

2021-2022 GRANTS PROGRAM GUIDELINES

For 60 years, Keiro has focused on improving the quality of life for older adults and their caregivers in the Japanese American community of Los Angeles, Orange, and Ventura counties. For the past five years, Keiro has utilized the Grants Program as one of many key strategies to support the evolving needs of older adults and their caregivers aging in community. Keiro recognizes there are many organizations and agencies that provide services for older adults in the Japanese American and Japanese communities as well as for their families and caregivers. We hope to achieve the greatest impact by investing support in the efforts of others working in alignment with our mission and goals within our service area.

Social isolation is a health epidemic defined as the state of complete or near-complete lack of contact between an individual and society. A report from the National Academies of Sciences, Engineering, and Medicine (NASEM) shows that nearly one-fourth of adults age 65 and older are considered socially isolated. As our community continues to remain at home and distant from personal interactions, the risk for isolation and loneliness increases. Risk factors leading to social isolation include living alone, transportation limitations, declining health, life transitions, societal barriers, and lack of access/inequality (AARP Foundation). Social isolation differs from loneliness, which reflects the subjective feeling of isolation, not belonging, or lacking companionship. The NASEM study reveals that social isolation significantly increased a person's risk of premature death from all causes and is associated with higher risk of dementia, heart disease, and stroke.

For over a year, COVID-19 has increased the risk of social isolation among the older adults and caregivers in Our Community. For the 2021-2022 Grant Cycle, continued emphasis will be placed on programs that provide outreach to and inclusion of older adults and caregivers in the community that are at risk of social isolation. Outreach can include, but is not limited to, seeking new participants in activities or reengaging with past participants in programs. Both forms of outreach will be prioritized. Keiro will continue its focus on reducing social isolation among older adults and their caregivers in the Japanese American and Japanese communities through the Grants Program.

The following guidelines are designed to provide an overview of Keiro's Grants Program for the 2021-2022 Grant Cycle. We will be hosting a series of informational virtual workshops discussing how to apply for funding and what updates to consider during the application process as we encourage organizations to apply. Keiro staff may be contacted to ask questions about the application process. Please check Keiro's website for workshop dates and times.

GOALS

- Enhance the quality of life of older adults and their caregivers in the Japanese American and Japanese communities
- Reduce social isolation and loneliness among Japanese American and Japanese older adults and their caregivers
- Reach out to Japanese American and Japanese older adults and their caregivers at-risk for isolation and provide support through community programs, events, and increasing capacity to provide these services
- Promote culturally-sensitive programs and services accessible to Our Community

CONSTITUENCIES TO BE SERVED

- Keiro grant support is dedicated to programs serving older adults and/or their caregivers in Our Community. In order to receive funding, a program must primarily serve Japanese American or Japanese older adults in Los Angeles, Orange, and/or Ventura counties.

PROGRAM AREAS

We recognize that the program areas below often intersect, and we encourage applications that have alignment with one or both of these areas.

- **Services to Older Adults**

One fifth of all Japanese American adults are age 65 and older. This is much higher than the percentage of adults aged 65 and older in the general population. The proportion of older adults in Our Community is increasing at an accelerated pace and Japanese American and Japanese older adults in the region are living longer.

Keiro seeks to support Japanese American and Japanese older adults to age with confidence by equipping them with knowledge, resources, and assistance, so they can effectively manage their lives and wellbeing wherever they call home.

Grants will be awarded to provide services that reduce social isolation and improve the quality of life of older adults most in-need. Examples of services can include (but are not limited to):

- Fostering a sense of community among Japanese American and Japanese older adults to reduce isolation and loneliness
- Supporting older adults who desire to live independently in a safe environment
- Improving access to vital community programs and services
- Educating older adults and their families to make informed decisions and thoughtful plans, including end of life decisions

- **Support of Caregivers**

Caregiver demands and burdens are increasing as people are living longer and are choosing to live at home, instead of residential care facilities. Caregivers commonly endure relentless stress and burdens associated with their roles as caregivers, and for many, the demands increase over time with little to no respite. Keiro seeks to support caregivers in the community to assist older adults in need.

Today, approximately one in three Japanese Americans is a caregiver and close to 57,000 Japanese American and Japanese are caregivers in Los Angeles, Orange, and Ventura Counties. Two-thirds are women and a majority are family members.

Grants for program development will be awarded to organizations that provide support to caregivers or that provide caregiving services to older adults. Examples include (but are not limited to):

- Enhancing support systems for caregivers to ease the physical, psychological, and financial burdens of caregiving
- Developing a sufficient pipeline of well-trained caregivers, both professional and informal, who are able to provide in-home, culturally sensitive, and appropriate care along a continuum of needs
- Addressing the needs of the most vulnerable older adults who lack access to adequate, culturally sensitive caregiving
- Empowering caregivers to confidently make decisions for themselves and their families

FUNDING AMOUNT & CRITERIA

This year, Keiro will have one funding level of up to \$15,000. Grants will be awarded to provide program development, core operating support, capacity building support, or capital support. Although organizations may apply for more than one grant, funding will be limited to a maximum of \$15,000 per organization.

The grant period is up to one year. Multi-year requests are not considered.

In an effort to extend support toward grassroots efforts, priority will be given to applicant organizations with annual operating budgets of less than \$1 million.

If awarded, throughout this 12-month grant period, grant recipients will be required to submit both mid-year and final reports. Reports should include quantitative measurements and qualitative information detailing the impact of programs on reducing social isolation and loneliness.

Funding priority will be given to programs or organizations that:

- Align with all of the Keiro Grants Program goals
- Reduce social isolation among Japanese American and Japanese older adults and their caregivers
- Outreach to older adults and caregivers at risk for isolation to include or involve them in programs
- Address a pressing need or opportunity to serve older adults and their caregivers in Our Community
- Are culturally-sensitive to Japanese American and Japanese culture
- Demonstrate compelling outcomes and impact on the quality of life of older adults in Our Community
- Have a realistic program budget and ability to carry out the project effectively

TYPES OF SUPPORT

All grant-funded programs shall be delivered safely per recommendations by health officials.

Grant funds can be used for such things as:

- **Program development** to design new programs, or enhance existing programs and services. Funding may be used for translation of materials, outreach efforts, transportation services, culturally sensitive activities, case management, etc.
- **Capacity building** to help organizations plan, effectively manage, retool systems or methods, or build sustainability
- **Core operations** to maintain provision of high quality, high demand services with demonstrated outcomes and strong participation
- **Capital investments** such as purchasing equipment or funding renovation projects

GENERAL ELIGIBILITY

Eligible proposals must be for programs and services that:

- Primarily serve older adults and/or caregivers in the Japanese American and Japanese communities
- Serve Los Angeles, Orange, and/or Ventura counties

Organizations eligible for a grant must meet one of the following criteria:

- Nonprofit organizations that are tax exempt under IRS Section 501(c)(3)
- Community groups that have a 501(c)(3) organization serving as their fiscal agent
- Faith-based nonprofit organizations are eligible for funding if they welcome and serve all members of the community
-

INELIGIBLE SUBMISSION TYPES

Funds will not be granted to the following:

- Service programs that are focused outside of the three identified communities (Los Angeles County, Orange County, and Ventura County)
- Government agencies and institutions
- Medical research
- Individuals
- Fundraising events
- Endowments
- Political campaigns or lobbying
- Grantmaking institutions or pass-through grants

APPLICATION SUBMISSION GUIDELINES

This year, please submit all application materials electronically to grants@keiro.org.

We ask that all submitting organizations refrain from visiting and dropping off applications in-person. Mailed in applications will be accepted, but please notify by emailing grants@keiro.org.

If mailing hard copies, please notify the staff and can be mailed to the address below:

Keiro
ATTN: Grants Program
420 East Third Street, Suite 1000
Los Angeles, CA 90013

If faxing an application, please fax to 213.873.5799 and provide notice by emailing grants@keiro.org.

Application submission deadline

Applications will be accepted through **5:00 p.m. PDT on Friday, October 15, 2021**. We encourage early submissions. Grant awards will be announced by March 2022.

For more information, please contact Makoto Kotani, Director of Programs, at 213.873.5703 or grants@keiro.org.

Copyright © 2006-2021 by Keiro Services. All rights reserved. Keiro is registered trademark of Keiro Services. All other trademarks, service marks, and logos are trademarks of Keiro Services. Use of the names and/or the logos without written permission is prohibited.