

Notification of Funding Availability (NOFA)

2021 Request for Initial Proposal Ideas

JAMS Foundation-ACR Initiative for Students and Youth

The Association for Conflict Resolution (ACR) is pleased to announce this Notification of Funding Availability (NOFA) and request for initial proposal ideas for the 2021 funding cycle of the JAMS Foundation-ACR Initiative for Students and Youth in supporting Conflict Resolution Education for youth. The mission of the JAMS Foundation-ACR partnership is summarized below.

Mission: This JAMS Foundation-ACR Initiative seeks to provide financial support for conflict resolution education and training (CRE) for Pre-K through 12th grade students and youth. The populations to be served by the funding streams will be both (1) youth in Pre-K through 12th grade age range and (2) adults working with these youth populations in ways that directly transfer CRE skills for adults to the youth populations.

Funding Contexts: The contexts for projects may include community, schools, alternative education (online education, charter schools, after school programs), government (juvenile justice facilities, courts) and NGO settings. While some proposals may be able to secure and guarantee access to or cooperation from traditional K-12 school districts/schools, this funding opportunity is intended to provide potential financial support for CRE work in other contexts as well.

The 2021 Funding Focus

The current era of the pandemic has brought about academic disruption as well as challenges in housing, economics, food and health security. Massive changes have occurred in every area of life, resulting in unprecedented levels of uncertainty and stress, particularly for youth living in difficult circumstances. The proposed project would help to increase participants' feelings of safety and empowerment during this exceptionally challenging time by utilizing young people as trainers and program implementers to teach and promote conflict resolution skills that create and enhance their ability to express their voices in one of the following settings:

- foster care
- homeless shelters
- domestic violence shelters
- youth correctional facilities

The measure of success will be youth reporting increased opportunity, because of conflict resolution education, training or services, to be empowered to:

1. develop, explore, and make their choices in how they handle conflict.
2. engage with other youth and adults from a framework of mutuality and collaboration.

This project would focus on youth between the ages of 16 and 18 years old.

Priority will be given to projects in which

1. youth play a significant or substantive role in the delivery of conflict resolution training, education, or services.
2. youth will develop leadership skills by getting themselves and other young people involved in helping themselves.
3. partnerships were implemented, between the foster care agency, homeless shelter, the domestic violence shelter, or the youth correctional facility prior to this proposal between one or more of these agencies and the applicant or between one or more of these agencies and a different conflict resolution education organization.
4. creative means of documenting and demonstrating the project are used so as to inspire other organizations to replicate the project.

Funding Parameters and Criteria for the 2021 Funding Cycle

- Requests for funding may range from \$15,000.00 to \$40,000.00 for the first year of the potential two-year funding cycle. Year Two funding requests may be for no more than \$20,000.00. ACR is looking to recommend a small number of high-quality projects with proven impact and the potential of regional and national impact upon completion.

The proposed projects can be one or two-year projects, but decisions on funding for a second year will be contingent on evidence of benchmark accomplishments at the end of the first year of funding.

Preference for funding is given for those that may bring existing programs or exciting new ideas to a level of scalability and sustainability on a regional or national basis.

- Eligible organizations include nonprofit 501(c)3 organizations, educational institutions, and public agencies working in conjunction with nonprofit educational institutions or organizations.

Please Note:

- If the proposal does not include conflict resolution education, training or services in a substantial way, the proposal will not be reviewed.
- If the proposal does not offer the opportunity to bring or enhance conflict resolution education, training or services in foster care, homeless shelters, domestic violence shelters or youth correctional facilities, the proposal will not be reviewed.

The Grant Process

- An informational conference call will be held on **Monday November 23rd, 2020 at 3:30 PM EST**. There is a limited number of spaces for this teleconference, so please register as soon as possible. **Attendance is strongly advised**. You may register by going to the following link:

Register in advance for this meeting:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/meeting/register/tZUqcu2przMqGdCvasHUuBCM1dtOxkEJbJWz>

After registering, you will receive a confirmation email containing information about joining the meeting. The meeting is scheduled to last 90 minutes. Plan to attend the entire call. **This call is not recorded.**

- Interested organizations or individuals are required to submit a 1-3-page Initial Project Idea description (using the guidelines on the following page) to ACR no later than 11:59 PM local time of the organization's legal/main location, **Monday, January 11th, 2021** to jamsacr19@gmail.com
- The JAMS Foundation -ACR Grant review committee will notify applicants if they have been selected to develop a full proposal for submission and review by **Tuesday February 16th, 2021**.
- A Full Proposal Submission Webinar will be offered on **Wednesday, March 3rd, 2021 at 3:00 PM EST**. The link for attendance will be sent to those applicants who are invited to submit a full proposal.
- Full proposals (with a required application protocol provided upon notification) will be due to the JAMS Foundation- ACR Grant review committee no later than 11:59 PM local time of the organization's legal/main location on **Monday, May 21st, 2021**.
- Funding decisions will be approved by the JAMS Foundation Board at its August 2021 meeting and all grantees will be notified of their status.
- The selected grantees will be formally announced during ACR's 2021 Annual Conference, location, and date to be announced. Selected grant recipients should plan on attending.

Please address questions about grant program to Cheryl Jamison at jamsacr19@gmail.com

Initial Proposal Ideas Description

Please note, incomplete submissions and those which do not adhere to the specifications contained within this NOFA will not be considered

MANDATORY ELECTRONIC SUBMISSION

Proposal Description must be submitted electronically through the Internet. The subject line of the email must read: JAMS Foundation/ACR Grant and the name of the organization.

Applications must be submitted **electronically by 11:59 P.M., local time of applicant on Monday, January 11th, 2021** to jamsacr19@gmail.com

In the body of the email, please provide **only** the following information:

1. Name of organization name and complete address. If the proposal is coming from an office other than where the project will take place, include the city and state where the project will take place.
2. Name of the proposed project
3. Name of contact person, and necessary contact information including a) telephone number of contact person and b) Email address of contact person.
4. Amount of funds requested for Year 1 and proposed for Year 2.

The proposed project description shall be **no more than three** pages, single spaced, 12-point font, with 1-inch margins. The document must be submitted as .pdf file using Adobe Acrobat 9.0 or a later version. Please include the following information in your description. Please note, **incomplete submissions and those which do not adhere to the specifications will not be considered.** This includes but is not limited to:

- Proposal which do not include conflict resolution education, training or services in a substantial way.
- Proposal which does not offer the opportunity to bring or enhance conflict resolution education, training or services in foster care, homeless shelters, domestic violence shelters or youth correctional facilities, the proposal will not be reviewed.

Project Description: In your 2-3-page description of the project please discuss the following:

1. Briefly highlight your previous or present work to increase the use of conflict resolution skills by youth ages 16-18 years old and their role in the delivery of the conflict resolution education, training, or services.
2. Describe your previous or present work with one or more of the following institutions, foster care, homeless shelters, domestic violence shelters or youth correctional facilities and how you have addressed or propose to address the impact of the pandemic on issues of education, housing, economics, food and/or health security.
3. Provide a clear description of the nature of the proposed project idea and how you would utilize youth as trainers/implementors learning and promoting conflict resolution education skills that focus on creating and enhancing their feelings of safety and empowerment in a time of

extraordinary uncertainty, and the ability to express their voices.

4. List the measurable impacts that you anticipate will demonstrate your success in increasing the use of conflict resolution education, services or training to empower youth to develop, explore and make their choices in how they handle conflict and to engage with other youth and adults from a framework of mutuality and collaboration.
5. Introduce the capacity of your organization, or an individual who will be connected through this proposal and provide an example of how either have documented or demonstrated the impact of previous projects that was both creative and inspiring to others inciting them to want to replicate your work.