

Now Open: Dr. Frank E. Boston Black Justice Fund

HealthSpark Foundation is now accepting grant applications to support positive storytelling, leadership development, and community building by and for Black communities in Montgomery County.

We are accepting applications to the Dr. Frank E. Boston Black Justice Fund, now through March 18, 2022.

The Dr. Frank E. Boston Black Justice Fund addresses the historical exclusion of Black leaders and Black community-serving organizations from tackling the challenges and opportunities facing Montgomery County residents. In honor of its namesake Dr. Frank E. Boston, a Black medical doctor and social entrepreneur who created a hospital and ambulance corps in Lansdale nearly a century ago, the Fund invests in emerging Black leaders in Montgomery County, supports positive storytelling of Black communities across the County, and builds community infrastructure and power in Black communities to advance justice and liberation for all County residents.

"The Community Action Team of the Dr. Frank E. Boston Fund recognized that justice and power were inextricably linked and for us to create a Fund focusing on justice in the Black community in Montgomery County, it was vitally important to lift up power," writes Chinwe Onyekere, HealthSpark's Director of Equity and Inclusion. [Read her full post here.](#)

Who is eligible to apply? Eligible applicants to the Dr. Frank E. Boston Black Justice Fund must meet the following criteria:

- Be a viable 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization or have a fiscal sponsor.
- Be Black-led and/or Black-serving. Funding decisions will prioritize self-identified Black-led organizations.
- Serve Montgomery County.
- Focus on power-building, leadership development, and/or positive storytelling in the Black community in Montgomery County.

Our hope is to support organizations that have been excluded from government and philanthropic funding programs in the past. We strongly encourage any interested organization, individual, civic group, or neighborhood group to reach out to us for help in applying if they are interested in doing so. Please see below for more information on ways to connect. Detailed information on Fund's purpose, a copy of the grant application questions, the application scoring rubric, and information on how to apply online are all available on our [website](#).

How do I find out more or get help applying?

The members of the Dr. Frank E. Boston Community Action Team will be spreading the word on the Fund, answering questions, and conducting outreach to potential grant applicants from now through March. We are hosting a web-based Community Conversation on the Fund on Tuesday, February 8, 1-2pm ([register here](#)). This conversation with the Community Action Team members will provide more background on the Fund and its purpose in the community, how to apply, and the technical assistance and other supports available to organizations that are interested in applying but may be new to applying for grants or would like additional support throughout the process.

Community Action Team members will be hosting other community-based outreach events over the next two months- more will be shared as those events are scheduled. If you'd like to suggest a particular venue, event, or organization for our members to reach out to, we welcome those suggestions- please email Chinwe at the following email. Questions on the Fund can be directed to Chinwe Onyekere, conyekere@healthspark.org.

Dr. Frank E. Boston was the founder of the Elm Terrace Hospital, later renamed the Lansdale Hospital. The sale of the Lansdale Hospital in 2001 funded the endowment for HealthSpark Foundation (then called the North Penn Community Health Foundation). Dr. Boston is relatively unknown locally despite his immense contributions to our community. HealthSpark Foundation would like to acknowledge and thank The Boston Legacy Foundation for their work to document the legacy of Dr. Boston and bring his name and contributions to a regional and national audience. For more information on Dr. Boston and efforts to share his story, please visit <https://bostonlegacyfoundation.org/>.

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