



## Request for Proposals

# Young Mothers in Movements Research

The Children's Rights Innovation Fund (CRIF) is seeking a team of 2-3 Researchers/ Writer-facilitators, informed by a narrative worldview, for a participatory research project with young mothers that are involved in feminist, children and youth focussed movement work (including but not limited to LGBTQIA+ rights, climate justice, sexual and reproductive health rights, youth development and access to education). The project will take place in four specific regions in East Africa..

**Proposal due date: December 6<sup>th</sup> 2022, 5PM Pacific Standard time**

## About CRIF

The Children's Rights Innovation Fund (CRIF) is a collective challenge to reinvigorate and transform the global children's rights field by building power with children and youth activists and their allies. As a space for shared risk, provocative inquiry, and experimental grantmaking, CRIF is an open invitation for funders to learn alongside youth activists and allies, invest directly in their leadership and vision, and leverage collective resources and momentum. The realization of children's rights depends fundamentally on confronting the root causes of their vulnerability—including racism, anti-Blackness, colonialism, and other systemic oppressions—and strengthening the root drivers of their wellbeing.

## Project Overview

### Why young mothers?

Anecdotally, we know that young mothers are already engaged in movements and social change efforts, and yet their presence is often obscured and their needs too often unmet in those spaces. This project builds on the existence of that leadership and offers them a platform to forefront their leadership and needs.

This project is deeply informed by the vulnerability of young mothers, particularly those with children under the age of 3. It is well documented that they are among the most vulnerable to pandemics, most likely to have been pushed out of school, to be excluded from critical opportunities to





provide for themselves and their children, to be sexually exploited by direct consequence of their motherhood, and to experience repeated sexualized and gendered violence.

This project is also informed by their resourcefulness and the potential power of their collective; and the clear call that they deserve better than what they receive. Not only do they need support to build their capacities to care for themselves and their children; they deserve the opportunity to critically challenge the systemic harms they face, to build networks of support, to collectivize to meet their needs, and to enhance the platforms where their concerns can be voiced and addressed— to build their power.

## Approach

The aim of the project is to collaborate with the young women to develop collective narrative documents that can in turn be witnessed by and engaged with, by other women in other regions.

Upon completion of such review and validation by the women themselves, the learnings from this project will then inform subsequent grantmaking, awareness-building and advocacy strategies that recognise the power, resilience, hopes, strengths and challenges of the young women. It will do so by bringing forth stories, co-written by young mothers, about their experiences, strengths and hopes, to spark conversations in philanthropic, humanitarian aid and global development about the presence, agency and needs of young mothers and their children.

## Scope of Work

1. **Interviews:** In each region, conduct individual and small group interviews with young mothers involved in movement work. This involves recording/ transcription/ note taking.
2. **Editing:** Condense multiple individual narratives into collective narrative documents
3. **Facilitation:** Holding space in groups for outsider witnessing. This also involves recording/ transcription/ note taking with consent
4. **Writing:** Final project report as per mutually agreed upon format
5. Regular update calls/ communications with CRIF, as per mutually agreed upon timeline.





## Criteria

CRIF prefers to work with Consultants that are representative of the communities that will be most reflected in this research. We encourage consultants/teams that include young people (up to age 30), people from the Global South, and black, indigenous, and other people of color to apply. **For this research, we particularly encourage those who identify (currently, or have in the past identified) as young mothers from East Africa to apply.**

### Essential

- Demonstrated research and writing experience
- Trauma-informed approach
- Demonstrated facilitation experience
- Open mindedness and active listening skills
- Knowledge about the local cultural context
- Swahili/ Makhuwa speaking

### Desirable

- Experience with/training in narrative practice with groups

## Proposal Requirements

Interested parties should send a letter of interest that includes the following:

1. Letter of interest mentioning your response to the proposal
2. Outline of relevant/ similar work (outline/video links/ article links)
3. Clear mention of qualification as per the suitability criteria mentioned above.

## Timeline & Budget

**Timeline:** January 2023 – July 2023

**Budget:** USD 30,000 (CRIF will cover direct costs related to child and youth participation and travel)

## Contact

Applications should be sent to **Juhi Jha** ([juhi@crifund.org](mailto:juhi@crifund.org)) by **6th December 2022**. Please feel free to reach out also if you have additional questions.

