



The Mission of the Women's Giving Circle is:

- to share the joy of giving;
- build the ethic of living generously for future generations; and
- help members reach the most important needs in our community—together.

## 2026 Grantmaking Guidelines

### Timeline

- Applications will be available March 1, 2026
- Proposals are due April 1, 2026

### Eligibility

501(c)3 nonprofit organizations that have been in active service to the public for at least one year prior to the application.

Requests for funding should clearly demonstrate how the grant will be used to help women and or children gain self-sufficiency; and/or significantly address barriers to opportunities for women and or children.

The Women's Giving Circle supports one-year awards of up to \$5,000. A maximum of 15% of the project budget may include operating funds i.e. employed workers, fixed and flexible expenses, and other business costs. Only one proposal may be submitted per organization.

Preference is given to proposals that use one or more of the following approaches:

- Improve quality of life for women and children in our community
- Eliminate gaps in services and systems
- Build on community strengths (i.e. partnership with other organizations in the community, pursuing or show networking opportunities, or collaborating with community partners)
- Lead to long-term, sustainable solutions
- Develop clear and measurable program results
- Support an open, growing and diverse community
- Increase equity and social justice

The following are **EXCLUDED** from consideration:

- Organizations that promote a particular religious or political ideology
- Capital projects and campaigns (i.e. annual fundraisers, construction or renovation of new or existing facilities)
- Dinner galas, advertising, and other special fundraising events
- Programs to be implemented outside of the CFGD service area
- Programs receiving funding from the Circle the previous year (the same organization may apply for a different program each year)

## **Process**

- All applications are reviewed by the Women's Giving Circle Grantmaking Committee.
- Grants will be awarded at the Gifts and Grants Celebration on June 10, 2026. We ask that at least one person from the organization receiving the grant be in attendance.
- We make every effort to keep applicants updated on the status of their proposals.

## **Awards**

- Grant recipients will be required to sign an agreement before funds are distributed.
- Grantees will be required to file a final report or host a site visit (if feasible) at the end of their project.

## **How to Apply for a WGC Grant**

Applications must be completed online via our online grants management system, [GOapply](#), by April 1, 2026.

## **Questions?**

- Natalie Ludovissy, Development Officer at 563-588-2700 or [natalie@dbqfoundation.org](mailto:natalie@dbqfoundation.org)
- Gretchen Corcoran, Grants Manager at 563-588-2700 or [gretchen@dbqfoundation.org](mailto:gretchen@dbqfoundation.org)