

COVID-19 Support for Nonprofits

Southwest Initiative Foundation will award grants as funding is available to southwest Minnesota nonprofits providing basic needs and working with people who need more and different support during this crisis.

The focus of this work includes support to nonprofit organizations addressing critical basic needs in our communities related to the following areas:

Food Security

Mental Health

Domestic Violence

Homelessness

Continuity Business Support for organizations serving:

- Children living in poverty
- Elder residents
- Farmers
- Native communities
- New immigrants
- People of color
- Refugees

Application Process

- Applicants must complete the grant application at:
<https://swifoundation.tfaforms.net/4762026>. This is an abbreviated application that focuses on COVID-19 support.
- Once submitted, you will receive an e-mail confirming we received your application.
- This will be an open grant process through July 1, 2020. Grant requests received by the 1st and the 15th of the month will be reviewed within the two weeks following submission on an ongoing basis.
- If there are questions related to your application, a member of our grant team will contact you.
- Southwest Initiative Foundation reserves the right to make modifications to the program in response to community need and available resources.



Confirmed in Compliance with National Standards
for U.S. Community Foundations

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Eligibility Criteria

- All proposals must demonstrate a benefit within one or more of the following 18 counties in southwest Minnesota: Big Stone, Chippewa, Cottonwood, Jackson, Kandiyohi, Lac qui Parle, Lincoln, Lyon, McLeod, Meeker, Murray, Nobles, Pipestone, Redwood, Renville, Rock, Swift and Yellow Medicine; or the Upper Sioux Community or Lower Sioux Indian Community.
- Proposals must be submitted by an independent 501(c)(3) organization, a unit of government, religious institution, or educational entity.
- Funding requests between \$500 and \$5,000 will be considered; Matching funds are encouraged.
- Projects must be completed within 12 months of the grant award date.
- Only one grant application may be submitted per organization.
- A final report is due following the grant period.

Grant Exclusions - *Ineligible organizations or activities include:*

- Individuals, businesses, or other for-profit organizations
- Activities that support a specific religion or religious purpose
- Capital funding, campaigns or endowments
- Funds for re-granting

Grant Award Selection Criteria - *Proposals that are in line with the criteria below will receive priority consideration in our grant review process.*

- Applicant organization meets all eligibility criteria and any other requirements specified in this document
- Applicant organization's mission and primary programs, services and/or activities strongly align with the Southwest Initiative Foundation's [mission](#)
- Impact — projects that demonstrate an overall impact within Southwest Initiative Foundation's region
- Collaboration/partnership — projects that work with other organizations in unique and impactful ways
- Critical community need — projects that successfully fill critical gaps to support basic human needs and/or work with identified populations.
- Equitable approach – projects that promote dignity and belonging as core human values, recognizing that all people deserve the opportunity to reach their full potential
- Measurable results — projects that can show quantitative outcomes

Contact Nancy Fasching with questions at nancyf@swifoundation.org or 320-484-9104.