Quick Tips for funding applications

HOW MUCH SHOULD YOU ASK FOR?

It can be hard to know how much to apply for - here are a few things to consider when making your decision:

1. How much do you need to run your project or deliver your work? Can you secure some of the items elsewhere e.g. free room hire from another organisation?

2. Funders often specify they will not fund more than, for example 30 % or 50 % of an organisation's annual budget. If your current income is very small or zero, it's best to apply for a small amount unless the funding is specifically for new or small organisations.

3. What's their average grant size? Have a look at the grants they've given previously.

CREATE A 'PICTURE' IN THE FUNDER'S MIND

Ensure you're giving the assessor an opportunity to create a full picture in their mind while they're reading your application. You can do this by:

1. Covering the 'who, why, what, when, where' aspects of your organisation and/or your project.

2. Including as many specific details as you can e.g., numbers of people accessing your service, when and where you deliver services, exactly what you'll spend the money on...

3. Asking someone outside your organisation to read your application and ask you questions about it - have they been able to create a complete picture in their minds?

APPLYING TO MAINSTREAM FUNDERS

It's understandable that LGBT+ organisations can feel apprehensive about applying to mainstream funders. When thinking of applying to a new funder, you may be wondering: Will they understand our needs? Will they discriminate against us?

1. We fully appreciate these concerns but would encourage Members to apply to maximise your chances and ensure more funders get to know our needs.

2. Several funders have told Consortium that they'd welcome more applications from LGBT+ groups.

3. If you're a smaller group worried about using your home address on applications, you could ask a larger organisation if you can use their office address. Though all funders are legally obliged to keep your information safe.