REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS

Scalable Community Change

Schedule of Events

Application Release: Monday, December 9, 2019

Mandatory Bidder’s Conference: Friday, December 13, 2019, 10 a.m. – 11 a.m.

UWTC Arlington, 401 W. Sanford Street, Suite 2600, Arlington, TX

Monday, December 16, 2019, 2:30 p.m. – 3:30 p.m.

UWTC Board Room, 1500 N. Main Street, Suite 200, Fort Worth, TX

Application Deadline: Friday, January 31, 2020, 3:00 p.m.

Notice of Funding: Wednesday, April 1, 2020

Funding Period: July 1, 2020 – June 30, 2021

<<<This is a one-year grant opportunity. Multi-year funding is not guaranteed.>>>

Questions related to the RFP should be directed to

Chris Alvarado
Vice President, Community Investment
United Way of Tarrant County
817-258-8115
Chris.Alvarado@unitedwaytarrant.org
A. Background and Introduction

For more than 95 years, United Way of Tarrant County (UWTC) has worked to improve the lives of families across the county. Our vision is thriving communities, welcoming neighborhoods and a strong economy across Tarrant County. UWTC is pleased to invite organization to submit a full proposal for funding to support scalable community change addressing equity gaps among our community.

Scalable community change involves programmatic work that is tested, evidence-based, and replicable that is designed to affect communities through specific outcome measures, not just outputs. UWTC is interested in providing temporary financial support to eligible organizations focused on replicating and/or scaling models of success that have proven results.

Funding will be available to existing nonprofit organizations formed prior to 2017 that provide services in and/or to residents of Tarrant County.

B. Community Investment

United Way has a clear objective of identifying high-potential initiatives and applying financial investments in a targeted and meaningful way. As a direct result of our most recent Community Assessment, this RFP is specifically targeting the issue of intergenerational poverty in Tarrant County with an emphasis on addressing equity gaps in these areas:

1. **Affordable Housing**, emphasis on families at risk, episodically, and/or chronically homeless
2. **Education**, emphasis on quality childcare, early childhood education/literacy, college/career/workforce readiness, and/or college completion.
3. **Health**, emphasis on physical, behavioral, emotional, and/or mental health.
4. **Transportation**, emphasis on transit to medical appointments, employment, and/or school.
5. **Financial Stability**, emphasis on financial health/capability, access to emergency funds, and/or career/workforce development.

These issues are inextricably linked with one another, compounding challenges for residents who are trying to improve quality of life for themselves and their families. The lack of affordable housing leads many families to live paycheck to paycheck, unable to weather financial crises and relying on social service providers to meet basic needs. Employment opportunities that could increase financial stability may not be reachable by public transit; and for individuals living near the poverty level, public transit is not affordable. Going without needed health and mental healthcare also limits people’s independence and capacity to pursue better educational and employment opportunities.

The significance of grantee performance cannot be overstated. We encourage all applicant organizations to be forthcoming about foreseen and unforeseen challenges, aggressive in methods of outreach, conservative in budgeting, proactive in diversifying funding for sustainability and efficient in business practices that lead to achieving performance targets and program outcomes.

As UWTC focuses its investment, it expects that each funded entity will also make a financial investment to ensure sustainability now and in the future. Funding requires a **20% minimum cash match** (or leveraged funds).
C. Important Information

WHO IS ELIGIBLE TO APPLY?

1. Active nonprofit organizations formed prior to January 2017, based and conducting proposed efforts in Tarrant County with no less than two years of experience addressing the aforementioned issues and/or targeted populations.

2. Must have Board of Directors, updated financials, and bylaws.

CASH MATCH

3. Applicants must provide a minimum of 20% cash match. Leveraged funding may be used to meet the cash match requirement. Additional in-kind is also expected.

EVALUATION AND REPORTING

4. Funded strategies will be required to track and report progress towards goals. Failure to submit timely reports may result in suspension or loss of funding.

CO-BRANDING AND RECOGNITION

5. All proposals funded fully or in part by UWTC must recognize United Way funding in appropriate printed materials and online platforms.

FUNDING CRITERIA

6. The following criteria should be incorporated into your proposals:
   - Details of equity gaps to be addressed – Statement of Need
   - Research, proven results for selected approach – Strategy
   - Breadth and depth of experience addressing the issue – Background
   - Measurable outcomes – Evaluation
   - Vision for community change – Background
   - Leveraged funding opportunities – Budget; Sustainability
   - Fiscal viability/sustainability – Sustainability

SUBMISSION

One electronic copy of this application is due to UWTC no later than Friday, January 31, 2020 by 3:00 p.m. Submit electronic copy to Chris.Alvarado@unitedwaytarrant.org.

Late proposals will not be accepted.
PROPOSAL GUIDELINES

FORMATTING AND PAGE LIMIT

The application should address the following items in no more than 10 pages in 12-point font, 1-inch margins, and double-spaced (not including attachments). Use the Cover Sheet template (Appendix A). Please repeat the section headers in your proposal.

Statement of Need (10 points)
1. Provide a data-rich description of the current situation and trend lines for the issue(s) you are seeking to address (Affordable Housing, Education, Health, Transportation, and Financial Stability). Include references/data sources.
2. Describe current priorities in terms of existing equity gaps (i.e., race/ethnicity, age, gender, geography, socioeconomic status, etc.) to be targeted.

Background (10 points)
1. Describe the organization’s background/history, including the goals, mission statement and/or vision.
2. Briefly describe the organization’s structure, including the qualifications of the organization’s leadership/key program staff working on the effort.
3. Describe 2-3 of the organization’s greatest strengths and how they align with proposed efforts.
4. Does the organization have previous success with implementing the proposed strategy/program? If yes, please describe length of implementation, results, and scalability.

Strategy (30 points)
1. Describe the coordinated activities, programs and initiatives proposed to respond to the statement of need and the extent to which the efforts focus on addressing equity gaps in the community.
2. Clearly outline how the organization will implement/scale/replicate the best-practice, evidence-based strategies with fidelity and demonstrate success.
3. Cite evidence via direct experience and/or research that shows this strategy is effective, and how data will be used to drive program activities and decisions.

Evaluation (20 points)
1. Describe the personnel who will be responsible for data collection and outcome evaluation, a description of evaluation methods, including indicators that will show movement towards your defined year-end target (and frequency in which they will be collected), and any evaluation tools (surveys and/or assessments) to be utilized.
2. Complete the beneficiary report (Appendix B) outlining the proposed population being served and describe the system in place to track actual beneficiary numbers, if funded.

Timeline (10 points)
1. Provide a detailed timeline of events/activities that will be conducted broken down by three-month increments. Be specific and include all anticipated and significant quarterly milestones to be achieved in the areas of planning, program, evaluation, staffing and expenditures.

Budget (10 points)
1. Use the budget template (Appendix C), to provide a 12-month budget. Indicate all other funding sources by name, amount and whether funding is secured or pending and expected date of notification. Specifically show the required 20% cash match.
2. Include a concise narrative that explains how funds will be expended in addition to sources and amounts of matching or in-kind funds.
Sustainability Plan (10 points)
1. Describe how the organization has previously blended and/or leveraged various funding streams to better serve a targeted population. Provide specific examples.
2. What steps will be taken to ensure confidence that this effort will have broad-based support, capacity and resources to succeed and endure?
3. How do you envision the initiative becoming self-sustaining over time?

Required Attachments
1. Bylaws
2. Most recent completed annual independent audit
3. Annual tax return (Form 990/990EZ)
4. Unaudited financial statements
5. IRS determination letter verifying non-profit status
6. Logic Model or Theory of Change
7. Budget Form including contract schedule and salary schedule for initiative-related personnel (Appendix C)
8. Letters of support (if applicable)

Other attachments – Please limit additional attachments to no more than 5 pages. Additional pages may be removed at the discretion of UWTC staff.

Submission
Email your proposal to Chris.Alvarado@unitedwaytarrant.org no later than January 31, 2020 by 3:00 p.m.

Contact Information and Questions
Should you have questions related to this announcement please contact:

Chris Alvarado
Vice President, Community Investment
817-258-8115
Chris.Alvarado@unitedwaytarrant.org