



Friday, September 5, 2025

PYP Seattle 2025 Grant Request Form

2025 Grant Request Form

Please compile requested information and submit by 12pm on September 5, 2025.

SECTION I: KING COUNTY REQUIREMENT

A. PYP grants exclusively serve King County residents. Please describe how a PYP grant to the nonprofit organization will be used only in King County and/or only by King County residents.

Wonder of Women International (WOW) is a Seattle-based nonprofit dedicated to the healing, education, and empowerment of Black women, girls, families, and community. Our programs are centered in King County, where we create sacred spaces of restoration through art, storytelling, and culturally rooted healing practices.

A PYP grant will be used exclusively in King County as we transition from WOW Gallery at Pacific Place toward the development of a new legacy retreat center in Seattle. These funds will allow us to retain staff who guide and hold space for our community, expand digital offerings that reach King County residents, and continue in-person circles, workshops, and gatherings that nurture Black women, girls, families, and community. Every dollar will directly support the continuation of our mission in Seattle, ensuring that vital spaces of healing, connection, and belonging remain accessible during this critical time of transition.

SECTION II: ORGANIZATION BACKGROUND AND GRANT CHAMPION INVOLVEMENT

A. Provide the organization's name, address, and website URL.

Organization Name: Wonder Of Women International
Address: 115 Prefontaine Pl. S., Suite 510, Seattle, WA 98104
Website: www.thewonderofwomen.org

B. Provide the name(s), title(s), and email(s) of the key contact(s) at the organization. These are the people who will assist with pitch development and who will be present for at least one follow-up session.

Veronica Very – Founder & Visionary – veronica@thewonderofwomen.org
Tracie Anderson – Development Director – tracie@thewonderofwomen.org

C. Provide a one-paragraph (maximum 250-word) description of the organization and program or project, if applicable. This paragraph should be pre-approved by the organization. Note that this paragraph will be used in PYP marketing materials, in PYP communications, and in voting for the top three organizations to move forward in the grant cycle should more than three Grant Request Forms be submitted.

Wonder of Women International creates sacred spaces for the healing, education, art, and liberation (H.E.A.L) of Black women, girls, families, and community. Through culturally rooted experiences that weave together storytelling, creative expression, and wellness practices, WOW nurtures belonging and transformation. Signature programs such as Dear Sista, A Call to Heal and Breathing Black Love provide safe, restorative environments where participants release trauma, reclaim joy, and strengthen community resilience.

As the organization transitions from WOW Gallery at Pacific Place toward establishing a legacy home and

retreat center, our work continues to flourish across King County. Virtual programming expands access while in-person gatherings create immediate touchpoints of care. These include grief circles, wellness circles, and healing practices such as breath work and chi gong meditation. Each program affirms identity, restores wellness, and strengthens the collective power of community, ensuring that Black women, girls, and families remain centered, supported, and celebrated.

D. Describe the organization's values, mission, and history. Elaborate on the need the organization seeks to address.

Wonder of Women International was founded in 2016 by Veronica Very to create sacred spaces where Black women and girls can find their voice, stand in their truth, and celebrate their wonder through storytelling, art, and healing practices. Our mission is to see Black women, girls, families, and community liberated from emotional pain, racial trauma, health disparities, and economic inequities so they may live whole, purposeful, and joyful lives. We unapologetically center Blackness, our ancestral roots, and the cultural power of art and storytelling as pathways to healing, education, and liberation. Our values are anchored in love, light, liberation, and legacy. We believe healing is not a luxury but a necessity for Black women who, for generations, have carried the weight of families, communities, and systems while too often being unseen, unheard, and underserved. The need we address is urgent: structural racism continues to fracture Black communities, leaving Black women disproportionately impacted by trauma, inequities, and isolation. Since its founding, WOW has responded by creating spaces of restoration—from intimate healing circles to the establishment of WOW Gallery at Pacific Place—and now carries forward the vision of a legacy home and retreat center in Seattle. Through programs like Dear Sista, A Call to Heal and Breathing Black Love, we offer holistic care that disrupts cycles of harm and plant seeds of restoration for future generations.

E. Describe how the organization promotes diversity, equity, and inclusion within the community it serves, including but not limited to people who have been historically marginalized and traditionally underrepresented. How does the organization promote its DEI values internally and within its leadership? Examples include, but are not limited to, the composition of its Board of Directors and staff.

Diversity, equity, and inclusion are not separate initiatives at Wonder of Women International—they are the very foundation of who we are. Founded and led by a Black woman, our organization unapologetically centers the leadership, stories, and healing of Black women, girls, families, and community. We exist to create spaces where those historically marginalized and silenced are seen, valued, and affirmed.

Our work is designed by and for those most impacted by systemic inequities. We address racial trauma, grief, and wellness in ways that honor cultural identity and ancestral wisdom. By affirming the wholeness of Black women and families, we are addressing inequities that reverberate across entire communities.

Internally, our leadership, Board of Directors, and staff reflect the communities we serve. Representation matters deeply to us, not as optics, but as accountability. Our decision-making is informed by lived experience, ensuring that our strategies and programs stay responsive to real needs. Equity also shapes how we operate—whether in hiring, staff development, or creating pathways for emerging leaders of color.

Through this commitment, WOW advances diversity, equity, and inclusion not only as values, but as daily practice—healing the past, honoring the present, and building a liberated future.

F. Provide the name(s) of the Grant Champion(s) and a description of her (their) connection to the organization, including past and/or current involvement.

Floret Khosa

I worked with WOW Gallery 2021-2022 as a consultant and helped them set up their internal systems and Processes. I have also attended retreats that were organized by Veronica Very

Mwa Hungwe

Mwa has attended events at the WOW gallery and has been a part of the healing circles for black women.

G. Email address of the PYP member who is submitting this grant request (a copy of this request will be sent to this email address once submitted).

floret@umoja.one

SECTION III: ATTACHMENTS

A. Please attach a budget from the last fiscal year including actual income and expenditures.



Budget_FY24_P&L.pdf

B. Please attach a current operating budget (and project budget, if applicable).



WOW INTL 2025-2026 Budget.pdf

C. Please attach a copy of the organization's IRS 501(c)(3) determination letter.



IRS Determination Letter WoW.pdf

D. Please attach the organization's logo (in jpeg format).



E. Please attach any additional files that support your request (optional).



WOW FORWARD VISION 20252026-2.pdf



Signature of PYP member who is submitting this grant request. By signing below, you are indicating that: 1) all statements provided in this grant request form are true to the best of your knowledge, and 2) the nonprofit's key contacts (listed in II.B above) have seen this request and agree to its contents.