

## **The FCDC Spero Fund: Frequently Asked Questions (FAQ)**

- What is the Spero Fund?
  - The Abe and Lilyan Spero Fund is a **grant-giving program** established in memory of Abe and Lilyan Spero to support projects that encourage Fairfax youth to register, vote for, and support Democratic candidates running for public office to represent Fairfax County voters. The married couple were lifelong Democrats who gave their time, energy, and resources to electing Democrats, achieving social justice, and ensuring that democratic principles guide government at every level. The Fund is administered by the Fairfax County Democratic Committee (FCDC).
  
- Who is eligible for a grant?
  - Any Democrat who lives, works, or studies in Fairfax County may apply:
    - in their own behalf, for a project they intend to carry out on their own, or
    - on behalf of a group planning a team project.
  - *Neither FCDC nor its committees or constituent bodies are eligible for grants under this program.* However, FCDC members may apply in their own right for projects they intend to carry out themselves, or in collaboration with others, independently from FCDC.
  
- How do I apply?
  - Applications may be submitted online via executable form; by email; or in printed form. Click the desired version below:
    - Online executable form
    - Printable PDF version
    - Microsoft Word version
  
- How much money do Spero grants convey?
  - Grants may cover all or a portion of an eligible project.
  - There is no minimum grant amount, but grants may not exceed \$2,000 (two thousand dollars) in total, per applicant or project, per year. Furthermore, the Fund is limited to issuing no more than \$5,000 in grants in total, per year.
  
- What kinds of projects are eligible?

- Any project that, in the Fund's estimation, offers a reasonable prospect of engaging effectively with Fairfax youth may be considered for funding.
  - Among projects that have received Spero funding are, for example: social media GOTV campaigns; training for volunteers; conference support.
- I have a project idea. Before filing an application, how can I make sure it meets basic criteria for consideration?
  - You may seek guidance from the Spero Fund at any time by writing to [spero@fairfaxdemocrats.org](mailto:spero@fairfaxdemocrats.org). (Note: Any informal guidance the Fund may provide does not constitute assurance that a grant will be issued. An award decision can be made only after evaluating a formal application.)
- What if I don't spend all the funds awarded?
  - Grantees must return to the Fund any unexpended grant monies. Contact [spero@fairfaxdemocrats.org](mailto:spero@fairfaxdemocrats.org) for instructions on how to do so.
- Where can I get additional information?
  - You can get additional information by contacting the Spero Fund Committee at [spero@fairfaxdemocrats.org](mailto:spero@fairfaxdemocrats.org).