



# **TOGETHER WOMEN RISE**

Collective action for global gender equality

## **Grantee Information Session**

### **Featured Grants Program**

# Guiding Principles –Featured Grants

Together Women Rise funds organizations and projects that address the varied issues and needs of women and girls in low-income communities in the Global South.

Organizations and projects funded will create lasting change in the lives of the women and/or girls who are affected.

Organizations and projects funded will provide solutions identified by the women and/or girls being served and must actively include their perspectives.

Featured Grantees must demonstrate the direct impact of the project funded and the methods and ability to monitor and evaluate the project.

Featured Grantees are sustainable organizations with multiple funding sources.

Together Women Rise strives to maximize the educational opportunities for our members over the course of a year.



# Featured Grants Program

# Process Goals for Featured Grants

- Simplify the application and selection process while maintaining rigor
- Promote equity and narrow the power gap between grantees and Rise
- Provide meaningful opportunities for volunteer and member engagement
- Clear and transparent criteria, so everyone understands how decisions are made
- Reflects the values of Rise.
- Is efficient and cost effective
- Is appropriately resourced, including the use of both volunteer and staff time
- Informs the upcoming shift in grants processing to Salesforce
- Includes financial due diligence



# Rise must balance the goals of three key stakeholders

## **Rise Grantees:**

- Meet grantees “where they are”
- Streamline the asks of grantees and minimize the reporting burden while reviewing applications with same rigor

## **Rise Board of Directors:**

- Fulfill compliance, legal, fiduciary requirements
- Build visibility for Rise to attract new members, donors, and others
- Have good data to measure Rise’s own impact

## **Rise Chapter Members and Community:**

- Provide rich education opportunities to learn
- Ensure Rise community feels connected with grantees and Rise’s mission
- Ensure member donations are used wisely



# GRANTS AND PARTNERSHIP COMMITTEE (GPC)

The Grants and Partnership Committee is comprised of 15 members who include Together Women Rise volunteer members, board members and are supported by staff.

The GPC are responsible for reading, vetting, deliberating and presenting a slate of grantees for the Board of Directors approval.



# Featured Grant Program Details

We award up to 12 featured grants per calendar year.

Featured Grant term is 24 months (2 years).

Featured Grant size is \$35,000 to \$50,000 paid over a two-year period.

Only organizations with budgets of \$100,000 and above may apply.

Organizations may receive no more than one Featured Grant per four-year period.

The two funding categories are:

\***Capacity Building** support is funding to strengthen an organization's system and thereby increase its effectiveness. Only organizations with operating budgets below \$1 million may apply.

\***Programs/Projects** support is funding to launch a new program or expand an existing program.



# Eligibility Requirements

**We encourage you to review these eligibility requirements carefully. In order to be considered for a Rise Featured Grant, you must provide evidence that your organization meets ALL of these eligibility requirements:**

Applicant must be a US 501(c)3 nonprofit organization or have a fiscal sponsor which is a US 501(c)3 corporation. We do not accept registration documents issued by any other country.

Applicant must have a minimum of \$100,000 operating expenses annually for the most recent fiscal year, unless using a fiscal sponsor.

Applicant must demonstrate capacity and on-the-ground operations in low-income communities in the Global South for a minimum of three years.





# Eligibility (cont'd)

Applicant must demonstrate fiscally responsible and sustainable practices within their organization.

Applicant must have a website in English, unless using a fiscal sponsor.

Applicant must submit all information requested on the grant application.

Applicant must provide additional information as deemed necessary for Together Women Rise to make the grant decision.

Applicant has not received a Together Women Rise grant within the past four years.

# Eligibility (cont'd)

Applicant must provide data regarding the direct impact of the organization's program(s) that the grant would support.

Women must make up at least 50% majority leadership of the organization on its board of directors and staff at the time of your application.

If the applicant has previously received a Rise grant, they must have satisfied **ALL** of Rise's reporting requirements for that past grant.



# Eligibility (cont'd)

**A fiscal sponsor** is a US non-profit organization that provides fiduciary oversight, financial management, and other administrative services to help build the capacity of charitable organizations that do not have a US 501(c)3 designation. An applicant that does not have a US 501c3 designation can submit an application to Together Women Rise with a fiscal sponsor if they have a verifiable present relationship with that fiscal sponsor that has been in existence for the past 12 months. The fiscal sponsor must satisfy all the Together Women Rise grant criteria.



# Changes to Featured Grants Program

## Staying the Same

GPC will continue to review and select grantees on strict criteria established by the GPC and approved by the Board of Directors

Interim and final reports will be submitted by grantees

Funding in \$35k-\$50k range

Funding to grassroots organizations in low-income communities in the Global South focused on global gender equality with a majority of leaders being women

## New Requirements

The application has been streamlined to request most pertinent information needed

Check-ins with grantees (bi-annually)

Interim and final payments tied to reporting deliverables

Potential virtual site visits prior to final selection of grantees

Online grants module which will enable grantees to submit application & required documents; scoring & selection by GPC, communications with the Grantee and Rise notes



# Changes (continued)

## Staying the Same

Grantee video; photos; beneficiary story/quotes; social media announcements; interview on the national webinar

All other education pieces like country profile, books, recipes, geography and project fact sheet will be prepared by Rise volunteers

Grantee and Rise will sign a fund agreement

## New Requirements

Simplify communication asks to a few “must-haves” only, making the rest optional

Funding will be for two years to allow organizations time to do the work (i.e. \$50,000 over two years)

Only organizations with operating budgets below \$1 million will be considered for capacity building grants.



# TOGETHER WOMEN RISE WILL NOT SUPPORT:

- Debt reduction
- Grants to individuals
- Endowments
- Lobbying or political activities/parties
- Election campaigns
- Government entities
- Building funds or campaigns
- Organizations that engage in religious or political proselytizing.\*

*\*Together Women Rise does **not** fund organizations that engage in exclusionary practices based on religion or political affiliation or that attempt to convert the community beneficiaries to a particular religious faith or belief, or a political party or belief.*

# Featured Grant Program Timeline

May 17 <sup>th</sup> , 2024 at 9 am ET	Grant application portal opens.
June 17 <sup>th</sup> , 2024 at 11:59PM- ET	Deadline for all grant applications AND supporting documentations to be uploaded and submitted (no exceptions).
October 2024	Board of Directors approve grantee slate
November 2024	Approved grantees will be notified.
December 2024	Organizations that have not been approved will be notified

# Additional Resources/Information

Please visit our website: [togetherwomenrise.org/grants](https://togetherwomenrise.org/grants) for more detailed information about the featured grants program.

Contact Quinn Hayes, Program and Grants Manager at [grants@togetherwomenrise.org](mailto:grants@togetherwomenrise.org).





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Thank you!!