

# Alexandria Resilience Fund Grant & Workshops Info Session

September 26, 2023



**ACT** *for* **ALEXANDRIA**

A COMMUNITY FOUNDATION

# Welcome & Introductions

---

Please share in the Chat:

- Name
- Organization
- What's your favorite fall beverage?



# Welcome & Introductions

---

1. Welcome & Zoom Introductions
2. About ACT's Grantmaking
3. About Alexandria Resilience Fund
4. Grant Priorities & Process
5. Resilience Workshop Opportunities
6. Q&A

# ACT Grantmaking

---

- History of ACT's grantmaking
- What is capacity building?
- ACT's approach to trust-based philanthropy

# About the Alexandria Resilience Fund (ARF)

---

- Established in 2019 as the ACT Now Fund supporting Alexandrians affected by the Federal Government Shutdown
- Awarded \$1.25M in COVID relief funds from 2020 – 2022
- Alexandria Resilience Fund Racial Equity Statement highlighted the importance of funding organizations that:
  - Support communities most impacted by the pandemic
  - Demonstrate deep, trusted relationships with community members
  - Center racial equity internally and externally
  - Invest in solutions that address the root causes of poverty and promote economic mobility for Alexandrians

# Alexandria Resilience Fund Grant Overview

---

- Capacity Building Grant Request Priorities:
  - Community engagement
  - Fund development planning
  - Racial equity
  - Strategic planning
- Grant Pool: \$125,000, inviting requests up to \$20,000
- Anticipate 6 or 7 awards
- Timeframe: January – December 2024

# Alexandria Resilience Fund Grant Checklist

---

My organization...

- Serves the geographic area of Alexandria – City of and Fairfax County Alexandria (if the organization serves the broader region or isn't solely focused on Alexandria, the capacity building request must clearly demonstrate how the grant will strengthen operations and programs and services for Alexandrians)
- Serves Alexandria communities disproportionately impacted by the pandemic
- Is actively addressing racial equity externally and internally within the organization
- Can demonstrate deep, trusted relationships with historically marginalized communities
- Will use funding solely for a strategic planning, fund development planning, community engagement, or racial equity capacity building project
- Is a 501c3 or fiscally sponsored by a 501c3 organization
- Will expend grant funds during the period of January – December 2024
- Agrees to share the impact and learnings from the capacity building grant by February 2025 in the form of a written report, conversation, or video format, as selected by the nonprofit
- Will participate in one grantee convening in 2024 and one in 2025 to encourage nonprofit learning and connection

# Examples of Capacity Building Projects

---

- Community Engagement
- Fund Development Planning
- Racial Equity
- Strategic Planning



# How to Apply

---

- Apply online via Foundant, ACT's grant management system
- View application on ACT's website – <https://www.actforalexandria.org/nonprofits/grant-opportunities/>
- Office Hours (language line assistance available)
  - September 29<sup>th</sup> from 10:00 - 11:00 am
  - October 4<sup>th</sup> from 4:00 – 5:00 pm
  - October 12<sup>th</sup> from 11am – noon
  - Or by appointment
- Questions? Call ACT at 703-739-7778 or email [grants@actforalexandria.org](mailto:grants@actforalexandria.org)

# Using Foundant in your preferred language

Go to Foundant Homepage: <https://www.grantinterface.com/Home/Logon?urlkey=actforalexandria#>

Click on “Select Language” arrow and choose your preferred language to complete the application. This will change the text of the application to the language of your choice.



The screenshot shows the ACT for Alexandria Foundant homepage. At the top left, there is a "Select Language" dropdown menu with a red box around it and a red arrow pointing to it. The main logo features a green letter 'A' with blue wavy lines below it, followed by the text "ACT for ALEXANDRIA" in blue and green, and a blue banner below with the text "A COMMUNITY FOUNDATION". Below the logo is a "Logon" section with an "Email Address\*" field, a "Password\*" field, a "Log On" button, and a "Create New Account" button. A link for "Forgot your Password?" is also present. On the right side, there is a scrollable text box containing information about ACT for Alexandria and its commitment to equity.

Select Language ▼

↑

**ACT for ALEXANDRIA**  
A COMMUNITY FOUNDATION

Logon

Email Address\*

Password\*

Log On Create New Account

Forgot your Password?

ACT for Alexandria (ACT) is a community foundation that supports and encourages nonprofit excellence and strengthens leadership within nonprofits by investing in organizational needs. ACT has invested more than \$2M in capacity building grants to Alexandria nonprofits since 2005.

In light of our commitment to equity, ACT has adopted a trust-based approach to grantmaking that breaks down the traditional power dynamic between funder and grantee and begins to create a collaborative environment that supports listening, learning, and true partnership. We believe it will enable ACT to be nimbler and more responsive to needs that arise.

Current Opportunities

# Alexandria Resilience Fund Grant Timeline

---

- LOI application opens/information session – September 26
- Office Hours – September 29 – 10-11am, October 4 – 4-5pm and October 12 – 11-noon
- LOI Application deadline – October 17 at 11:59pm – late applications will not be accepted
- Grant Review Committee meets – Mid-November
- Notification of next round advancement – November 17
- Applicant conversations – December 6 – 12
- Grant award notifications – December 18

# Resilience Workshops with Heather Jelks

---

- **Effective Teaming – November 16, 9am – 1pm**
  - Practical skills to build team culture based on trust, psychological safety, belonging and inclusion, leading to improved performance. Capacity – 20, cost \$65.
- **Adaptive Resilience – January 24, 31 & February 7, 10am – noon**
  - Build the behaviors, mental habits and practices that promote personal resilience while growing a resilient culture within your teams and organizations. Capacity – 20, cost is \$100 for series.
- **Search Inside Yourself – Mid-May 2024 – 2-day series, 9am – 5pm**
  - SIY blends the practice of mindfulness with emotional intelligence and neuroscience to help leaders and team members become more resilient, lead themselves and others more effectively. Capacity – 50, cost is \$100 for 2 days.

# Q&A

- Please share your questions in the Chat
- You can also privately chat Leeann Napoleon-Turkal with questions
- If you have questions specific to your organization, you can also email [grants@actforalexandria.org](mailto:grants@actforalexandria.org) to set up a time to speak with an ACT staff member

