

# COLLECTIVE FUND FOR SOCIAL EQUITY

## AT THE FOUNDATION OF GREATER MONTREAL

**In support of initiatives for people seeking asylum, refugees or migrant persons, without status or with temporary or precarious status**

### Background

The Collective Fund for Social Equity was created by the Foundation of Greater Montreal (FGM) in 2021 to address issues stemming from social inequalities and related to justice, equity, diversity, and inclusion. Through this initiative, FGM's priority is to support organizations working with historically marginalized populations, with an approach based on listening and trust, to help them achieve their transformative vision for their community. These populations include Black, Indigenous, and racialized people, LGBTQ2S+ people, women and girls, as well as people who are neurodivergent or living with physical or intellectual limitations.

### Fund objectives and funding priorities

In 2023, the Fund will provide support for **organizations and initiatives working with asylum seekers, refugees or migrant persons, without status or with temporary or precarious status**, based on the needs identified by these communities during consultations. Specifically, funding will be allocated in the following streams:

- 1. Initiatives aimed at providing or improving administrative or legal services for the identified groups;**
- 2. Initiatives aimed at influencing public policy, including:**
  - Advocacy to change existing policies or introduce new ones in order to improve the quality of life and access to rights for the identified groups;
  - Awareness-raising activities that center the lived experience and realities of the identified groups, aimed at combating prejudice and strengthening solidarity with them;
  - Initiatives that support production and dissemination of knowledge and information by the identified communities and for their benefit.

### **3. Initiatives aiming for the individual or collective empowerment of identified groups, such as;**

- Emerging and grassroots initiatives led by asylum seekers, refugees or migrant persons, without status or with temporary or precarious status, for the benefit of their respective communities;
- Initiatives aimed at strengthening individual and collective capacities of asylum seekers, refugees or migrant persons, without status or with temporary or precarious status to advocate for their rights.

### Eligible organizations and initiatives

- Registered charities;
- Organizations without a charitable number, coalitions, associations, and grassroots groups;
  - If the organization does not have a charitable number, it must be able to collaborate with a fiduciary organization that does.
- Organizations and initiatives operating in the Greater Montreal area (i.e. the 82 municipalities of the Communauté métropolitaine de Montréal (CMM), including Laval and the North and South Shores).

### Justice, equity, diversity, and inclusion

In line with FGM's principles of justice, equity, diversity, and inclusion, priority will be given to organizations and initiatives that:

- Intervene specifically to improve the quality of life for historically marginalized populations, as identified by FGM;
- Are led and implemented by people with lived experience of the realities and issues they aim to address.

**We are committed to facilitating access to the funding process for organizations, initiatives,**

**grassroots groups, or other associations who face systemic barriers to obtaining funding, including organizations without mission-based funding, without a charitable number, those in the process of establishing themselves, or whose primary activities are advocacy, rights activism or community mobilization.**

## Funding conditions

In 2023, the Collective Fund for Social Equity has a total budget of \$1,300,000.

- **Its support will be granted for 2 years** (unless a specific request for short-term funding is made).
- **It will offer flexible support:**
  - Funding available for mission-based activities (continuation or reinforcement of current activities), for a specific project, or for organizational capacity building;
  - Funding available for existing activities, newly launched activities, or to develop a new initiative.
- **Three different funding levels are available:**
  - Tier 1: \$15,000 per year;
  - Tier 2: \$40,000 per year;
  - Tier 3: \$65,000 per year.

In the interest of fairness, **please submit only one application per organization or initiative.**

## Governance

FGM has called on numerous community and institutional partners working with asylum seekers, refugees or migrant persons, and those without status or with temporary or precarious status, to create a **Participatory Advisory Committee**. The Committee includes representatives from community organizations in the Greater Montreal area, advocacy organizations, the cities of Montreal and Laval, the regional public health departments, and concertation groups.

### The Committee's mandate is to:

- Define the Fund's objectives and parameters;
- Analyze funding applications submitted to the Fund;
- Prepare final recommendations for funding distribution.
- The Committee's recommendations will be approved by FGM's [Community Engagement Committee](#).

Some members of the Advisory Committee were involved in defining the Fund's objectives and parameters, but will not be involved in analyzing applications and allocating funds. In the interest of transparency, FGM will publish details of the roles played by Committee members in all relevant publications.

## Timetable and how to secure funding

### Step 1

Eligible organizations and initiatives whose mission-related or project-specific activities correspond to the Fund's funding streams must indicate their interest by submitting [the pre-qualification form](#) **between August 7 and September 29, 2023, at 5 p.m. EDT.**

### Step 2

The FGM team, in consultation with the Advisory Committee, will select organizations and initiatives to prioritize based **on the following criteria:**

- Relevance of the organization's initiative or mission to the Fund's priorities and funding streams;
- Interventions with historically marginalized populations that promote intersectionality;
- Geographical area of activity;
- Participatory approaches and meaningful involvement of the communities the organization serves.

**Between the end of September and the end of October**, the FGM team will contact the prioritized organizations for an **in-depth conversation (approximately one hour)** and will draft the funding applications for their validation.

### Step 3

The Committee will convene **in November** to review the applications and prepare their funding recommendations based **on the following criteria:**

- Expected benefits for individuals and communities, or targeted impacts on systems or public policies;
- Deployment of a transformative vision and a willingness to change the status quo;
- Emphasis on the principles of justice, diversity, equity, inclusion and intersectionality;
- Level of mobilization of the people and communities affected;

- Ability to set realistic goals in line with organizational capabilities;
- Evidence of collaboration, partnerships, or alliances.

#### *Step 4*

**In December**, following approval of the Participatory Advisory Committee's recommendations by FGM's Community Engagement Committee, the team will contact the organizations and inform them of the final decisions.

#### **For more information**

- Consult the Fund's [Terms of Reference](#) (in French)
- Attend one of the virtual Q&A sessions with the FGM team (on Zoom) on the following dates. No

pre-registration is required.

- August 28th at 11 a.m.:  
<https://fgmtl-org.zoom.us/j/88204099461>
- September 13th at 2 p.m.:  
<https://fgmtl-org.zoom.us/j/83696563665>
- September 18th at 6 p.m.:  
<https://fgmtl-org.zoom.us/j/81411186627>

- Contact Vira Kovalova, FGM's Community Partnerships Advisor, at [vira.kovalova@fgmtl.org](mailto:vira.kovalova@fgmtl.org)

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