



Grand Rapids
community foundation
For **good.** For **ever.**

Grand Rapids Community Foundation
Applying to the Fund for Community Good
(General Grants)

www.grfoundation.org/grants

To build the capacity of the nonprofit sector, the Community Foundation invests in **innovative models, proven programs, policy and advocacy efforts** throughout Kent County. If you believe your project is a fit with our grant guidelines, we hope that you will consider submitting a pre-application so that we may join you in your effort.

General Guidelines:

- To be considered for a grant an organization must:
 - Have a current 501(c)(3) nonprofit designation from the Internal Revenue Service or be a governmental organization and serve Kent County residents.
 - Address one of our grantmaking priorities AND be able to track results that match at least one of our measurables. See Novah Framework document at www.grfoundation.org/grants
 - Be able to demonstrate inclusive practices leading to diversity of race and ethnicity, sexual orientation, religion, ability and gender in their boards, staff and constituents.
 - Have the support of its board of directors and executive director for the project.
 - Seek diverse funding sources and have a plan to sustain the project beyond the term of the grant.
- Funding is not available for one-time, special or annual events, annual operating funds, political or religious causes, or endowments.
- Special guidelines apply for capital requests. Visit www.grfoundation.org/capitalcriteria to learn more.

Application Process:

- The first step is to submit a brief pre-application (rather than an unsolicited proposal or phone call.)
- There is no deadline for the pre-application; they are reviewed every two weeks.
- A pre-application should be submitted at least 90 days before the proposed start of your project.
- All pre-applications are submitted online at www.grfoundation.org/onlinegrants.
- If your pre-application is approved, you will be asked to submit a full proposal.

Questions?

For questions contact Ann Puckett at 454-1751, ext 123, or email inquiries to: apuckett@grfoundation.org

Our Mission

Our mission is to build and manage our community's permanent endowment and lead the community to strengthen the lives of its people.

Our Values

- **Innovation** - Embracing creative thinking and implementing new ideas.
- **Respect** - Honoring individual self-worth and creating a community of inclusion.
- **Inclusion** - Celebrating and fostering all aspects of diversity.
- **Excellence** - Performing at a level that exceeds expectations and inspires trust and confidence.
- **Exceptional Results** - Changing the community for the better.
- **People** - Transforming our community through the expertise of our staff, the gifts of our donors and the efforts of our grantees.
- **Hope** - Encouraging donors, nonprofits and the community to believe in a better future



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Grand Rapids Community Foundation
 Novah™ Grantmaking Framework

www.grfoundation.org

Our Leadership Goals

Our Grantmaking Priorities

What We Measure

Academic Achievement*

First generation/low income students successfully complete a course of post-secondary study that prepares them for a career

**Grant applications for Academic Achievement are accepted by invitation only.*

- Good Social Supports: support for school-based health and human services so children are ready to learn
- Good Schools and Classrooms: resources for innovative projects at the classroom and building level
- Good College Opportunities: provide students with resources for college
- Good Growth Experiences: support out-of-school enrichment experiences for students

- Chronic Absenteeism
 - Youth Involvement
- In Grand Rapids Public Schools:
- Graduation and Dropout Rates
 - Student Achievement
 - School Progression – 3rd/4th & 9th/10th

Economic Prosperity

Developing resources that allow the community to compete and thrive in a changing economy

- Support workforce development to ensure a trained & ready workforce and to attract & retain regional business investment
- Stimulate the local economy through new job creation
- Ensure that families achieve stable employment, affordable quality housing and ongoing financial stability

- Employment Rate
- Growth of Business Establishments
- New Job Creation
- Population with Housing
- Population without Housing Burden
- Financial Stability Index

Healthy Ecosystems

Preserving natural resources for the benefit of all people

- Protect sustainable & healthy ecosystems
- Promote urban sustainability & smart growth
- Support productive & efficient use of land & resources
- Advance environmental justice

- Commute Method
- Miles of Clean River
- Urban Canopy
- Parks and Greenspace Index

Healthy People

Promoting personal safety, healthy behaviors and access to quality healthcare for all

- Address risk factors for chronic preventable diseases & persistent disparities by ethnicity and/or socioeconomic status
- Reduce domestic violence and child abuse & neglect
- Reduce youth obesity

- Access to Care Index
- Healthy Behaviors Index
- Population in Safe Homes
- Youth Health
- Youth Obesity

Social Enrichment

Cultivating an attractive, desirable community that enriches the lives of all people

- Improve access to cultural, social and recreational opportunities that attract diverse populations
- Foster civic engagement
- Promote inclusion

- Discrimination Index
- Involvement Index
- Political Voice Index
- Problem Solving Index

Vibrant Neighborhoods

Supporting safe, attractive and self-sufficient communities of residences and businesses

- Support affordable quality housing options
- Promote viable neighborhood business districts
- Promote neighborhoods in the city of Grand Rapids that are diverse by income, race, ethnicity, age, and other characteristics

- Commercial Rehabs
- Occupied Addresses
- Residential Rehabs

Grand Rapids Community Foundation
Novah™ Grantmaking Framework

Measurement Descriptions

Academic Achievement

- In Grand Rapids Public Schools:
- Chronic Absenteeism
 - Graduation and Dropout Rates
 - Student Achievement (reading and math, measured through MAP)
 - School Progression – 3rd/4th and 9th/10th
 - Youth Involvement – The percentage of children involved in extracurricular activities

Economic Prosperity

- Employment Rate - % of unemployed workforce currently unemployed subtracted from 100%.
- Growth of Business Establishments - % change in the number of business establishments from one year to the next.
- Population with Housing - % of residents who are not homeless
- Population without Housing Burden - % of residents whose housing costs account for less than 30% of their annual income.
- Financial Stability index – To be defined
- New Job Creation – To be defined

Healthy Ecosystems

- Commute Method - % of workforce who does not work from home and commutes to work with some method other than driving alone (for example: mass transit, carpooling, or walking)
- Miles of Clean River - % of stream miles that attain EPA standards for water quality.
- Parks and Green Space Index – acres of preserved parkland and green space per 1,000 residents.
- Urban Canopy – % of ground in the City of Grand Rapids covered by trees when viewed from above.

Healthy People

- Access to Care Index – average of % of residents with health coverage, % who sought needed medical care (need care/got care), % who sought needed mental health care, % who have a usual health care provider, and % who did not have difficulty affording prescription medication in the past year.
- Healthy Behaviors Index – average of % of residents who do not smoke, % who do not drink heavily, % who are not obese, % who eat at least five servings of fruit/vegetables daily, and % partaking in adequate moderate physical activity.
- Population in Safe Homes – annual cases of abuse, neglect, and domestic violence per 100 residents.
- Youth Health – Asthma and Diabetes hospitalizations per 100 residents under age 18.
- Youth Obesity – Michigan Care Improvement Registry data

Social Enrichment

- Discrimination Index - % of residents indicating they had not been discriminated against for any reason in the past year.
- Involvement Index - % of residents indicating that, in the past week, they had done one or more of the following: gone to church, temple, or other place of worship for services or other activities; gone to a movie, play, concert, restaurant, sporting event, club meeting, card game, or other social activity; or gotten together with friends or neighbors in any other setting.
- Political Voice Index - % of residents indicating they had done one or more of the following in the past 12 months: contacted or visited a public official; contacted the media to express an opinion; taken part in a protest, march, or demonstration; or signed a petition about a political or social issue.
- Problem Solving Index - % of residents indicating that they: had talked about current events or politics with anyone in the past week; belong to a club or organization; done any volunteer work in the past 12 months for a charitable organization; donated money in the last 12 months to a charitable organization; worked formally or informally with someone or some group to solve a problem in the community; or had done some combination of these.

Vibrant Neighborhoods

- Commercial Rehabs - % of buildings that underwent renovations of over \$5,000.
- Occupied Addresses - % of addresses vacant subtracted from 100%.
- Residential Rehabs - # of residential buildings per 1,000 that underwent renovations of over \$5,000.