

# MERIDIAN *Foundation*

*This PDF document provides all the required questions for the Meridian Foundation's 2023 Arago Honors. All applications must be completed and submitted through the Google Form on the Indy Meridian Foundation's website.*

## Organization Information Pt. 1

- Organization Name
- Organization's Legal Name (if different)
- Year founded
- Address
- Phone Number
- Website
- Contact first and last name
- Contact Email
- Contact Phone
- Name of Executive Director/CEO
- Name of Board Chair
- # Paid Staff (FTE) (Will be used to sort application)

## Organization Information Pt. 2

1. How many volunteers engaged with your organization and approximate for how many hours during the last fiscal year?
2. What is the organization's mission statement?
3. Briefly explain the primary services the organization offers. (5,000 character limit; around 1,000 words)
4. In the context of nonprofit lifecycle and capacity, briefly explain the stage of your nonprofit. (5,000 character limit; around 1,000 words)
5. Can you address if your innovation is designed to incrementally improve an existing body of work or is it a brand -new idea disrupting an entire sector? (5,000 character limit: 1,000 words)

## Organization Financial Information

1. Annual Operating Budget
2. Endowment Value or NA
3. Last Year of CPA Audit or Financial Review
4. Percent of Board Members Contributing to Organization

## Nominated Project or Program Information

- Project or Program Name
- Date Innovation began
- Date innovation received significant start-up funding (2018 or later)
- Geographic Area Served
- Select the appropriate focus area(s) your project addresses—arts, education, environment, food, housing, health and well- being, transportation, workforce development and/or social capital or other\_\_\_\_\_. You may select three areas.
- High-level description of project or program (1,250 character limit; around 250 words)
- What is the community problem your innovation seeks to improve? (1,250 character limit; around 250 words)
- How does the individual or team managing this innovation project embody (DEI) diversity, equity, or Inclusion? (1,250 character limit: around 250 words)

Narrative for Nomination: In the responses below, please reflect on this innovation definition and share how in your specific program---

*Nonprofit Innovation is a creative break in practice, large or small, solving a community problem.*

1. **Description:** What was new or distinctive in your program and how is it different from what others are doing? What obstacles have been overcome by the innovation? (2,500 character limit; 500 words)
2. **Impact:** What has changed in the lives of individuals, families, the organization, or the community because of the innovation? How has this program made a difference? How do you know? How are the lives of program participants better? (2,500 character limit; 500 words)
3. **Replicability:** Within the context of the field that the organization operates, how is the identified innovation cutting edge? Could it serve as a model of inspiration for other community- based organizations? (2,500 character limit; 500 words)
4. **Partners:** While partnerships are not required for innovation, there is evidence that stronger networks share risk, share responsibilities, and increase rewards. Describe how partners with financial, relationship and/or program resources have individually or collectively contributed to your successful innovative project. (2,500 character limit; 500 words)

5. **Sustainability:** Address how either your nonprofit's sustainability or program's sustainability are better positioned because of the innovation? Were additional resources needed to launch the innovation? Briefly share the journey of identifying, securing, and using start-up funding? Is there funder interest in the innovation? (3,000 character limit; 600 words)

### Attachments:

IRS 501c3 Designation Letter

Budget for Program Nominated