



Cultivating Inland Empire  
Latino Opportunity Fund

# CIELO Fund Grant Application

## Request for Proposals

Launched in 2022 at the Inland Empire Community Foundation, the Cultivating Inland Empire Latino Opportunity Fund, also known as the [CIELO Fund](#), is dedicated to uplifting and investing in the Inland Empire’s Latino community. The CIELO Fund intends to support nonprofit organizations and initiatives that are led by – and serve – Latinos in Riverside and San Bernardino counties. We are excited to invite your organization to apply for the CIELO Fund’s first-ever call for grant applications for 2022-2023.

### CIELO Fund - Funding Focus

Latinos are now the majority of the Inland Empire, making up 51.5% of the population. With this growth comes increased opportunity but also areas where disparities persist. The CIELO Fund commissioned a new [report called \*Aqui Estamos: A Data Profile of Latinos in the Inland Empire\*](#) with UC Riverside to identify where funding might carry the greatest impact. Using the findings from this report, the Fund has decided to focus on the following issue areas for its inaugural grantmaking round: **economic mobility, educational equity, civic engagement, health equity, and immigrant services**. In addition, the Fund’s leadership heard loud and clear that organizations would benefit greatly from general operating support so our grantmaking is designed to meet that need.

**The CIELO Fund intends to fund Latino-led and Latino serving nonprofit organizations (NPO) based in the Inland Empire as defined by the following identity criteria:**

Latino Led	Latino Serving
<p>Latino leaders are in a position of influence within the organization meaning:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. A Majority of the Board is Latino, AND</li> <li>2. Executive Director is Latino, or the Executive Leadership and Organizational Lead is majority Latino</li> </ol>	<p>Organizations that are committed to serving and empowering Latinos as evidenced by:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Programmatic services that prioritizes and target the needs of Latinos</li> <li>2. Has a history of serving Latinos</li> </ol>

*Note: We recognize and acknowledge the diversity within our community. We use the term “Latino” when referring to those who may also identify as “Latinx,” “Hispanic,” “Latine,” and “Latin@,” among others. We define the “Inland Empire” region as fully inclusive of the counties of Riverside and San Bernardino. This region is also sometimes referred to as “Inland Southern California.”*

## Project/Grant Scope

The project and grant scope is limited to the Inland Empire, and all funded activities will be limited to Riverside County and San Bernardino County only, with special consideration given to those organizations headquartered and anchored in the region. Organizations will be provided resources to strengthen operations, create a pipeline of leadership, and implement programs or initiatives that advance the CIELO Fund's key areas of focus:

- **Economic Mobility:** Funding may support efforts that result in the creation of new policies, systems, sustainable structures, and institutions for an inclusive economy and the upward economic mobility of the Latino community in the Inland Empire.
- **Educational Equity:** Funds may support efforts to put systems, structures, and resources in place to address the unique challenges and barriers to academic success as early as pre-K through college and university graduation.
- **Civic Engagement:** Funding may support efforts to develop and involve leaders in civic life which may include but is not limited to identifying new voters, educating and engaging voters on election issues and other policy priorities; and involving leaders in shaping public policy.
- **Health Equity:** Funds may support efforts to address systemic barriers that result in racial and ethnic disparities in health access, care and supports in a range of areas including but not limited to: birth equity, reproductive justice, mental health, social determinants of health, and factors contributing to COVID-disparities.
- **Immigrant Services:** Funds may support efforts to empower the Inland Empire's immigrant community through naturalization services, DACA services, voter registration services, legal services, and more.

## Eligibility and Objectives

### Eligibility

- Nonprofit, public benefit organizations with evidence of tax-exempt status under Section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code and not classified as a private foundation.
- Organizations with fiscal sponsors are also eligible to apply.
- Organizations that operate so that they do not discriminate in the hiring of staff or in providing services on the basis of race, religion, gender, sexual orientation, age, national origin or disability.
- The CIELO Fund will not fund or sponsor events or businesses.

### Grantmaking Objectives

- Support nonprofits providing quality, essential services in the areas of economic mobility, educational equity, civic engagement, health equity, and immigrant services for the Latino community in the Inland Empire.
- Provide flexible, unrestricted support to carefully selected nonprofits that demonstrate the interest and ability to strengthen their organizational effectiveness and capacity.
- Support organizations of all budget sizes, levels of capacity, and infrastructure.
- Seek local, regional, and state policy solutions;

- Address a high need impacting Latinos;
- Benefit a large number of disadvantaged, vulnerable, marginalized, and/or underserved people

### **One Year General Operating Support Grants**

Grants awarded are for general operating costs and may support efforts that enable an organization to effectively carry out its mission by strengthening organizational capacity and infrastructure while advancing one of the CIELO Fund's key areas of focus. **The maximum request and award is \$15,000 for one year. Requests over \$15,000 will be disqualified. Please note that not all awards will be \$15,000.**

### **Timeline**

**Nov. 1, 2022** - Grant opportunity announced

**Nov. 16, 2022** - Technical assistance workshop

**Dec. 5, 2022** - Applications due

**Jan. 20, 2023** – Decisions released

### **Application Review**

Grants are awarded on a competitive basis. Applications will be screened for eligibility and completeness by Inland Empire Community Foundation (IECF) staff. The CIELO Fund Leadership and Grantmaking Committee will evaluate eligible applications and make grant recommendations to the IECF Board of Directors for final approval. While we hope to support as many grants as possible, funding in our initial round is limited.

### **Notification of Results**

Applicants will be notified of the results on January 20, 2023



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# CIELO Fund Application Cover Sheet

**Deadline: December 5, 2022**

<b>Internal Use Only:</b>
Grant : _____

## Organization / Agency Information

<i>Organization/Agency Name:</i>		
<i>Physical Address:</i>		<i>City/State/Zip</i>
<i>Mailing Address:</i>		<i>City/State/Zip</i>
<i>CEO or Director:</i>		<i>Title:</i>
<i>Phone:</i>	<i>Fax:</i>	<i>Email:</i>
<i>Contact Person:</i>		<i>Title:</i>
<i>Phone:</i>	<i>Fax:</i>	<i>Email:</i>
<i>Web Site Address:</i>		<i>Tax ID:</i>

## Program / Grant Information: Project Scope (check one):

Economic Mobility    Educational Equity    Civic Engagement    Health Equity    Immigration Services

<i>Program / Project Name:</i>	
<i>Amount of Grant Requested:</i>	<i>Organization Budget:</i>
<i>Purpose of Grant Request (one sentence):</i>	

## Signature

<i>CEO / Director: (please print and sign)</i>	<i>Title:</i>
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## NARRATIVE QUESTIONS

Please provide the following information by answering **ALL** questions. Use the format below. **Type the question.** Type your complete answers to the question directly below the question. Please be thorough, clear, specific, and concise.

1. The CIELO Fund's goal is to uplift and invest in the Inland Empire's Latino community. Provide a brief overview about your organization, your work and more specifically, the work you do to uplift Latino communities you serve (200 words maximum):

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2. Which of the CIELO Fund's key priority areas are you currently doing work in: Educational Equity, Civic Engagement, Health Equity, Economic Mobility, and Immigrant Services? (Refer to the Guidelines, Project Scope). Briefly describe the program. (200 words maximum).

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3. What is the organization's history for working within this priority area and what impact has it made to date? (200 words maximum).

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4. What is your specific goal, objective, and what specific activities will your organizations do to reach your goal within that key priority area over the next 12 months? (200 words maximum)

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5. Who are your partners in your current efforts? Are you collaborating with others or participating in larger/regional efforts? If so, describe your collaborative efforts. (100 words maximum)

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6. How will these funds help your organization achieve more and have a greater impact? What gaps are you trying to fill? (100 words maximum)

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**Complete Demographic % of Latinos :**

- a. \_\_\_\_ Currently Serving on Board
- b. \_\_\_\_ Executive Leadership
- c. \_\_\_\_ Staff
- d. \_\_\_\_ Volunteers
- e. \_\_\_\_ Constituency/Clients/Members served
- f. **Communities Served:**

Riverside County

San Bernardino County

Constituency/Clients/Members serve

**Email the following completed application and ancillary documents to [CIELO@iegives.org](mailto:CIELO@iegives.org)**

**1. Completed application form:**

- a. Application Cover sheet
- b. Narrative – answer the questions above. Write the question and answer accordingly
- c. Demographic % of Latinos

**2. Ancillary documents:**

- A list of Board Members with their affiliations.
- A copy of your current 501(c)(3) letter from the IRS.
- Your current year operating budget.