



BEYOND THE TABLE GRANT AWARD PROGRAM

SPONSORED BY

CITY OF AKRON

AKRON COMMUNITY FOUNDATION

Dan Horrigan, Mayor

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CITY OF AKRON AND AKRON COMMUNITY FOUNDATION

BEYOND THE TABLE GRANT AWARD PROGRAM

OVERVIEW

The ***Beyond the Table*** grant award program is a neighborhood-based initiative designed to encourage new, creative neighborhood efforts aligned with the Akron Community Foundation's ***On The Table Greater Akron*** priorities. ***On the Table Greater Akron*** is a one-of-a-kind initiative where thousands of diverse residents from all walks of life and socio-economic backgrounds gathered on October 3rd, the past 2 years, to share a meal and discuss meaningful ideas to strengthen our community. It's an opportunity to shape our region into a strong, vibrant, safe and dynamic place to live and work. The ***Beyond the Table*** grant award program provides matching grants to organizations focusing on:

- Diversity, Equity and Social Inclusion
- Drugs and Addiction
- Education and Youth Development

The program was created to strengthen and provide resources to neighborhood-based groups wanting to improve their neighborhoods and strengthen the Akron community.

Grants ranging from \$10,000 to \$20,000 will be awarded annually. The match requirement is 1:1 and must be related to the proposed grant project and secured or committed before beginning the project.

Applications will open on Monday, June 17th and are due to the Akron Community Foundation no later than August 1, 2019. To apply, go to www.akroncf.org and look under the nonprofit tab and scroll down to grantee login. If you have trouble applying, please contact Chris Miller, Akron Community Foundation at 330-436-5627.

GOALS

The ***Beyond the Table*** grant award program is designed to strengthen and provide resources to neighborhood-based groups wanting to improve their neighborhoods. Goals of the program include:

- Fostering relationships between area residents and organizations through neighborhood based projects and activities.
- Increasing citizen involvement in neighborhood problem solving.

ELIGIBLE APPLICANTS

- Social Service Agencies
- Educational Institutions
- Neighborhood-based organizations
- Community development corporations

Applicants may select the boundaries for the project area. They must, however, be a certified 501 (c) 3 nonprofit organization. If they are not, they must use a fiscal agent who can manage the funds if awarded.

ELIGIBLE PROGRAMS/PROJECTS

To be eligible, projects must:

- Provide a public, neighborhood benefit to a defined area.
- Applicants **MUST** identify a specific neighborhood they are seeking to support
- Projects **MUST** relate to ***On The Table Greater Akron*** priorities listed below and must be a new/expanded project/program that currently does not exist

On the Table Greater Akron Priorities

Diversity, Equity and Social Inclusion

Eligible grants in this area must support projects/programs that eliminate racial disparities for people in Akron .

The chief concern of ***On the Table Greater Akron*** participants in this area revolved forms of exclusion and issues of access and equality for underserved groups. The ***On the Table Greater Akron*** data show racial disparities for people in Akron on nearly every measure. Disadvantages for African American community members begin at birth, continues through school, is found in the workforce, and often ends with premature death. Increasing understanding of these disparities should help more effectively address a wide range of problems facing the community and its residents. The ***Beyond the Table*** grant award program would consider funding projects that operate utilizing a racial equity and inclusion lens. Public events or training opportunities that highlight racial equity and educate our community on the issues of diversity, equity and inclusion could be supported. Collaborative partnerships could be very effective in this effort, and the focus should be on increasing understanding of underlying factors that may prevent programs and services from having their intended impact.

Drugs and Addiction

Eligible grants in this area must focus on new projects/programs that address combatting addiction with an emphasis on addressing the social stigma of addiction at the neighborhood level.

So many institutions and agencies are working to combat drug-use and addiction in our community. The ***Beyond the Table*** grant awards program is careful not to duplicate efforts but

rather supplement the great work already happening in Akron. To that end, we choose to focus on new programs that also include a plan to reduce the stigma of addiction in our community.

On the Table Greater Akron participants spoke at length about this issue within their neighborhoods and the “lack of education” in their community about the disease. As one respondent put it, “families in our community are covering up serious situations of addiction rather than accessing and addressing them” due to stigma.

According to the U.S. National Library of Medicine at the National Institutes of Health, one of the most effective interventions for reducing the social stigma of addiction lies in the communication of positive stories regarding people living with, or recovering from substance-abuse disorder. Our ***Beyond the Table*** grant awards program should focus on projects/programs that deploy this intervention in some way.

Education and Youth Development

Eligible grants in this area must support projects/programs that provide out-of-school activity for Akron youth at the neighborhood level.

The recently completed Youth Violence Prevention Plan revealed that the vast majority of delinquent activity occurs between the hours of 3 and 6 p.m. There is an identified need for additional recreational and social activities during this time.

On the Table Greater Akron participants identified numerous concerns in this area but recognizing the limitations of ***Beyond the Table*** funding and the need to increase impact, we must be strategic. Respondents noted the need to get “youth involved in positive activities educationally and recreationally.” In fact, participants specifically cited the need for more funding for safe recreational and social opportunities for youth. As one respondent put it, “we need to reach our youth, get them off the streets.”

INELIGIBLE PROJECTS AND EXPENDITURES

Ineligible projects/expenditures would consist of the following:

- If you currently receive a grant from Akron Community Foundation, whatever program that is being funded by ACF will not be eligible. You may apply for a grant from the ***Beyond the Table*** grant award program for a new or expanded program that addresses one of the ***On the Table Greater Akron*** priorities.
- Lobbying or fund raising activities.
- Existing programs/projects
- Basic operating and/or administrative support to an organization.
- Projects which primarily support staff and other costs to a governmental unit or other public agency.

- Construction or rehabilitation of buildings or other structures.
- Computers, copiers and other related equipment
- Equipment
- Food and beverages
- Copying and printing **UNLESS** related to advertising or marketing the new project/program or **DIRECTLY** related to the proposed project.
- Overhead and Indirect Costs defined as the ongoing expenses related to operating a business or program and costs not directly accountable to the proposed new or expansion program
- City-wide projects/programs will not be considered. These must be neighborhood based.

FAITH-BASED ORGANIZATIONS

Organizations may not use City funds to support inherently religious activities such as worship or religious instruction.

MATCHING FUND AND NEIGHBORHOOD CONTRIBUTION

Organizations must match the funds they request from the ***Beyond the Table*** grant program. The value of the neighborhood contribution must be equal to or greater than the ***Beyond the Table*** dollars requested. Make sure that each element used as match is needed to complete the project.

Matching contributions are not reimbursable funding; however; they may be obtained in a variety of ways:

- Volunteer labor (valued at \$10 per hour) – value of neighborhood volunteer time.
- Donated supplies or equipment. (Indicate a dollar amount for donated supplies/equipment.)
- In-kind donated supplies, equipment or professional services.
- Pro-bono professional services valued at the commercial rate of the product or service.
- Cash

Please supply letters or other documents confirming matching resources and/or primary partners.

CONTRACT DEVELOPMENT AND MANAGEMENT

Contract Development

Contracts: Projects may begin only upon the execution of a contract. Project contracts will include provisions for reporting and monitoring requirements, insurance obligations and other required conditions. **Contracts will not be backdated to allow early start-up.**

If the applicant organization is not a 501(C)(3) nonprofit organization, the organization must work with a 501(C)(3) organization as a fiscal agent. Applicants using fiscal agents must attach a letter from the fiscal agent showing a willingness to serve in that capacity. **All fiscal agents must be registered corporation for non-profit and in current standing with the Ohio Secretary of State.** Please include the fiscal agent's State of Ohio certification with application as an additional attachment. The Secretary of State search engine can be found at <https://www5.sos.state.oh.us/ords/f?p=100:1>

Applicable Federal and City Regulations: Projects under contract with the State, City of Akron will be conducted in accordance with all applicable Federal, and City regulations. Applicable regulations will vary, depending on the project and funding source. Some regulatory requirements must be completed before executing a contract for the project.

Project Management

Billing Procedures: Funds will be distributed on a **reimbursement basis** for expenses incurred in accordance with the contract's goals and objectives. Billings for anticipated expenses may be included by special arrangement. Billing schedules may vary for projects, but will generally be either monthly or quarterly. No advances will be given.

Eligible reimbursements are based on items in your approved *BEYOND THE TABLE* grant award budget.

Any costs incurred before the effective date of the contract or after the termination date of the contract will not be covered by the grant. Matching funds must be expended within the period of the grant agreement.

Monitoring and Reporting: Monthly progress reports and a short final report evaluating the success of the project are required as a condition of receiving reimbursement under the contract. Monthly reports must be submitted in order to be reimbursed project expenses.

City staff will periodically conduct on-site monitoring of each project. This will include observing project activities and a review of files and financial records. Any deficiencies or required corrective actions will be noted in a formal letter to the grant recipient.

Application Due Date: August 1, 2019 – No late applications will be accepted.

To apply, visit Akron Community Foundation's website at:

www.akroncf.org

To access the application, go to nonprofits and then to grantee login. If you have applied to ACF in the past, go ahead and sign in. If not, you must create a new account before you begin the application process.

Once you are signed in, from your Applicant dashboard page, look for APPLY. Click that and look for the Beyond the Table Grant Award.