

Collective Impact Grant – Investment Focus

Approximately half of UWBG’s annual funding will be reserved for Collective Impact Grants, which are dedicated to the support of our Collective Impact framework. Within this framework, UWBG not only provides significant funding to programs that directly address the most immediate needs of our region’s most underserved communities, but also has established a physical presence in these communities. These physical locations are known as “Waypoint Centers.” Center locations have been strategically chosen to bring meaningful access to critical programming to some of Central Kentucky’s most underserved residents and families. For the 2024-25 grant year, applications will be accepted for programs that are able to operate within and surrounding the following WayPoint Center facilities:

1. Black & Williams Center, 498 Georgetown St., Lexington, KY 40508
2. Marksby Family WayPoint Center at the Historic Palmer Pharmacy, East Fifth Street., Lexington, KY 40508
3. Centro de San Juan Diego, 1389 Alexandria Dr, Lexington, KY 40504
4. Paris-Bourbon County YMCA, 917 Main Street, Paris KY 40361

If programs are unable to serve residents and families within the aforementioned Centers, they are still eligible to receive funding via the Collective Impact Grant – as long as they serve residents and families within specific, targeted census tracts (which are the U.S. Census equivalent of neighborhoods).

When applying to become a Collective Impact Grant recipient from UWBG, an agency is also applying to enter into a partnership among agencies who have agreed to work closely together to leverage their strengths to affect change on a community-wide level. Programs that plan to have a physical presence in and around the aforementioned Centers via the Collective Impact Grant should operate within at least one of the following issue areas:

- I. Family Financial Stability: Center-based programming will include financial counseling (budget, savings, money management, and debt), income tax assistance, debt relief, access to mainstream banking products, asset building, and small business lending.
- II. Access to Health Care: Special emphasis on opioid use disorder services, mental health services, and connections to insurance products for the uninsured.
- III. Kindergarten Readiness: Centers will serve as the hub of pre-k and childcare improvement services within each community served. Services will include training, continuing education, and certification for caregivers, curriculum implementation for providers, and facility improvement projects for facilities in each community. All trainings, seminars, and classroom activities will take place in-center.
- IV. School Success: Center-based programming will include after-school tutoring (curriculum-based, ACT/SAT, and KPREP), mentoring, safer street initiatives, summer learning loss prevention, and GED prep. Tutoring activities will place an emphasis on grade-level reading and math.
- V. Sustainable Jobs: Training and placement for high-demand jobs that pay a family sustainable wage will be available within each of the three Waypoint Centers. Programming will focus on specific training for select career paths, as well as assessment and referral to partner programs for all other career paths. Programming will also include internship and apprenticeship placement for high school students.

- VI. Miscellaneous: Other areas of programming that are found to be helpful in improving the well-being of families in the targeted census tracts.

All Collective Impact Grant Applications will be scored by an all-volunteer Expert Committee, reviewed by the Community Impact Regional Advisory Council, and approved by the UWBG Board of Directors.

Basic Needs Grants – Investment Focus

Approximately half of UWBG’s annual funding will be reserved as a “Basic Needs Fund” that will provide basic needs services to low-income and underserved residents throughout Central Kentucky. “Basic needs” will include any service that is specifically targeted at low-income and underserved individuals and families, and addresses (**but is not limited to**) one or more of the following:

1. Food
2. Health services (dental, medical, mental)
3. Education (childcare; early childhood, adult, out of school time, parenting)
4. Shelter (emergency, temporary or permanent housing or payment assistance)
5. Financial assistance
6. Clothing, sundries and material goods (ex: coats, smoke detectors, work boots)
7. Domestic violence prevention and protection services
8. Legal services
9. Transportation services

Basic Needs Grants may cover more than listed above. The Fund will support two separate Grants: the Single-County (or “Local”) Basic Needs Grant, and the Multi-County (or “Regional”) Basic Needs Grant.

Single-County Grants will:

1. Go to programs that expect to serve exclusively or primarily residents of a single county.
2. Have a grant request ceiling of \$10,000 per grant year.
3. Compose a total of no more than 25% of the total Basic Needs Fund.
4. Be scored by an all-volunteer Expert Committee, reviewed by the Community Impact Regional Advisory Council, and approved by the UWBG Board of Directors.

Multi-County Grants will:

1. Go to programs that expect to serve the residents of more than one county.
2. Have no grant request ceiling.

3. Compose approximately 75% of the total Basic Needs Fund.
4. Be scored by an all-volunteer Expert Committee, reviewed by the Community Impact Regional Advisory Council, and approved by the UWBG Board of Directors.

Compliance Information

Applicants must also agree to adhere to UWBG's Non-Discrimination Policy and Funding Agreement. The following documentation must be provided on an annual basis, which demonstrates compliance with these requirements:

1. 990: A copy of the most recent 990, or documentation of an exception to the 990 from the IRS (such as in the case of schools or faith-based organizations), must be submitted annually. Forms submitted must not be older than one tax season.
2. Audit/Financial Review/Internal Controls Document: Any funded partner with annual revenues of less than \$1,000,000 is required to submit a document outlining its internal control procedures every year. Any funded partner with annual revenues of over \$1,000,000 is required to submit either a full audit report or financial review each year.
3. Board of Directors Roster: A roster of Board of Directors membership must be submitted annually. Board membership should be diverse in myriad areas, such as: Expertise; race/national origin; gender; age; geography; religion; length of service; client/consumer/stakeholder.

The following information will be required:

Individually (for each board member): Name, County of residence, Industry and or professional expertise, Board term expiration date

Snapshot: Number of members, racial demographics, and gender demographics of the group

4. Operating Budget: A copy of the organization's current annual operating budget must be submitted annually. The budget must be Board-approved and include both revenues and expenditures.

UWBG Non-Discrimination Policy

United Way of the Bluegrass (UWBG) embraces diversity, inclusion, and equal opportunity as core values. In its staffing, volunteer positions, grant-making to agencies, and partnerships resulting in awarded grant funds from private/governmental sources, it will not discriminate against any person or persons based on human characteristics that make us unique as individuals.

United Way of the Bluegrass donor-invested, donor-designated, and awarded grant funds will only be distributed to non-profit human service agencies that:

Afford equal opportunity and equal treatment to all persons in all employment matters and service provision without regard to race, color, religion, gender, gender identity, national origin, age, military or veteran status, sexual orientation, pregnancy, ancestry, disability, or any other protected category

Organizations receiving UWBG grant funding will be required to abide by the terms of this document.

This does not prohibit any agency from operating specific programs based on age, gender or disability designed to meet the special needs of target populations with those characteristics. However, the programs must be open to all people in those targeted populations.

Targeted services are when the nature of the provided service is designed to meet the particular social service needs of a particular population.

Discrimination is when a candidate who would be eligible for the offered service is refused that service due to some predetermined group characteristic.

Any violations of this will be brought to the attention of the United Way of the Bluegrass Board of Directors for evaluation and action.

Application Window:

Applications will open on January 16th 2024 and close on April 5th 2024.

If interested in applying for a grant from United Way of the Bluegrass, please contact Gary Cremeans at grants@uwbg.org.