

COMMUNITY ENRICHMENT GRANT INFORMATION

This Adams County grant provides financial support to nonprofit and publicly supported organizations to operate programs that improve the health, well-being, and self-sufficiency of underserved, marginalized, or vulnerable people living in Adams County. This includes assisting residents with immediate needs or helping them to develop long term stability.

APPLICATION

This is a competitive grant program; no organization is guaranteed funding. Adams County accepts applications for this grant once a year. Only one application per organization will be considered.

Applications must be complete and submitted with all requested supplemental documents by the application deadline to be eligible for review by the grant evaluation committee.

ELIGIBILITY

Organizations with 501(c) status or that are publicly supported are eligible to apply for the grant. A publicly supported organization, according to the IRS, receives a substantial part of its support in the form of contributions from governmental units, and/or the general public. Organizations will need to submit a 501(c) determination letter from the IRS or provide documentation to confirm that the organization meets the definition of a publicly supported entity.

Applicant organizations must be registered with the Colorado Secretary of State and in good standing at the time of application.

Organizations that received a Community Enrichment Grant the previous year must have submitted a grant report by the report deadline to be eligible for the current year's grant.

GRANT CRITERIA

The primary intent is to fund programs and services. Programs must directly serve and demonstrate clear value for Adams County residents. Submitted applications shall justify how the request meets this criterion and how it fits into one or more of the grant focus areas:

- Basic Needs, including housing, food, hygiene, transportation, emergency needs
- Health, including physical, mental and behavioral health
- Youth Services – childcare, out-of-school activities, mentoring
- Education & Workforce Training
- Disability Services

FUNDING REQUESTS

Funding requests must be based on the actual cost to serve Adams County residents. An application shall identify the total number of unduplicated Adams County residents served by a program/service in the last calendar year, the cost per person for that program, and the total cost for all Adams County residents served last year or the percentage of the program costs that originate from Adams County residents.

Administrative, operational, or overhead costs can be considered if these costs are tied directly to serving Adams County residents, and the costs are pro-rated based on the program/service to Adams County residents. For example, an organization can request funding to provide a service and include the hourly pay of a staff member who works on a program in the request amount if the pay is limited to the amount of time the staff member works with Adams County residents for that specific program.

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The funding must be used within the current calendar year: January 1st through December 31st. The funding will be awarded in the summer; therefore, the funding can be used for costs incurred before the date of the grant agreement but not outside of the calendar year.

UNALLOWABLE COSTS

Grants or loans: The grant shall not be used to establish or fund another grant, loan, or scholarship program.

Advocacy: The grant cannot be used for political campaigns or issue advocacy to any audience

Religious activities: The grant cannot fund services, materials, activities, or staff that promote, support, or provide information on religious or spiritual activities. Religious organizations that want to fund a non-religious program need to have a 501(c)3 established separately from the religious organization for that specific non-religious program to be eligible for this grant.

Organization establishment: The grant shall not be used to fund the cost to establish an organization or fund for-profit business ventures of any kind.

Construction projects: These projects are not possible within the grant time limitations.

Peer groups: Only the hourly costs of a licensed counselor and rent of a space are eligible for this funding.

Food: Food for events, staff, or boards is not a qualified expense. Food pantries and programs that serve people who live in Adams County is an eligible service and purchasing food for the food pantry mission is an allowable expense.

Equipment or vehicles: Costs for equipment or vehicles are not allowable unless the item is strictly used for a program serving Adams County residents. If the equipment/vehicle serves residents in other counties, the cost for the equipment must be pro-rated based on usage for the program/service to Adams County residents. Also, the expenses can only cover the cost for the calendar year (e.g. the cost to rent a printer for a year is eligible).

Certain administrative expenses: Beyond administrative and operational expenses that are not related to a program or an activity that serves Adams County residents, certain expenses are not allowable. These include expenses for fundraising, grant writing, staff travel, team-building activities, entertainment, conferences, any activities for a board or task force, and “miscellaneous” costs or activities. Continue to list these and all other expenses in the financial reports, but do not include as part of the request amount. Marketing, promotions, resource materials are an acceptable expense but are limited to 10% of the total grant request.

Duplicate benefits: This grant is intended to fill a gap in service costs not typically covered by other funding and cannot be used to pay for the exact same cost or resident benefit already paid for from another source of funding, which could come from the federal government, the state of Colorado, cities, or other County departments. The financial reports and budget(s) that are submitted with the application must show all other funding sources for the program and the gap in funding needed/used to serve Adams County residents. To avoid “double-dipping”, an organization that receives another grant for the same purpose as stated in the Community Enrichment Grant application which fully covers the cost to Adams County residents can withdraw from consideration at any point in the grant process or reduce their request to what is needed.