare partners and/or community partners who have agreed to support the child selection process (at least for the first cohort of youth).

Budget –

- Using the attached budget template, please attach a proposed 3 year budget for the expansion site.

Application Submission

Beginning February 15 and until August 31, 2019, Expansion Grant Applications may be submitted to Erinn Kelley-Siel, Chief Officer of Expansion and Policy, at ekelleysiel@friendsofthechildren.org. An electronic version of the completed application must be received **by no later than 5:00 pm, PST on August 31, 2019.**

- Faxed or emailed applications will not be accepted.
- Adhere to narrative page limits (5 page max).
- Include page numbers on all pages.
- Late submissions will not be accepted.
- Incomplete submissions will be disqualified and will not be reviewed.

Application Review Process

Complete Applications will be reviewed by the Friends of the Children National Staff and Board Governance Committee on a first-come, first-served basis.

All Expansion Grant award recipients will be selected and notified by September 30, 2019.

Terms and Conditions

As a condition of award, Expansion Grant award recipients representing new Friends of the Children locations that will establish as independent, 501(c)(3)s will be required to enter into a Chapter Agreement with Friends of the Children National. New sites are also required to enter into fee-for-service agreements with Friends of the Children National for finance, human resources, and other shared administrative services supports.