



## **2025 Convening: The Seeds of Sovereignty | Call for Proposals**

Grantmakers for Southern Progress invites session proposals for our 2025 Convening. This year's theme is The Seeds of Sovereignty, honoring the history of movement work rooted in the rural South and highlighting strategies that build structural change through rural Southern leadership. Our Convening will create a space where issues impacting folks in rural communities across the region will be taken seriously, and the voices of rural organizers and funders will be heard.

We seek proposals that align with our focus on rural power building across racial, economic, and climate justice, worker rights, infrastructure and resource access, rural healthcare, and other critical issues. We encourage submissions that center the voices of rural organizers, foster collaboration between philanthropy and community, and inspire actionable change. Email any questions to [info@g4sp.org](mailto:info@g4sp.org).

### **Timeline:**

- Call for Proposals Opens: February 19, 2025
- Submission Deadline: April 2, 2025
- Decision Notification Window: Late June/Early July

### **Proposal Framing:**

As you are crafting your answers to the questions below, here are some perspectives you might consider:

- Sessions should highlight and foster collaboration between funder and practitioner presenters. Each session should have funder representation, and we encourage representation by practitioners.
- How does your session center the experiences and leadership of rural communities, particularly communities of color? How does your session elevate rural voices and foster an inclusive, justice-centered dialogue
- How do you plan on engaging with and moving the primarily funder audience to action at the Convening?
- Who is the intended audience for your session? (e.g., rural organizers, funders, policy advocates, etc.)
- What innovative or collaborative strategies will your session highlight?

### **Helpful Hints:**

- We recommend compiling your responses in a separate document and copying them into Microsoft Forms when you are ready to submit. A PDF of the information required can be found at [g4sp.org/CFP2025](https://g4sp.org/CFP2025)

## Submission Requirements

1. Working Session Title  
*A clear and compelling title that reflects the topic and content of your session*
2. Working Session Description  
*Provide a concise summary (150–200 words) of your session's content and purpose.*
3. Session Designer Name
4. Session Designer Email
5. Session Designer Email Confirmation
6. If you have any co-presenters for this session, please list their name, role, and email address. *You do not need to have all presenters confirmed at the time of submission. If selected, GSP kindly asks that all presenters are confirmed by mid-May.*
7. Designate the area(s) of focus for your session.
  - Racial Justice
  - Economic Justice
  - Worker Rights
  - Infrastructure and Resource Access
  - Rural Healthcare
  - Other (please specify)
8. Who is the intended audience for your session?

- a. Funders
  - b. Rural Organizers
  - c. Policy Advocates
  - d. Other (please specify)
9. What is the geographic focus for the conversation? What state or local communities will be highlighted?
10. Share your strategy for presenting the topic, engaging attendees, and fostering meaningful dialogue. (250 word limit) *Please include your session format (panel, interactive workshop, case study, roundtable discussion, etc.)*
11. How much time will your session require?
- 60 minutes
  - 90 minutes
12. Please list 2-3 specific goals for your session. What can attendees expect to experience in your session?
13. How does your session address the structural barriers faced by rural communities? Detail how your session unpacks systemic challenges and proposes actionable solutions. (250-word limit)
14. Please list the Calls to Action that you will pose during your session. *What are you looking to achieve with this session? What are the key takeaways for attendees? (250-word limit)*
15. What resources, tools, or materials will you provide attendees? *Specify any materials that participants can take away to apply in their work. (250-word limit)*
16. What is the ideal room set-up for your session? *GSP will make every effort to accommodate reasonable requests (furniture set, flipcharts, speakers, etc.) Final room set-ups will be communicated with plenty of advance notice.*

17. Optional: Please share the link to 1-2 artifacts that highlight past speaking opportunities (video links, sessions decks, or other collateral).

**Not required to complete your submission:**

18. Optional: Are you interested in engaging with the 2025 Convening in other ways (event sponsorship, event promotion, etc.)?