



DESTINATION TOMORROW
THE BRONX LGBTQ CENTER

Request for Applications

LGBTQI+ Social Determinants of Health Mini Grants Program

New York State | Up to \$15,000 | Application Opens July 17, 2026

A. Background

Destination Tomorrow (DT) is a grassroots agency located in the South Bronx dedicated to providing services to the LGBTQI+ community. DT focuses on economic empowerment, working with clients to improve practical life skills that take them off the path to needing emergency treatment, housing, or healthcare services.

This Request for Applications is supported by funding received from the New York State Department of Health, AIDS Institute, Office of LGBTQ Services, a part of their ongoing efforts to address the specific needs of LGBTQI+ communities in New York State. DT will manage the administration of this mini-grants program and oversee and support grantees selected.

Today, LGBTQI+ individuals continue to face significant barriers that negatively impact their health, well-being, and quality of life, such as discrimination, social stigma, and familial rejection. Recent policies restricting gender-affirming care, limiting legal recognition of transgender identities, and reducing LGBTQI+ protections have heightened concerns about the loss of civil rights and social exclusion. Collectively, these social and policy-related factors limit access to stable housing, employment, education, healthcare, and social support, contributing to inequities in the Social Determinants of Health (SDOH), which reflect the social and community environments that shape health outcomes.

For LGBTQI+ individuals from diverse racial, ethnic, linguistic, and cultural backgrounds, these barriers are often compounded by structural racism, xenophobia, and existing systemic inequities (in healthcare, housing, education, employment, the legal system, etc.). Through DT's Mini-Grant Program, New York State organizations will receive funding to implement innovative, community-driven solutions that address one or more SDOH impacting LGBTQI+ individuals and families in their communities.

B. Social Determinants of Health (SDOH)

The purpose of this funding opportunity is to support programs, services, and initiatives that improve health equity and reduce disparities among LGBTQI+ populations by addressing one or more of the following SDOH— the social, economic, and environmental conditions in which people are born, grow, live, learn, work, and age that influence their health, well-being, and quality of life:

Economic Stability

- Employment readiness and workforce development
- Career advancement opportunities
- Financial literacy and asset building

- Living wage and economic empowerment initiatives

Housing Stability

- Homelessness prevention
- Housing navigation and placement services
- Emergency housing assistance
- Tenant rights education

Health Care Access and Quality

- LGBTQI+ affirming health education
- Healthcare navigation
- Preventive health services
- Mental health and wellness initiatives

Food Security

- Food pantry programs
- Nutrition education
- Community gardens
- Access to culturally responsive and nutritious foods

Education Access and Quality

- Academic support services
- Adult education
- GED/NEDP preparation
- College and career readiness

Neighborhood and Environmental Conditions

- Safe community spaces
- Environmental justice initiatives
- Community safety programs
- Transportation assistance

Social and Community Support

- Peer support programs
- Community-building initiatives
- Programs reducing social isolation
- Leadership development opportunities

C. Eligibility Criteria

This solicitation offers funding to incorporate or expand programming that addresses one or more SDOH affecting desirable health outcomes among LGBTQI+ populations in New York State.

The following are eligible to apply for funding through this grant opportunity:

- Non-profits (e.g., community organizations, faith-based organizations, schools, etc.) provide services for LGBTQI+ individuals, families, and/or communities. Non-profits without 501(c)(3) status are required to have a fiscal sponsor in place, and the fiscal sponsor should serve as the applicant.
- Organizations based in New York State that provide programming in New York State.
- Organizations who are ineligible and/or lack the capacity to contract with NYS directly.

Priority will be given to organizations that:

- Serve LGBTQI+ individuals who experience multiple forms of marginalization.
- Focus on Black, Latino/a/e/x, Indigenous, immigrant, transgender, nonbinary, and gender-expansive communities.
- Provide meaningful community engagement and leadership.
- Address systemic barriers and root causes of inequities.
- Have measurable outcomes and clear implementation plans.
- Demonstrate sustainability beyond the grant period.
- Experience capacity limitations in service delivery for LGBTQI+ individuals, families, and/or communities.

Additional preference will be given to organizations that demonstrate high need in underserved communities, including those with large LGBTQI+ populations and/or high rates of homelessness, substance use disorders, mental illness, and chronic diseases like HIV and Hepatitis C, as well as those organizations that are in communities with limited access to LGBTQI+-designed services.

Small and grassroots organizations are encouraged to apply. Black, Indigenous, and People of Color (BIPOC) led organizations, multi-lingual agencies, organizations led and/or staffed by people directly impacted by the criminal legal system, and Minority- and Women- Owned Business Enterprises (M/WBE) are also encouraged to apply.

***Organizations that receive funding from the New York State Department of Health are not eligible for this opportunity. However, this restriction does not extend to organizations that utilize a fiscal sponsor receiving NYS DOH funding, provided that the fiscal sponsor has not utilized state funding to sponsor the organization or its services in the past.**

D. Funding Amount

Applicants may submit only one application per organization. Applicants are allowed to apply for funding up to \$15,000.

DT anticipates funding approximately 18 applications in total, across New York State, for work to be done between August and December 2026.

E. Application Requirements

All applicants must submit one complete application found [here](#).

Applicants are required to submit:

- IRS 501(c)(3) determination letter (or fiscal sponsor letter)
- Most recent audited financial statements or Form 990
- Current organizational budget
- Program budget and budget narrative
- List of public and private sources of revenue
- List of board of directors with affiliates
- Most recent annual report (if available)

Letters of support from community partners are optional but encouraged.

Applications open on **Friday, July 17, 2026** and must be submitted by **Friday, July 31, 2026, at 11:59 p.m. EST**. Late applications will not be accepted.

F. Budget Requirements

Submit a detailed program budget for the services described in the application. DT's review of the cost proposal shall determine if the overall costs proposed are realistic for the work to be performed and reflect a correct understanding of the program requirements. A line-item budget in Excel format, as well as a budget narrative, is required as part of a fully complete application.

Allowable costs are those that are necessary, reasonable, allocable, consistently treated, and permitted under the terms and conditions of the award and the **Office of Management and Budget (OMB) Uniform Guidance**. Examples of allowable costs may

include personnel, fringe benefits, travel, equipment, supplies, contractual services, and other direct costs necessary to carry out the project. Unallowable costs include, but are not limited to, alcohol, entertainment, fines and penalties, and lobbying unless specifically authorized by the award. Applicants should refer to **2 CFR Part 200, Subpart E – Cost Principles (§§200.420–200.476)** for guidance on allowable and unallowable costs.

G. Application Evaluation

DT's Advisory Board (review committee), comprised of LGBTQI+ community leaders, will read and score applications using the evaluation criteria outlined below. All Advisory Board members identify as members of the LGBTQI+ community and bring both professional expertise and lived experience, enabling them to evaluate community needs through multiple lenses with a strong understanding of the social determinants of health that disproportionately impact LGBTQI+ individuals and families across New York State. Many members work in organizations that address social determinants of health among diverse populations and are therefore ineligible to apply for this funding, ensuring thoughtful, informed, and unbiased review of applications and funding priorities.

Section	Max Points
<i>Organization Eligibility & Alignment</i>	<i>20</i>
<i>Program Design & Implementation</i>	<i>25</i>
<i>Measurements & Outcomes</i>	<i>20</i>
<i>Community Engagement</i>	<i>10</i>
<i>Organizational Capacity</i>	<i>20</i>
<i>Budget & Sustainability</i>	<i>10</i>

Applications that are determined by DT to be non-responsive will be rejected. Examples of non-responsive applications include applications received past the deadline, and applications that are missing required sections. Awards will be made to the applicants whose applications are determined to be the most advantageous by the Advisory Board.

H. Timeline and Submission

1. Release Date of solicitation: This application will be released on July 17, 2026, and available [here](#).
2. Questions: Questions about this solicitation may be submitted by email to Grants@destinationtomorrow.org. Questions must be submitted by 11:59pm EST on July 24, 2026. The subject line of the email should read: Questions – DT Mini Grants Program.
3. **Application Due Date:** Application submissions are due on Friday, July 31, 2026, at 11:59 p.m. EST. Failure to submit an application by the due date and time will result

in the application being considered non-responsive to this solicitation and not considered for award. Unless an addendum to this solicitation is issued extending the due date and time, all applications must be submitted prior to the time and date set forth above.

4. Awarded Grantees will be notified by Monday, August 17, 2026
5. Anticipated Contract Start Date: August 2026

I. Post-Award and Reporting

All awarded grantees will be required to submit a progress and financial report, detailing

The first installment of grant funds will be disbursed within 30 days of completing the grant agreement. The second installment will be released upon satisfactory completion and receipt of an interim report and any additional requirements.

J. Grantee Capacity Building Support

All funded applicants will have access to DT's organizational capacity building expertise. More details about this opportunity will be provided to awardees once selected.