Project W Grant Applications
Frequently Asked Questions

What is Project W?

Founded in 2019, Project W is a women's giving circle committed to enhancing and improving the quality of life for women in Delaware County. As a membership-based organization, Project W pools together its annual membership contributions to provide grants to nonprofit organizations whose mission and programs align with ours. Please visit www.projw.org for more information.

What is Project W's grant making model?

- Applications are considered in one of the four Focus Areas: Education, Family, Health, and Small Grants.
- Grant committee members review applications, score each application using a rubric, conduct site visits, and determine one grant awarded in each focus area.
- Grant recipient organizations are required to attend the Annual Grant Award Celebration and make a short presentation about your organization.

What is the breakdown of the grant award?

Four grants will be awarded in 2027. Previous grant award amounts are available at projw.org/our-impact. The Education, Family, and Health grants will be equal in amount, while the Small Grants award will be substantial but smaller than the others.

What is the Project W Grant timeline?

- November 9, 2026 – LOI application opens
- November 23, 2026 – LOI application submission closes
- January 14, 2027 – Grant application available, if selected
- February 8, 2027 – Deadline to apply
- End of March-beginning of April – Grant committees' first meeting to review and score applications
- No later than April 6, 2027 – Applicants will be notified if they have progressed to the site visit phase, or if their application has been denied
- April – committee members conduct site visits

- Beginning of May – Committees convene their second meetings to discuss site visits and select the grant recipients
- May 17, 2027 – Grant winners announced
- June 9, 2027 – Annual Grant Celebration, location TBD

How do I know which grant program to apply for?

An organization may only submit one LOI.

Your organization's previous fiscal year's revenue determines which grant program you will be considered for, should you be invited to submit a full application:

- **Revenue between $25,000 and $500,000:** If your organization advances to the full application phase, your organization will automatically be considered for a Small Grant.
- **Revenue greater than $500,000:** If your organization advances to the full application phase, it will be considered for a grant in one of three focus areas: Family, Education, or Health.

Why is there a separate Small Grants category?

We recognize that smaller organizations may have less capacity and support for grant-writing. Additionally, organizations with smaller budgets may have less capacity to expend a larger grant in a 12-month period.

What are the funding preferences?

Preferences will be given to applicants that:

- Work with women historically excluded from equitable access to resources and opportunities
- Have the greatest impact on women in Delaware County
- Have not received a Project W grant within the preceding five years
- Demonstrate a commitment to diversity, equity, inclusion, and access
    - Diversity is achieved by welcoming all people and embracing all the ways that they are different and the same at the individual and group level.
    - Equity is achieved by ensuring the fair and just treatment of all members of a community.
    - Inclusion is achieved by ensuring that all individuals feel that they are treated fairly and respectfully, have equal access to opportunities and resources, and that they are an important part of the whole.
    - Access is achieved by eliminating barriers and thereby allowing any person or group to use resources regardless of their ability status.
- Though not required that organizations be based or exclusively work in Delaware County, preference will be given to Delaware County-based organizations.

We fund organizations that provide access to programs and services in the following focus areas:

- **Education:** The Education Committee seeks to fund organizations that work to develop skills and improve educational outcomes for women, both in and outside of the classroom. Education areas may include (but are not limited to):
    - GED and Post-Secondary Transition Support
    - Literacy and Language Programs

    - Career Education and Training
    - Financial Literacy
    - Continuing Education and Personal Enrichment
    - Mentorship Programs
    - Entrepreneurship

- **Health:** The Health Committee seeks to fund organizations that work to improve health, wellbeing, and safety outcomes for women. Health areas may include (but are not limited to):
    - Healthcare access, services and treatment
    - Health Care Advocacy and Education
    - Personal Care Supplies and Support
    - Mental Health
    - Drug and Alcohol Addiction Support (prevention and treatment)
    - Healthy Aging
    - LGBTQ+ Health Care
    - Nutrition and Healthy Food Access
    - Sexual Abuse Support
- **Family:** The Family Committee seeks to fund organizations that work to ensure the stability, security and affordability for women and their households. Family areas may include (but are not limited to):
    - Housing Stability and Security
    - Child/Spouse/Parent Care
    - Food Security/Food Access
    - Parenting Education and Resources
    - Domestic Violence, Prevention, and Intervention
    - Family Health, Wellness and Safety
    - Family Crisis Support

- **Small Grants**: The Small Grants Committee seeks to fund organizations that have smaller budgets or are newly established. Applicants must meet the following criteria.
    - Annual revenue in the previous fiscal year: minimum $25,000; maximum $500,000. If the organization is a chapter or affiliate of a national organization, the local, independent budget must be within this range.
    - Grant request must align with one of the three focus areas (Education, Health and Family)

Who is Eligible?

Applicants must meet the following criteria:

- Must be charitable, tax-exempt organizations with 501(c)3 certification
- Must support charitable activities in Delaware County
- Must be in operation for a minimum of three years

- Churches are not eligible to apply; however, organizations that use church facilities to further the mission of Project W may apply for funding, as long as they are independent 501(c)3 organizations

Project W will not fund:

- Individuals
- For profit organizations
- Religious programs or those promoting religious education
- Programs that attempt to influence legislation or that promote or support a political organization as defined in 26 U.S.C. 527. A 527 is a non-profit organization formed under Section 527 of the Internal Revenue Code, which grants tax-exempt status to political committees at the national, state, and local level.
- Organizations that do not provide services in Delaware County
- Currently funded Project W grant recipients

I have more questions. Who should I contact?

Email projectw@tcfhelps.org for more information.