

Partner Collaboration Program

Grant Committee Evaluation Rubric

Thank you for participating in the Partner Collaboration Program evaluation committee. We believe the web of issues that lead to food insecurity is complex. It will take a collective community approach to make a deep impact on *the following root cause issues we have identified as the top priority in Blaine County for 2024*:

- Lack of affordable childcare, equitable education and enrichment opportunities for low income youth
- Lack of emergency, transitional and affordable housing
- Lack of mental health services
- Lack of status security
- Lack of representative leadership and civic engagement among impacted communities

As you review each application, please keep the following points in mind:

- 1. Mission or project clearly demonstrates connection to a root cause of food insecurity.
- 2. Their work impacts Blaine County residents.
- 3. We are eager to fund partners who are less easily able to fundraise, but are doing crucial root cause work.
- 4. We are eager to fund newer, less established partner organizations who display the ability to make a substantial increase in their capacity with these funds.
- 5. We are eager to fund partners with a long term vision that can be amplified through these collective efforts and includes stakeholder buy-in.
- 6. We are eager to fund partners who display a commitment to diverse staff representation that reflects the community they serve.

Grant Committee evaluation process:

- 1. Review each application and use the rubric to score each category.
- 2. You may recommend 1 or 2 follow-up questions for the organizations who will move to the final round.
- 3. If you are a staff member or board member or have direct relations with a nonprofit applicant, you must recuse yourself from reviewing the application and voting for that organization.

Root Cause Connection (weighted at 50%)					
Does the organization's mission represent root cause work OR does the initiative seek to solve one or more of the top priority root cause issues?					
Exemplary	3	Org clearly demonstrates root cause connection			
Adequate	2	Org indirectly demonstrates root cause connection			
Needs Improvement	1	The root cause connection is vague and needs to be further explained			

The Initiative is Doable

Disqualified

Does the team have the depth of skills, capacity, and knowledge necessary to ensure the organization's continued success? Does the organization's team (leader(s) and staff) reflect and represent the experiences and perspectives of the community it serves? Is the initiative realistic? Are there clearly defined outcomes?

There is no root cause connection

Exemplary	3	Org has the infrastructure and a solid plan, but needs more funding to carry out the initiative OR they are a young org with a solid plan that needs resources to build capacity
Adequate	2	Org will need additional resources and mentorship to carry out initiative, but has a plan
Needs Improvement	1	Org will need substantial resources to carry out initiative, and the plan needs improvement
Disqualified	0	Org has insufficient plan and lack of resources to carry out the initiative

The Initiative is Measurable

Does the organization have a demonstrable track record of success working in this community **OR** if it's a younger organization, do they have a clearly defined vision for success? Does the application clearly outline the organization's plans for capturing data to support tracking and reporting on the outcomes of the initiative?

Exemplary	3	Clear vision for success and robust monitoring and evaluation tools are in place to capture both qualitative and quantitative data
Adequate	2	Outcomes are outlined and adequate monitoring and evaluation tools are identified, but outcomes will be difficult to prove successful in the first year
Needs Improvement	1	Outcomes lack clarity and limited tools have been identified for monitoring and evaluation
Disqualified	0	Initiative is too vague to determine outcomes

Please give us more information about how you chose to score this application:
Follow-up questions we should ask this organization:
Should this organization be considered for multi year funding? If so, why?