Notification of Funding Availability (NOFA)
Request for Initial Proposal Ideas ACR JAMS Foundation
Partnership Regular Year One – 2017

ACR is pleased to announce this Notification of Funding Availability (NOFA) and request for initial proposal ideas for the 2017 funding cycle of the ACR/JAMS Foundation partnership in supporting Conflict Resolution Education. The mission of the ACR/JAMS Foundation partnership is summarized below.

Mission: The population to be served by the funding streams will be (1) youth in preK-12 age range and/or (2) adults working with these youth populations in ways that directly transfer CRE skills for adults to the youth populations.

Funding Contexts: The contexts for projects may be a variety of contexts including community, schools, alternative education (online education, charter schools, after school programs), government (juvenile justice facilities, courts) and NGO settings. While some proposals may be able to secure and guarantee access to or cooperation from traditional K-12 school districts/schools, we are excited by opportunity to support possible funding of CRE work from other contexts. Thus, projects in pre-K-12 schools will be considered but emphasis will be on projects outside that context.

The NOFA Area: The funding focus for the 2017 funding cycle intends to support:

Projects that are focused on developing conflict resolution skills within youth whom are experiencing interventions by juvenile justice or social service agencies. These projects may be building on what some agencies are already doing, but will specifically aim to integrate the development of Conflict Resolution Education (CRE) to help reframe the relationships between the youth and the individuals representing the agency. Projects would focus on forming and fostering the relationships between youth _and_ these service providers to ensure that future decision points between the two integrate the learning that took place related to constructive conflict engagement.

There are three priority attributes relevant to the criteria in the NOFA:

- Priority will be given to projects that focus on developing conflict resolution skills in youth by using artistic channels (performing, narrative, representational or technological). The integration of the artistic channel provides a resonant way to embed further the conflict resolution skills in a manner that is long-lasting and readily accessible.
- Priority will be given to projects in which youth play a significant or substantive role in the delivery of the process. Priority for projects that help to develop youth leadership skills by getting young people involved in helping themselves: Peer mentorship, peer led development of skills, etc...
- Priority given to projects that arise from the grassroots efforts, comprised of a strong base of diverse stakeholders, who are representative of the community

of youth being served to supplement or provide additional capacity for the community's efforts.

<u>Funding Parameters and Criteria for the 2017 Funding Cycle</u>

- Requests for funding may range from $15,000.00 to $50,000.00 for the first year of the funding cycle. Year two funding cycle requests may be for no more than $25,000.00. ACR is looking to recommend a small number of high quality projects with proven impact and the potential of regional and national impact upon completion.

- The proposed projects can be one or two year projects, but decisions on funding for a second year will be contingent on evidence of benchmark accomplishments at the end of the first year of funding.

- Preference for funding is given for development and innovation projects – those that may bring exciting new ideas to a level of <u>scalability and sustainability.</u> A secondary emphasis is on expansion grants that enable an already developed project to be taken to a regional or national rollout.

- Eligible organizations include nonprofit 501(c)3 organizations, educational institutions, and public agencies working in conjunction with nonprofit educational institutions or organizations.

<u>RFP Project Process</u>

- Interested organizations or individuals are required to submit a 1-3 page Initial Project Idea description (using the guidelines on the following page) to ACR no later than 11:59 PM local time of the organization's legal/main location, Thursday, December 1, 2016 to admin@acrnet.org.

- An informational conference call will be held on Thursday, October 13 at 2:00 PM EST. There is a limited number of spaces for this teleconference. To obtain the link for the conference, and register to attend, please send a notice of interest to ACR at admin@acrnet.org.

- The ACR Grant review committee will notify applicants if they have been selected to develop a full proposal for submission and review by Wednesday, February 1, 2017. A RFP review webinar will be offered on Thursday, February 9, 2017 at 2 PM ET. The link for attendance will be sent to those applicants who are invited to submit a full proposal.

- Full proposals (with a required application protocol provided upon notification) will be due to the ACR Grant review committee no later than 11:59 PM local time of the organization's legal/main location on Monday,

May 1, 2017.

- Funding decisions are anticipated at the August 2017 JAMS Foundation Board meeting.

- It is anticipated that notifications of the final decision will be made in late August – early September and made public at ACR's 2017 Annual Conference, typically held in late September, early October.

Please address questions about grant program to Cheryl Jamison, Executive Director, ACR at admin@acrnet.org.

Initial Proposal Ideas Description

Please note, incomplete submissions and those which do not adhere to the specifications below will not be considered

MANDATORY ELECTRONIC SUBMISSION
Proposal Description must be submitted electronically through the Internet. The subject line of the email must read: JAMS Foundation/ACR Grant and the name of the organization.

Applications must be submitted **electronically by 11:59 p.m.**, **local time of applicant on December 1, 2016 simultaneously** to both admin@acrnet.org
and acrnet2resolve@gmail.com

In the body of the email, please provide **only** the following information:
1. Name of organization
2. Name of the proposed project
3. Name of contact person
4. Telephone number of contact person
5. Email address of contact person.

The proposed project description shall be **no more than three** pages, single spaced, 12-point font, 1 inch margins. The document must be submitted as .pdf file using Adobe Acrobat 9.0 or a later version. Please include the following information in your description. Please note**, incomplete submissions and those which do not adhere to the specifications will not be considered**.

Applicant Information:
1. Organization Name/Address
2. Organizational Contact Person (and necessary contact information)
3. Organizational Type (educational institution, LEA, HEI, NGO, etc.)
4. Organization's Previous Work in Conflict Resolution Education (only

1-2 paragraphs)

Project Description:
In your 2- 3 page description of the project please discuss the following:
1. Describe the population to be served and your organization's access to that population.
2. Describe the nature of the proposed project and the need for this project (what are the important benefits to be obtained if the project is funded).
3. Describe the uniqueness of this project – to what extent is this groundbreaking or innovative work in the field of conflict resolution education.
4. Describe your organization's expertise and qualifications to do the work proposed.
5. Discuss the key personnel in the project, their qualifications for involvement and their present or intended role within the organization's internal structures.
6. Indicate the general amount of funding requested for Year 1 (and for year 2 if relevant) and a general description for which that funding will be used.
7. Discuss additional sources of funding or in-kind support already obtained for this project or for foundational work in this area.
8. Suggest how you would measure or assess the success or impact of this project if funded.

9. Provide evidence that exhibits the capacity of the organization, or an individual who will be connected to the organization through this proposal, to expand the scale and reach of a project beyond the initial parameters.