

Hartford Foundation for Public Giving

Access Grant Rubric

The Hartford Foundation Access Grant was created with the intention of supporting organizations that share our strategic goal of dismantling structural racism, including by advancing equitable social and economic mobility by supporting sustainable solutions in Greater Hartford. This rubric will be used to help us to evaluate and prioritize grant applications.

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ORGANIZATIONAL ASSESSMENT					
	0 (Lowest Score)	1	2	3 (Most favorable)	
The organization demonstrates cultural competency/humility, including through the recruitment of staff that are reflective of the community served and/or through staff training.	The organization's staff does not well reflect the community served and it has not shown a commitment to recruiting staff that would reflect the community or providing training in cultural competency for existing staff.	The organization's staff does not well reflect the community served but the organization is committed to recruiting staff to better reflect the community. The organization can also demonstrate cultural competency in other ways (for example, training for staff.)	The organization's staff mostly reflects the community served and the organization is committed to recruiting staff to better reflect the community. The organization can also demonstrate cultural competency in other ways (for example, training for staff.)	The organization's staff well reflects the community served, the organization is committed to retaining staff and/or recruiting staff that are reflective of the community, as needed. The organization can also demonstrate cultural competency in other ways (for example, training for staff.)	
The organization serves, in significant part, communities of color OR works to address systemic racism in a predominately white community.	The organization does not serve communities of color. Nor does it have a mission or any programming to address systemic racism in a predominately white community.	The organization serves a community or group of beneficiaries that includes very few people of color. Or has some focus on addressing racism in one or more predominately	The organization serves a community or group of beneficiaries that includes many people of color. Or has a significant focus on addressing racism in one or more predominately	The organization is proximate to and substantially serves a community or group of beneficiaries that is predominantly made up of people of color. OR solely or in large part works to address racism in one or more predominately white community.	



Together for good.		white	white	
		community.	community.	
The organization	Under 25 percent	Between 25-50	Between 50-75	Between 75-100
serves residents of	of the	percent of the	percent of the	percent of the
Greater Hartford.	organization's	organization's	organization's	organization's
	services are	services are	services are	services are
	provided within	provided within	provided within	provided within the
	the Foundation's	the Foundation's	the Foundation's	Foundation's 29-
	29-town funding	29-town funding	29-town funding	town funding region
	region	region	region	
The organization can	The organization	N/A	N/A	The organization can
demonstrate	is unable to offer			share positive
successful	any experience			experiences where it
performance in	where it has			has made progress
achieving its mission	made progress			towards its mission.
for a period of at	towards it			
least one year.	mission.			
The organization	No, the nonprofit	N/A	N/A	
seeking support is led	leader is not a			
by a	racially/ethnically			Yes, the nonprofit
racially/ethnically	underrepresented			leader is a
under-represented	leader.			racially/ethnically
nonprofit leader				underrepresented
(Executive Director,				leader.
CEO or President).				

REQUEST ASSESSMENT					
	0	1	2	3	
	(Lowest Score)			(Most favorable)	
Applicant offers a	As described, the	As described, the	As described, the	As described, the	
solid rationale for	proposed work	proposed work	proposed work	proposed work	
how the proposed	could not be	could be	could be expected	could be expected	
work would directly	expected to make	expected to	to make some	to make a	
and effectively	any contribution	make a minor	contribution to	significant	
contribute to the	to the dismantling	contribution to	the dismantling of	contribution to the	
dismantling of	of structural	the dismantling	structural racism	dismantling of	
structural racism	racism and/or	of structural	and/or equitable	structural racism	
and/or equitable	equitable social	racism and/or	social and	and/or equitable	
social and economic	and economic	equitable social	economic	social and	
mobility*	mobility.	and economic	mobility.	economic mobility.	
(*Double Weighted)		mobility.			



FOR PUBLIC GIVING Together for good.*				
The proposed work is resident/client driven, including through the engagement of the community served in the design and implementation of the proposed work.	The proposed work has not received input or been informed by the community to be served nor is the community to be served involved in its implementation or asked to provide feedback on the implementation.	The proposed work has been influenced by some community input but there is no mechanism to receive continual input from the community in its implementation.	The design of the proposed work has received some community input and its implementation would be adjusted based on some community input, but the mechanism for ongoing feedback is less robust.	The proposed work has been designed and would be implemented by or with ongoing input from representatives of the community to be served.
The proposed work would address a need (continued or new) and would not duplicate existing efforts by others to address the same need.	The applicant has not demonstrated a need for the proposed work and has not demonstrated knowledge of existing programming that might be duplicative.	Some need for the proposed work has been demonstrated with limited description of how this would relate to existing efforts.	Considerable need for the proposed work has been demonstrated and/or some knowledge of related efforts has been described.	The applicant has demonstrated a clear, strong (continued or new) need for the proposed work and has described how this effort might complement related programming that already exists.
Foundation funding would meaningfully contribute to the organization's ability to implement proposed activities.	Without Foundation funding, the applicant would be able to use other available funding or resources to move the work forward.	Without Foundation funding, most of the proposed work could move forward but Foundation funding would be helpful.	Without Foundation funding, the proposed work could not move forward as effectively and would be significantly delayed.	Without Foundation funding, the proposed work could not move forward or would be significantly delayed while other funding sources were sought.
The proposed work is likely to be successful, based on evidence such as successful experience doing this elsewhere or on a smaller scale, data of others implementing a similar strategy with success, or research	The application provides no evidence of likely success of the proposed work in achieving expected outcomes.	The application provides limited evidence of likely success of the proposed work in achieving expected outcomes.	The application provides a reasonable amount of evidence of likely success of the proposed work in achieving expected outcomes.	The application provides strong and ample evidence of likely success of the proposed work in achieving expected outcomes.



Together for good."				1
or emerging thinking				
around an innovative				
idea, etc.				
The proposed work,	The measurable	There is some	The measurable	The measurable
as described, could be	change described	chance that the	change described	change described
expected to result in	in the application	measurable	in the application	in the application
some measurable	is unlikely to be	change could	might be	seem achievable
progress towards the	achieved through	result from the	achievable	through the
goal of the request.	the activities	activities	through the	activities outlined.
	outlined.	outlined.	activities outlined.	
If more than one year	The applicant has	The applicant has	The applicant has	The applicant has
would be needed to	offered no	considered the	outlined a	outlined a realistic
advance measurable	evidence that they	need for	somewhat	sustainability plan
change through the	have considered	sustainability	realistic	or provided a clear
work, the	the need for	beyond a year	sustainability plan	explanation as to
organization has	sustainability	but not offered a	to continue the	why the effort
considered the need	beyond a year.	sustainability	work beyond a	would not need to
and/or has a plan to		plan to support	year	be sustained
sustain the effort		that.		beyond a year.
beyond the grant				
period.				