

NORTHEAST VALLEY BEST START SOCIAL RESOURCES PROJECT NEV

April 2, 2021

OVERVIEW

1. Project Background and Description

The Participatory Budgeting Project (PBP) is a nonprofit organization that empowers people to decide together how to spend public money, primarily in the US and Canada. PBP is the lead organization advancing participatory budgeting (PB) across the United States and Canada. They have empowered more than 400,000 people to directly decide how to spend \$300 million in public funds in 29 cities. Participatory budgeting (PB) is a democratic process in which community members decide how to spend part of a public budget. It gives people real power over real money.

The Best Start Communities in the San Fernando Valley have been on a journey to implement the Participatory Budget process since September 2020. The Northeast Valley Best Start Community: Participatory Budgeting Social Resource Project is introducing a funding opportunity for organizations providing services in the Northeast San Fernando Valley. NEV's Social Resources Project is focused on providing families in the communities of Pacoima, San Fernando, Arleta, and Sylmar with programs that will help meet their needs via workshops, new projects, and professional services. We also look to community schools as partners in providing resources that will have a bigger impact on families.

The goals of this grant are to 1. strengthen the relationships between NEV Best Start parent leaders and organizations 2. build the community's power to influence systemic and policy changes. Applicant organizations are invited to work closely with community leaders in the proposal development phase. NEV Best Start will be awarding four projects from a one-year grant of \$45,000. Awarded organizations will provide impactful new projects or workshops for the families and children of the community. Proposals should reflect the needs of the residents of the Northeast San Fernando Valley and have a community voice present. It is highly encouraged to co-create the proposal with community members.

2. Community Impact

NEV Best Start conducted a needs assessment survey throughout the community (up to 700 ideas were collected from that survey). The community was involved in the process and requested the focus of the projects should be priorities they identified: Mental Health, Technology, Education, and Well-being. These priorities accurately reflect the needs of the community. Projects can be in the form of Workshops, New Projects, or Professional Services.

3. Selection Process

Selected grantees will reflect NEV Best Start Community's commitment to underserved families with children 0-5 in the Northeast Fernando Valley. Successful applicants will be community-based organizations that:

- Are accessible to all community members in the Northeast San Fernando Valley
- Meet a community priority need (mental health, technology, education, wellbeing)
- Provide virtual or in person programming, whichever is permitted by LA County Guidelines during the time of implementation
- Illustrate ability to complete project within the 1-year timeline
- Have a demonstrated commitment to working with Best Start NEV community and families in identifying issues and priorities, as well as co-create solutions, opportunities for learning, and capacity building.
- Directly work with parents of young children (0-5) to advance equity through family engagement, leadership development, and/or organizing,
- Are rooted in an understanding of the historical and current systemic barriers to opportunity and committed to addressing these barriers through high impact programming.
- Have a vision for building parent power to affect practice and policy changes, and
- Are interested in opportunities for learning, capacity building, and collaboration.

4. Eligibility and Requirements

Applicant organizations must meet the following guidelines:

- 501(c)(3) tax-exempt organization or equivalent (includes fiscal sponsors of an eligible project/program)
- Provide organization or fiscal sponsor name, mailing address, and website
- Furnish an Annual Budget for 2020-2021
- Include Project Budget
- Indicate geographical area served (ex. San Fernando)
 - How would you describe your service area?
- Demonstrate demographic information of people served, by percentage (if not tracked please estimate)
 - Race/ethnicity
 - % of children 0-5
 - Home language
- Create and submit a 3-5-minute video or PowerPoint presentation of proposal

A written Narrative is also required and should be limited to two (2) pages, single-spaced with 12-point font. Please address the following topics in your response:

- How does the project work to support the needs of the community in one of the priorities identified by community members?
- How do the project's family engagement strategies reflect its understanding of and commitment to addressing historical and current systemic barriers to opportunity?
- Describe the proposed project and how it ties into community needs and their identified ideas
 - Project must be:
 - Accessible to all community members
 - Have an impact on families with children 0-5
 - Provide a plan for in person and virtual opportunities
 - Co-create projects with community members

Project Requirement:

- Provide quarterly updates to Northeast Valley Best Start Community July 2021- June 2022
- Participate in Best Start's monthly Alliance United Collaborative between July 2021-June 2022
- Submit end of year report by July 2022

Funding Restrictions: The following activities are NOT allowable:

- Grants to individuals
- Lobbying-related activities and expenses (while education regarding a policy issue is an eligible activity, mini-grants may not support lobbying for specific policies or legislation, or lobbying of any policymaker, local, state, or federal legislative organization)
- Activities and expenses to influence voters to support or oppose any candidate, specific legislation, or ballot measure
- Direct services, development of curricula to be used for direct services, or salary for new or existing staff to provide direct services
- Tuition or professional membership dues
- New capital projects or capital improvement projects, including costs associated with construction and renovation
- Voter registration drives
- Endowments
- Fundraising events
- Activities with religious purposes

Samples of project that community have indicated high interest in each priority:

Mental Health	Technology	Education	Health/Wellbeing
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Stress management for children and adults ▪ Impact of the pandemic on children ▪ How to identify anxiety and depression in children and adults ▪ Suicide prevention ▪ Support groups for parents and children ▪ Child Development ▪ Non-Violent Parenting 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Computer classes (basics to advanced) ▪ How to navigate the internet ▪ How to navigate tablets and smartphones for more than just videos ▪ Internet and equipment support ▪ New computers in homes with better internet service 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Tutoring for parents and students ▪ English classes ▪ Better equipment for virtual and at school learning (computers, headphones) ▪ School supplies & physical space to learn ▪ Extracurricular classes: music, art, theatre, writing ▪ Head Start/ Child Care ▪ University 101- applying and transitioning to college ▪ Providing knowledge and understanding of programs used in school ▪ Know your rights as a parent ▪ Emotional support (racism in school) ▪ Study and motivation techniques 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Self-care ▪ Healthy Eating Habits ▪ Zumba ▪ Playing opportunities for children ▪ Access to medical care ▪ Baby and me ▪ Physical Therapy ▪ Personal Hygiene ▪ Nutrition classes

5. Timeline

Activity	Timeframe/ Due Date
Request for Proposal Released	Monday 4/5/2021
Proposal Due Date	April 30, 2021
PBP Steering Committee Review	April 30-May 10, 2021
Community Vote	May 15-23, 2021
Winning Grants notified	May 25, 2021
Funds Received	June 15, 2021
Implementation of projects	July 2021-June 2022

6. Procedure for Submission

A two-page written narrative and a 3-5 minute video or PowerPoint presentation (Introduction of organization, amount requested, project description) that will be reviewed by community members for the voting process.

If selected, organization will be required to provide a 501(c)3 Letter, W-9, and Certificate of Insurance with Workers Compensation Insurance Coverage.

Please click on this link to apply: [Northeast Valley Best Start Social Resources Project NEV](#)

SELECTION RUBRIC

Total of 35 possible points				SCORE
How does the project work to support the needs of the Northeast San Fernando Valley in one of the priorities identified by community members?	Does not clearly describe the project and its connection to community priorities 0 points	Identifies project but does not clearly link to community priorities 1-5 points	Clearly describes the project and its connection to community priorities 6-10 points	
Describe the proposed project and how it ties into community needs	No direct link between project and community needs 0 points	There is somewhat of a link between project and community needs 1-5 points	Link between project and community needs is clear and identifiable 6-10 points	
Describe how the proposed project addresses the historical and current systemic barriers to opportunity?	Does not clearly describe how the project will address historical and current systemic barriers to opportunity 0 points	Identifies historical and current systemic barriers to opportunity but not clear on how the project addresses them 1-5 points	Clearly describes the project and how it will address historical and current systemic barriers to opportunity 6-10 points	
Is this project sustainable for a one-year period? Will the funding allow this project to be completed in a year?	Not sustainable, the project cannot be completed in one year 0 points		Clear indication on how the project will be completed in one year and funding will support that 5 points	

QUESTIONS OR TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE:

Contact NEV Best Start Staff: Julissa Rodriguez, NEV Manager (jrodriguez@laep.org) or Sandra Mariscal, Program Assistant (smariscal@laep.org)