



## Women's Foundation of Montana 2024 Grant Guidelines

### Women's Foundation of Montana Funding Opportunity

The Women's Foundation of Montana (WFM) was established at the Montana Community Foundation in 1999 to provide a permanent resource for women and girls in Montana. WFM is committed to partnering with organizations and programs across the state that advance gender equity in Montana. The WFM Advisory Committee guides WFM's grantmaking priorities and funding decisions.

The Women's Foundation of Montana is seeking to fund organizations and projects that align with WFM's priorities:

- ♦ Foster economic security among women through wealth and asset building strategies; promote policies and programs that support women in the workforce.
- ♦ Strengthen the social safety net and increase access to healthcare.
- ♦ Promote leadership and skills development for women.

### Requirements:

Applicants must be based in and serving women and girls in Montana. Applicants must be a 501(c)(3) nonprofit or 501(c)(4) nonprofit (501(C)(4) must apply for project specific funds for nonpartisan activities) or unincorporated organizations, groups, or initiatives fiscally sponsored by tax-exempt entities.

Non-501(c)(3) or non-501(c)(4) nonprofits may be eligible; please contact Kylie Gursky at (406) 541-7406 or [kylie@mtcf.org](mailto:kylie@mtcf.org) to discuss eligibility.

### Grant Amounts:

Grants will range from \$5,000 up to \$25,000. For funding needs greater than \$25,000, please contact Kylie Gursky at (406) 541-7406 or [kylie@mtcf.org](mailto:kylie@mtcf.org).

### Eligible Organizations and Projects:

- ♦ Primarily benefit women and girls and understand and address the unique barriers women face in advancing economically.
- ♦ Provide direct services, build leadership skills, engage in state or local policy and advocacy, or all three.
- ♦ Demonstrate commitment to inclusivity and diversity and reflect and represent those they serve.

- ♦ Demonstrate a clear impact on the lives of women and girls in Montana and/or have the potential for sustainable and positive change.
- ♦ Preference will be given to organizations and projects serving women in rural and tribal communities.
- ♦ Meet at least one of the following WFM objectives:
  - Objective 1: Foster economic security among women through wealth and asset building strategies; promote policies and programs that support women in the workforce.
    - Fund projects that support women in accessing fulfilling work with a livable wage and quality benefits.
    - Fund projects that provide training, resources, and access to financing for women to start and grow businesses.
    - Fund projects that provide education and training, and ongoing opportunities for women to upskill and retrain.
  - Objective 2: Strengthen the social safety net and increase access to healthcare.
    - Fund programs that increase women's access to essential services to meet basic needs, including housing, nutrition, safety, and financial stability.
    - Fund programs that provide education and resources for women's health care, including reproductive, maternal, and gender-affirming care.
    - Fund projects that advocate for and advance policy reforms that improve access to and increase public investment in economic opportunity, security, and equity for women.
  - Objective 3: Promote leadership and skills development for women.
    - Fund projects that establish or enhance educational programs with a gender-specific lens.
    - Fund projects that build capacity to engage women in advocacy and policy change.

### **Funding Type:**

WFM accepts applications for general operating support as well as project specific support.

General operating requests are awarded to organizations whose overall work intentionally and specifically supports women and/or girls or addresses issues that disproportionately impacts women and/or girls and includes a gender equity analysis.

Project specific requests are awarded to and restricted to projects and activities that are targeted to benefit women and girls. Fiscally sponsored organizations should submit project specific requests.

If you have questions about whether you should apply for general operating support or project specific support, please call Kylie Gursky at (406)541-7406 or email [kylie@mtcf.org](mailto:kylie@mtcf.org).

### **Ineligible Projects:**

- ♦ Religious, partisan, or sectarian programs or projects.
- ♦ One-time events, such as celebrations or social gatherings that are not part of longer-term goals.

### **Application Process & Deadline:**

WFM is accepting pre-application questionnaires until Friday, March 1, 2024, at 11:59 p.m. Finalists will be selected by March 13, 2024, and asked to submit full applications. Full applications from finalists must be submitted by April 23, 2024, at 11:59 p.m. Only online pre-applications and pre-application questionnaires will be accepted and can be accessed here: <https://bit.ly/wfmapplyforfunding>.

Pre-application questionnaires are reviewed by WFM and MCF staff and select members of the WFM Advisory Committee.

View WFM pre-application questions on our website.

### **Reporting:**

A project report will be due within one year of receiving funds. Reports must be received before additional grants are made. --- For questions about the Women's Foundation of Montana or application please contact Kylie Gursky at (406) 541-7406 or [kylie@mtcf.org](mailto:kylie@mtcf.org).

## WOMEN'S FOUNDATION OF MONTANA – PRE-APPLICATION QUESTIONNAIRE QUESTIONS

### Information from online application

Organization Legal Name

EIN

Organization Type

♦ **Choices:**

- 501(c)3
- 501(c)4
- Fiscally sponsored by the eligible organization listed below
- Other

Fiscally Sponsored Organization's Name

Type of Request

♦ **Choices:**

- General Operating
- Project Specific

Requested amount (\$5,000 - \$25,000)

Point of Contact for Proposal

- ♦ First and Last Name, Title

Contact Information

- ♦ Email, Phone

Organization Mission

Number of paid full-time staff

♦ **Choices:**

- 2 or fewer
- 3-5
- 6-9
- 10-19
- 20-49
- 50+

Does your organization provide direct services to individuals?

♦ **Choices:**

- Yes
- No

Does your organization engage in community organizing and/or advocacy?

♦ **Choices:**

- Yes
- No

Does your org engage in community organizing and/or support individuals' participation in advocacy?

♦ **Choices:**

- Yes
- No

### Proposal Objectives

Below are the Women's Foundation of Montana's objectives for the 2024 grant cycle. Which resources aligned with WFM priorities will this proposal help women access (select all that apply)?

- ♦ Jobs with livable wages and quality benefits
- ♦ Training, resources, and access to financing for women to start and grow businesses.
- ♦ Education and training, and ongoing opportunities to upskill and retrain.
- ♦ Support for basic needs, including housing, nutrition, safety, and financial stability.
- ♦ Education and resources for health care, including reproductive, maternal, and gender-affirming care

- ♦ Policy reforms that improve access to and increase public investment in economic security for women
  - ♦ Leadership development
  - ♦ Build capacity to engage in advocacy and policy change
- Communities Served, counties

- ♦ Select the counties that will be served by the work described in this proposal.

Communities Served, Tribal Nations

- ♦ Select the tribal nations and members that will be served by the work described in this proposal.

Communities Served

- ♦ Who are the target beneficiaries the organization/project serves?

Briefly describe how your organizational leadership reflects and represents those you serve.

- ♦ Organizational leadership can include staff, board of directors, advisory committees, or any other decision-making body that directs the organization or project.

### Community Engagement

My organization provides the following tools and/or engages community members and community partners in the following activities (select all that apply):

♦ **Choices:**

- ♦ Fact sheets, open houses, presentations, billboards, videos, etc.
- ♦ Public comment, focus groups, community forums, surveys, etc.
- ♦ Community organizing and advocacy, interactive workshops, polling, open planning forums, etc.
- ♦ Community advisory committees, co-design and co-implementation of programs, etc.
- ♦ Community-driven planning and governance, consensus building, etc.
- ♦ Participatory action research and participatory budgeting, etc.

Additional information about community engagement

- ♦ If there is additional context needed for the above question, please explain here.

### Demonstrate Impact

Select all the ways your organization plans to demonstrate the impact of the work described in this pre-application questionnaire.

♦ **Choices:**

- ♦ Create sustainable goals
- ♦ Gather data
- ♦ Have clarity and communicate about the desired impact
- ♦ Involve stakeholders in the measurement process
- ♦ Measure impact through data
- ♦ Measure impact through story collection
- ♦ Other

Briefly describe your proposal

- ♦ Please briefly describe the work you plan to submit a proposal for in 300 words or less, make sure to specify how the work will benefit women and girls and address the unique barriers they face.