Request for Proposals: Somali and Jewish Stories in Minnesota

Background Information
The Jewish and Somali-American communities of Minnesota are integral members of our state’s social fabric. Both communities also continue to face unique challenges and threats.

As black, Muslim, new Americans, Somalis in Minnesota face a heavy burden of racism, Islamophobia, and xenophobia. Jewish Minnesotans faced institutional discrimination, xenophobia, and antisemitism during the mid-20th Century, some of which continues today. In recent years, violent domestic extremists have terrorized both communities locally and nationally.

By authentically sharing our stories with each other, and with the rest of our fellow Minnesotans, we can build a more united, secure, and vibrant community.

The Anti-Defamation League (ADL), Jewish Community Relations Council of Minnesota and the Dakotas (JCRC), and Intersections Consulting are requesting proposals for creative initiatives to amplify these stories and enhance relationships across Somali communities, Jewish communities, and other Minnesota communities.

Grantees may receive up to $5,000 to implement their initiatives. Awards will be made at the sole discretion of the awarding organizations.

Scope of Work:
Proposed projects should achieve one or more of the following objectives:

- Educate about Jewish/Somali history, culture, religion, etc.;
- Provide a platform for Jewish and Somali communities to engage in dialogue;
- Promote positive perceptions of Somalis and Jews via innovative multimedia storytelling; and/or
- Create small but scalable projects that may be able to be replicated or leveraged to build similar efforts in other areas locally or nationally.

General requirements:
- Applicants shall be based in Minnesota;
- Applicants shall be available for an interview within 30 days of the application submission; and
- Applicants may be affiliated with an organization, but they do not need to be.
- Application due date is December 18, 2019.

Period of performance:
Work on grantees’ initiatives shall begin on the date of the grant award. Grantees will meet with JCRC representatives within 30 days of the grant award and will have a six-month window to implement the project.

Click here to apply.

Please contact Sami Rahamim with questions at sami@minndakjcrc.org or 612-677-2327.

To view this RFP in Somali, click here.