

Hartford Greater Together FAQs

Who is eligible to receive a grant?

Any registered nonprofit that has a 501(c)(3) designation as a public charity is eligible to receive a grant, as is any organization with a fiscal sponsor.

What exactly is a fiscal sponsor?

A fiscal sponsor, or agent, is an established 501(c)(3) nonprofit (tax-exempt) organization that agrees to accept donations on behalf of a group that is not registered as a nonprofit. They provide fiduciary oversight, financial management, and other administrative services to help build the capacity of charitable projects. The fiscal agent must submit the application on behalf of the group and is legally responsible to account for the funds used.

Fiscal sponsorship is an option well worth considering if your group or business is unable or unwilling to form a nonprofit organization but has a program or initiative you believe is grant worthy.

If an organization receives Greater Together funds, can they still apply for other Hartford Foundation for Public Giving grants?

Absolutely! The HFPG is deeply engaged in the Greater Hartford community and entirely committed to bringing together resources, both human and financial, to improve the lives of all residents. Visit [their website](#) to learn more about the many ways in which they may be able to provide support for your organization's mission and initiatives.

Can organizations apply for other Greater Together grants?

No. Hartford Greater Together grants are specifically earmarked for Hartford-based organizations. Because you must be a member of the Hartford community to qualify for Hartford Greater Together grant money, you would not be eligible for grants from other Greater Together towns.

How exactly do the grantmaking cycles work?

There will be two grantmaking cycles, with a maximum of \$25,000 in total grants awarded in each cycle. Individual grant requests must be for amounts not less than \$500 and not more than \$5,000. Once funds are disbursed, awardees have one year to complete the project for which the funds were granted.

- Important Dates for Cycle 1: Applications are due by April 30. Awards will be announced by June 1.
- Important Dates for Cycle 2: Applications are due by October 1. Awards will be announced by November 15.
- In both cycles, funds will be issued within 4 to 6 weeks of award notification.

Can organizations apply for more than one interest area in a cycle?

Yes, as long as your organization provides services that address more than one category.

Can organizations apply in both cycles?

Yes, but keep in mind that there are different themes or categories in each cycle. As long as your organization provides services that address at least one of the categories in that cycle, you can apply.

Can you explain “categories” more fully?

The advisory committee has identified a number of critical issues facing our community. In an effort to address them equitably, each grantmaking cycle will fund three (3) different categories or areas of concern. In cycle 1, those categories are: Housing, Education, and Food Insecurity. In order to qualify for funds your organization must be working to tackle any one of these issues.

In cycle 2, funding will be earmarked for initiatives aimed to redress three other concerns: Health, Criminal Justice, and Child Care.

Can you clarify the requirement for a “detailed line item program budget”?

In short, this is a request for a thorough outline of all the foreseeable costs associated with completing your proposed project... from large purchases like refrigeration equipment to small purchases like a ream of paper for printing flyers, and everything in between. Creating a realistic budget is a very important part of the application process, so be thorough in your research, considering getting multiple quotes on costlier purchases, and do your due diligence when it comes to calculating the bottom line. Keep in mind that if your application has a projected cost that exceeds the amount of your grant request, you must provide explanation of how the gap funds will be secured. The grantmaking committee will only consider funding projects that have demonstrated a clear path to success.

How are funds disbursed to awardees?

Paper checks are cut and distributed by Bank of America.

How exactly will evaluations be conducted? Can you clarify the metrics?

While there will not be a formal evaluation process, awardees will be provided with a questionnaire and budget form that they will be required to submit in a final report no later than the end of the grant period.

Any additional tips that can help an organization be successful?

- Have a fully formed idea for your application. Know exactly what you hope to accomplish, who will oversee the work, and how you expect it to impact the community in a positive way.
- Make sure you proofread and edit your application. Then proofread it again.
- Once you think your application is the best it can be, have someone else review it. A fresh pair of eyes can be a great help.
- Make sure your application is complete and that you submit it with all required documentation.
- Be creative and think outside the box!
- It is absolutely fine to ask questions. If something is not clear, reach out to us :)