



Guidelines for BPI Impact Grants Program 2023

BPI's Impact Grants are investments in local programs, projects, and initiatives that support issues impacting the Black community in Forsyth County. In particular, BPI is looking to invest in **Black-led organizations/groups with annual budgets of less than \$150,000**, recognizing that there are local groups/organizations doing impactful work that are newer and/or have smaller budgets than their counterparts. **Grants of up to \$1,000** will be available.

BPI recognizes that there are groups/organizations doing powerful work in the Black community that may not align with BPI's current focus areas of equity in education and building an inclusive economy. Therefore, in this grant cycle BPI is looking to make investments in work focused on the four key areas in its [Rethinking Philanthropy](#) report (**education, jobs and wages, poverty, and civic engagement**) as well as **criminal justice reform** or **racial justice efforts**. BPI is requesting video applications (instead of written applications) to help minimize the time it takes for organizations to apply.

ORGANIZATIONAL ELIGIBILITY

- Your work/project must focus on education, jobs and wages, poverty, and civic engagement, criminal justice reform, or racial justice efforts.
- Your work/project must specifically impact the Black community in Forsyth County.
- Your organization must have an annual budget size under \$150,000.
- If you do not have 501(c)(3) nonprofit status, you must either have a fiscal agent that has one or an organizational bank account. Businesses and other types of for-profit entities are ineligible for funding.
- You must not proselytize or deny services based upon religious beliefs.

WHO AND WHAT WE FUND

BPI's Impact Grants may be used for general operating expenses and/or a specific program or project. The BPI Grants Committee will make grant decisions based on eligibility, current and potential impact of the organization/project and demonstrated dedication and passion for the work.

Strong preference will be given to:

- **Black-led groups/organizations** (organizations with more than 50% of Black staff in leadership positions and/or more than 50% of board members are Black)
- **Organizations and programs that work within predominately Black neighborhoods** (including 27101, 27105 and 27107)

APPLICATION TIMELINE

- **Friday, January 6** – Application process opens.
- **Monday, February 6 at midnight** – Video application deadline.
- **Monday, February 27** – Funding decision notifications.

HOW TO APPLY

- **Complete a brief online form and upload a maximum length 4-minute video.**
If you need assistance gaining access to a computer or recording device, please contact **Shamika Starke** at sstarke@wsfoundation.org or (336) 604-5160
- **To begin the application and submit your video**, visit bpiws.org and scroll down to the “Grants” section.
- **Questions to answer in the video:**
 1. Tell us about your organization. What is your mission and what issues are you trying to address with your work?
 2. What is the amount you are requesting, and if you receive an Impact Grant, what would you do with the funds?
 3. How does your organization and/or project align with one or more of the following Impact Grants focus areas: education, jobs and wages, poverty, civic engagement, criminal justice reform, or racial justice efforts?
 4. What impact are you hoping to make? How will you know you have been successful?

FOR MORE INFORMATION:

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