



**THE  
WASHINGTON  
HOME**

A Charitable Foundation

## **Frequently Asked Questions**

### **GRANT PROGRAM ELIGIBILITY**

#### **Who does The Washington Home (the Foundation) serve?**

The Foundation provides funding for programs and projects in the Washington, D.C. area that serve older adults (aged 60+), as well as programs and projects that support adults with a critical illness, and their caregivers.

#### **In what geographic area does the Foundation make grants?**

The Foundation funds 501(c)3 organizations located in Washington, D.C. Currently, it does not fund organizations outside of the Washington, D.C. area.

#### **How do I know if my organization is eligible to apply for funding from the Foundation?**

To be eligible to apply for funding, an organization must be: 1) designated as a 501(c)3; 2) located in Washington, D.C.; and 3) serve older adults (aged 60+) or adults with a critical illness.

#### **What are the Foundation's funding priorities for proposal consideration?**

The Foundation funds programs and projects that support older adults in four priority areas: healthcare access (workforce pipeline, caregiver relief, and critically ill), food insecurity, social isolation, and sponsorship/memberships.

##### **(1) Older Adults Healthcare Access**

- a. **Healthcare Workforce Pipeline** – The Foundation seeks to support collaborative projects that build pipelines that integrate training certification, education, mentorship, and employment cultivation, in order to increase the number of healthcare professionals working in DC. An enhanced workforce can improve the health outcomes for older adults and the effective delivery of end of life care.
- b. **Caregiver Relief** – The Foundation seeks to support programs that provide home health aides/certified nursing assistants to support caregivers, offer training and education for professional caregivers, deliver caregiver support programs, and promote access to adult day centers. The Foundation supports projects that improve the quality of life of both the caregiver and care recipient.
- c. **Critically Ill** – The Foundation seeks to support programs that improve the quality and access to care for the critically ill and those experiencing end of life.

- (2) **Food Insecurity** – The Foundation seeks to support “Food Is Medicine” programs including medically tailored meals, healthy meal delivery, healthy food markets, community meals, and produce prescriptions, in order to improve health outcomes for older adults through access to healthy food.
- (3) **Social Isolation** – The Foundation seeks to support virtual and in-person programs that focus on reducing social isolation among older adults through the arts, support groups, behavioral health, social-emotional supports, physical activities, and technology.
- (4) **Sponsorships & Memberships** – The Foundation seeks to support projects that help nurture the stability and expansion of programs through sponsorships and memberships for eligible organizations.

### What does the Foundation consider when making grants?

Evaluation criteria to approve grant applications include:

- The application proposes ways to **support collaborative partnerships** for integrative interventions in order to holistically serve older adults;
- The team can **start or grow** well-conceived programs/organizations;
- The team can **replicate and scale** successful programs and services from its own or other jurisdictions;
- The application proposes **innovative solutions** to improve the quality, accessibility, and/or delivery of programs and services for older adults and the critically ill in the Washington, D.C. area;
- The application proposes ways to **build organizational capacity** to enhance sustainability and/or improve service delivery (e.g., commitment to diversity, equity, and inclusion); and
- The proposed program or project **leverage resources**, whether human or financial (e.g., revenue, partnerships, matching, or aligned funds).

### Are there any programs that The Foundation does not fund?

The Washington Home does not:

- Give to endowment funds;
- Fund lobbying or political activities;
- Make grants to individuals;
- Fund programs that provide gift cards;
- Provide funds to private foundations unless for a particular grant purpose;
- Replace government funding; or
- Fund religious activities, although secular health programs provided by a religious institution, or its affiliate(s) may qualify.

### **Does the Foundation have an open call for grant applications or is it by invitation-only?**

In March 2024 TWH began hosting an open-call grant application process. All eligible organizations are encouraged to apply. More information on the grants timeline can be found on the website at [TheWashingtonHome.org/Apply](https://TheWashingtonHome.org/Apply).

### **If an organization has been declined for a grant, when can it re-apply?**

All applicants are eligible to re-apply during each open-call grant cycle.

### **Can a prospective grantee submit more than one application during a grant round?**

Prospective grantees are encouraged to submit one application per grant round. Within each application, prospective grantees may select one priority area of focus and use the goals section in the application to further explain the impact as it relates to multiple priority areas.

### **Can prospective grantees collaborate on a joint application?**

Yes, and collaboration is highly encouraged to meet the needs of the area's older adult population holistically.

### **Can grantees submit a multi-year proposal?**

Yes, particularly if the first year is a pilot with plans to scale the work in future years of the grant.

### **What is the grant funding range?**

The Foundation approves proposals ranging from \$25,000-\$300,000, contingent upon the duration of the grant and deliverables.

### **If an organization received a grant/sponsorship in the past, when can it reapply?**

Former grantees are eligible to reapply during each open-call grant cycle.

### **Does the Foundation allow indirect cost in the grant proposals?**

Yes, applicants are allowed to submit proposals that include indirect costs of up to 10% of the total grant request.

### **What is “sustainability” and how can applicants show that a program or project is sustainable?**

Sustainability means that an organization has the necessary infrastructure and resources in place to ensure that the program or project objectives can be met beyond the grant award. Prospective grantees are encouraged to consider the short and long-term goals of a program/project and identify a variety of strategies to foster a sustainable program that can accomplish its goals. Strategies can include collaborating with another organization doing the same work, developing greater capacity for reimbursement, attaining, and leveraging other donors, and/or creating a fee-for-service model.

### **How does The Foundation review each application?**

The grant team takes a comprehensive look at each application. During the review process, the following is evaluated:

- The organization is in full compliance and good standing with relevant state, federal, and county regulations;
- The financial sustainability of the organization (e.g., regular independent audits, Directors and Officers [D&O] insurance, etc.);
- The quality, completeness, and comprehensiveness of the application;
- Compliance with grant guidelines and agreement in current and previous cycles;
- Feasibility of the proposed program or, project, and the organization’s ability to implement it;
- The applicant has both completed the TWH Grantee Information session — either in-person or by viewing the pre-recorded video, and completed a virtual Grantee Meeting with The Washington Home (TWH) staff;
- The amount of funding requested, and that the allocation of the funds aligns with TWH guidelines; and
- The program or project addresses one of TWH’s key priority areas.

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### **FOR MORE INFORMATION**

Please visit [TheWashingtonHome.org](https://TheWashingtonHome.org) or contact a member of the foundation staff.

Thank you for all you do to support our area’s older adult community.