



Request for Proposals

RFP#	OWR-RFP-1543-RR
Title	ECO Rapid Response Grants
Summary	ECO offers funding for rapid response initiatives aimed at providing education, skill-building, and immigration representation to Oregonians at risk of unfair or unjust detention and removal .
Date Posted	January 24, 2025
Date Opens	January 24, 2025
Date Closes	Rolling basis
More Info	Visit: https://equitycorps.org/ecogrants/ Email: info@equitycorps.org



Introduction

Equity Corps of Oregon is a state-funded program working to provide universal representation so that every eligible Oregonian can defend against an unjust or unfair deportation, or civic exclusion, on account of immigration status. Selected organizations may receive a grant to provide educational workshops, skill building, and training to the community and legal organizers on rapid response, family and individual safety planning, and related topics.

Rapid response is a key strategy for immigration defense with the objective of preventing or ending an unjust or unfair immigration arrest, detention or deportation. It involves accompaniment at any stage of the process or proceedings, preparedness for impacted and potentially-impacted individuals, coordination, community-facing liaisons, and attorney responders. Within the Rights Architecture, which has been adopted by Oregon Worker Relief for strategic implementation, activities related to immigration that occur in Zones 2 and 3 refer to Rapid Response.

Background

The ongoing, massive buildup of immigration policing, anti-immigrant sentiment, and the weaponization of the immigration system is devastating immigrant families and immigrant communities of color in Oregon. It threatens to undermine the safety of our community and Oregon's collective prosperity.

ICE raids cause deep psychological and physical trauma for workers, families, and our communities. This type of militaristic tactic in particular, in which agents use unnecessary force to detain workers at their jobs or other public places, leads to serious mental, emotional, and physical health complications. A swift, comprehensive, and sustained response can mitigate



and minimize the damage, build a robust legal defense for all impacted individuals and provide essential services and support to their families.

Equity Corps of Oregon's objective is to provide universal representation, which protects our communities by making sure that no individual has to face the risk of deportation alone. Equity Corps ultimately aims to end unjust and unfair deportations by providing access to an attorney and support services for every eligible Oregonian at risk of removal on account of immigration status or facing a civic exclusion.

Scope of Projects

Oregon Worker Relief may issue grants from \$5,000 to \$75,000 to provide (a) accompaniment at any stage of the removal or detention process or proceedings, (b) preparedness trainings for impacted and potentially-impacted individuals, (c) coordination for responders (other than attorney responders); and/or, (d) a community-facing liaison to handle information vetting and information sharing. Accompaniment, preparedness training, coordination, and community-facing liaising must emphasize the protection of ECO members and ECO-eligible individuals, integrate with the ECO network, and minimize duplicative services when possible .

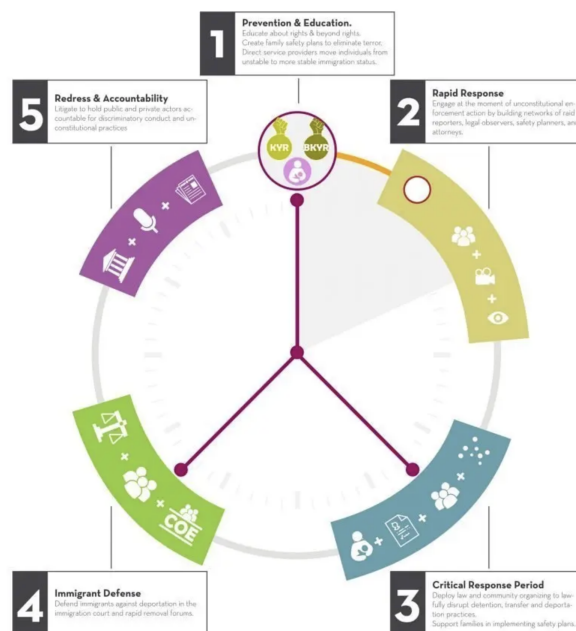
Integration with ECO network

All proposed projects must integrate with the ECO network and the service zones below. Projects should specifically identify the primary zone in which they anticipate operating. Most rapid response projects will be in zones 2 or 3. Projects anchored in other zones might still qualify as rapid response if they are integrated with or directly support a zone 2 or zone 3 service.

- **Zone 1 Prevention & Education.** Projects that educate about rights & beyond knowing your rights; create family safety plans to eliminate

terror; direct service providers identify and work to improve / level-up immigration status for ECO members through affirmative work

- **Zone 2 Rapid Response.** Engagement at the moment of unconstitutional enforcement action by raid reporters, legal observers, safety planners, and attorneys.
- **Zone 3 Critical Response Period.** Lawyers work to prevent detention, transfer, and shadow deportations, generally within a 48-hour window. Social service providers support families in the implementation of safety plans.
- **Zone 4 Immigrant Defense.** Lawyers provide long-term defense in immigration court, shadow deportation forums, and other venues.
- **Zone 5 Redress & Accountability.** Litigation and analysis to seek redress for unconstitutional enforcement and discriminatory practices.





A. Accompaniment

Accompaniment projects should promote the rights and dignity of ECO members and ECO-eligible immigrants. Accompaniment provides a space for volunteers and family members to join together with the impacted individual as they navigate a complicated, often terrifying system. Organizations can provide regular accompaniment to immigrants to immigration court and ICE interactions, as well as to schools, hospitals, and other places where ICE interactions are likely. An accompaniment program should provide emotional and physical solidarity to those navigating the system, and signal to authorities that immigrant allies are watching. While accompaniment programs differ in approach based on regional context and community needs, they help create a safe and supportive environment and often provide training and advice, supporting immigrants to best advocate for their rights. Accompaniment projects should facilitate ECO enrollment for those eligible but not yet enrolled and provide on-going support to ECO members.

B. Preparedness Projects

Preparedness projects should focus on preparing and/or implementing Preparedness Plans for ECO members and ECO-eligible individuals and their families in case of an immigration emergency. It is critical for immigrant families to think ahead and set concrete plans for immigration emergencies that may arise and have support to implement the plans. Projects can disseminate tool kits and should provide group and individualized assistance in completing preparedness plans and critical support at the time of implementation during and after the time of emergency. Preparedness projects should facilitate ECO enrollment for those eligible but not yet enrolled in ECO. Projects must integrate within the ECO network, should not duplicate



other work, and must support the objectives of ECO and universal representation.

Funding Summary

Funding Mechanism:	Grant
Anticipated Total Available Funding:	\$500,000
Anticipated Number of Awards:	Various
Anticipated Funding Amount per Award:	\$5,000 to \$75,000
Project Period:	12 months subject to available funding and satisfactory performance.

Administration of Award

The award period is intended to be for twelve months beginning when the contract agreement is proposed to be effective. The Awardee may be required to comply with additional terms and conditions as required by or imposed by the State of Oregon or other authorities.

Schedule

RFP Released	January 24, 2025
Information Session (optional)	January 28, 2025, 4pm
Applications Due	Applications accepted on a rolling basis until funding is expended or the RFP is withdrawn



Report	Reporting is required
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Funding is not available for the following, at a minimum:

- Any activity that violates local, State, or Federal laws;
- Any activity that violates the terms or conditions of the State of Oregon’s contract with Oregon Worker Relief;
- Payment for services not directly related to the proposed activities or for any case or matter not related to immigration matters of ECO members or ECO-eligible individuals,
- Lobbying activities.

Eligibility

In order to serve as an Awardee, the applying organization must:

- Be an organizational member in good standing of the Oregon Worker Relief network;
- Have a connection with, serve, or support individuals from the immigrant, migrant and refugee community;
- Have a professional history that demonstrates zealous and skilled advocacy for immigrants;
- Have experience or demonstrated ability to communicate with and advocate for immigrants from different cultures;
- Exhibit good moral and ethical character and have demonstrated professional demeanor;
- Agree to participate in universal representation navigation;
- Agree to the principles of universal representation and Equity Corps of Oregon;
- Have strong internal financial controls and managerial controls

Evaluation Method

Applications are reviewed by Seeding Justice, a social justice foundation and



founding member of Oregon Worker Relief. Seeding Justice will make presumptive recommendations for grants and refer the final award decisions to the Oregon Worker Relief Executive Committee.

How to apply

Interested parties are encouraged to attend the information session. To register for the informational session, which is optional, email info@equitycorps.org. All applications must be submitted online through the Equity Corps website. If you require a reasonable accommodation in the process, email info@equitycorps.org.