United Way of the River Cities Community Impact
Grant Funding Policies and Guidelines

The Community Goals and Strategies for Change that drive United Way of the River Cities’ (UWRC) funding are reevaluated every four years using current data and community input.

CURRENT COMMUNITY GOALS:
To create a thriving community, we must:
1. support families and students throughout the entire educational process.
2. help families overcome barriers to opportunity, develop economic mobility and build generational resilience.
3. increase the opportunities for healthy lifestyle choices and promote overall health and wellbeing.

ELIGIBILITY FOR FUNDING
To be eligible to apply for a UWRC grant, a program must:
1. Be coordinated by an incorporated nonprofit organization and has tax-exempt status under the Internal Revenue Service code, unless faith-based (e.g. church).
2. Have a Board of Directors that is an active, representative voluntary governing body, with regular meetings and is responsible for developing its mission, determining its strategic direction and providing oversight.
3. Have up-to-date, current bylaws, or guidelines, by which the organization operates.
4. File an IRS form 990, including schedule A or 990 EZ, or can document the circumstances under which the 990 filing is waived.
5. Be able to provide a current budget for the entire organization.
6. Depending on your annual revenue, be able to submit:
   - ($500,000 or above) Current annual audit
   - ($200,000 - $499,999) Financial review
   - ($199,999 or below) Most-recent Board-approved Fiscal Year-End statement of Financial Position and Statement of Activity comparative to the previous year
   - (Faith-based organizations only) Submit an organizational chart and list of internal controls
7. Located in and serve clients in one or more of the counties in the UWRC service area – Cabell, Wayne, Lincoln, Mason counties in West Virginia and Lawrence County, Ohio.
8. Must be able to provide the number of people served and basic demographic information, including county of residence.
9. Have the mechanisms and capacity for reporting outputs, persons served and/or any required outcome measures.
10. Demonstrate reasonable efficiency in program management and adequacy of resources, both in materials and in personnel (voluntary and paid) to sustain a quality level of service.
11. If a collaborative effort, submit a statement from each identified partner listing their roles and responsibilities in the effort.
**TYPES OF GRANTS**

UWRC regularly funds two types of grants: Impact and Safety-net. Funding policies for both grants include the following:

**All Expenses Must Be**
- Allowable
- Allocable
- Reasonable

**Unallowable expenses**
- Expenses related to applying for United Way funding and for reporting and billing to UWRC
- Alcohol
- Entertainment
- General administrative equipment/supplies
- Sales Tax (except when unavoidable)
- Donations/Lobbying/Fines/Interest

**IMPACT GRANTS**

Impact Grants are awarded every two years to programs that address one the Strategies for Change in the focus areas of health, education, and financial stability. Impact programs are expected to demonstrate, track and report outcomes - a positive change in participants’ knowledge, skills, or behaviors.

The currently identified Strategies for Change within our focus areas are:

**Education**
- Improve family ability to support social and language development in children
- Provide character development and empowerment opportunities for youth (ages 4-24)

**Health**
- Increase access to primary, behavioral, vision & dental health care services
- Increase opportunities for wellness and access to prevention

**Financial Stability**
- Increase support of collaborative, workforce training programs
- Reduce barriers to financial stability including financial literacy education and access to services

**GRANT RANGE:** $7,500 to $35,000

**ALLOWABLE EXPENSES FOR IMPACT FUNDING**
- Necessary to achieve positive outcomes for UWRC identified Strategies for Change
- Indirect costs are limited to 10% of the amount of the grant.*

**SAFETY NET GRANTS FOR BASIC NEEDS**

Safety Net Grants are awarded annually to programs that provide short-term, emergency assistance with Basic Needs.

**GRANT RANGE:** $4,000 to $20,000

**ALLOWABLE EXPENSES FOR SAFETY-NET FUNDING**
- Direct Costs to provide:
  - Clothing
  - Food
  - Infant essentials; *defined as car seats, diapers/wipes, formula/baby food, and safe sleep accommodations*
  - Low- or no-cost healthcare
  - Personal care items
  - Prescription medication
  - Safe shelter
  - Transportation to access any of the above
  - Utilities/rent assistance
- Indirect costs are limited to 10% of the amount of the grant.*

*Indirect costs*: General overhead and administration expenses that support the entire operations of an organization and that may be shared across projects or programs.
UNITED WAY OF THE RIVER CITIES DOES NOT TYPICALLY FUND:

- Arts and culture
- Sports teams and recreation
- Capital campaigns or projects
- Environmental projects or organizations
- Direct religious activities of religious groups or organizations
- Scholarships and individuals

While these causes are important for creating vibrant communities, we can all be proud to call home, they do not fit the focus of UWRC’s Community Impact work. We are happy to share our knowledge with agencies seeking resources in these areas if you would like to contact us for an individual consultation.

However, we welcome any non-profit to use our online volunteer center www.UnitedWeVolunteer.org to recruit, engage and track volunteers.