



REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS

Strategic Fundraising Consultant

Introduction of Purpose

This RFP is being issued in response to the need for a diverse funding base for the Rhode Island Food Policy Council in order to ensure the financial sustainability needed to achieve our objectives and pursue our purpose: to create a more just and resilient local food system.

About the Rhode Island Food Policy Council

The Rhode Island Food Policy Council (RIFPC) is an independent statewide network established in 2011 with a mission to promote a more equitable, accessible, economically vibrant, and environmentally sustainable food system. RIFPC is the only food policy council in Rhode Island. We convene, educate, and foster community-based advocacy that drives good food policy forward in order to achieve a just and resilient food system for all Rhode Islanders. We coordinate a statewide network of stakeholders representing all stages of the food chain – production, harvesting, processing, distribution, consumption, and waste management who catalyze high-impact partnerships, projects, and programs that address systemic and structural inequities. Our work centers equity and supports civic engagement, a critical component of a healthy democracy.

We operate with a small, collaborative professional staff, a broad network of engaged and diverse council members, and hundreds of stakeholders from across the Ocean State. More information about RIFPC can be found at www.rifoodcouncil.org.

Scope of Work

RIFPC seeks proposals of \$15,000-\$20,000 to prepare a roadmap for accessing new funding opportunities including, but not limited to, assessment of the potential of the following funding pathways:

- An endowment fund
- An individual giving campaign
- A Donor Advised Fund (DAF) campaign
- A corporate giving program
- Additional private foundation prospects

The selected contractor will work closely with RIFPC's Executive Director, Board Fundraising Committee, and other RIFPC staff to: research and analyze outcomes of their assessment, create a multi-year fundraising strategy, and report on outcomes of their work via a written report and a verbal presentation.

The contractor will help inform and organize RIFPC fundraising tools and documents and ensure that they are well-coordinated with the organization's communication strategy and tools. They will share their findings with the full RIFPC staff and board. The scope of work will start in September 2025 and end in March 2026. Scope of work and/or contract length may be expanded if additional funds become available.

Requirements:

- Highly organized with experience leading fundraising research and strategy development.
- Experienced in assessing the feasibility of a wide range of potential funding pathways and creation of fundraising strategies for clients.
- Skilled in developing compelling pitch decks and narratives.

Proposals will be evaluated based on quality of the following required elements:

- Demonstration/description of relevant experience.
- Demonstrated capacity to organize and execute projects of similar scale.
- Anticipated schedule, work flow and time dedication for the period of October 2025 to March 2026.
- Detailed budget description including any travel-related expenses.

Submit proposals by October 7th, 2025 via email to:

Nessa Richman, Executive Director
Rhode Island Food Policy Council
nessa@rifoodcouncil.org

Please use subject line: Strategic Fundraising Consultant proposal - [your name]

Please reach out to the above contact with any questions about scope, schedule or budget

Issued September 23, 2025