

# Community Investment

Advancing the Common Good in Daviess County

The investment of the United Way of Daviess County annual campaign focuses on community change, improving resource development, and investment in strategic areas. We are recognizing our strengths and learning from past work while applying it to opportunities that will reduce need, build stronger organizations, and increase individual and family potential for a better life.

## Grant options:

- Investing in governance, staff development, or planning
- Investing in education, income, or health strategies
- Impact Project Work

Please refer to the list of documentation needed in our letter and return by January 18, 2022! Send the completed copy of your proposal and supporting information to [uwayvantrees@gmail.com](mailto:uwayvantrees@gmail.com) or [uway1038@gmail.com](mailto:uway1038@gmail.com).

## Review

The Grants Committee is made up of members of the United Way board and other community and corporate partner representatives. We will accept applications from December 1<sup>st</sup>, 2021 to January 18, 2022. Application proposals will be reviewed after the due date, January 18, 2022. The committee will review and make agency visits before making recommendations to the full board, followed by grant letters going out the second week in March. You will be notified via email.

## INVESTING IN GOVERNANCE, STAFF DEVELOPMENT, OR PLANNING

Agencies are invited to review their organizational performance history, assess current potential, and identify areas where they could benefit from outside expertise or training.

Agencies are asked to create a plan showing how their request will generate new enthusiasm, bring in additional revenue, and develop strategies on how to operate more efficiently. How does the community and your organization benefit from your organizational development?

## INVESTMENT IN EDUCATION, INCOME, OR HEALTH STRATEGIES

United Way's three main focuses are education, financial stability, and health. What work can your agency provide to focus on one or multiple outcomes and bring in results?

Example:

Providing a reading and tutor program for 30 children

Prior to the program beginning, a questionnaire/survey is used to assess children's reading levels (student reporting, assessments, school data, home/parent feedback)

After program is completed, you reassess results and look for improvements (student reporting, assessments, school data, home/parent feedback)

Based on overall results, reading levels increased by 30% after the program was completed.

All programs and strategies work must show measurable outcomes and results.

## IMPACT PROJECT WORK

United Way of Daviess County will consider funding impact project work that improves the lives of individuals and families in the areas of health, education or financial stability. It is the goal of UWDC to address current community needs with definitive community results. Impact projects may include being in collaboration with other agencies, businesses, or organizations. The goal of impact work is to be make a large, positive change through your efforts.

Example:

Community Survey provided to capture community needs/feedback requests.

Based on the community results, they mentioned more safe places for families and children, low cost activities, places in walking distance due to lack of transportation, etc.

Partnership and collaboration with the City to fund a new playground. Working together to form an MOU and meet objectives from both parties.

Impact: Children being able to develop how to socialize, play, and improving their large and small motor abilities. Families having a safe place to take their children to for play and bonding. Housing and economic improvement by adding a park nearby.

All impact project work must show measurable outcomes and results.

After selecting one of the three categories listed above, please be sure to reflect all responses to relate to topic you are applying for. Also include the questions below with your responses (if using another document to write your proposal on).

## Guidelines:

### 1. What is your Agency aiming to accomplish? (Maximum 750 characters)

Clearly and concisely, state your organization's intended impact or project. Identify the groups you aim to assist, the issues you are addressing, and your expected outcomes. Examine how your goals for the next two to four years (or an alternate timeframe specified in your answer), fit within your overall plan to contribute to lasting, meaningful change in your community.

#### Why is this answer important?

Articulating your longer-term goals helps us understand your mission and intended outcomes. It also gives context and purpose to your day-to-day activities. This response is the foundation for your responses to the questions that follow. This response helps identify your thoughtful intent beyond funding.

### 2. What are your strategies for making this happen?

Describe your strategies for accomplishing the goals you cited in your previous answer and how are you planning to achieve this?

### 3. What are your organization's capabilities for carrying out this strategy?

From previous impact grant work, we have learned the power of collaboration, innovation, creativity and focused volunteer efforts to achieve better results. Don't be afraid to try new approaches and do a better job with limited funds:

While describing your organization's core assets, identify both internal resources (including, but not limited to, staff, budget, and expertise) and external strengths (including partnerships, networks, and influence) that have contributed to your accomplishments in the past.

INCLUDE YOUR BUDGET HERE OR REFERENCE IT AS AN APPENDIX AND ATTACH. OVERHEAD IS AN ACCEPTABLE BUDGET ITEM.

### 4. How will your organization know if you are making progress?

How will you assess your work and measure its effectiveness? How will you know you are making a change? This information will be needed to provide the data for your year-end report.

Please note that United Way allocation grant funds do not rollover to the next year.

Please ensure that you have used up your grant funds for your stated projects. If you need an extension, please contact us with a valid reason for doing so.

Maximum amount to apply for is \$20,000 per agency.

Due date is January 18<sup>th</sup>, 2022.

+++++

Grants will be awarded March 15, 2022 and payouts will begin April 1.

Be sure to include:

- **A cover sheet with your name, address and contact information**
- **Completed application**
- **990 (If not on Guide Star)**
- **Audit or financial review (If smaller agency, an internal operational budget may be considered)**
- **Current Board list, by-laws, mission statement**
- **Anti- Terrorism Compliance Measures**
- **End of Year Funding Report and questionnaire**
- **Agency Agreement**
- **Annual Report of your agency and programs (Or letter including your updates and accomplishments)**
- **Your complete proposal & all materials requested above!**