

**An Offering for Movement Grantwriters:**  
A Movement Sustainability Commons Experiment  
with support from Resource Organizing Project

**Background**

Movement Sustainability Commons, with support from the Resource Organizing Project, is developing a learning experience for fall 2022 to support a small cohort of grantwriters working with movement organizations to build their skills for raising values-aligned funding.

Together this cohort will engage with the political questions and contradictions they hold as movement grantwriters while developing their writing skills and drafting materials that are immediately useful and relevant to their work.

This offering will:

- Provide concrete skill-building and leadership development to movement grantwriters, prioritizing BIPOC, poor & working class, disability communities, LGBTQIA+ communities, and grantwriters who are embedded in movement organizations
- Create space for camaraderie & support among existing grantwriters
- Help to fortify grantwriters through community building & the development of shared political analysis about how to raise movement money in principled ways

After integrating feedback from the June pilot offering, we plan to facilitate the complete offering October - December 2022.

**Structure**

This offering contains three parts, all designed to support movement grantwriters with some experience to deepen and strengthen their grantwriting practice:

1. **an interactive, six-session skillbuilding & political education curriculum** that uses a modular grantwriting approach\* for creating proposal content;
2. **a writing retreat** designed to ground & inspire participants, as well as build their grantwriting skills and analysis about the foundation system; and
3. **tailored coaching** to support each grantwriter with specific questions about writing and/or foundation strategy.

*\* This modular grantwriting approach includes guidance about involving key organizational leaders and/or members in the development of the core content necessary for grant proposals.*

Based on information from the survey we released about this offering in April 2022, potential participants are interested in some combination of online and in-person learning. *We will monitor COVID conditions and decide if an in-person retreat is possible to accomplish in a safe and accessible way closer to the offering launch date.*

[To participate, fill out this brief interest form by August 22, 2022](#)

## Content Outline

***Skillbuilding & Political Education Curriculum:*** Each of the six sessions will include time for relationship-building; a conversation about the questions and contradictions that movement grantwriters hold, with topics decided on by the group; writing and peer feedback on proposals; best practices for writing each content module; and a session evaluation.

***Writing Retreat:*** This retreat will be designed to build community with the cohort of participating grantwriters; foster constructive peer feedback on proposals; provide a reflective and inspiring writing retreat experience; include political education about the foundation system; and ground grantwriters in the power and creativity of principled grantwriting for movement organizations. This retreat would ideally happen in-person, but we are thinking creatively about ways to build a nourishing remote experience for participants if necessary.

***Coaching Sessions:*** These sessions will provide tailored, one-on-one or small group guidance that builds on the learning happening in group sessions to further develop the writing and/or foundation strategy skills of participants. Currently we are envisioning offering two one-hour coaching sessions to each participant.