

About us & How we work



PlanetRomeo Foundation

PlanetRomeo Foundation is an independent, registered non-profit established in 2009 to contribute to the fight for equal rights and opportunities for LGBTI (lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender and intersex) people. With the support of PlanetRomeo BV, the company behind PLANETROMEO, the Foundation is uniquely placed to draw strength from one of the largest online platforms.

PlanetRomeo Foundation provides funding up to € 5,000 to grassroots emerging LGBTI projects and initiatives in countries and regions where LGBTI rights are most severely infringed.

Vision

PlanetRomeo Foundation envisions a world without discrimination on the basis of sexual orientation, gender identity, gender expression and sex characteristics; a world in which lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender and intersex people have the same rights and opportunities as anyone else; a world which values and respects differences in sexual orientation, gender identity, gender expression and sex characteristics.

Mission

Our support focuses on achieving societal change in order to improve the position of LGBTI people throughout the world, with an emphasis on the most disadvantaged regions and communities. We also focus on mobilizing and activating the LGBTI community in those challenging contexts. We do not initiate projects ourselves, and we set out to be a stepping stone and fill funding gaps between zero funding and access to larger grants.



Priority Themes



Shelter

Every day, all around the world, LGBTI people suffer from bullying, discrimination, exclusion, violence, imprisonment, even execution, and are generally at risk for their safety and their lives. PlanetRomeo Foundation supports initiatives that provide (temporary) basic Shelter facilities for LGBTI people, especially in those countries and regions where their safety and wellbeing is most at risk. Shelter projects can provide refuge and support around the clock, during the day or specific time slots. Activities in the shelter, that further support LGBTI people can be eligible for funding too.



Community Organizing

PlanetRomeo Foundation supports initial, essential steps in community formation and organizing. These steps are crucial to the process of empowerment and a prerequisite to further community development and activism, and building critical mass to evoke change. Community Organizing focuses on joint efforts, not personal development. The Foundation aims to fund initiatives at an ignition point, where LGBTI people come together to organize themselves in the interest of their communities and to develop common goals. Community Organizing can take place offline and online.



Sports & Culture

PlanetRomeo Foundation sees Sports & Culture as a starting point for change in other aspects and areas of LGBTI people's lives. Projects and initiatives under this theme are only eligible for funding in countries or regions where they play an essential and distinctive role in building, connecting and mobilizing LGBTI communities, or making them more visible. To be eligible, Sports & Culture projects must be more than just a sports or cultural event. They must be utilized as a 'safe' entry point to do more and achieve other goals.



Funding policy

In its funding policy, the Foundation gives high priority to small-scale projects which are initiated and implemented by the LGBTI community itself and/or by emerging LGBTI groups and initiatives. The projects must aim to involve, empower and mobilize the community. Projects may target sub-communities, e.g. lesbian and/or gay and/or bisexual and/or trans and/or intersex communities.

- The Foundation funds two categories of emerging initiatives:
 - Initiatives of (relatively) new informal LGBTI groups or organizations with little or no access to other sources of funding;
 - More experienced LGBTI organizations that develop new initiatives for which they have not yet previously received funding and are difficult to fund elsewhere.
- Although all geographical regions are eligible, the Foundation gives priority to countries outside the Global North, which we define as European Union member states, Iceland, Norway, Switzerland, the United Kingdom, Australia, Canada, New Zealand, United States of America.
- Within a country, all geographical areas are eligible, but where we can, we give priority to rural and/or more remote areas.
- Organizations can only receive a one-off grant, ranging from € 500 to € 5,000, paid in instalments.



What projects are eligible for funding?

- Projects which align with PlanetRomeo Foundation's vision, mission, priority themes and funding policy.
- Shelters projects that provide around the clock support (including sleeping facilities) and/or offer shelter and support during the day or specific time slots. Activities taking place in or attached to the shelter, that further support LGBTI people making use of the shelter, can be eligible too.
- Community organizing projects focusing on community gatherings, as a starting point of LGBTI community/ movement building, community workshops, etc.
- Community organizing projects that focus on means through which LGBTI community members can chat, share, exchange, find information, receive counseling online, especially in regions and countries where 'offline' community gatherings are impossible or dangerous.
- Community Organizing projects and initiatives for and with LGBTI people and their (chosen) families.
- Sports & Culture projects which also aim at empowerment, workshops, training, public awareness and/or other activities.

What projects do not qualify?

- Projects with health, political or religious aims as a primary objective.
- Projects which seek to cover overhead costs, running costs and/or fundraising costs as a primary objective.
- Projects from commercial organizations where financial profit is a goal or projects aimed solely at promoting an organization or event.
- Projects aimed solely at promoting an organization or event.
- Projects which seek to provide travel and accommodation or outreach costs for participation in (inter)national sports tournaments.
- Projects aimed at supporting art for art's sake or supporting individual artists.
- Applications from individuals for travel, accommodation, living and/or study costs.
- Projects aimed solely or mostly at advocacy activities and/or establishing gay/straight alliances.



Apply for funding at PlanetRomeo Foundation

In its efforts to support small-scale and community based projects, the Foundation strives for a balance between accessibility, quality and maintaining a good standard in project accountability. Criteria that will be taken into account in the assessment process are:

- quality of the project proposal;
- relevance;
- how realistic the approach is;
- foreseen impact;
- the degree to which the proposal is complementary to existing services and/or activities.

How to make a funding request

- Funding request forms can be obtained via info@planetromeofoundation.org or our contact form.
- Detailed guidelines are included in the form.
- The project plan should be concise and comprehensive and must contain a clear link between goals, methods, activities, budget and people involved.
- If co-funding is requested, clarification must be given on which part of the budget is requested from the Foundation and the status of the other funding sources must be specified.
- The minimum amount that can be requested for is € 500.
- The maximum amount that can be requested for is € 5,000.
- Funding requests can be submitted by e-mail only.
- Funding requests must be submitted in English.

When to submit a funding request

- Funding requests should be submitted at least four months prior to the start of the project.
- Submission deadlines: January 1st, April 1st, July 1st and October 1st.
- Applicants will be informed of the outcome of their request within one month after the submission deadline.
- The Foundation recognizes that in special circumstances a project may require more immediate support. If this is the case, please provide additional information when submitting the request.





SUPPORTING
LGBTI PROJECTS
WHERE IT'S NEEDED MOST

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