



Community Grant Guidelines – 2021

As the COVID-19 pandemic impacts our region, Innovia Foundation continues to make intentional changes to our traditional grant practices. Changes include increasing giving to COVID relief, reducing reporting requirements and other restrictions on existing grants, awarding general operating grants and actively engaging with communities hardest hit by COVID-19.

Knowing that funding requests will far exceed the funding available, we have temporarily revised our Community Grant program for 2021 with a focus on addressing the impacts of COVID-19 and other local crises including summer wildfires. These changes include:

- Prioritized funding to mitigate impacts of COVID-19 and area wildfires, especially for organizations addressing disproportionately impacted communities
- Funding requests for general operating support
- Offering a separate pool of funding to support the unique COVID-19 impacts facing Arts and Culture organizations

Following this grant round, we will re-assess these guidelines and timeline for future grant cycles in order to be responsive to changing needs.

Please review the following 2021 Community Grant Guidelines carefully as the types of funding available, funding priorities and other details for 2021 differ from previous years.

Arts and Culture Funding

Due to the extensive cancellation of community events and programs, we recognize that Arts and Culture organizations are facing unique struggles. This year, Innovia is hosting a separate, concurrent Arts and Culture grant program to support general operating expenses and adaptive solutions to provide arts and culture programming that allows for social distancing. For information about the Arts & Culture Grant Program, please [click here](#).

Please note you can only apply to the Community Grants Program or the Arts and Culture Grants Program. **You cannot apply to both.** If you have questions about which to apply to, please contact msanchez@innovia.org.

Community Grant Program Timeline

Application Opens: Monday, December 14

Early Bird Deadline: Friday, January 8

Application Closes: Friday, January 22

Grant Decisions: Wednesday, March 17

Program Goal

To provide a responsive grant program that offers flexible funding in support of vibrant and sustainable communities where every person thrives. In this round, priority will be given to requests that mitigate the impacts of COVID-19 and/or summer wildfires, offer collaborative and innovative solutions, and enhance economic vitality, especially for organizations addressing these disproportionately impacted communities:

- Black, Indigenous, and People of Color (BIPOC)
- People experiencing homelessness
- Low-income
- Refugees or immigrants
- Survivors of domestic violence and/or child abuse
- Rural residents
- People living with disabilities
- People who identify as LGBTQ
- People over 60 years of age
- Children/Youth (0 – 18)

Impact Areas

Guided by local input from regional advisory groups, Innovia Foundation will invest in organizations that deliver programs and services within one or more of these Impact Areas:

- **Health and Wellbeing:** Meeting basic human needs, including food, shelter and access to health care.
- **Education and Youth Development:** Ensuring access to remote learning, safe social spaces and quality childcare.
- **Economic Opportunity:** Reducing barriers to economic opportunity, security, and/or mobility for low-income individuals and families, and supporting community economic development activities.
- **Quality of Life:** Increasing access to opportunities for safe public gathering spaces, social-emotional supports, and connection to animals and to nature.
- **Arts and Culture:** support the arts as economic drivers, educational assets, civic catalysts and bridges between cultures. **Please note there is a separate grant application to apply for an Arts and Culture grant.**

Program Details

The application period for the 2021 Community Grant Program opens December 14 and closes January 22. Grants will be awarded in mid-March. Grant awards are for a one-year period from April 1 to March 31, 2022. The maximum award amount is \$20,000, with most grants in the range of \$2,500 – \$15,000.

Please visit Innovia Foundation's website at <https://innovia.org/nonprofits/apply-for-a-grant/> for application log-in directions and additional guidance.

Early Bird Incentive! Organizations that submit their application by January 8th will be automatically entered into a drawing to receive a \$1,000 grant for general operating support.

Grant Types

Organizations may request a Community Grant for any of the following project types. Requests should align with one of these four impact areas as stated above: Health and Wellbeing, Education and Youth Development, Economic Opportunity or Quality of Life.

- ❖ General operating support – unrestricted funding to support an organization in carrying out its mission.
- ❖ Project/Program support - to adapt/expand an existing program or develop new programming in response to a current challenge or opportunity.
- ❖ Capital projects/equipment
 - This could include, but is not limited to, technology, furnishings, equipment, vehicles or building construction or renovation.
- ❖ Capacity building
 - To help strengthen and stabilize an organization's governance or operations such as:
 - Collaborating with other organizations to improve services or eliminate duplication
 - Strengthening governance, leadership or staff expertise
 - Restructuring business models and accounting practices to improve organizational stability
 - Building and diversifying revenue streams
 - Developing and implementing long-term strategic plans
 - Refining communications, marketing and outreach
 - Improving volunteer recruitment, training and engagement
 - Acquiring or improving impact measurement tools and program evaluation capacity

Nondiscrimination/Anti-Hate Policy

The Anti-Hate Policy at Innovia Foundation states: “Innovia Foundation will not make grants to organizations that Innovia knows or has reason to believe support or engage in hateful activities. activities that incite or engage in violence, intimidation, harassment, threats or defamation targeting an individual or group based on their actual or perceived race, color, religion, national origin, ethnicity, immigration status, gender, gender identity, sexual orientation or disability.”

Further, Innovia Foundation does not unlawfully discriminate regarding employees, volunteers, delivery of programs or services, or clients served based on age, religion/creed, race, color, national or ethnic origin, sexual orientation, gender identity or expression, disability, marital status, military or veteran status, pregnancy or genetic information.

Applicants for Community Grant must adhere to similar anti-hate and nondiscrimination standards. You can read our Anti-Hate Policy [here](#).

Application Review

All proposals are reviewed by volunteers serving on these regionally advised committees.

Region 1	Region 2	Region 3	Region 4
Ferry	Spokane	Whitman	Boundary
Stevens		Latah	Bonner
Pend Oreille		Asotin	Kootenai
Lincoln		Nez Perce	Benewah
Adams		Clearwater	Shoshone
		Lewis	
	Idaho		
	Columbia		
	Garfield		