**Greater Twin Cities United Way Funding Opportunity**

**Full Lives Request for Proposal (RFP) Application-Word Version**

**Full Lives: An initiative focused on cultivating food justice in our region. Our vision is to create a thriving and equitable Twin Cities regional food system where all communities have physical and economic access to food that meets their cultural, dietary, and nutritional needs.**

*A Word version of the application is being provided so you can work outside our online system. Note you must fill out and submit the* ***online application*** *by Friday, May 10, 2024, at 5pm in order for your application to be reviewed.*

**IMPORTANT**: Greater Twin Cities United Way has recently changed its funding portal to the software system Andar. To access this funding opportunity (and subsequent GTCUW funding opportunities), you will first need to register for a Grants Portal account linked to GTCUW, which you can do by following this [link](https://community.gtcuw.org/Volunteer/AgencyRegistration.jsp) to the portal registration form. Once you have submitted this registration form, you will receive an email within three business days directing you to log in to your new Grants Portal account, where you will complete the full application. If you have already submitted this form and completed your account registration, you can follow this [link](https://community.gtcuw.org/crm/Start.jsp) to access your account and the full application. Please refer to [this one-pager](https://www.gtcuw.org/wp-content/uploads/2024/03/Andar-One-Pager-FINAL-1.3.2024.pdf) for further details on how to register for your Andar account and navigate the portal.

Before starting your application, please review the [**Full Lives RFP.**](https://www.gtcuw.org/stories-and-news/full-lives-cultivating-food-justice/)

Thank you for applying for the **Full Lives funding opportunity**. We look forward to learning about your work.

**Organization Information**

Lead Organization Name:

Administrative Address:

* (Street 1, Street 2, City, State, Zip)

Lead Organization Primary Contact (CEO, Executive Director, Co-Director or President)

* (Name, Title, Email, Phone)

Proposal Primary Contact (If different than Organization Primary Contact):

* (Name, Title, Email, Phone)

Brief Organizational Description

**Board and Senior Leadership**

We are requesting aggregate demographic information to understand the composition of leadership roles within your collaboration. This includes both Board members and Senior Leaders. Rather than gathering data from each organization individually, **we are seeking overall data that represents your entire collaboration.**

Does more than 50% of your collaboration’s Senior Leaders and Board members identify as Black, Indigenous, Latine, Asian, Pacific Islander and People of Color? Y/N

How many total individuals serve as **Board members** in your collaboration?

**Total \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**

How many of your **Board members self-identify** as the following?

*Board members may self-identify in multiple categories; please feel free to duplicate your count.*

*Racial & ethnic identity*

Asian American/Pacific Islander/Asian \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Black/African American/African/Black Caribbean \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Hispanic/Latino/Latina/Latinx/Latiné \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Middle Eastern/North African \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Native American/American Indian/Indigenous \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

White/European \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Multi-racial/Multi-ethnic (2+ Races/Ethnicities) \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Another racial/ethnic identity \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Unreported \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

How many individuals are part of your collaboration’s **Senior Leadership team**? We define senior leaders as those who engage in such business activities as setting organizational goals, building strategic plans, and making organizational decisions.

**Total*\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_***

How many of your **Senior Leaders self-identify** as the following? *Please feel free to duplicate your count if senior leaders self-identify in multiple areas.*

*Racial & ethnic identity*

Asian American/Pacific Islander/Asian \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Black/African American/African/Black Caribbean \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Hispanic/Latino/Latina/Latinx/Latiné \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Middle Eastern/North African \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Native American/American Indian/Indigenous \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

White/European \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Multi-racial/Multi-ethnic (2+ Races/Ethnicities) \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Another racial/ethnic identity \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Unreported \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

**List of Partners**

*Please provide the following contact information on all partners of your collaboration.*

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Organization Name**  | **Brief Organizational Description** | **Address**Street 1, Street 2, City, State, Zip | **Main Contact**  Name, Title, Email, Phone |
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**Eligibility Criteria**
**In order to apply to this RFP, your partnership must attest that it meets all of the following criteria. Check each box to answer YES.**

**Funding Eligibility**

Collaborations must meet the following requirements to apply:

* The Lead Organization must be a 501c3 nonprofit organization or have a fiscal sponsor who is a 501c3.
* Your collaboration must designate one organization as the "Lead Organization” responsible for administering the grant funding to partner organizations. See details as outlined in RFP under section “Lead Organization Responsibility.”
* The Lead Organization's budget for the current fiscal year must be $250,000 or higher.
* Collaboratives must operate within the Greater Twin Cities United Way nine-county service region (Anoka, Carver, Chisago, Dakota, Hennepin, Isanti, Ramsey, Scott, Washington).
* Collaboratives must target high food insecurity areas within our nine-county service region.
* Eligible collaborations should involve a mix of organizations ensuring diversity and expertise across the partnership. Eligible entities for collaboration include nonprofit organizations, community-based groups, governmental agencies, academic institutions, and other stakeholders actively engaged in addressing food justice and community food system issues.
* Collaboratives must involve partnerships with a **minimum of three organizations**, one of which is the lead entity responsible for administering grant funding.

**Lead Organization Responsibility**

The Lead Organization within a collaborative partnership assumes key responsibilities, including grant administration, project management, stakeholder communication, budget management, collaboration facilitation, partner capacity building, and risk management.

**Your Lead Organization meets United Way's financial standards and received an unqualified opinion on your most recent audit report. This will be determined by an assessment of your financial documents as part of the application review.**

**Note on Financial Review:** Your *Lead Organization* must meet the financial standards for Greater Twin Cities United Way grantees based on a review of financial documents in order to receive funding. You will be asked to upload financial documents as part of this application.

**Eligibility Documents to be Uploaded**

* Lead Organization’s 501c3 documentation
* Lead Organization’s two most recently filed IRS Form 990s
* Most recent audit
* Most recent budget

***As the lead organization, I understand and accept the responsibility laid above: Y/N***

**Narrative Questions**

**Part 1 Written Response**

1. Tell us about the work your collaborative is doing or hopes to do to create a thriving, equitable food system in your region. Include examples of how your collaborative contributes to key components of a community food system, such as promoting food resilience, sustainable production, strengthening local food economies, equitable production, and equitable distribution***. Provide at least one specific example for each component in which your collaborative is working.***

*Suggested word count: 500 words*

1. How does your proposed initiative focus on sustainable solutions to increasing food access and food security rather than immediate relief efforts?

*Suggested word count: 250 words*

1. Tell us about the members of your collaborative. Include member roles, the history of your collaborative including length of time together and how you work together to make decisions. ***We are looking for high level information and not a comprehensive history****.*

*Suggested word count: 250 words*

1. How does your collaborative define community in the context of this initiative? Include a description of the geographic area, relevant cultural community, etc., your collaborative serves. How does your collaborative use local community voice in decision-making? Provide examples of how community input has influenced decision-making within your collaborative.

*Suggested word count: 350 words*

1. What is your collaborative's vision for racial justice, equity, and inclusivity in your community food systems work? Please provide examples of how the vision is specifically tailored to your region or community, how you have demonstrated this vision in your past work, and how the vision is embedded in future plans.

*OPTIONAL:* For collaboratives working in rural communities, how do you ensure that your focus on equity and inclusivity addresses the unique challenges faced by these communities?

*Suggested word count: 500 words*

1. What does your collaborative need to grow and succeed? How will the support from the Full Lives initiative—funding, technical assistance, community connections—help you meet those needs? What are your collaborative's goals, and how do you plan to achieve them? Describe your vision of success and the steps you'll take to get there.

*Suggested word count: 500 words*

**Part 2 Invitation to Interview**

*Virtual Conversation*: Top-scoring collaborations will be invited to participate in a virtual conversation to talk more about their work and learn more about the Full Lives initiative. Prior to these calls, detailed agendas, discussion points, and insights into the selection process will be provided to ensure transparency and facilitate productive discussions.

**Outcome Measurements**
If funded, collaboratives will be asked to provide data on at least four outcome measures that best align with work they are pursuing around community food systems. Collaboratives will then report on these measures at the end of the grant term. This information will be used to help us understand your collaborative’s work and to help us celebrate and communicate your impact and to inform the broader community food systems field.

*Required Outcome Measures*

Please provide your best projected numbers for the 2024 growing season for the following required outcome measures:

* Pounds of food produced \_\_\_\_\_
* Number of households or Individuals supported \_\_\_\_\_\_

*Collaborative-Determined Outcome Measures*

Funded collaboratives will be asked to select at least two additional outcome measures that align with the work they are doing around community food systems. Collaboratives will then report on these measures at the end of the grant term. Below is a menu of potential outcome measures. Collaboratives can select from the menu below or present their own measures.

 *Note: These measures are not binding. If awarded funding, Full Lives staff will work with you to finalize the outcome measures.*

* Number of farmers engaged
* Dollars reinvested to partners or community
* Number and type of community engagement opportunities
* Improved employment and workforce practices as a result of this initiative
* Improved organizational policies as a result of this initiative

In the final report for this grant, we may ask for individual-level outcome measurements broken down by race/ethnicity and geography. Greater Twin Cities United Way recognizes that collecting data around dimensions of identity is inherently sensitive and complex, and we take this responsibility seriously.

Is your collaborative able to disaggregate individual-level outcome data by race/ethnicity and geography? **Yes/No**

If no, what support might you need to report data in this way?

**Funding By Partner**

If awarded funding, please tell us how your partnership plans to divide funding, including the Lead Organization. Grant awards for each collaborative will be between $250,000 - $400,000.

*Total Amount Requested for the collaboration*: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

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| --- | --- | --- |
| **Organization Name**  | **Percentage of Grant Award** | **$ amount of Grant Award** |
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