



2021 Memphis Empowerment Fund Grant Application

GENERAL INSTRUCTIONS

1. Read all instructions and the Request for Proposal (RFP) carefully before completing any part of the application form.
2. Create a budget using the Budget Template. Here is what you'll need to do to create your budget.
 - Download the Budget Template at www.communitylift.org.
 - Complete the Budget Template with your project budget information, including itemized costs for project expenses.
 - Save the Completed Budget Template to your computer.
3. All questions must be answered (except where listed as OPTIONAL). Supplying complete and accurate information is the responsibility of the applicant. Incomplete applications will likely receive low scores by a review panel, if they are accepted at all.
4. Clearly and briefly respond to the questions asked. We recommend re-reading your answers and editing, if needed.
5. Submit your application and Budget Template using one of the ways listed below:
 - Option 1: By Email to grants@communitylift.org *Emailed applications must be time-stamped no later than Monday, April 26, 2021.*
 - Option 2: By Mail to the following address: *ATTN: Grants Director, Community LIFT, 119 Court Street, Suite: 100, Memphis TN 38103. Mailed applications must be postmarked no later than Monday, April 26, 2021*



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REQUEST FOR PROPOSAL (RFP)

The Empowerment Fund Grant Program is designed to build grassroots leader capacity by supporting neighborhood-based projects that lead to: *An increased belief that people can make a difference through grassroots efforts; More people engaged in innovative solutions to improve neighborhoods; More residents working towards collective action; Increased economic activity in under-resourced neighborhoods; More advocates for investment in under-resourced areas*

ELIGIBILITY REQUIREMENTS

- Projects must take place in Memphis, TN.
- The following people/ groups are eligible to apply: Individual residents, property or business owners, neighborhood associations or block clubs and nonprofit organizations (total org budget must be less than \$30,000) **CHURCH ORGANIZATIONS ARE NOT ELIGIBLE TO APPLY**
- Projects must be carried out in the applicant's neighborhood (applies to resident, neighborhood association, business owner or nonprofit group with budget under \$30,000)
- Projects must focus on one of these categories: People, Physical, Economic, Grassroots Organizing.
- Applicant must have attended one of the Information Sessions in 2021 to apply.

PROJECTS/ITEMS NOT ELIGIBLE FOR FUNDING

1. Youth-based programs, including after-school, summer camp, recreational camps or programs
2. Costs incurred before funding is awarded
3. General operating costs including land/building purchases
4. Individual elementary or secondary schools
5. Alcoholic beverages, gifts or prizes (including giveaways)
6. General miscellaneous or contingency funding
7. Contributions or donations to other entities
8. Fines and penalties
9. Lobbying
10. Marketing expenses not associated with the project

For more information, contact Nefertiti Orrin by email at nefertiti@communitylift.org



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EMPOWERMENT FUND APPLICATION

CONTACT INFORMATION

1. Applicant's Name

2. Your Organization's Name OPTIONAL (Answer if you are applying as a neighborhood association, business owner or nonprofit)

3. Applicant's Address | Including Apartment or Suite Number

4. City, State, Zipcode

5. Email Address

6. Daytime Phone Number



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APPLICANT INFORMATION

7. Applicant Category (SELECT ONLY ONE CATEGORY)

- Resident
- Neighborhood or Community Association
- Property or Business Owner
- Nonprofit Organization (UNDER \$30,000 BUDGET; CHURCHES ARE NOT ELIGIBLE TO APPLY)

8. Neighborhood where project will take place

9. Do you reside, operate a non-profit, or own a business in the neighborhood listed in Question #8?

- YES
- NO

10. Which one of the four categories does your grant project address?

- Physical
- People
- Grassroots Organizing
- Economic

CONNECTION TO THE MEMPHIS 3.0. PLAN

Community LIFT is collecting information about Empowerment Fund projects that may be connected to the Memphis 3.0. plan. The Memphis 3.0. Plan is a plan for land use and growth for the City of Memphis. The plan is centered around community anchors. Anchors are important places identified by community members to support and enhance. These are some ways that residents can support community anchors or important places in their neighborhoods.

Questions #11, #12, and #13 will ask you to identify how your project most closely matches up to the Memphis 3.0. plan

11. First, you will select one of the three elements – LAND, CONNECTIVITY OR EQUITABLE OPPORTUNITIES – that your project most closely matches. Please read the description next to it before making a selection.

- LAND – Improve land (including sidewalks, streets, parks, vacant lots, buildings, plazas) to its highest and best use by creating compact communities that are safe, walkable, active with people and support multiple forms of transportation.
- CONNECTIVITY - Improve and expand residents' ability to connect to jobs, goods and services, transportation options, and to each other.
- OPPORTUNITY - Improve disadvantaged communities' access to resources, jobs, goods and services, housing,



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arts, culture, education, training and entrepreneurship that lead to success and prosperity.

12. Next, select the goal that most closely matches your project. For example, if you selected LAND, then pick one of the goals under LAND. Put an **X** next to your selection.

PLEASE SELECT ONLY ONE FROM THE TABLE BELOW

MEMPHIS 3.0. GOALS		
LAND	CONNECTIVITY	OPPORTUNITY
<input type="checkbox"/> Goal 1: Complete and Cohesive Communities	<input type="checkbox"/> Goal 4: High Performing Infrastructure	<input type="checkbox"/> Goal 6: Equitable Opportunity
<input type="checkbox"/> Goal 2: Vibrant Civic Spaces	<input type="checkbox"/> Goal 5: Connected Corridors and Communities	<input type="checkbox"/> Goal 7: Prosperous and Affordable Communities
<input type="checkbox"/> Goal 3: Sustainable and Resilient Communities		<input type="checkbox"/> Goal 8: Engaged Communities

13. Finally, select the possible action that most closely matches your project. For example, if you selected Goal 1 (Complete and Cohesive Communities), then pick one of the possible actions under Goal 1. Put an **X** next to your selection.

PLEASE SELECT ONLY ONE FROM THE TABLE BELOW

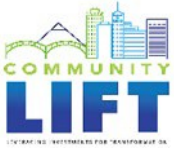
Goal 1: Complete and Cohesive Communities	<input type="checkbox"/> Within neighborhoods, ensure that zoning designations support, maintain, and encourage walkable, mixed use infill development <input type="checkbox"/> Conduct small area planning to support quality neighborhood growth and population growth around key buildings, street intersections, and shopping centers <input type="checkbox"/> Make upgrades in streetscape amenities such as lighting, bus stops, seating, bike racks, awnings, and public art <input type="checkbox"/> Make efforts to ensure protections exist that minimize resident and business displacement as communities experience new growth <input type="checkbox"/> Apply short, medium, and long term uses of vacant lots for the neighborhood
Goal 2: Vibrant Civic Spaces	<input type="checkbox"/> Create new public spaces, including pocket parks, for people to gather and interact within and around key buildings, street intersections, and shopping centers <input type="checkbox"/> Support existing public spaces with welcoming programming <input type="checkbox"/> Develop temporary staging that reimagines streets that have small businesses as to grow activity <input type="checkbox"/> Create, maintain, and attract healthy food sources around key buildings, street intersections, and shopping centers including food markets, community gardens, and farmers' markets <input type="checkbox"/> Form a resident group or plan events that support parks, greenways, and recreation amenities, to encourage physical activity and neighborhood gatherings
Goal 3: Sustainable and Resilient Communities	<input type="checkbox"/> Educate homeowners and renters that are experiencing high energy bills on how to reduce their MLGW bills – particularly low income households – that pay a large percentage of their incomes to utility costs <input type="checkbox"/> Create and launch a public education effort to encourage recycling, material and waste management, and reuse
Goal 4: High Performing Infrastructure	<input type="checkbox"/> Prioritize pedestrian and bicycle improvements, including safety features around key buildings, intersections, and shopping centers



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<p>Goal 5: <i>Connected Corridors and Communities</i></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> Improve sidewalks and pedestrian benefits to create continuous paths that promote better walkability <input type="checkbox"/> Improve visibility for crosswalks and increase protected crossings to improve pedestrian safety <input type="checkbox"/> Identify and communicate to residents where multiple forms of transportation connections exist
<p>Goal 6: <i>Equitable Opportunity</i></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> Increase equitable access to health care, education, quality jobs, and living wages for all residents <input type="checkbox"/> Assist eligible Memphians in taking advantage of state programs that offer tuition-free college degrees or certifications <input type="checkbox"/> Ensure residential areas near industrial uses are protected by appropriate buffers to reduce noise, light, and traffic <input type="checkbox"/> Expand the availability of goods and services in Memphis communities by supporting small, locally-owned businesses, especially women and minority-owned businesses such as street markets, bazaars, and temporary businesses located in vacant buildings
<p>Goal 7: <i>Prosperous and Affordable Communities</i></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> Create community lands trusts to maintain affordability in markets facing pressure of displacement <input type="checkbox"/> Create a Good Landlord or Good Neighborhood program that recognizes rental property owners or renters for providing/maintaining quality housing and offers landlord and property maintenance training/assistance <input type="checkbox"/> Create community benefits agreements with developers and community members to establish clear benefits and expectations for community <input type="checkbox"/> Advance community wealth building by supporting small business opportunities, job training, and education opportunities within the community <input type="checkbox"/> Offer education against predatory lending and financial literacy by partnering with local lenders and community schools and colleges <input type="checkbox"/> Develop a small business creation, attraction, and retention strategy to support and strengthen community-oriented retail and services around key building, street intersections, and shopping centers, strategies including pop-up shops in vacant store fronts, forming merchants associations, etc.
<p>Goal 8: <i>Engaged Communities</i></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> Educate residents on and promote the importance of urban planning and involving residents in the process <input type="checkbox"/> Increase community participation by using music festivals, parades, public art, better design and other creative engagement tools <input type="checkbox"/> Encourage development of partnerships within the community and neighborhood associations by incorporating a regular meeting schedule of neighborhood leaders and city officials

14. What is the amount you are requesting?



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APPLICATION QUESTIONS *(Please tell us about your project.)*

15. Please summarize your project. How will the Empowerment Fund grant award be used? (200 words or less)

16. What is the community need for the project AND why are you best positioned to carry out the project? (150 words or less)



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17. What are the project goals? What do you hope to accomplish at the end of this project (for example, number of individuals participating and information learned or behavior changed)? (100 words or less)

18. What are the key activities/steps in implementing the project and what are the dates for completing each activity? (150 words or less)



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19. List any groups, businesses or other community partners working to help carry out this project and their role. Describe how you are working with other residents. (150 words or less)

ATTACH PROJECT BUDGET (Maximum award is \$2500.00) Please submit the budget template with all of the items that you intend to purchase with this grant award. The budget template can be downloaded on the **Memphis Empowerment Fund page at www.communitylift.org**. While matching funds are NOT REQUIRED, we ask that you include any additional funds you have received for this project.

Thank you for completing your application. Grant Awards will be announced June 30, 2021.