2024 GRANTS CYCLE

**Application Content**

# Please note all proposals for the Hispanic Impact Fund and Women’s Fund are due Wednesday, July 31, by 5 p.m. Central Time.

Thank you for your interest in Austin Community Foundation’s 2024 Grants Cycle. This year, grant cycles for the Hispanic Impact Fund and Women’s Fund are happening concurrently. Applicants can submit one proposal, regardless of which Fund(s) they are applying for.

# How to complete this proposal:

**Step 1 – Eligibility Check, Contact Information & Diversity Representation** (complete once for both)

**/** The first part of this proposal includes requests for contact information, confirmation of eligibility and diversity and representation data. This information will be filled out once and utilized by any Program Funds that your organization applies to.

Please note, the way in which your diversity and representation answers are scored will vary by Fund.

**Step 2 – Complete assurances checklist and upload required documents** (complete once for both)

**/** Review and complete the assurance checklist and upload (2) required documents.

**Step 3 – Select which proposal(s) your organization intends to apply for** (complete set of questions for each selected Fund)

**/** Select which opportunity you are applying for. This will then direct you to complete the narrative questions for the corresponding Fund(s). Complete the application fully, including using the available link to share learning sessions availability.

# Introduction

As the Central Texas region balances on an inflection point of growth and change, our work and leadership is focused on closing the opportunity gap through our signature programs like the Hispanic Impact Fund and Women’s Fund.

Each Grants Cycle incorporates trust-based philanthropy values, data-driven strategic priorities and community voice. Please see the Impact Areas of each of our Program Funds below.

**/ Hispanic Impact Fund:** Organizations supporting the advancement of Hispanic Central Texans in one of the following strategy areas: Early Childhood Education, Health & Wellness, Job Skills & Entrepreneurship, and Leadership Development.

**/ Women’s Fund:** Organizations and programs providing direct services and systems-level changes to women of color in one of the following strategy areas: Child Care, Education, Housing, Unintended Pregnancy Prevention, and Women’s Health.

# Timeline

**/ Proposals Open:** Friday, May 31, 2024

# / RFP Release Webinars:

Women’s Fund: Wednesday, June 5, 12-1:00 p.m. - [**RSVP here**](https://us02web.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_CLdf6JxdSLi7GGRuk3KvTQ%23/registration)

Hispanic Impact Fund: Tuesday, June 6, 12-1:00 p.m. - [**RSVP here**](https://us02web.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_lJbC1HIxQlWDIl75Dj6qAQ%23/registration)

**/ Proposals Due:** Wednesday, July 31,2024 at 5pm Central Time

**/ Learning Sessions with Semifinalists:** October 15 - November 1, 2024

**/ Award Decisions Announced:** Friday, December 2, 2024

# Who is Eligible?

**/** Nonprofit organizations working in the 6 county Central Texas region, which includes: Travis, Bastrop, Burnet, Caldwell, Hays, and Williamson counties

**/** Organizations must be tax-exempt under Sections 501(c)3 or 170(b)(1)(a)(vi) of the Internal Revenue Code and/or be a unit of government

**/** Proposals will be considered from organizations that engage in non-lobbying advocacy work. Organizations doing systems change level work such as educating the public about issues, community organizing, policy research and other non-lobbying advocacy activities may apply

**/** Proposals will be considered from religious organizations that engage in non-religious programming.

Religious organizations will need to demonstrate that their work aligning with the Program Funds’ strategies is secular in nature and does not discriminate against any employees or clients based on religion.

# Austin Community Foundation does not grant funds for:

**/** Endowment funds

**/** Scholarships

**/** Religious organizations for religious purposes

**/** Fundraising activities or events

**/** Umbrella funding organizations that intend to distribute funds at their own discretion

**/** Individuals

**/** Organizations with discriminatory hiring practices based on race, gender, sexual orientation, religion, etc.

# Note:

**Eligible organizations may apply for funding from multiple Program Funds.** For example, an eligible organization could apply for funding from both the Hispanic Impact Fund and the Women’s Fund.

While submitting one proposal only is required, organizations must select the specific Fund(s) they are applying to and complete proposal questions from that specific Fund to be considered.

Funding awarded from any one Program Fund does not exclude an organization from receiving funding from other Program Funds.

**Past grant recipients may apply for funding from either of the Program Funds.** Please note, organizations who received a multi-year grant award in 2023 from the Women’s Fund or Hispanic Impact Fund are not eligible to reapply under the same strategy for which they are still being awarded funds. You can find the details for 2023 grantees online here for the Women’s Fund and here for the Hispanic Impact Fund.

We highly encourage you to review the rubric, strategy areas, guiding definitions, and guiding principles for each Program Fund to get a better understanding of the criteria that will be applied to your proposal and to guide you in submitting successful proposal(s).

# Hispanic Impact Fund: [[Strategy Statements & Guiding Definitions](https://www.austincf.org/wp-content/uploads/2024/05/Strategy-Statements-and-Guiding-Definitions_HIF.pdf), [Guiding Principles](https://www.austincf.org/wp-content/uploads/2024/05/Guiding-Principles_HIF.pdf), and [Scoring Rubric](https://www.austincf.org/wp-content/uploads/2024/05/2024-HIF-Scoring-Rubric-Final.pdf)] Women’s Fund: [[Strategy Statements & Guiding Definitions](https://www.austincf.org/wp-content/uploads/2024/05/Strategy-Statements-and-Guiding-Definitions_WF.pdf), [Guiding Principles](https://www.austincf.org/wp-content/uploads/2024/05/Guiding-Principles_WF.pdf), and [Scoring Rubric](https://www.austincf.org/wp-content/uploads/2024/05/2024-WF-Scoring-Rubric-Final.pdf)]

*The \* will indicate a required question.*

# Eligibility\*

Based on the criteria outlined above, does your organizations fit Austin Community Foundation’s eligibility requirements?

Choices:

Yes / No / Unsure

# GENERAL APPLICATION QUESTIONS

**Organization Information Organization Name\*** *Character Limit: 100*

# Incorporation Date\*

*Character Limit: 10*

# Mission Statement\*

*Character Limit: 10000*

# Diversity & Representation Data

Our Programs seek to partner with organizations whose leadership, staff, and board represent the populations they serve. Please note that the information provided will be scored differently by Program Fund. For additional scoring details, refer to each Program Fund’s specific scoring rubric.

Where applicable, please share numbers for a full 12-month time period. This can be the latest full year where the data is available, your fiscal year, or a calendar year - whichever is easiest for your organization to provide.

Remember, in each of the charts, the total at the bottom should be equal to your organization’s total for that specific population. For example, the total under “People Served” should be equal to the number of people your organization serves within your chosen 12-month time period.

# Board Member Demographics

Please list estimated numbers of individuals below. If your organization does not have members in a certain category, put 0 in the field.

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **Demographic** | **# of Board Members in this Demographic** |
| Asian |  |
| Black/African American |  |
| Hispanic/Latina/Latino |  |
| Indigenous/Native American |  |
| Native Hawaiian/Pacific Islander |  |
| White/Caucasian |  |
| Other |  |
| Unknown |  |
| Total |  |

# Executive Staff Demographics

Please complete with data representing the demographics of your executive staff. If your organization does not have members in a certain category, put 0 in the field.

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **Demographic** | **# of Executive Staff in this Demographic** |
| Asian |  |
| Black/African American |  |
| Hispanic/Latina/Latino |  |
| Indigenous/Native American |  |
| Native Hawaiian/Pacific Islander |  |
| White/Caucasian |  |
| Other |  |

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Unknown |  |
| Total |  |

# Non-Executive Staff Demographics

Please list estimated numbers of individuals below. If your organization does not have members in a certain category, put 0 in the field.

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **Demographic** | **# of Non-Executive Staff in this Demographic** |
| Asian |  |
| Black/African American |  |
| Hispanic/Latina/Latino |  |
| Indigenous/Native American |  |
| Native Hawaiian/Pacific Islander |  |
| White/Caucasian |  |
| Other |  |
| Unknown |  |
| Total |  |

# People Served Demographics

Please complete with data reflecting the population served by your organization. Estimates are acceptable. If your organization does not have members in a certain category, put 0 in the field.

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **Demographic** | **# of People Served in this Demographic** |
| Asian |  |
| Black/African American |  |
| Hispanic/Latina/Latino |  |
| Indigenous/Native American |  |
| Native Hawaiian/Pacific Islander |  |
| White/Caucasian |  |
| Other |  |
| Unknown |  |
| Total |  |

# People Served Demographics\*

Percent of those you project to serve who are at or below 200% of the federal poverty level. **(For a family of 4 in 2024, this is an annual income of $62,400)**

If you do not collect this information, please put your best estimated percentage. For some programs, this question will not be scored, and the purpose is to simply better understand the amount of your services that are directed at people experiencing poverty.

Note: Answers must be between 0 - 100%.

*Character Limit: 3*

# If you are not able to report on any of the above categories, please explain why:

*Character Limit: 10000*

# Representation Information

Austin Community Foundation aims to fund organizations whose staff, boards and leadership reflect the people served.

Provide additional background information that will help contextualize the representation information you provided. What successes or challenges has your organization experienced related to diversity and representation?

*Character Limit: 10000*

# Assurances Checklist

I certify that the organization submitting this proposal meets the following criteria or can provide a reasonable alternative method to meet standards.

# Board Activity\*

The board meets regularly, has an active committee structure, terms, and recruits new members periodically.

Choices:

Yes / No

# The organization has written personnel, operating, and financial management policies\*

Choices:

Yes / No

# Controls\*

The organization has internal controls in place to manage expenditures of these grant funds and is able to maintain appropriate financial records.

Choices:

Yes / No

# Additional Comments

If you selected no for any of the statements above, please provide comments and alternative methods for meeting the criteria in the space below.

*Character Limit: 10000*

# IRS Determination Letter\*

Please provide a copy of your IRS Determination Letter. If you are working with a fiscal sponsor, please provide their IRS Letter as possible.

*File Size Limit: 2 MB*

# Annual Budget\*

*Character Limit: 20*

# Current Operating Budget\*

Please upload Organization’s current operating budget (a template is provided for your use but it is not required, you may submit your organization’s own working document).

*File Size Limit: 5 MB*

# Budget Narrative

Please also share any other details you want the committee to know about how this funding will/won’t impact your organization’s ability to do the proposed work. Provide any additional details about your budget attachment that you want reviewers to be aware of.

*Character Limit: 10000*

# If you are applying with a fiscal sponsor, please share their organization name here.

*Character Limit: 250*

# Please select the Program Fund(s) for which you are applying:\*

Choices:

Hispanic Impact Fund / Women’s Fund

**HISPANIC IMPACT FUND**

**2024 Grants Cycle Narrative**

**Please note this application is due Wednesday, July 31, by 5 p.m. Central Time.**

**Introduction**

Austin Community Foundation (ACF) believes that ensuring the economic mobility of Latinos is essential to closing the opportunity gap and bridging the racial wealth divide in Central Texas.

This grants cycle, the Hispanic Impact Fund will be awarding funding to organizations and programs that fit into one of the following Strategy Areas:

**/ Early Childhood Education:** Provide access to affordable, high-quality Pre-K and early childhood education starting at age 3, building the pipeline from cradle to career for Latino families.

**/ Health & Wellness:** Provide preventative, culturally competent health education and access to quality mental and physical health services.

**/ Job Skills & Entrepreneurship:** Assist Latino entrepreneurs in gaining the knowledge and skills needed to expand their businesses.

**/ Leadership Development:** Advance Latino leadership and create pipelines of youth, emerging, and established Latino talent, which are critical to building a thriving Central Texas.

# In each Strategy Area, four grants will be distributed as follows:

**/** Winning Finalist: $50,000 total; a multi-year grant over two years — $30,000 in 2024 and $20,000 in 2025

**/** Runner-up Finalist: $35,000 total; a multi-year grant over two years — $20,000 in 2024 and $15,000 in 2025

**/** Two Semifinalists: $20,000 in 2024

We highly encourage you to review the [**Scoring Rubric**](https://www.austincf.org/wp-content/uploads/2024/05/2024-HIF-Scoring-Rubric-Final.pdf)to get a better understanding of the criteria that will be applied to your proposal and to guide you in submitting a successful application.

# Note: You may only select one Impact Area when submitting your proposal.

In total, $500,000 in unrestricted, general operating support will be awarded to 16 different nonprofit organizations aligning with Hispanic Impact Fund strategies.

# Proposed Work & Impact

**Strategy Area — Hispanic Impact Fund\***

Please check the Hispanic Impact Fund strategy area that aligns with your organization’s mission and activities as it relates to this proposal.

Choices:

**/** Early Childhood Education

**/** Health & Wellness

**/** Job Skills & Entrepreneurship

**/** Leadership Development

# Strategy Alignment — Hispanic Impact Fund\*

Please share how your organization’s mission and activities align with your selected Hispanic Impact Fund strategy.

**/ Early Childhood Education:** Provide access to affordable, high-quality Pre-K and early childhood education starting at age 3, building the pipeline from cradle to career for Latino families

**/ Health & Wellness:** Provide preventative, culturally competent health education and access to quality mental and physical health services.

**/ Job Skills & Entrepreneurship:** Assist Latino entrepreneurs in gaining the knowledge and skills needed to expand their businesses.

**/ Leadership Development:** Advance Latino leadership and create pipelines of youth, emerging, and established Latino talent, which are critical to building a thriving Central Texas.

*Character Limit: 10000*

# Statement of Need — Hispanic Impact Fund\*

Please describe the need within the Hispanic community that your work addresses and how services provided meet that need. How could continued or additional funding support you in this work?

*Character Limit: 10000*

# Goals, Outcome & Evaluation — Hispanic Impact Fund\*

Please share your vision, plans, and evaluations in place to successfully address the need(s) identified in your statement of need.

*Character Limit: 10000*

# Cultural Competency & History with Hispanic Population — Hispanic Impact Fund\*

Please share your history working with the Hispanic population and understanding of its needs as it relates to your selected strategy. Detail any outreach plans and/or partnerships to connect with the Hispanic population and any specific accommodations your organization has. Please also share how your organization is accessible, responsive, and convenient for people served.

*Character Limit: 10000*

# Grants Process Information

This information is not included (scored) in your consideration for funding.

# Brief Description — Hispanic Impact Fund\*

In 150 words or less, please describe your organization and proposed activities. This exact text will be used if your organization is presented to Hispanic Impact Fund Investors and Community Reviewers for voting.

Please do not include your organization’s name or any identifying information in this description. Voting will be conducted without finalists being identified to reviewers.

*Character Limit: 650*

# Virtual Learning Session Availability

Should your organization be recommended for a grant and proceed to the second stage of the applicant review process, we will invite your organization to participate in a 1-hour Virtual Learning Session between 9 a.m. –
5 p.m., Monday through Friday during the October 15 – November 1 timeframe.

Before submitting your application, click the link here, to submit your availability for this potential meeting. If weekday availability is not possible, please make a note of that in the form. Please only suggest dates/times that you’ve confirmed are available for all individuals you would like to participate on the Learning Session. There are no requirements for who must participate; however, we recommend a mix of executive leadership, program staff, and/or people served (if appropriate), and only permit up to three (3) representatives total to attend.

We recommend holding these times on your calendar(s) now to ensure availability. You will be notified by October 11th if you’ve been selected to move forward.

# Confirmation — Virtual Learning Session Hispanic Impact Fund\*

I confirm I filled out the Virtual Learning Session Availability Form for the Hispanic Impact Fund.

Choices:

Yes / No

**WOMEN' S FUND**

**2024 Grants Cycle Narrative**

**Please note this application is due Wednesday, July 31, by 5 p.m. Central Time.**

**Introduction**

Austin Community Foundation believes that ensuring the economic security of women and children is essential to closing the opportunity gap in Central Texas, and we know we cannot do this without addressing the racial wealth and health divide faced by women of color.

This grants cycle, the Women’s Fund will be awarding funding to organizations which provide direct services and/or systems-level change in one of the following strategy areas:

**/ Child Care:** Expand access to safe, quality, culturally competent and affordable child care that is conveniently located for families with low incomes.

**/ Education:** Provide access to an ecosystem of support – academic, emotional, and financial – for women pursuing educational dreams.

**/ Housing:** Support access to affordable housing for women that includes a network of support and/or opportunities for long-term wealth building.

**/ Unintended Pregnancy Prevention:** Increase access to consumable, unbiased pregnancy prevention resources.

**/ Women’s Health:** Reduce health disparities faced by women of color.

# In each strategy area, 3 grants will be distributed as follows:

**/** Winning finalist: $55,000 total [a multi-year grant over 2 years — $35,000 in 2024 and $20,000 in 2025]

**/** Runner-up finalist — $30,000 in 2024

**/** Semifinalist — $15,000 in 2024

We highly encourage you to review the [**Scoring Rubric**](https://www.austincf.org/wp-content/uploads/2024/05/2024-WF-Scoring-Rubric-Final.pdf)to get a better of understanding of the criteria that will be applied to your proposal and to guide you in submitting a successful application.

# Note:

**/** You may only select one Impact Area when submitting your application. In order to be considered in multiple strategies, you must submit separate proposals for each impact area.

**/** While applicants can be considered in multiple impact areas, they may only proceed to the Semifinalist stage in one. If recommended as a Semifinalist in more than one category, the category in which the applicant scored/ranked highest will be the category in which they are considered for funding.

In total, $500,000 in unrestricted, general operating support will be awarded to 15 different nonprofit organizations aligning with Women’s Fund strategies.

# Gender Identity

Please use categories based on how individuals self-identify. The total here should be equal to the total numbers in the in the Diversity and Representation section of this proposal.

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **Demographic** | **# of People Served in this Demographic** |
| Men |  |
| Women |  |
| Non-binary and/or genderqueer |  |
| Unknown |  |
| Prefer not to identify |  |
| Total |  |

# Proposed Work & Impact

**Strategy Area — Women’s Fund\***

Please check the Women’s Fund’s strategy area that aligns with your organization’s mission and activities as it relates to this proposal. (select one)

Choices:

**/** Child Care

**/** Education

**/** Housing

**/** Unintended Pregnancy Prevention

**/** Women’s Health

# Strategy Alignment — Women’s Fund\*

Please share how your organization’s mission and activities align with your selected Women’s Fund strategy.

**/ Child Care:** Expand access to safe, quality, culturally competent and affordable child care that is conveniently located for families with low incomes.

**/ Education:** Provide access to an ecosystem of support—academic, emotional, and financial—for women pursuing educational dreams.

**/ Housing:** Support access to affordable housing for women that includes a network of support and/or opportunities for long-term wealth building.

**/ Unintended Pregnancy Prevention:** Increase access to consumable, unbiased pregnancy prevention resources.

**/ Women’s Health:** Tackling Health Disparities — Reduce health disparities faced by women of color.

*Character Limit: 10000*

# Statement of Need — Women’s Fund\*

Please describe the need that your work addresses and how services provided meet that need.

*Character Limit: 10000*

# Approach — Women’s Fund\*

Please describe your organization’s approach and how it uniquely meets the need you’ve identified. How is your work data-informed or based in best practice? Specifically highlight any inclusion of community/client voice or issue experts who helped inform the development and design of your approach to this work.

*Character Limit: 10000*

# Goals, Outcome & Evaluation — Women’s Fund\*

Please share your vision for success and plan for measuring it, as well as those who were involved in creating your evaluation plan.

*Character Limit: 10000*

# Cultural Competency & History with Priority Population — Women’s Fund\*

Please share your work’s priority target population, your history working with this population, and an outreach plan and/or partnerships to connect with the community you serve. Please also share how your organization is accessible, responsive, and convenient for people served.

*Character Limit: 10000*

# Systems-Level Change — Women’s Fund

Please share any ways in which your organization is making an impact on any systems-level causes of the needs your work addresses, or how you help to broadly advance the economic security of women. (example: advocacy) *Character Limit: 10000*

# Grants Process Information

This information is not included (scored) in your consideration for funding.

# Brief Description — Women’s Fund\*

In 150 words or less, please describe your organization and proposed activities. This exact text will be used if your organization is presented to Women’s Fund Investors and Community Reviewers for voting. Please do not include your organization’s name or any identifying information in this description. Voting will be conducted without Finalists being identified to reviewers.

*Character Limit: 650*

# Virtual Learning Session Availability

Should your organization be recommended for a grant and proceed to the next stage of the review process, you will be invited to participate in a 1-hour Virtual Learning Session between October 15 – November 1. Before submitting your application, click the link here, to submit your availability for this potential meeting. If weekday availability is not possible, please make a note of that in the form. Please only suggest dates/times that you’ve confirmed are available for all individuals you would like to participate on the Learning Session. There are no requirements for who must participate; however, we recommend a mix of executive leadership, program staff, and/or people served (if appropriate), and only permit up to three (3) representatives total to attend.

We recommend holding these times on your calendar(s) now to ensure availability. You will be notified by October 11th if you’ve been selected to move forward.

# Confirmation — Virtual Learning Session Women’s Fund\*

I confirm I filled out the Virtual Learning Session Availability Form for the Women’s Fund.

Choices:

Yes / No

