



Call for LOIs – SVP’s Catapult Investment

LOIs due January 29, 2021 @ 4:00 p.m.

IMPORTANT - Please Note

Prospective applicants **must RSVP for and attend** one of these [Information Sessions via Zoom](#):

Dec 8, 12-1 p.m. | Dec 16, 12-1 p.m. | Jan 12, 12-1 p.m.

Questions? Contact [Spencer Downing](#) spencer@svpbouldercounty.org

Catapult

SVP envisions a more vibrant and thriving Boulder County community for all. That is why we invest volunteer-powered consulting, education, mentoring, and supporting cash grants to build the strength and sustainability of local nonprofits.

This type of “capacity building” addresses the core skills, management practices, strategies, and systems that lay a sturdy foundation for excellent service to the community. When nonprofits are strong, our community thrives.

In 2021, SVP Partners will choose one nonprofit to join our Catapult program, in which SVP invests in that nonprofit over the next 3.5 years. During that time, the nonprofit will typically receive pro bono consulting support valued between \$200,000 and \$400,000 and yearly cash grants (\$10k - \$15k/year) that further support capacity-building work.

What we look for

SVP has found the most success in conducting capacity building with organizations exhibiting several key characteristics. Therefore, we will give strong preference to Boulder County nonprofits that have the following features:

- Nonprofit organization - 501(c)(3) status or fiscally sponsored
- At least 50% of services provided in Boulder County
- Budget at \$200,000 or more
- Paid staff of three or more
- Board of six or more members
- In a growth, mature, or turnaround stage (not a start-up)
- Attended an SVP information session

- Committed to incorporating SVP consulting volunteer support to build and strengthen their organization's internal capacity
- Committed to using outcomes for measurement/evaluation
- Strong and passionate leadership at the staff and Board level, demonstrating qualities of social entrepreneurship

If you're concerned that your organization is close to, but doesn't quite meet, one or two of these criteria, please contact Spencer Downing to discuss.

SVP strives to maintain a balanced portfolio of investments that reflects:

- a Survive-to-Thrive continuum
- service to residents throughout Boulder County
- deep and broad impact.

Application Process

Attendance at one of our [information sessions](#) is expected. SVP strongly encourages at least one staff and one Board member to attend. The session will introduce you to the concept of partnering with SVP Boulder County, address any questions you may have about the selection process, and ensure you submit the most successful LOI. For additional questions, feel free to contact [Spencer Downing](#).

Interested organizations should submit a Letter of Inquiry (LOI) electronically **by 4:00 p.m. on January 29, 2021**. LOIs should not exceed three pages, at least size 11 font, one-inch margins, and should include **no additional attachments**.

The Letter of Inquiry should include the following information:

- Your organization's name, EIN, address, website, contact name, email address, and phone.
- One paragraph summarizing your organization's mission and history.
- A summary of your organizational goals and specific program or service activities. Please include these details: number of people served, geographic service area, key requirements for service provision, number of paid staff, number of volunteers, and number of donors.
- One paragraph summarizing your leadership's vision for the organization and where you see the nonprofit in three to five years.
- Budget figures: a) the organization's total 2020 operating budget. ***Please note: Do not submit a line item budget. For example, applicants need only state, "Our total agency budget for FY 2020 is \$524,000."***
- A **specific** description, including **two to three proposed projects (or ways)** in which you could use SVP's strategic consulting assistance (***this is a critical component of your letter***).
- A list of board members' names and cities of residence.
- Brief summary or list of other community supporters such as key collaborators or major funders.

- At least three dates between March 19 - April 20 when your executive and board chair would be able to host a site visit with SVP Partners (in the event your nonprofit is chosen as a finalist).

Please submit Letters of Inquiry by 4:00 p.m. on January 29, 2021, via email attached in PDF format labeled with your organization's name followed by *LOI 2021* (e.g., *Awesome Impact LOI 2021*) to spencer@svpbouldercounty.org