



THE MICHELSON 20MM  
FOUNDATION

# 2024 **Smart Justice** Michelson Spark Grant

## LETTER OF INTEREST

Please provide the following information for your organization:

Name:

Mission:

City and State:

Website

EIN:

Year of founding:

Is your organization registered as a 501(c)(3)?

Yes  No

Please provide the following information for your application's main point of contract if the grant is awarded.

Name:

Title:

Email:

Phone Number:

***Learn more***

  
20mm.org

  
kenia@20mm.org

# 2024 Smart Justice Michelson Spark Grant

*The following questions allow us to learn about how your staff reflects the population you serve.*

**Is your organization led by someone who is Black, Indigenous, or a Person of Color (BIPOC)?**

Yes  No  Choose not to disclose

**Is your organization led by someone who identifies as a minority gender identity (e.g. cisgendered woman), non-binary (e.g. genderqueer, gender fluid, etc.), transgender, or is a member of an otherwise gender expansive identity?**

Yes  No  Choose not to disclose

**BIPOC representation on your board (or other governing body)**

<25%  25-49%  50-74%  75-100%  Choose not to disclose

**BIPOC representation in your organization's leadership**

<25%  25-49%  50-74%  75-100%  Choose not to disclose

**BIPOC representation in your organization's staff**

<25%  25-49%  50-74%  75-100%  Choose not to disclose

**What percentage of your board (or other governing body) is systems impacted? System impacted includes people affected in a negative way by their incarceration or of a close relative as well as those who have been arrested and/or convicted without incarceration.**

<25%  25-49%  50-74%  75-100%  Choose not to disclose

**What percentage of your organization's leadership is system impacted?**

<25%  25-49%  50-74%  75-100%  Choose not to disclose

**What percentage of your organization's staff is system impacted?**

<25%  25-49%  50-74%  75-100%  Choose not to disclose



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**LGBTQIA+ representation in your organization's staff**

<25%  25-49%  50-74%  75-100%  Choose not to disclose

**We welcome any comments or explanations about the demographic representation in your organization.**

**Has your organization previously submitted a proposal for any previous Michelson Spark Grant round?**

Yes  No  Unsure

**Amount of funding requested for this grant:**

**Is your proposed project new or existing?**

New  Existing  Existing, with incremental impact

**Input grant period in number of months.**

**Will your project impact Californians?**

Yes  No

**Were students involved in developing this proposal and/or will they be involved in the execution if funded?**

Yes  No

**If yes, please expand. (150 words)**



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Select which focus area your project would address. Select all that apply

- Efforts that scale and increase higher education and workforce development programming for incarcerated women. Projects should improve post-release opportunities and reduce recidivism, which can include but is not limited to:
  - Implementing and scaling gender-responsive curricula that address the unique needs and challenges faced by incarcerated women.
  - Increasing vocational training opportunities in high-demand fields, ensuring that women gain skills that are relevant to the current job market.
  - Incorporating life skills training, including financial literacy, parenting, and relationship management.
  - Establishing ongoing partnerships and memorandums with educational institutions and employers to facilitate gender-specific post-release education and employment opportunities.
  - Incorporating counseling, mentorship, and other support services to address issues such as trauma, substance abuse, and mental health as part of the educational curricula.
- Multigenerational programming that supports the children of incarcerated individuals and prevents the school-to-prison pipeline. Efforts can include but are not limited to:
  - Addressing trauma and mental health needs of children of incarcerated parents
  - Maintaining the parent/child bond during incarceration
  - Supporting the caregivers/guardians of the children of incarcerated parents
  - Offering mentorship programs geared toward college access and success for students with incarcerated parents.
  - Providing workforce development opportunities for youth and young adults with incarcerated parents
- Efforts focused on increasing higher education retention and completion rates for individuals in prison and individuals being released from prison, which includes:



# 2024 Smart Justice Michelson Spark Grant

- Bridging support during a person's release from prison to ensure continuity and completion of a person's higher education journey.
- Leveraging the talent and experience of incarcerated graduates in ongoing higher education in prison programs.
  - Creating paid tutoring, mentoring, fellowship, and research opportunities for higher education in prison program alumni.
- Workforce development efforts focused on engaging, educating, and partnering with employers to create job opportunities for systems-impacted individuals.
  - Reducing the stigma of hiring systems impacted individuals
  - Creating more streamlined and equitable hiring practices that open the door for onboarding systems impacted individuals.

**Please provide an overview of the project you are proposing including the amount of funding requested and usage of funds. Be sure to include which population(s) would be impacted by the grant. Please also include a proposed timeline for grant usage. (500 word max)**



# 2024 **Smart Justice** Michelson Spark Grant

**Describe the three (3) metrics or Key Performance Indicators (KPIs) you are measuring as part of this project to gauge success of this program below.**

**Does your project have the potential to impact public policy? If so, how?  
(200 words max)**

**Please upload any related documents you would like us to review.**



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*The following questions allow us to learn about how your staff reflects the population you serve.*

**What percentage of the population you serve is BIPOC?**

<25%  25-49%  50-74%  75-100%  Choose not to disclose

**What percentage of the population you serve is LGBTQIA+?**

<25%  25-49%  50-74%  75-100%  Choose not to disclose

**What percentage of the population you serve is system impacted? System impacted includes people affected in a negative way by their incarceration or of a close relative as well as those who have been arrested and/or convicted without incarceration.**

<25%  25-49%  50-74%  75-100%  Choose not to disclose

**What percentage of the population you serve is economically disadvantaged?**

<25%  25-49%  50-74%  75-100%  Choose not to disclose

**We welcome any comments or explanation about the demographic of the population you serve.**

**Is it important for you to receive grant funding within the accelerated turnaround of the Spark Grant program? If so, why? (100 words max)**



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How did you hear about this grant opportunity?

- Michelson 20MM Website  Previous familiarity with Michelson 20MM  
 Email Outreach  Direct Referral from a Michelson 20MM Partner  
 Article/blog post  Social Media  Other

Did you meet with the Program Manager prior to submitting this LOI?  
While not required we encourage you to share your idea with our Program Manager in advance for insights as to whether or not your proposal is aligned with our funding priorities. ([Schedule a meeting here](#)).

- Yes  No

How many hours did this LOI take to prepare and submit?

On average, how long does it take for your organization to receive a response from other funders on grant proposals?

Would you like to be added to the following mailing lists? Select all that apply.

- Michelson Spark Grants  Smart Justice Initiative Updates  
 General Michelson 20MM Foundation

Is there anything else you would like to tell us related to your proposal?

