Quality of Life Evaluation Considerations

DEADLINE: Tuesday, June 1, 2021

We recognize the importance of the work of all civic, cultural and human service organizations; it changes lives and positively impacts our community. Due to the COVID-19 pandemic, the foundation anticipates a high volume of requests in this area so we will rely on the list of considerations below when reviewing funding requests.

Generally, we seek projects that will provide capacity building and stabilization support for organizations, particularly those doing frontline work and those supporting vulnerable individuals and the ecosystems surrounding them (i.e.: systemic barriers caused by civic, cultural, or political norms). Due to the broad nature of this program area, we will rely on the list of considerations below when reviewing funding requests.

- Clearly articulated and demonstrable need – is the project impacting COVID-19 related needs?
- Pandemic impact and response – will the request support updates to organizational processes in response to COVID-19, including improvements to organizational resiliency and sustainability?
- Organization population(s) served – will funds directly or indirectly impact economically vulnerable populations? are equitable principles in place? does the organization have broad reach to many, OR is it a trusted, grassroots organization able to reach those who may not be well-served by larger entities?
- Relevance and timeliness – why is this project important right now? this can be evaluated both in terms of internal as well as external considerations?
- Impact and Outcomes – are the expected results in line with the organization’s need, capacity and the funding amount requested?
- Cash flow – does the organization have reserves? how many months? what is the cash on-hand situation?
- Timeline – are funds going to be deployed immediately? how soon will they impact the community or organization?
- Past funding history – is there demonstration of well-managed grants in the past?
- Meaningful collaboration – is there an opportunity for collaboration? if so, is the work informed by other similar or complimentary response efforts? does collaboration meaningfully improve the project outcomes, efficiency, etc.?
- Innovative or unique solutions – if appropriate, what about the project is creative or innovative? how is it innovating for the future?
- Organizational leadership – are the CEO, board chair, and program leadership aligned?

While none of the above criteria are required, they are all considered in ranking proposals.

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