

## **Call for Grant Proposals: SCRA Public Policy Initiative**

To encourage, promote and support public policy and advocacy work by its members to benefit communities, the Society for Community Research and Action's (SCRA) Policy Committee has initiated a small grants program.

Proposals may address a wide variety of public policy and advocacy issues, affecting communities at the local, state, national or international levels. Projects may take many forms but preference will be given to collaborative projects and those that increase the capacity of SCRA and its members to engage in effective and innovative policy work. All applications will be subject to blind review.

### **Who may apply?**

Anyone may apply, though the lead applicant on the proposal must be a SCRA member. Processing fees or any other indirect/overhead costs to fiscal agents are not allowed. Collaborative projects and partnerships with community organizations are strongly encouraged.

### **What is the maximum grant?**

The maximum request is \$5,000 each with a minimum of 3 awards expected to be granted during a funding cycle. The Review Committee will determine the number and amount of the awards.

### **What is the deadline for proposals and timeframe for completion?**

All grant requests must be received by **May 31<sup>st</sup>, 2015**. The Review Committee expects to notify all applicants of final decisions by June 30<sup>th</sup>, 2015. The expectation is that all projects will be completed within two years of funding approval. Recipients must complete and submit brief (1-2 pages) status reports to the Review Committee on January 1 and June 1 of each year until the project is completed. The status report form can be accessed from the policy section of the SCRA website or requested from [publicpolicy@scra27.org](mailto:publicpolicy@scra27.org).

Recipients must also submit a final project summary report within one month of project completion. Project summaries should be narrative reports that include a brief overview of the project and the related policy issue, project partners, policy impact, results, a description of how funds were used and suggestions for further SCRA or community engagement around the issue.

### **What are the specific standards and criteria upon which Proposals will be evaluated?**

No activities may result in a violation of SCRA's 501(C)(3) status or its by-laws. Proposals will be evaluated based on how well they:

- address a current public policy issue of importance to a community of interest
- connect to community psychology (CP)
- address a policy area where CP has a contribution to make
- demonstrate the potential to establish or build upon relationships with other organizations and their resources
- demonstrate potential to have a successful impact
- increase capacity of communities/groups, to influence public policy
- increase capacity of SCRA, to influence public policy
- articulate an appropriate budget that effectively supports the proposed activities and ensures accountability of expenditures

- includes a plan for dissemination of results or outcome, such as including, but not limited to, publication in AJCP or TCP, Biennial and/or APA Conference presentations, dissemination to the targeted community, or dissemination to other relevant publications and stakeholders
- includes a budget table (SCRA does not allow indirects/overhead) and project timeline table

**How will the grant funding be disbursed?**

Generally, recipients will be awarded 80% upon the start of the project, with the remaining 20% awarded after a successful review of the one year status report. All applicants shall include a timetable with deliverables, as appropriate, and may propose other timing with justification.

**Filing Process**

Requests shall include a cover letter (with contact information for all authors) and a Grant Proposal (5-10 pages) with all identifying information removed for blind review, in Word document format, sent to: [publicpolicy@scra27.org](mailto:publicpolicy@scra27.org) by **May 31<sup>st</sup>, 2015**.

**How can further information be obtained?**

See the SCRA Policy Connection webpage at <http://www.scra27.org/policy> and look in the section titled SCRA Policy Grants for basic information and examples of last years' successful grant awardees. Finally, any questions may be directed to [publicpolicy@scra27.org](mailto:publicpolicy@scra27.org).