



## **2022 Request for Proposals**

### **Nonprofit Effectiveness Grant Opportunity**

#### **Vision**

All Spartanburg County residents achieve their human potential through continuous improvement in quality of life, educational achievement, and economic mobility.

#### **Mission**

The Spartanburg County Foundation is committed to improving the lives of Spartanburg County residents by promoting philanthropy, encouraging community engagement, and responding to community needs.

#### **Background**

Using data, the Spartanburg County Foundation's vision statement was created to be externally reflective of the community. The same data, along with several other sources, substantiated that the wellbeing of many Spartanburg County residents falls below the state and national averages on poverty, educational attainment, wage and earnings, and health equity; and that these disparities adversely affect quality of life for many Spartanburg County residents and prevent many from achieving their potential as human beings.

With the aim of every resident achieving their human potential, the 2022 Grant Opportunities were developed. To reach this vision, it is imperative that we work in partnership with a strong nonprofit community. The effects of the pandemic continue to impact nonprofit organizations locally and beyond, according to Together SC's 2021 survey of nonprofits in Spartanburg County. The Spartanburg County Foundation has a unique opportunity to support nonprofit organizations of varying mission through capacity building efforts. The role the Foundation plays as a community leader and convenor of different individuals and entities also positions us well to see the capacity and infrastructure needs of the nonprofit landscape.

#### **Nonprofit Effectiveness Grant Opportunity**

Nonprofit Effectiveness Grants of up to \$10,000 are designed to strengthen the internal capacity or infrastructure of community-based organizations throughout Spartanburg County. Nonprofit Effectiveness grants will focus on organizational capacity building as follows.

- Grants to nonprofit organizations to increase their effectiveness in one or more of the following areas: board governance, financial management, fundraising, partnering & collaboration, strategic communications, succession planning, and evaluation.
- Organizations seeking to apply for funding should **first complete the Nonprofit Capacity Building Assessment**. Grant applicants are encouraged to use the findings of their assessment to shape their grant request.

## Grant Guidelines

The Spartanburg County Foundation considers only those organizations and institutions that are recognized as 501(c)(3) non-profit and/or tax-exempt entities providing services to the residents of Spartanburg County, South Carolina. By meeting these criteria, certain institutions and organizations located outside of Spartanburg County may be eligible for funding; however, funding is restricted to benefit Spartanburg County only. Organizations that serve multiple counties must clearly show that the funds will remain in Spartanburg County.

Grants from The Spartanburg County Foundation are for a period of one year. Except in unusual circumstances, multi-year grants are not considered.

### **The Spartanburg County Foundation does not Generally Provide Funding for:**

- Annual fund campaigns.
- Recurring requests from a grantee for the same purpose for which a Foundation grant has been previously awarded.
- Endowments.
- Film projects.
- Publication of books or reports.
- Fundraising events, celebrations, or dinners.
- Individual schools unless the proposed project is district- or county-wide and is supported by the District Superintendent(s).

*\*Requests from public school systems must come from the superintendent's office and include a letter of support from the superintendent. \**

## The Spartanburg County Foundation does not Provide Funding for:

- Lobbying activities, political organizations, or candidates for public offices.
- Individual projects.
- Organizations that require membership in certain religions, require participation in a religious activity, or advance a particular religious faith. *(Faith-based organizations with a 501(c)3 status may be eligible if they welcome and serve all members of the community regardless of religious belief.)*
- Research that is of a non-community nature or that does not have promise of near-term benefits to the citizens of Spartanburg County.
- Debt reductions, deficits, or previous obligations.
- Retroactive expenses/activities.

## Nonprofit Effectiveness Grant Opportunity

The Foundation uses an online grant submission process. Applications and all required supporting documents must be uploaded using the online system. Proposals submitted in any other manner will not be considered.

Spring Cycle applications are **due on Monday, March 28, 2022 by 5:00 pm.**

Fall Cycle applications are **due on Monday, June 6, 2022 by 5:00 pm.**

### Application Information

Completed applications will include the following components. Please note that on the application, each bullet point will have a separate comment box or picklist to answer each question.

#### Organization Information

- Name
- Organization
- Physical Address
- Mailing Address (if different from above)
- E-mail address
- Phone number
- Date organization was established
- Mission Statement
- Requested Grant Amount

## **Project Overview and Narrative**

- Briefly state the purpose of the grant request and what you learned from the Nonprofit Capacity Building Assessment.

### *Need/Opportunity*

- Describe the specific need, challenge, or opportunity the project will address.
- Provide data which supports the need, challenge, or opportunity.

### *Goals, Activities, and Timeline*

- Describe the project activities and how funding from The Spartanburg County Foundation will be used.
- Describe the goals your organization hopes to achieve within the time of this grant. Goals should fulfill SMART criteria (specific, measurable, achievable, relevant, time-bound).
- Include a timeline of the project.

### *Outcomes*

- What are the measurable outcomes you hope to achieve and how do you plan to measure progress?
- What additional funding do you anticipate receiving for this project as a result of funding from The Spartanburg County Foundation? (i.e., foundations, donors, etc.).

## **People Served**

- Number of people served by the organization annually
- Number of Spartanburg County residents served by the organization annually (if different from above)
- Geographic areas served (Please list specific municipalities/townships, Spartanburg County, or a specific region such as the Upstate of South Carolina, etc.)
- Demographics of those served by the organization (i.e., age, race/ethnicity, gender, income, education)

## **Project Budget (income and expenses)**

- Project revenue – list specific sources and amounts
- Project expenses – Please note that the Foundation does not generally provide funding for annual operating support (i.e., salaries/benefits, utilities, etc.) other than for start-up purposes.  
*(Use 2022 Project Budget Form)*

## Required Attachments

- Verification of tax-exempt status (IRS determination letter)
- List of Board of Directors and officers including race/ethnicity, gender, and home address (*Use 2022 Board Roster Template*)  
*\*Demographics are used to determine the diversity of Spartanburg County's nonprofit boards. This information will NOT influence The Spartanburg County Foundation's determination for requested funding.\**
- Annual Budget
- Organization's most recent IRS form 990.
- **Organizations that are using the services of a consultant for ANY portion of their grant request MUST submit a copy of the consultant's proposal as an additional attachment. If you need assistance in identifying a consultant, please contact the Foundation and we will provide you a list of consultants who may be suitable for your project.**