

FOCUS GRANTS | FUNDING FRAMEWORK

Our Focus Grants program provides funding for organizations working to boost the economic prospects of those experiencing intergenerational poverty in Clark, Cowlitz and Skamania counties. As a responsive grant program, it relies on a competitive application process that is open to all nonprofits whose efforts in southwest Washington align with our framework.

Why Intergenerational Poverty?

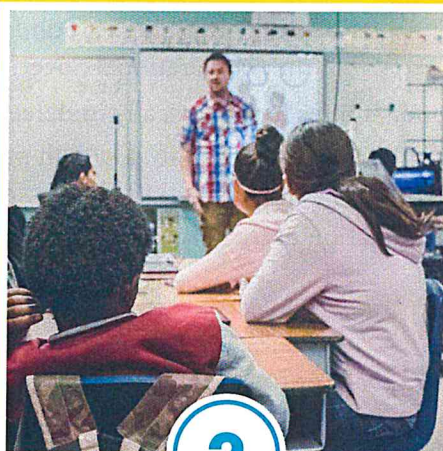
In southwest Washington, thousands of working families are not feeling the gains of our broader economic trends. Systemic barriers mean some have faced hardships for generations, with fewer opportunities to advance themselves and their families. These imbalances have widespread implications for every person in our region, which is why we focus our grantmaking efforts on programs and initiatives that provide underserved families and communities with access to the tools and opportunities they need to get ahead in life. To accomplish this goal, we invest in the following community impact areas:



1

Basic Human Needs

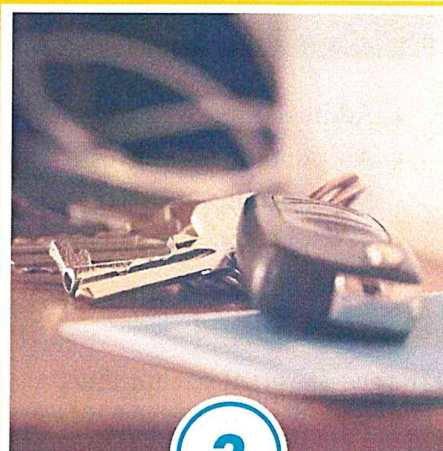
Many in our community are working hard to survive, and still experience daily challenges to find food, shelter and security. This is why we fund organizations that are fulfilling basic needs for underserved people, families and communities. This includes needs such as food security, affordable housing, physical and mental health, rent and utility assistance, caregiving, domestic violence services and other services that allow people to more effectively plan for their future.



2

Educational Attainment

In today's economy, a good job and upward mobility increasingly depend on educational attainment. Without access, inclusivity and strong social supports, students with great potential can still struggle with barriers. We invest in efforts to ensure equitable opportunities are provided across the entire educational continuum—from birth to adulthood—so that every child can enter school ready to learn and achieve their personal goals for post-secondary and career success.



3

Asset Building

All of our residents should have the opportunity to achieve financial security. We fund efforts to improve the economic health of the people and communities facing the biggest barriers to getting ahead in life. These programs include asset- and wealth-building strategies, employment services, small business development, financial planning and credit repair, homeownership, community livability, local economic development and more.



FOCUS GRANTS | GUIDELINES

Who is eligible to apply?

Nonprofits, fiscally-sponsored projects, government and tribal agencies, churches and schools working to address intergenerational poverty in Clark, Cowlitz, or Skamania counties are eligible to apply. We do not fund debt reduction, endowments, parent teacher associations or booster clubs.

We seek to partner with organizations that:

- Have identified and are meeting important community needs in southwest Washington
- Can demonstrate past impact or strong potential of future impact in addressing intergenerational poverty
- Collaborate and share, carrying out their work in coordination with partners or in cohorts
- Build awareness around and address the root causes of intergenerational poverty
- Address disparities and increase opportunities for historically underserved people and communities
- Are committed to diversity, equity and inclusion internally, through partnerships and in service delivery
- Meaningfully engage the voices, perspectives and expertise of the people and communities they serve in the development, implementation and evaluation of their work

Support Types

The average grant size for this program is \$25,000. You may apply for multi-year funding, although multi-year awards are uncommon. Applications are submitted via our online grants system.

We will consider the following types of support:

- Operating support: Unrestricted funding to support an organization's mission and strategic goals
- Projects & Programs: Support for new and established services or initiatives
- Modest Capital Projects: Investments in buildings, equipment and technology
- Capacity Building Support: Funding to strengthen organizational infrastructure, including support for diversity, equity and inclusion work

For more in-depth information about additional funding opportunities through the Community Foundation, or if you have questions regarding past grants, please contact our program staff at 360.952.4308 or grants@cfsww.org.

FUNDING TIMELINE

February 15, 2019

Online grant application opens for Cycle 1
Visit cfsww.org/nonprofits/grant-programs to apply today!

March 29, 2019

Grant application deadline for Cycle 1

June 2019

Cycle 1 grants awarded, and Cycle 2 timeline is announced



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