OutRight Opens Call for Proposals to COVID-19 Global LGBTIQ Emergency Fund Designed to Increase Vaccine Access

The global COVID-19 emergency presents tremendous challenges to LGBTIQ people, especially in places with deep poverty and weak health systems or government infrastructure. When a crisis hits “everyone,” the most marginalized become even more vulnerable. LGBTIQ people in many parts of the world cannot count on governments or relief organizations for help.

OutRight’s research report, “Vulnerability Amplified,” revealed that LGBTIQ people experienced a devastation of livelihoods, increased food insecurity, barriers to health care and access to life-saving medications, rising unemployment, homelessness and increased domestic violence as a result of the pandemic. That is why OutRight Action International launched the COVID-19 Global LGBTIQ Emergency Fund to provide direct support where it is most needed and in solidarity with LGBTIQ organizations and people on the frontlines.

Almost 2 years into the pandemic, as the news increasingly highlights growing COVID-19 vaccine access, lifting of pandemic-related restrictions, and a return to normalcy in some places, we know that for LGBTIQ people the pandemic is far from over. Key to moving forward through this pandemic is mass proliferation of the COVID-19 vaccine which, to date, have not seen equitable distribution across countries and communities. Therefore, we are proud to open a new call for proposals to address intersections of the LGBTIQ community and COVID-19 vaccines.

In this round, OutRight can provide grants that can be used for COVID-19 vaccine related interventions. Your project can be a programmatic intervention or an advocacy project but should address one or more of the following:

- **Access** - Your community does not have access to COVID-19 vaccines or vaccination campaigns
- **Inequality** - The LGBTIQ community is at a disadvantage in receiving vaccines, which furthers societal inequities such as LGBTIQ people prevented from obtaining employment
- **Awareness** - Your community is hesitant or uninformed about available vaccines and faces disadvantages because of misinformation
OutRight recognizes that needs are different from community to community and that local organizations know their immediate needs best. In your application, it is important to give rich detail regarding your specific context and the issues your constituents face. The grants that we provide range from $5,000 up to $20,000.

To be eligible for a grant, organizations must work directly with and for LGBTIQ people (including MSM groups, trans groups, LBQ groups, and intersex groups), and be based outside the USA, Canada, the European Economic Area, the UK, Switzerland, Australia or New Zealand. Unfortunately, OutRight cannot issue grants to individuals.

To apply for a grant, please fill in the application form available here (link). The Call for Applications are open until November 22, 2021. The application forms are available in English, French, Portuguese, and Spanish. We will start reviewing grant applications immediately after the closure of the Call for Proposals and aim to issue the first grants 4 weeks after that.

If you have any questions about the fund or its purpose, please contact Travis McCown, Grants Administrator, tmccown@outrightinternational.org. If you would like to donate to the fund, you can donate online.