

Community Bridge: Donor FAQs

NONPROFIT ELIGIBILITY

Q: What are the eligibility requirements for organizations to be published?

A: Any nonprofit in Milwaukee, Ozaukee, Washington and Waukesha counties is eligible. The organization must be recognized by the IRS as a 501(c)3 in good standing or provide proof of their fiscal sponsorship by a 501(c)3 in good standing with the IRS.

Q: What does it mean to be a 501(c)3 nonprofit organization in good standing?

A: A 501(c)(3) in good standing is a nonprofit recognized by the IRS as tax-exempt under section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code and continues to meet all legal and regulatory requirements. This means the organization has filed required annual reports, maintains compliance with state and federal laws, and has not had its tax-exempt status revoked or suspended. Being in good standing assures donors and funders that the nonprofit is legally authorized to operate as a charitable, tax-exempt entity. Organizations that are not a 501(c)(3) must provide verification of current fiscal sponsorship by a 501(c)(3) in good standing.

Q: Do organizations have to pay to be included in the directory?

A: No. We aim to build a robust directory of a broad range of organizations. In order to ensure that organizations of every size and scope can be included, we offer this resource at no charge.

REVIEW PROCESS

Q: Does the Foundation endorse the published organizations?

A: This directory is designed to uplift our community's greatest needs and build connections between charitable organizations and potential supporters. It is not an endorsement. For transparency, listings will indicate if an organization holds an endowment fund with the Foundation or has received grants from the Foundation or any of its partner foundations.

To ensure alignment with our mission and values, Foundation staff carefully review each submission and retain the right to decline entries that do not meet our criteria or demonstrate a commitment to strengthening the greater Milwaukee community.

USING THE DIRECTORY TO GIVE AND GET INVOLVED

Q: What is the minimum grant I can make from my Foundation fund?

A: \$250.

Q: How can I connect with a nonprofit for additional questions or to get involved?

A: Nonprofit contact information is listed on the right-hand side of each profile. If you are a Foundation fundholder, reach out to your philanthropic adviser.

DIRECTORY CONTENT AND UPDATES

Q: How current is the information provided?

A: We require organizations to update their profile annually. Profiles that have not been updated after one year are removed.

Q: I cannot find the charitable organization I wish to support. What should I do?

A: If you have a relationship with an organization that you believe could benefit from being listed, please email this [link](#). We update the directory on a quarterly basis, so it may take some time for some listings to be published.

FOCUS AREAS AND FUNDING NEEDS

Q: How are the funding priority areas defined?

A: We provide a list of funding priority areas commonly used in philanthropy and ask each nonprofit to self-select the options that best reflect their organization and funding needs. They can select up to three options.

Q: Can you provide examples for each of the funding types?

A: **General operating support:** These donations/grants provide nonprofits with unrestricted funding.

Examples: Rent, utilities, staff salaries, technology, insurance or other overhead costs.

Capital / facilities support: These grants fund significant, tangible investments in physical space or equipment.

Examples: Construction or renovation of buildings, purchase of vehicles, installation of specialized equipment or technology infrastructure upgrades.

Project / program support: These grants provide restricted funding for defined initiatives, services or collaborations that advance organization priorities.

Examples: Running a workforce development program, piloting a mental health initiative, expanding food distribution services or multi-organization collaborations around community health outcomes.

Capital campaigns: These campaigns are focused, time-limited fundraising efforts for major investments in infrastructure or long-term sustainability.

Examples: large-scale projects such as building a community center, expanding a hospital wing, renovating facilities, purchasing land for a nature preserve or establishing an endowment for scholarships.

Naming opportunities: These funding opportunities recognize significant philanthropic gifts by allowing individuals, families or organizations to have their name associated with a space, program, fund or initiative.

Examples: A named scholarship fund, a donor's name on a building wing or classroom, or a program endowed in honor of a family.

DIRECTORY DISCLAIMER

This directory is provided for general informational purposes only and does not constitute an endorsement, recommendation, or approval by the Foundation. Listings may note whether an organization holds an endowment with the Foundation or has received discretionary or board-directed grant support; such information does not imply ongoing support or oversight. The Foundation reviews submissions for alignment with its mission and values and reserves the right to

accept, decline, remove, or modify listings at its discretion. Users are encouraged to conduct their own further research.