

Support Request Toolkit for Youth and Students

Hello! We are so excited that you're interested in attending Creating Change 2026. Young people are the future of our movement, and our goal is to make the conference as accessible as possible for you. This toolkit offers sample ideas and scripts you can use to request support from your community, schools, organizations, friends, and family. You don't need to use everything. Choose the format that feels most comfortable and authentic to you. We cannot wait to see you in January at Creating Change 2026!

Getting Started

Asking for support can feel daunting or even scary sometimes. But it's important to remember that there are people on your side who want to help! Below are some tips to help get you started.

1. Start by identifying potential sources of support. Who are the people in your life who would be open to supporting your development and leadership skills? This can be family (blood or chosen), friends, clubs or organizations that serve youth, and trusted adults in your school or place of worship.
2. Make sure you have a secure platform to receive donations. Whether this is a GoFundMe or a personal account like AppleCash or Venmo, make sure your account is set-up and ready to receive donations before you send out your requests.
3. Make it personal! The templates below are just a jumping off point. You are welcome to add your voice and your story. People give to people, not just causes.
4. When requesting financial support, be as specific as possible. People want to understand where their money is going when they donate. Always include how much you need, what it is going toward, and by when you need it.
5. Always follow-up with your supporters. Post public thank-yous and send personal messages to donors.
6. Above all, please stay safe. Only share what you're comfortable with. If you don't want to post publicly, lean on letters, emails, and private asks.

Ok, now for the templates.

Letter of Support Template

→ **When to use:** If you want your school, college, or an organization to sponsor you.

→ **How to use:**

1. Copy and past the template below onto a word document or email draft.
2. Fill in the blanks (your name, costs, the school/organization name, etc.). *Make sure you read the letter thoroughly and so you don't miss any of these important points!*
3. Email it to your principal, advisor, or program director. For a more personal touch, you can always print it, sign it, and hand it in directly.
4. Always follow up! Ask if they need more information, and check back in a week if you don't hear back.

Subject: Request to Attend Creating Change 2026

Dear **(Principal/Dean/Advisor/Program Director, etc. name)**,

I am writing to request your support in attending [Creating Change 2026](#), the largest annual organizing and skills-building conference for the LGBTQ+ movement, presented by the National LGBTQ Task Force. Creating Change offers young people the opportunity to develop leadership skills, create crucial connections, and engage in the complex social issues facing our communities.

Creating Change 2026 will be held in Washington D.C. from January 21-25, 2026.

Why Creating Change?

Right now, it's a difficult and sometimes frightening time to be a young LGBTQ+ person. Across the country, there are growing political and social challenges to our safety and rights. But moments like this also challenge me to not only protect what we have, but also to build a future that is more just and compassionate.

Creating Change brings together thousands of LGBTQ+ people and allies from all over the country for training, community building, and strategy sharing. By attending, I will:

- Learn concrete skills to advocate for change in my **(school, club, program, etc)**, community, and beyond.
- Build connections with other young leaders facing similar challenges across the nation.
- Gain inspiration and strategies from people who have been doing this work for decades.

I want to take what I learn and share it with our community here at **(School/Organization Name)**, whether that's through leading workshops, helping shape policies, or organizing student projects that make our environment safer and more welcoming.

Estimated Costs:

Here is an estimate of the costs associated with attending Creating Change 2026:

- **Conference Registration:**
- **Airfare:**
- **Transportation (in D.C.):**
- **Hotel:**
- **Meals:**

Total Estimated Expense Request: _____

Your support could make it possible for me to represent our community at this critical time, and to come back better equipped to meet the challenges we are facing.

Thank you for considering my request. I would be glad to share more about the conference and my plans for turning what I learn into action here at home.

Sincerely,
(Your Name)

Static Social Media Post Template

→ **When to use:** If you want to reach family, friends, and your community online.

→ **How to use:**

1. Start by creating a graphic for your post. You can use the graphic templates included in this toolkit, or you can create your own.
2. Once your graphic is ready, copy and paste the sample text below.
3. Add your donation link (Venmo, CashApp, GoFundMe, etc.)
4. You can also include additional photos of yourself or something that inspires you.
5. Ask people to donate + share.
6. Post more than once! People often need reminders. Try once a week leading up to the conference.

Slide 1: Right now, it is a difficult and frightening time to be a young LGBTQ+ person in America. But I know that my voice is powerful, and I believe that voices like mine are needed more than ever. **So, I am asking for your help.**

Slide 2: In January 2026, I hope to attend Creating Change, the largest LGBTQ+ leadership conference in the country. It's a place to learn skills, build community, and prepare for the challenges we're facing.

Slide 3: Attending Creating Change is an opportunity to develop leadership skills, build crucial connections with young professionals and leaders, and engage in the complex issues facing our communities.

Slide 4: The cost to attend (travel, hotel, registration, meals) is **(\$\$\$)**. I need your help to make this possible. You can support me by:

- Donating directly via (Venmo/PayPal/CashApp link)
- Sharing this post with others who care about LGBTQ+ youth

Slide 5: Thank you for believing in me and other young people like me. We're ready to create change, but we can't do it alone.

Tik Tok/Reel Version

- **When to use:** If you're comfortable being on camera. Videos get more engagement than text posts.
- **How to use:**
 1. Record yourself using the sample script. Feel free to make it your own!
 2. Add text on screen for the key info (Creating Change 2026, dates, amount needed, etc.).
 3. End by directly asking: "*Please donate or share.*" Clear calls to action work best.
 4. Post to TikTok, Instagram Reels, or Facebook Stories.

"Hey friends. I have something exciting to share. Right now, LGBTQ+ rights are being challenged in ways that can feel really scary. But I believe young people like me have the power and responsibility to push change forward. Despite how overwhelming everything feels right now, I want to do something about it.

That's why I'm hoping to attend Creating Change in January 2026, the biggest LGBTQ+ leadership conference in the country. I'll be learning advocacy skills, meeting other young leaders, and bringing that knowledge back home. This is an opportunity for me to engage with the issues that are deeply affecting us all.

This is where you come in. The cost to get there is (\$\$\$), and I need your help. Any donation, big or small, or even sharing this video, can help me make it happen. You can donate by (clicking the link in bio/directly via venmo/applecash/etc.) Thank you for believing in me and other young people like myself. I'm ready to create change but I can't do it alone.