



---

## THE FOUNDATION FOR DELAWARE COUNTY 2019-2020 REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS

### Background and History

Please click [here](#) to review our background and history.

### Grantmaking Priority Area: Description and Goals

This 2019-2020 Request for Proposals launches the foundation's second competitive grantmaking cycle. While we make some grants from Donor Advised Funds as well as restricted and specialized funds, the grants awarded through this competitive grant process will advance the foundation's goal to improve the health and quality of life of children and families in Delaware County.

For the current funding cycle, the foundation will consider awarding grant funds in the following **priority areas designed to address many social determinants of health:**

#### **ECONOMIC STABILITY**

**Economic Development.** The foundation will consider awarding strategic investment grants to enhance *economic and workforce* development strategies that leverage funds for opportunity zones. Projects must have existing assets to implement economic development strategies with creative approaches to advance economic prosperity in under-resourced communities. The foundation will also support impact assessments and other strategic planning efforts that will attract public/private investments.

**Food insecurity.** The foundation will consider awarding grants to support multi-sector collaboration affecting a larger systems-focused geographic area, such as multiple municipalities. This effort will expand access to healthy nutrient-dense food options and create a partnership between all emergency food providers that share distribution resources.

**Housing instability.** The foundation will consider awarding grants to support innovative, multi-sector solutions to housing instability. Applicants will connect the housing and health sector to improve housing affordability and increase the supply of stable housing for improved health, well-being and health equity in low-income communities.

#### **HEALTH and HEALTH CARE**

**Children’s Health and Nutrition.** The foundation will consider awarding grants that expand and improve services to low-income children and their families in areas such as: preventative primary care, lead screening, asthma treatment, immunization, oral care, nutrition, vision care, and developmental and mental health services. In addition, grant funds may be used to support advocacy efforts to benefit children and children’s programming.

**Maternity and Prenatal/Postnatal Care.** The foundation will consider awarding grants that expand quality services to vulnerable mothers and infants including preconception care, early entry into prenatal care, routine prenatal and postpartum care, pregnancy spacing, and other supportive services that will decrease maternal mortality and infant mortality/morbidity and increase early childhood growth and development.

**Preventative Health Care.** The foundation will consider awarding grants to organizations that provide and are improving/expanding preventative health care services to low-income and vulnerable residents in Delaware County.

**Behavioral Health.** The foundation will consider awarding grants to organizations that offer education, prevention, treatment, rehabilitation and supportive services to help families and communities dealing with mental health and substance-use disorders.

**Hospice and Home Healthcare Services.** The foundation will consider awarding grants to organizations providing hospice and home healthcare services for low-income, disabled and vulnerable senior citizens in Delaware County.

## **EDUCATION**

**Early Childhood Education and Development.** The foundation will consider awarding grants to support early childhood programs that promote literacy and early development (formally and informally) from birth up to the age of eight.

**Vocational and Job Training.** The foundation will consider awarding grants to organizations that help prepare young people and adults for further education and successful careers. This effort can include specific classes offered to learners to train for a job or career.

**Literacy.** The foundation will consider awarding grants to organizations that prepare young people and adults for adult basic education, including General Education Diploma (GED), High School Equivalency, English as a Second Language (ESL), etc. to become gainfully employed.

## **NEIGHBORHOOD AND BUILT ENVIRONMENT**

**Environmental.** The foundation will consider awarding grants that assess and improve environmental conditions (water quality, air quality, and air temperature) by reducing harmful environmental exposures that affect health and contribute to health disparities in economically disadvantaged communities.

**Crime & Violence.** The foundation will consider awarding grants to support initiatives and interventions developed through adaptations, refinements, and modifications of violence prevention and crime reduction models that integrate public health, violence prevention and problem-solving approaches.

## **Types of grants to be funded**

The Foundation for Delaware County will award grants of up to \$100,000 per year to nonprofit, government, and education agencies working in the priority program areas listed above. Preference will be given to agencies located in the county as well as agencies that address the needs of the most vulnerable populations, including families living in poverty, immigrants and non-English speakers. All grant proceeds must be used to provide programs and services in and for Delaware County residents.

There will be a limited number of multi-year grants (up to 3 years) available.

Organizations can apply for only **ONE** grant per year or for a multi-year period.

Types of grants that will be considered:

1. **Core Support** to nonprofits working in one or more of the foundation's priority program areas.
2. **Program or Project Support** to start, advance, operate, expand, and improve programs or projects that meet one or more of the foundation's priority program areas.
3. **Capacity Building** grants to organizations for one-time projects to improve organizational capacity. Examples include but are not limited to: strategic, business, or succession planning; software research, selection, implementation, and training; projects to enhance evaluation and data collection; and similar projects.
4. **Advocacy and Awareness** addressing issues of importance to the program priorities of the foundation. Note that grants in this area will be available for advocacy and public awareness expenses, not for lobbying or political campaigns.
5. **Capital Expenditures** for equipment or facilities needed to better serve vulnerable residents in Delaware County.

### **Grant preference will be given to agencies that:**

- Demonstrate efficient use of philanthropic dollars.
- Have a strong record of collaborating with other entities serving the residents of Delaware County.
- Have a demonstrated commitment to diversity and cultural competency in staff and board composition, including employing bilingual staff where existing and potential clients are non-English speakers.
- Have embedded or are in the process of embedding a trauma-informed care approach to services and programs.
- Can provide evidence of a commitment to capacity building and succession planning where appropriate.

## **Timeline**

- Request for Proposal Open (with electronic Letter of Intent): June 28, 2019
- **Information Session: July 10, 2019**
- Letter of Intent Deadline: July 26, 2019
- Decision on Letter of Intent: August 19, 2019

- Online application Deadline: October 14, 2019
- Site visits and follow-up: January - February 2020
- Grant decisions issued: March 26, 2020

**Questions about this RFP may be emailed to:** The Foundation for Delaware County at [grants@delcofoundation.org](mailto:grants@delcofoundation.org) by **July 8, 2019**. Answers to all questions will be shared at the July 10, 2019 Information Session, and in a FAQ document posted on the foundation's website by July 12, 2019.

**Eligibility:**

Who Can Apply:

- ✓ Tax-exempt organizations under any part of section 501(c) of the Internal Revenue Code
- ✓ State or local government agencies or a unit of government
- ✓ Grassroots organizations, collaboratives or coalitions may apply under the auspices of a tax-exempt fiscal sponsor (fiscal sponsorship information is gathered in the Letter of Intent phase)

*Note: Applicant organizations must be in compliance with local, state, and federal regulations.*

To learn more, visit <https://delcofoundation.org> and connect with us on Facebook, Twitter and Instagram @delcofdn.