

Focus Grant 2022 – Sample Application

2022 Focus Grant Cycle 1 Application

The 2022 Focus Grant Cycle 1 application will be open from Tuesday, February 15, 2022 until Thursday, March 31, 2022 at midnight. Cycle 1 grant decisions will be announced by June 15, 2022.

Focus Grant Program

You are requesting a Focus Grant from the Community Foundation for Southwest Washington. Focus Grants are awarded to organizations that can clearly demonstrate how they are impacting intergenerational poverty in a meaningful way. The average range of a Focus Grant is \$25,000 - \$50,000.

To be eligible for funding, applicant organizations must meet the following criteria:

- Be located in or serve specific populations in Clark, Cowlitz or Skamania counties
- Qualify as tax-exempt under Section 501(c)3 of the Internal Revenue code or have a fiscal agent that is an established 501(c)3; or a government or tribal agency, school or religious organization
- Have programs or projects that are deeply aligned with our equitable [grantmaking framework](#) and [community impact lens](#) to disrupt the cycle of intergenerational poverty

Before you apply, we encourage you to reach out to a member of our Program Team (Maka Gibson, Regional Cowlitz Program Officer, maka@cfsww.org; Esra Khalil, Regional Clark and Skamania Program Officer, esra@cfsww.org)

Note: We do not fund debt reduction, endowments, parent teacher associations or booster clubs.

Proposals should present a strong case for support. To read more about our funding priorities and grant guidelines, please visit <https://www.cfsww.org/nonprofits/grant-programs-2/> before filling out this grant application. Before you apply, we encourage you to reach out to a member of our Program Team (Maka Gibson, Regional Cowlitz Program Officer, maka@cfsww.org; Esra Khalil, Regional Clark and Skamania Program Officer, esra@cfsww.org).

Please note that the Foundation may be in touch during the application review process to request additional information to get further clarity about your grant request. If you have any questions, please email us at Maka Gibson, Regional Cowlitz Program Officer, maka@cfsww.org, or Esra Khalil, Regional Clark and Skamania Program Officer, esra@cfsww.org.

Let's get to know you!

- First Name
- Last Name
- Email
- Email Confirmation

Basic Information

- Applicant Organization Name
 - Please use the organization's legal name here, per your IRS nonprofit designation letter.
- Tax Status – select one:
 - 501(c)(3) nonprofit
 - Government (includes public schools) or tribal agency
 - Church/religious organization
 - Not a nonprofit organization, we have a fiscal sponsor
 - Other
- Tax ID #/EIN
 - Do not include the hyphen. For example, 911246778. If you're using a fiscal sponsor, enter the Tax ID/EIN of your fiscal sponsor.
- Date of Incorporation (MM/YYYY)
- Street Address
- City
- State
- Zip Code
- Is your mailing address different from your street address? (Yes/No)
- Mailing Address (If different than Street Address)
 - City
 - State
 - Zip Code
- Main Phone
- Website Address

Personnel

- Executive Director
- Executive Director Email
- Primary Contact Name
 - The primary contact should be directly involved with this grant application and the program you are requesting funds for.
- Primary Contact Title
- Primary Contact Email
- Total Number of Paid Staff (FTE)

Organization Profile

- What is your annual operating budget? Select one:
 - Less than \$250,000
 - Between \$250,000 - \$499,999
 - Between \$500,000 - \$999,999
 - Greater than \$1 Million
- Please share your organization's mission statement and history of serving southwest Washington.

We recognize that intergenerational poverty is not experienced equally among communities. Describe how your core programs are designed to address the root causes of intergenerational poverty and how your programming is reducing disparities in priority populations.

- Please share an example(s) of how your organization proactively promotes equity, diversity and inclusion in your work and if your organization has specific policies that take equity into mind.

The Community Foundation is committed to the values of equity, diversity and inclusion, and actively strives to support these efforts locally and regionally. We approach this work with humility and seek to partner with organizations that are committed to addressing disparities in their organizations and in our community. We recognize there exists a continuum of opportunity and experience organizations have to promote and practice equity. Our intention here is to have a greater understanding of where your organization is on this continuum. We understand equity is valued by our community, but we are hoping to gain a deeper understanding of how your organization is operationalizing equity with specific examples, not necessarily broader language defining what equity is or citing of standard non-discrimination language. Examples include, but are not limited, to any culturally-specific/relevant programming offered; plans to outreach to priority populations or historically under-resourced populations; project location in communities lacking critical infrastructure or near culturally-specific businesses/services; and/or diversity or cultural competency initiatives within your organization.

- Does your organization actively practice non-discrimination for both staff and clients? Please explain. Also, see our Non-Discrimination Policy: <https://www.cfsww.org/nonprofits/grant-programs-2/#nondisc>

Grant Request Overview

We invest in the following community impact areas related to intergenerational poverty:

Basic Human Needs: Efforts to meet the basic needs of underserved individuals, families and communities

Educational Attainment: Efforts to provide equitable educational opportunities

Asset Building: Efforts to improve the financial health of people and communities facing the biggest barriers to economic mobility

- Which of these areas does the work you are requesting funding for most closely align?
Select one:
 - Basic Human Needs
 - Educational Attainment
 - Asset Building

- Please select up to three areas of focus that describe your grant request.
 - Affordable Housing
 - Arts
 - Animal Welfare
 - Behavioral/Mental Health
 - Child Advocacy and Foster Care Supports
 - Community Development
 - Disability Services
 - Disaster Relief
 - Domestic Violence
 - Early Childhood Education
 - Economic Development
 - Education – K-12
 - Education – Post-Secondary
 - Equity and Support for Historically Under-Resourced Communities
 - Environmental Justice
 - Financial Literacy
 - Food Security
 - Homelessness
 - Health and Wellness
 - Humanities – library, museum, cultural, public broadcast
 - Immigrant/Refugee Services
 - Legal Services
 - Other
 - Other Basic Needs (clothing, personal/household items, technology, transportation)
 - Organizational Development (staff development, capacity building)
 - Public Policy
 - Senior Citizen Services
 - Small Business/Leadership Development
 - Veterans and Military
 - Wraparound Services
 - Youth Development/Mentor Programs

- If you selected Equity and Support for Historically Under-Resourced Communities, is your organization led by members of the historically under-resourced community targeted by this grant?

- If you selected Organizational Development, please select at least one other area of focus describing your organization’s overall mission.

- If you selected Other, please specify.

- Is your organization led by a person who identifies as Black, Indigenous, Latina/o/x, Native Hawaiian, Pasifika, or Communities of Color? If yes, please elaborate.

- Which priority population(s) does your organization and program/project serve? Select all that apply.
 - Black
 - Indigenous
 - Latino/a/x
 - Native Hawaiian
 - Pasifika
 - Communities of Color
 - Foster youth and young adults who have aged out of the foster care system
 - Immigrants and/or Refugees
 - Historically under-resourced communities or communities lacking critical infrastructure
 - People with behavioral health issues
 - People with disabilities (developmental, intellectual, neurodivergent, physical)
 - People living on low incomes
 - People who identify as LGBTQ2S+
 - People who are unstably housed/unhoused
 - Rural and distressed communities
 - Survivors of domestic violence, gender violence, and/or child abuse
 - Other

- Program/project title

- Please provide a brief description (1-2 sentences) of your request and how Community Foundation funds will be used.

- Which counties will your grant request serve? Select one:
 - Clark
 - Cowlitz
 - Skamania
 - All

Grant Request Narrative

- Describe the program(s) for which you are requesting funding.

Please include a description of the population(s) being served, how you used community input to identify need, how your approach will equitably address that need and reduce disparities, and details about your service delivery model (e.g., culturally-specific/culturally-responsive services, use of best practices, staff experience, etc.). Please also provide an overview of your key outcomes and the primary activities your organization will undertake to achieve those outcomes. Additionally, we are interested in learning how you engage relevant partners and/or participate in collaboration strategies.

- What is the intended impact of this program/work? This could be on the organization itself, your clients and/or for the community as a whole (e.g., practices, policies, systems).

Please include the estimated number of clients or community members who will be served/impacted by this program/work.

- Please share how your organization conducts culturally-specific outreach to the communities you intend to serve.

We seek to support organizations that are elevating the expertise and influence of people experiencing poverty and ensuring people disproportionately affected by poverty have a direct say in the strategies and recommendations from which they stand to benefit. What efforts has your organization made to engage the voices, perspectives and expertise of the clients/communities you serve in the development, implementation and evaluation of your work (e.g., feedback loops, engagement of those with lived experiences, etc.)? Include any challenges or opportunities you see here.

Funding Sources

- Please list all other funding sources and amounts for which you are seeking funding, including foundations, government agencies, businesses and in-kind support. Include whether this funding is confirmed, pending or planned.
- If your organization is awarded a Focus Grant, how will you sustain the proposed activities or build on what you hope to achieve after the grant period?

Financial Attachments and Narrative

All applicant organizations are required to submit organizational financial statements.

If you are headquartered outside of southwest Washington, please submit a southwest Washington program/project specific budget.

- Please attach a copy of the organization's annual operating budget showing projected revenue and expenses for your current fiscal year.
- Please attach a copy of the organization's Statement of Activities (also commonly called a Profit & Loss Statement or Income Statement) showing actual revenues and expenses for your most recently completed fiscal year.
- Please attach a copy of the organization's Balance Sheet (also called a Statement of Financial Position) for your most recently completed fiscal year, showing assets and liabilities.
- If you are headquartered outside of southwest Washington, please attach a southwest Washington program/project specific budget, showing revenues and expenses (separately) for the entire project/program period.
- Please provide a financial narrative if you'd like to elaborate on any special financial circumstances, anomalies, or budget assumptions.

Additional Documents

- If needed, use this space to provide introduction or narrative of any downloaded documents to support your grant request.
- Upload any additional information to support your grant request.

- Examples of additional information include: brochures, letters of support, newspaper article, etc.

Applicant Feedback

- How many hours did you spend completing this application?
- The Community Foundation strives to ensure the Focus Grant application is fair and equitable and continues to refine the application to achieve this goal. We welcome any feedback on the application process including any challenges you faced.

Certification

I certify that all information contained in this application is true and correct to the best of my knowledge, and that I am authorized to submit this grant application on behalf of my organization.