



R A I N B O W  
FOUNDATION OF HOPE

# Sponsorship Support Application Guide

Version September 2020

## INTRODUCTION

The purpose of the **Rainbow Foundation of Hope (RFOH) Grants Program** (the Program) is to support efforts to take action to support LGBT+ asylum seekers, refugees, and newcomers facing persecution on the basis of sexual orientation and gender identity or expression (**SOGIE**). Sponsorship grants of up to \$7,500 per sponsorship project are designed to stimulate direct and concrete efforts that support private sponsorship of SOGIE migrants. The program is entirely funded through community donations and limited corporate partnerships. As an independent society and registered charity in Canada, RFOH operates with the sole Mission of improving the lives of SOGIE migrants worldwide.

## ELIGIBILITY

The Program will consider proposals from agencies and organizations whose interests are consistent with the goals of the grants program. The program will not consider grant proposals for retroactive funding of projects already completed. Qualified donees applying for grant funding must meet the following set of criteria to be **eligible**:

- Be a **Canadian charitable organization** registered with the Canada Revenue Agency (CRA). International organizations need to apply through an affiliated partner that is a registered charity in Canada.
- Provide programs and/or services that target **SOGIE** migrants subject to direct forms of **persecution**.
- Have a clean human rights record on other human rights issues.
- Extend services without prejudice and irrespective of nationality, ethnicity, religious affiliation, age, sex, sexual orientation, gender identity, gender expression, language proficiency, or ability.

## ELIGIBLE FUNDING REQUESTS

The **Sponsorship Grant Support Stream** seeks to enable SOGIE migrants to safely and swiftly leave their country of origin due to persecution or leave their country of refuge where their lives are in danger and come to Canada through **private sponsorship**. Individual asylum seekers looking for refuge in a safe country can either come to Canada or another country that is generally understood to be safe compared to the country of origin, as a special case for **urgent** support through the sponsorship stream of grant funding.

In all cases, RFOH's charitable designation with CRA requires that sponsorship support grants for such migrants must be administered through a Canadian organization as a **qualified donee** that is also a registered charity. Applicants can also apply to this grant stream for funds that shall be used to meet their current sponsorship obligations at a variety of stages in the process,

but successful applicants will need to demonstrate **set criteria** under the review and evaluation process, which is intended to be **transparent** and **accountable** to RFOH's **volunteer** and **donor** support system.

## TYPES OF ELIGIBLE APPLICANTS

Non-registered community groups and organizations involved with sponsorship programs **must work in partnership** with registered charitable organization in Canada. Non-profit organizations must have a clear mandate to serve SOGIE migrants in Canada. The **Refugee Sponsorship Training Program** (<http://www.rstp.ca>) provides useful tips for private sponsorship.

Examples of eligible applicants can include, but are not limited to one of the following:

- Sponsorship Agreement Holders (SAH);
- Community Sponsors (CS) for UNHCR Convention Refugees;
- Blended Visa Office Referred (BVOR) candidates; and
- Constituent Groups (CG).

Successful applicants are also expected to make use of the federal Rainbow Refugee Assistance Partnership (RRAP) established by the Government of Canada and administered exclusively by Rainbow Refugee (<https://www.rainbowrefugee.com/sponsor-a-refugee>).

## APPLICATION PROCEDURE

Applicants should complete and submit an application at any time for funding, bearing in mind that the application review process roughly operates on a quarterly basis over the course of the calendar year. Please use a copy of the **Sponsorship Support Grant Application** form for each project submitted. Should the proposal be reviewed favourably, a **Notification of Award** will be drawn up between RFOH and the successful applicant, which provides clarification of the terms of the award along with all the necessary information about the proposed project, including any conditions and **reporting** requirements. This information will be requested from the applicant.

Grant monies awarded will not exceed **\$5,000** per project.

Foundation of Hope recognizes that many community groups may be new to the process of applying for grants and are intimidated by the tasks for completing the application form. Therefore, we encourage all interested organizations and sponsorship groups to contact RFOH for questions and technical assistance in filling out an application form. Please consider that grants will be awarded based on the availability of funding at the time of the application.

Visit [www.foundationofhope.net](http://www.foundationofhope.net) or send a message to [grants@foundationofhope.net](mailto:grants@foundationofhope.net).

## REVIEW PROCESS AND EVALUATION CRITERIA

Submissions will be reviewed by the RFOH grant **Review Subcommittee**. The **Review Team** is composed of RFOH Board Directors on the **Grants Committee** and **volunteer** representatives of the LGBT+ community. Applicants will be contacted if further information is needed. The review process is intended to be transparent and ensure accountability in keeping with the Vision of RFOH: *A world where LGBT+ asylum seekers, refugees, and newcomers are safe and can be themselves.*

Financial support is the core **Purpose** of RFOH and integral to its ability to accomplish its **Mission**. The following set of **criteria** are used by the Review Team to **evaluate** proposals:

- **EFFICACY** - RFOH is looking for effective ways to **urgently** appeal to our Vision, Mission, and Purpose.
- **SIGNIFICANCE** - We look for clarity in how the actions and goals of the project address LGBT+ refugee and newcomer needs. Are people most at risk being directly targeted? How many at risk people will benefit?
- **ACTION PLAN** - We look for a well thought out action plan that works towards achieving the stated goals of the project. Does the application effectively demonstrate how closely the action plan aligns with the budget and timeline provided?
- **FEASIBILITY** - We look for a realistic project that is feasible in terms of time, budget, and available resources. Are the goals and objectives clearly identified in the measures of success? Are there any risks to the project in terms of achieving measures of success identified?
- **COLLABORATION** - We recognize that the monies awarded to individual projects may not meet the level of need requested. A clear description of the role of RFOH funds in collaboration with other affiliated groups is key to a successful proposal.

Foundation of Hope's policy is to strive for success through **continual improvement** in the grants program. Organizations that have previously received funding will be evaluated based on proven success in meeting grant deliverables. **Feedback** regarding the application process is appreciated and will be taken into consideration for future grant cycles.

## AWARDS AND REPORTING

Reporting requirements include a **Report on Success** to be provided no more than **60 days after completion of the project** or as an update **within a year of having received funds** if the project is not yet complete. Reports are expected to explain how sponsorship support grant funds

impacted and benefited SOGIE migrants.

You are encouraged to include photos, beneficiary statements, and any other evidence of the outcome as part of the report on the success of the project. Foundation of Hope is aware that, because of the privacy and safety concerns for individuals, we may not be able to share some of the identifying information and materials in the Reports.

Any opportunity to engage with the project as a means to promote and expand the grants program is welcomed by RFOH. Inquiries and applications related to sponsorship support may be sent by email directly to: [grants@foundationofhope.net](mailto:grants@foundationofhope.net)

Apply for sponsorship support grant funding by filing out the accompanying Sponsorship Support Grant Application form and send it by email with “**RFOH SPONSORSHIP SUPPORT GRANT**” as the subject line.

