

Women United in Philanthropy



WOMEN UNITED IN PHILANTHROPY

2021 Grant Guidelines

About Women United in Philanthropy

Women United in Philanthropy (WUIP) is New Jersey's first women's giving circle. Since 2004, we have awarded \$1,110,000 in grant funds to programs that address chronic problems impacting women and families in Bergen County, NJ. In 2021, Women United in Philanthropy joined forces with The Foundation of Northern New Jersey, to expand our mission to provide needed funding to essential programs that empower women and their families.

Grants awarded by WUIP are unique because they consist of funds exclusively contributed by our members. By pooling our philanthropy, we are able to collectively make a larger impact on the lives of women. Our members vote annually to award funds to an innovative project in Bergen County, NJ, that helps women become economically strong and independent.

2021 Funding Availability

For the 2021 grants cycle, Women United in Philanthropy will award \$60,000 in program funding for the creation or expansion of innovative programs serving the needs of women in Bergen County.

Agencies may apply for any amount up to the total amount of available funding. In addition, agencies may propose programs with multi-year implementation plans, and may request funding be paid out in increments over a one-, two-, or three-year period to ensure sustained program funding.

WUIP Areas of Funding Focus

Women United in Philanthropy awards grants to help women (including girls ages 15 and over) and their children in the broad areas of Health & Wellness, Career Advancement, Job Training & Placement, Safe & Affordable Housing, Food Security, Child Care and Emerging Needs. Our objective is to address the chronic problems impacting women and families in Bergen County by facilitating the creation and expansion of programs that prevent women from slipping into poverty or economic insecurity.

The following descriptions explain the Circle's 2021 funding interests. In each area, the examples given are not exclusive:

- **Health & Wellness** – This includes specialized programs that meet the health and wellness needs of women and their children, including addressing physical and mental illness, improving support systems and access to wellness resources, providing access to

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affordable preventative care or treatment options, and addressing threats to the safety of women and children, such as domestic violence.

- **Career Advancement, Job Training & Placement** –Includes programs that advance women’s education and career with the goal of helping women to earn a living wage and improve their overall financial situation. Strategies include job training and placement, expanding educational opportunities, helping women to seek and retain employment, and creating career pathways and support systems to help women advance.
- **Safe & Affordable Housing** – Includes programs that assist women in securing permanent affordable housing, providing supportive services such as emergency rental or eviction assistance, and sheltering displaced women and their children. This includes specialist services that address the unique housing needs of women who are elderly, survivors of trafficking, refugees, leaving prison, or in other situations that negatively impact their housing stability.
- **Food Security** – Includes programs fighting hunger and food insecurity by providing women and their children with reliable access to nutritious and affordable food. This also includes solutions that promote self-sufficiency and address the factors that limit access to adequate food resources.
- **Child Care** – includes programs that provide reliable and affordable childcare options to enable women’s workforce participation. This also includes programs that assist mothers in balancing the demands of caring for children and pursuing their career, and reduce the burden of rising childcare costs.
- **Emerging Needs** - provides the opportunity for organizations to propose programs that address budding women’s issues impacting women in Bergen County. This includes programs that tackle threats to women’s advancement, financial security, rights, and ability to thrive.

Eligibility

Organizations and programs must meet the following criteria to be eligible to apply.

- Grants are restricted to organizations located in Bergen County, or those that serve women living in Bergen County.
- Requests will only be considered from nonprofit organizations certified as tax exempt under Sections 501(c)(3) or 170(c) of the Internal Revenue Code and are classified as not a private foundation under Section 509(a). Hospitals, churches, educational

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institutions¹ meeting these requirements are eligible to apply. Organizations that have completed and filed Form 1023 but not yet received a determination letter from the IRS are not eligible to apply.

As a general practice, Women United in Philanthropy will consider funding requests that include:

- Administrative costs and salaries
- Program funding
- Capital requests
- New program start-up expenses in an established organization
- New innovations in existing programs

We do not provide funding for:

- Annual funds, galas, or other special-event fundraising activities
- Capital campaigns
- Debt reduction
- Dissertations or student research projects
- Sectarian religious activities, political lobbying, or legislative activities
- Organizations that discriminate on the basis of race, creed, or sexual orientation in policy or in practice
- Loans, scholarships, fellowships, or grants to individuals

Preference will be given to those proposals that leverage grant funds by expanding an organization's ability to secure itself, its programs, and its funding. Collaborative proposals that help to strengthen organizations, such as joint staffing, advocacy, shared space, fundraising expertise, etc., will also be given favorable consideration.

Visit our website for a list of recent grantees.

Organizations may only submit one LOI per year.

How to Apply

All interested applicants must submit an electronic Letter of Intent (LOI) form, found on our website at www.wuip.org/grants/apply-now. Please save the document to your computer before starting to fill it out. Once completed, save the form as a PDF and email it to wuipgrants@gmail.com. Hard copies will not be accepted.

¹ Women United in Philanthropy requires that all requests from universities be submitted through the university's Development Office. Any requests from K-12 schools must be submitted through the Principal or Superintendent's office.

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The deadline for submitting a Letter of Intent is January 6, 2022 by 11:59 PM.

The Grants Committee will review all Letters of Intent. All applicants will receive an email response either declining your request or inviting you to submit a formal application. Invitations to submit a formal application will include detailed application instructions for the formal proposal. Full applications will be due February 18, 2022. Only requests submitted within the designated timeframe will be considered for funding.

During the application review process, members of the Grants Committee will contact you to arrange a site visit. The site visit provides committee members with the opportunity to discuss your proposed program and request any clarifications.

The Grants Committee will review full applications and select finalist proposals to present to WUIP's membership. You will be notified if your proposal is selected as a finalist. By a vote of the membership, WUIP will award one grant, estimated at \$60,000 to one applicant.

Timeline for Application and Review

The grant period will be May 2022 - April 2023, and the application and review process will follow this schedule:

December 1, 2021: RFP available online

January 6, 2022: LOI due electronically to wuipgrants@gmail.com

Mid-January: Notification of status of LOI application

February 18, 2022: Final Applications due electronically to wuipgrants@gmail.com

April 7, 2022: Annual Membership Event and Grant Vote

May 2022: Grant funding begins

Questions and Clarifications

If you have questions about the application or eligibility requirements, feel free to email WUIP's Program Director, Allie Fellema, at wuipgrants@gmail.com