

COMMUNITY GRANT GUIDELINES

GRANT PROGRAM TIMELINE

Application Cycle Open: Monday, December 1, 2025

Early Bird Deadline: Friday, January 9, 2026

Application Cycle Close: Friday, February 6, 2026

Announcement: Monday, May 25, 2026

Grant Period: June 1, 2026 - May 31, 2027

Final Reports due June 12, 2027

IMPACT AREAS

Innovia Foundation invests in organizations that address these impact areas:

- **Health and Wellbeing:** Meeting basic human needs, including food, shelter, access to health care, and mental health support.
- **Education and Youth Development:** Opening doors to success for children and adults by ensuring they have access to education and the support needed to learn, grow, and thrive. Quality childcare & early Childhood Education
- **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 support, and connection to animals and to nature.
- **Arts and Culture:** Support the arts as economic drivers, educational assets, civic catalysts, and bridges between cultures.

In partnership with local community partners, Innovia annually identifies a Community Grants funding theme. While we are committed to funding projects across all our impact areas, when possible, we will prioritize proposals that align with the annual theme.

2026 FUNDING THEME: Building Stability and Belonging

- **Our communities thrive when basic needs are met, and every person feels a genuine sense of belonging.** Innovia's 2026 Community Grants will support efforts that help residents meet essential needs and/or strengthen community connections. Funding priorities include:
 - Programs/Projects that improve access to basic necessities such as food, housing, healthcare, childcare, and education
 - Programs/Projects that bring people together, build relationships, and create inclusive spaces where everyone can participate and belong.

PROGRAM DETAILS

The application period for the 2026 Community Grant Program opens on December 1 and closes on February 6. Grants will be announced by May 25, 2026. Grant awards are for one year from June 1, 2026 - May 31, 2027. The maximum award amount is \$15,000, with most grants in the range of \$ 7,500.

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 9, 2026 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.

- ❖ 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, or building construction or renovation.
- ❖ Capacity building
 - To help strengthen and stabilize an organization's governance or operations such as:
 - Strengthening governance, leadership, or staff expertise
 - Restructuring business models and accounting practices to improve organizational stability
 - 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 Nez	Kootenai
Lincoln		Perce	Benewah
Adams		Clearwater	Shoshone
		Lewis	
		Idaho	
		Columbia	
		Garfield	

WHAT WE WILL NOT FUND

- Debt retirement, operating deficits, or after-the-fact support
- Academic or scientific research
- Direct or grassroots lobbying
- Annual fund appeals and contributions to endowments
- Re-granting programs
- Litigious activities
- Organizations that are headquartered in a county or geographic area outside of Innovia's 20 county service areas
- One-time events

For faith-based organizations:

- Must be open to all members of the community (not just members of the faith community applying for funding)
- Cannot require clients to participate in or adopt any specific religious practice or belief

QUESTIONS?

Contact Chelsie Hawley, Community Investment Program Officer:

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