



2022 SOLVE Southern Movement Grants

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The Southern Leadership for Voter Engagement (SOLVE) Network is excited to announce funding opportunities for Southern organizations and groups to strengthen the freedom to vote across the region.

About SOLVE

The SOLVE Network is a multi-state collaborative of organizations dedicated to sharing strategies, resources, and support in the ongoing struggle to protect and expand voting rights. For more information, visit solvenetwork.org.

About the Program

The 2022 SOLVE Southern Movement Grants are designed to provide ongoing support to community-based organizations in their efforts to fight for a participatory, inclusive, and expansive democracy. As we prepare for the 2022 midterm elections, these grants can support community outreach and education, innovative messaging projects, internal capacity building — in other words, grants are intended to support the work your community deems most pressing.

The SOLVE Southern Movement Grants are one-year grants. We offer project support grants up to \$25,000. The SOLVE Leadership Council Grants Subcommittee will review all grant proposals and evaluate them based on the eligibility and priorities below.

ELIGIBILITY

To be eligible for the 2022 SOLVE Grant Opportunity, applicants must:

- Organize for equitable and inclusive representation with historically under-represented communities;
- Possess a vision for how voting rights advance social, economic, racial, political, and environmental justice;
- Be located in Alabama, Georgia, Louisiana, Mississippi, North Carolina, South Carolina, Tennessee, Virginia, Florida, or Texas.

Note: 501(c)3 status is **not** required to apply. This opportunity is open to proposals from 501(c)3s, LLCs, individuals, or unincorporated groups or organizations. If you have any questions about IRS tax-exempt status, please reach out to solve@scsj.org.



FUNDING PRIORITIES

We will prioritize supporting organizations or groups that meet one or more of the following criteria:

1. Led by Black, Latinx/Hispanic, Indigenous, Asian American Pacific Islander, queer and trans, rural, low-wealth, and/or working-class communities
 - a. Leadership is defined by individual members of these communities who hold decision-making authority over the organization's or group's priorities. Examples of decision-making roles could include executive directors, founders, presidents, board members, an advisory council, or group leaders
2. Organizations with annual operating budgets under \$400,000
3. SOLVE Network partners
4. 2021 "Adopt-a-Jurisdiction" grantees and applicants
5. Participants in Community Redistricting Organizations Working for Democracy (CROWD) Academy trainings

WHAT WE FUND

We provide support to projects which have one or more of the following focus areas:

- **Community Education, Outreach, Engagement, and Mobilization** — general education, outreach, and education projects
 - Project examples include election protection, improving/increasing language access, interdisciplinary/intersection outreach, advocacy, events, combating the changing landscape of voter suppression and the lingering "Big Lie," and continuing and transitioning redistricting work to long-term advocacy efforts and broader civic engagement.
- **Collaboration** — collaborative projects between multiple organizations to encourage new partnerships
 - Project examples include collaborative trainings, convenings, or community educational events, as well as other projects worked on by a variety of groups.
- **Communications** — communications projects and needs of community-based organizations
 - Project examples include storytelling, narrative shifting, visual media, social media/digital organizing, documentary-making, communications trainings for organizations, staffing, building social media presence, toolkit creation, and/or community communications education.



- **Gap Funding for Civic Engagement Projects** — groups needing additional funding to complete in-progress projects
 - For example, if a group applied for funding to complete a video, but the budget fell short and they couldn't raise the deficit, they could apply for grant funding to finish the video.

WHAT WE CANNOT FUND

- 501(c)4 organizations
- Projects which include voter registration activities.
- Projects which include [lobbying](#) or [partisan activity](#).
- Projects that do not have a component of one or more of the focus areas.
- Projects with indirect costs equal to or greater than direct costs.
- Organizations or groups not based in Alabama, Florida, Georgia, Louisiana, Mississippi, North Carolina, South Carolina, Tennessee, Texas, or Virginia.

Please note: Direct costs are expenses specific to the program or project, while indirect costs are expenses required to run the organization as a whole. You are welcome to include both in your project budget, but indirect costs should be less than 50% of the total budget (i.e. indirect costs should not equal or exceed direct costs).

Examples of direct costs include stipends for volunteers, staff or contractor time to work on the project, or meeting expenses. Examples of indirect costs include computer software, office supplies, or postage.

PROCESS AND TIMELINE

Grant Application

Please click the link [HERE](https://scsj.org/solvegrants) (scsj.org/solvegrants) to access the grant application portal. Instructions for completing your application are available in the portal. If you have difficulty accessing the portal, please email solve@scsj.org.

The deadline for applications is **Wednesday, July 6, 2022; 11:59 PM CT**

Application Review

The SOLVE Grants Subcommittee will review all applications and will contact applicants if there are any questions or further information needed.

The subcommittee consists of: Matia Powell, from Civic TN; Rachel Mayes, from Southern Echo; Marion Welch, from South Carolina Coalition for Voter Participation; Roxane Richir from Blueprint NC; Morgan Shannon, from Power Coalition; and the following people from Southern Coalition for Social Justice: Melissa Boughton, Irving



Zavaleta, R. Jordan Davis, Jacob Nelson, Gino Nuzzolillo, Sailor Jones, Caroline Tervo, and Chris Shenton.

Notifications

Applicants who submit proposals by the July 6, 2022 deadline will be notified about whether or not their project will be funded by the end of July 2022. Projects approved for funding will receive their grant awards once we receive their signed Grant Agreement Letter. Grant funds will not be distributed without a signed Grant Agreement Letter.

Grant Reporting Criteria

All selected organizations must submit interim and final reports. Further reporting instructions will be provided in the Grant Agreement Letter.

SOLVE Support

We recognize SOLVE partners and others doing important work in the South have varying capacities. We do not want the application or reporting processes to be a burden or a barrier. If you have questions, throughout the application process, please contact us via email or phone using the information below. The SOLVE Network is also dedicated to providing communications support, as we are able, to members and grantees.

Key Dates

Application Opens: June 6, 2022

Application Deadline: Wednesday, July 6, 2022; 11:59 PM CT

Decisions Expected: End of July 2022

Information Sessions in English:

- Thursday, June 9th, 6pm ET
- Thursday, June 16th, 6pm ET

Sesión informativa en español:

- Tuesday, June 14th, 6pm ET

Open Zoom Hours:

- Tuesday, June 21st, 6pm ET
- Tuesday, June 28th, 6pm ET
- Tuesday, July 5th, 6pm ET

SOLVE

Please sign up for information sessions and Open Zoom hours at scsj.org/solve22.

Questions or concerns? Please contact us at solve@scsj.org or 910-970-4900.