



Impact100 Martin Grant Guidelines

Impact100 Martin annually awards grants of \$100,000 to nonprofit organizations that provide services in Martin County for programs or projects that will have a major impact on the community. We encourage nonprofits to “think big,” that is, to propose projects that will have a transformative effect on both the organization receiving the grant and those benefiting from the project.

Grant Process

- **Phase 1** - All nonprofit organizations serving Martin County are invited to submit a letter of intent (LOI) clearly articulating a compelling project addressing a critical problem and clearly outlining the intended/envisioned impact.
- **Phase 2** - Once the LOI's are evaluated, organizations are selected to submit full grant applications and videos. Additional information may be requested, if needed.
- **Phase 3** - Finalists are selected to present their proposals to the entire membership to vote at its Grant Awards Celebration. The organizations with the most votes receive the Impact Grants.

Eligible Organizations

- Must be incorporated and approved by the IRS as a 501(c)(3).
- Must serve Martin County. The organization does not have to be located in Martin County, but the proposed program/project must be for the Martin County community and its residents.
- Previous grant finalists who have not received a \$100,000 Impact Grant.

Organizations Not Eligible

- Government entities, private foundations and community foundations.
- Those that have received a \$100,000 Impact Grant within the last 3 years.

Grant Eligibility and Fundable Expenses

- An organization may submit only one proposal annually.
- Grant requests may be made for a new program or project; an expansion of an existing program; or a collaborative effort between two or more organizations.
- Parameters of these grants are determined yearly by the Grants Committee; currently there are no restrictions on focus areas and grant applications will be accepted for all fields of interest.

- The program/project must request exactly \$100,000. If the project requires more than \$100,000, the proposal must clearly outline the portion to be funded by Impact100 Martin and must identify the sources for the additional needed funding.
- The program/project, if necessary, can be phased up to three years for completion.
- The program/project must identify a meaningful, verifiable need.
- The program/project should detail a significant impactful change it hopes to make in a service delivery model, the broader service delivery network, or to address a specific targeted critical problem within Martin County.
- The program/project must demonstrate its feasibility and sustainability.
- The program/project must outline quantifiable, measurable outcomes.
- The program/project may include funding of program expenses such as equipment, salaries, operating expenses and overhead directly related and necessary to its implementation.
- If funding for capital expenditures or improvement necessary for the implementation of the program/project are included in the proposal, the organization must either own the property or have a lease with a minimum of five years remaining on the lease, as of July 1st of the grant award year.

Grant Expenses Not Funded

- Debt reduction, operating deficits, interim/bridge funding or endowment funding.
- Fund drives, annual appeals, fundraising events or general capital campaigns.
- Reimbursement of previously incurred expenses completed project.
- General existing operating expenses, equipment, staff salaries and other overhead not specific to the proposed program/project.
- Land or building purchases.
- Pass through funds.
- Grant to an individual.
- Partisan, legislative, or political activities.
- Projects of an individual church or religious organization for its own benefit or the sole benefit of its members.

Helpful Hints When Preparing your LOI

- Pay attention to length. If you go over the character limit in a section, the letters over the limit turn red and your LOI will not be submitted. In general, "Less is best."
- Answer questions specifically. Avoid extraneous information.
- Avoid jargon and acronyms. If you use an acronym, identify its meaning the first time you use it.
- Avoid cutting and pasting from other applications and documents as the LOI loses its voice and flow.
- Before submitting, check for accuracy, check for adherence to guidelines, and check for spelling errors. These kinds of errors make the LOI appear less professional.

Grant Process Timeline 2022 - 2023

- December 1, 2022** – Grant announcement video available for nonprofits **(Phase 1)**
- January 2, 2023** – LOI 's due to The Community Foundation (TCFMSL)
- January 26, 2023** – TCFMSL notifies semifinalists to submit full applications & videos **(Phase 2)**
- February 24, 2023** – Full applications & videos due to TCFMSL
- March 16, 2023** – Invitations extended to finalists to give presentations for the Grant Awards Celebration **(Phase 3)**
- March 29, 2023** – Grant Awards Celebration