



Grant Program for Unsolicited Projects

OUR MISSION

Development of Island Teens (DOIT) is a catalyst that supports and develops the unique potential and contributions of Vashon Island youth through funding of activities by and for youth, educating the community about youth empowerment, and advocating on behalf of youth.

PURPOSE OF THIS GRANT PROGRAM:

DOIT provides financial support for youth programs through invited and unsolicited proposals. We expect to give approximately three grants each year for unsolicited proposals. We are most interested in new projects that need seed money to get started, though we have provided small grants to existing programs to help meet a budget shortfall or to launch a new activity. We particularly favor projects that are conceived and/or run by a youth-adult team. Past projects that we have supported include a singing group for girls, a yoga class for homeless teens, the Young Women's Forum, an after school program for middle schoolers, and swing and salsa dancing for teens.

Most grants will be made for about \$500-\$1,000. This might not be all that you need, but it can be a seed to get your project started. Be sure to have a clear plan for how you will raise all the money that your program will need. DOIT may also be able to provide other support such as help raising additional money, advice, mentorship, technical assistance, etc. Be sure to ask for what you need.

DEADLINE:

There is no application deadline for this program, but be sure to submit your application at least SIX to EIGHT WEEKS before the date on which you would like to start. Here is a typical timeline of how the process would work:

- Submit your grant application at least 10 days before a DOIT board meeting
- The Board President will invite you to attend the meeting and present your idea orally and answer questions.
- The board will vote on your proposal at that meeting or the next meeting and may have additional questions for you in between.

So, for example, if you submit your proposal on July 23, you'd attend the August 7 board meeting and you'd know whether your grant was approved either in the next couple of days or shortly after the September 4 board meeting.

The DOIT board meets once a month. Contact crystalathome@comcast.net or ysuskind@earthlink.net to find out when the next meeting will be.

DOIT PRIORITIZES THE FOLLOWING:

- Youth leadership and empowerment
- Youth-adult partnerships and mentorship
- Intergenerational programs
- Opportunities for creative expression and communication (especially intergenerational ones)
- Addressing the gap between rich and poor youth and families on Vashon Island and the issue of diversity
- Reaching "left-out" and "unseen" youth (non-college bound; youth from families that are working class, poor families and /or with members who are non-native English speakers; LGBTQ youth)
- Prevent or address issues of teen depression, physical and sexual abuse and drug and alcohol abuse.
- Providing a space for youth-initiated projects.

HOW TO APPLY:

Your application must include the following information (not hand-written, please):

1. **Contact information. If you have a lead youth and a lead adult, please provide information for both. Please include name(s), age(s), mailing address(es), phone number(s) and e-mail address(es).**
2. **Title of your project.**
3. **Proposed date you'd like to start your project.**
4. **Amount of money you are requesting (just state the dollar figure here; later in the proposal you will break it down and describe it).**
5. **Answers to the following questions:**
 - a. **What is the purpose of your project? What is the need you are meeting?**
 - b. **How did your idea come about? What led you to realize that the project is needed, or would be successful?**
 - c. **How will your project address the purpose or need you described in (a)?**
 - d. **How will your project address DOIT's Priorities (see above)?**
 - e. **How many people will be involved in planning, organizing and carrying out the project? What staff and/or volunteers (both adult and youth) will be involved in this planning and organizing team? Do you already have these people lined up? If so, who are they; if not, how will you recruit them?**
 - f. **How will you involve young people (age 22 and under) in planning, organizing and carrying out the project?**
 - g. **Aside from the planners/organizers, how many youth (and if applicable, how many adults) will participate in the project or benefit from it? How will you get them involved? How will you publicize the project?**
 - h. **How will you evaluate the success of your project?**
6. **A project plan showing the steps of the project, who will be responsible for each step and an approximate date by which each step would be completed.**
7. **A detailed breakdown of the costs of your project, including all the supplies, materials, equipment, labor, professional fees and any other costs you can think of. Research costs so that your budget is realistic. The total cost of your project may exceed what DOIT can provide, and if it does answer question 8.**
8. **If the total cost of your project will exceed \$500, list your other sources of funding, including your own or your family's money, funding from another organization, fundraisers you plan to do, grants you'll apply for, and money that you will need help raising.**
9. **List other support you will need, such as raising additional money, advice, mentorship, technical assistance.**
10. **At least one letter of support from a person under age 20 who is in the target population of your program (not a child of the grant contact person or of staff or board of your organization).**

IF YOU NEED ASSISTANCE PUTTING TOGETHER YOUR APPLICATION, PLEASE CONTACT DOIT AT THE EMAIL BELOW!

Send your application by mail or email to - we strongly prefer email (.doc or .pdf files only, please):

Development of Island Teens

PO Box 2278

or

crystalathome@comcast.net

Vashon, WA 98070