



Community Impact Grants

2023 GRANT GUIDELINES

www.GoldenCivicFoundation.org/Grants

GRANT PROGRAM OVERVIEW

The Golden Civic Foundation's Community Impact Grants fund measurable strategies to make a positive impact on the quality of life and create a better future for residents in our community.

An organization can only apply once a year for only one of the following Community Impact Grants:

1. Collaborative Grants
2. Support Grants
3. Organizational Improvement Grants

The overall grant making criteria and application process are the same for each of these grants and are detailed below. Specific details of the type of projects that each of these grants fund are given on the next page.

GRANT MAKING CRITERIA

Community Impact Grants will be evaluated with the following criteria:

CREATES THE GREATEST POSITIVE IMPACT IN AT LEAST ONE OF THE GOLDEN CIVIC FOUNDATION'S FUNDING PRIORITY AREAS.

Example: How will the grant support a need that impacts the vitality of the Golden community. Will the grant support tourism or the economic vitality in Golden?

Note: The Golden Civic Foundation's funding priority areas can be found at: www.GoldenCivicFoundation.org/Grants.

ARTICULATES THE ORGANIZATION'S CONNECTION TO GOLDEN.

Example: Will the funds be used for programs that directly impact the quality of life for Golden community members?

SUPPORTS THE GOLDEN CIVIC FOUNDATION'S VISION "FOR THE GOOD OF GOLDEN."

Example: How do the funds support the Golden Civic Foundation's mission to invest in the economic and cultural vitality by supporting Golden's schools, cultural, social services, clubs or civic organizations to help our community thrive?

HELPS WITH THE BASIC LIVING NEEDS OF GOLDEN COMMUNITY MEMBERS.

Example: Does the organization strive to improve systems and develop approaches to provide the basic needs of our community members when those needs would otherwise be unmet?

FILLS A NEED THAT THE ORGANIZATION'S BUDGET CANNOT ADDRESS OTHERWISE.

GRANT APPLICATION PROCESS

- **Applications Due:** All Community Impact Grant applications are due on Wednesday, March 1.
- **Initial Review:** In early March 2023, the Golden Civic Foundation will conduct interviews with organizations that submitted Community Impact Grant applications.
- **Final Selection:** A final review panel, comprised of the Golden Civic Foundation's Board and Staff, will determine the 2023 grant funding for the Community Impact Grants. Finalists will be contacted regarding their status and amount of grant in late April 2023.
- **Announcement and Payment:** The Golden Civic Foundation will formally announce the 2023 Community Grant Recipients at our Annual Grants event in May 2023. Grant payments will also be distributed at that time.

ADDITIONAL CRITERIA

- Articulates a well-defined need with clearly defined actions to meet the need.
- Builds organizational capacity and leads the organization to become self-sufficient.
- Uses collaboration to leverage impact.
- Is feasible and likely to succeed.
- Proposes an accurate, appropriate and reasonable budget.
- Attracts additional funding and leverages resources.
- Clearly defines meaningful and measurable project outcomes and methods to report actual outcomes.
- Has a long-term impact, especially relative to cost.

1. Collaborative Grants

The Golden Civic Foundation is committed to our history of identifying, facilitating and nurturing collaboration. As a result of the pandemic, many organizations have found that better collaboration has resulted in enhanced outcomes via improved processes, faster execution, team-wide problem solving and new funding opportunities. That said, the Golden Civic Foundation encourages and prefers grant proposals that "think" collectively and "act" collaboratively in addressing a community need, improving community support, solving a problem, or enriching the people of Golden's educational, health, or cultural experience.

These grants are awarded to recipients for formal, collaborative efforts between two or more non-profits. Recipients are selected based on the strongest collective and collaborative approach to addressing a community need, improving community support, solving a problem, and enriching the educational, health or cultural experience of the people of Golden.

Each collaborating partner must be an integral and accountable for the project. Examples of collaborative partnerships include shared resources, joint planning, and coordination of programs and services. Important to note is that one organization must serve as the applicant and be responsible for the implementation. Both organizations must bring funds and in-kind resources to the project and budget them. This could also be structured as a matching/challenge grant from both organizations. Organizations must show how the collaboration will be sustained and funded going forward. A memorandum of understanding between the organizations may be necessary in some cases.

FUNDING AMOUNTS

Collaborative Grant awards will range from \$5,000 to \$30,000 per award.

WHAT WE FUND

Organizations that collaborate together to collectively identify resources, data/information and explore a better path forward that either addresses a community need, improves community support, solves a problem, or enriches the residents of Golden's educational, health, cultural or environment.

WHAT WE DON'T FUND

- Funding for ongoing programming/projects
- Rent
- Lost revenue
- Technology
- General operational expenses

2. Support Grants

One of the ways the Golden Civic Foundation helps to build a healthy and thriving community is through our Support Grants (previously known as the "Community Grant Program"). This program seeks to identify community initiatives that advance solutions to our community's greatest challenges using innovative strategies and a collaborative spirit. The Golden Civic Foundation encourages grant requests that are innovative, measurable, and sustainable. Grant requests in this program often exceed the funds that are available. *Support grants will range between \$500-\$5,000.*

WHAT WE FUND

Charitable Purposes: The Golden Civic Foundation is generally supportive of the Golden community and human service agencies which assist the disadvantaged in their efforts to be self-sufficient and productive.

Civic Purposes: Programs supported by the Golden Civic Foundation are typically those which enhance Golden's culture and heritage and are likely to be of economic benefit to and broadly used by the Golden Community.

Other examples could include:

- Seed funding for pilot projects or demonstration programs that seek to find innovative solutions to complex problems.
- Ongoing programs or projects that provide much-needed services
- Infrastructure / operational investments that support new construction, renovation, purchase of property, and/or new technology systems.

WHAT WE DON'T FUND

- Ongoing operations of single organizations
- Annual appeals, capital campaigns or other fundraising activities or events
- Religious activities or programs that serve, or appear to serve, specific religious organizations, groups, denominations, or beliefs
- Individuals
- Endowments
- Debt retirement, debt financing, reduction of an operating deficit or replenishment of resources used to pay for such purposes
- Lobbying or legislative activities
- Programming or expenses occurring before the grant is awarded
- Fellowships, travel grants, and technical or specialized research

3. Organizational Improvement Grants

In order to do great work, non-profits and municipalities need strong leaders, clear plans, efficient systems, and a sustainable revenue stream. This takes staff development and time to research and plan, something for which many non-profits can't support. It's also often hard for non-profits to make the case to donors to support this kind of work versus direct services or programming.

In response to this gap in resources needed to achieve this important fundamental strength, the Golden Civic Foundation has created Organizational Improvement Grants to help. We welcome applications that focus on an organization's planning needs related directly to how they might achieve their mission, through strategic planning, merger conversations, and similar efforts.

Organizational Improvement Grants will be up to \$7,500 per award.

These grants are meant to supplement other funding, as we understand that this amount is typically not enough to cover the full cost of providing these services but we feel that it is important that the recipient have some investment in this process. In the application, we expect the budget to reflect revenue indicating the additional funding necessary to complete the project. We welcome the use of these funds as challenge or matching grants to secure the additional funds.

WHAT WE FUND

- Board training that enhances organizational capacity in the areas of recruitment, orientation, or retention
- Board governance
- Leadership development
- Organization/Board Planning (annual/strategic)
- Collaboration/Partnerships
- Financial management oversight (budgets and financial reporting)
- Development of best practices in non-profit management
- Development of succession plans (leadership and non-leadership levels)
- Technology (use/implementation, needs assessment, planning)
- Communications/Marketing planning
- Service (design, evaluation, record keeping)
- Project management training
- Staff development and training (team building, performance management, staffing structure)
- Creation of peer-to-peer learning opportunities

WHAT WE DON'T FUND

- Annual appeals, capital campaigns, feasibility studies or other fundraising activities or events
- Grant writing fees
- Religious activities or programs that serve, or appear to serve, specific religious organizations, groups, denominations or beliefs
- Individuals
- Endowments
- Debt retirement, debt financing, reduction of operating deficit or replenishment of resources used to pay for such purposes
- Lobbying or legislative activities
- Capital improvements
- Expenses occurring before the grant is awarded
- Efforts serving those outside of Golden, CO
- Contractors who actually perform the work, as differentiated from consultants who train and teach to build capabilities.
- Direct service program support
- Organizational expenses unrelated to the capacity-building project
- Costs associated with creation of a new nonprofit organization

HOW TO APPLY

Organizations can only apply once a year for only one type of Community Impact Grant. To apply:

1. Go to our website: www.GoldenCivicFoundation.org/Grants/.
2. Scroll down and click on the grant that you would like to apply for.
3. Fill out the online application, including uploading additional supporting documents.
4. Online applications are due on Wednesday, March 1, 2023.

QUESTIONS?

If you have questions about our Community Impact Grant Program, please contact Heather Schneider, Executive Director, by email at Heather@GoldenCivicFoundation.org.



FOR THE GOOD OF GOLDEN