



Pathways Home: From Housing to Whole Living Request for Proposal Guidelines

Contents

Pathways Home: From Housing to Whole Living	2
Background.....	3
Funding Opportunity Overview.....	5
Required Activities	7
Learning and Evaluation.....	9
Utilization of Grant Funds.....	11
Funding Priorities.....	12
Funding Eligibility	13
Application Process.....	14
How to Apply- Greater Twin Cities United Way Grants Portal.....	14
Application Materials.....	16
Proposal Assessment Rubric	16
Grant Terms and Payments.....	17
Application Resources and Other Questions.....	18
Appendix 1: Glossary of Terms.....	19
Appendix 2: Logic Model.....	21

Pathways Home: From Housing to Whole Living

Pathways Home is a housing initiative of Greater Twin Cities United Way (GTCUW). Now in its second phase, Pathways Home supports young people exiting foster care and the justice system in achieving sustained housing stability and long-term well-being by connecting housing supports with culturally rooted Whole Living Skills (WLS) approaches. *WLS refers to the practical skills, supports, and relationships young people need to live independently, navigate systems, and remain stably housed over time.*

This RFP funds the integration of housing supports and WLS, not either component in isolation. Funded organizations will be expected to help young people get or maintain housing while also building the skills, supports, relationships, and systems-navigation capacity needed for long-term stability. Funded organizations will advance the following two strategies:

- **Strategy 1: Whole Living Skills (WLS) connected to housing stability** Provide, refine, and evaluate WLS programming that directly supports young people in obtaining, maintaining, or strengthening housing stability.
- **Strategy 2: Improved systems coordination and connection** Strengthen coordination among community organizations, housing partners, and formal public systems so young people experience more consistent, connected support as they transition to adulthood.

GTCUW anticipates awarding roughly \$1,000,000 to 10 community-based organizations located in the nine-county metro area that are working directly with young people exiting foster care or incarceration and have a connection to housing, with each organization being awarded \$100,000 total over two years. Organizations will apply through a two-step process consisting of a written application followed by an interview with selected organizations. Written applications are due by Friday, August 28th, 2026, at 5:00pm CST in your online grant portal. [Please visit our website](#) to begin your application.

Key Dates for Applicants	
Application Opens	Tuesday, August 4, 2026
Q&A Session	Wednesday, August 12, 2026, at 11 AM
Application Deadline	Friday, August 28, 2026
First-round decisions communicated	The week of September 14, 2026
Second-round interviews for selected applicants	September 21 – October 9, 2026
Grant term begins	November 1, 2026
Grant period	November 2026-October 2028

For more information, please contact rfp@gtcuw.org or Nicque.Mabrey@gtcuw.org

Background

Greater Twin Cities United Way exists to fuel lasting change toward our vision of a community where all people thrive regardless of income, race, or place. Because a prosperous future belongs to everyone, our mission is to unite changemakers, advocate for social good, and develop solutions to address the challenges no one can solve alone. Greater Twin Cities United Way seeks to disrupt the extent to which income, race, or place predicts a person's ability to thrive.

GTCUW Impact Areas

COMMUNITY IMPACT AREAS & PROGRAMMING



[Pathways Home](#) initiative of Greater Twin Cities United Way focused on is a multi-phase initiative of Greater Twin Cities United Way focused on supporting stable housing for young people experiencing systems transitions – aging out of foster care and/or young people transitioning from incarceration.

Pathways Home is aligned with GTCUW's organizational goal that e'brief and nonrecurring. When housing is unstable, it becomes harder to stay connected to school, work, health care, and other systems that support long-term well-being.□ Pathways Home is grounded in a simple belief that **housing stability is step zero and necessary for a young person to achieve their goals.**

The [first phase of Pathways Home](#) (2023-2025) invested \$1.2 million to 11 nonprofit organizations providing a variety of housing interventions focused on helping young people access and maintain housing. During the Phase 1 funding period, partners supported 822 young people, helped 526 (64%) to obtain housing, and demonstrated the value of flexible funding, coordinated learning, and trusted-provider relationships. However, partners reported that only 180 (22%) of the young people served were able to maintain stable housing for 12 months or more. Phase 1 learnings made it clear that while more short-term financial supports like housing deposits or access to dedicated units is needed to obtain housing, it is not enough on its own to sustain housing over time.

Early intervention that helps young people build whole living skills (WLS) and positive adult relationships emerged in Phase 1 and is supported by other research as a promising strategy for improving housing outcomes among system-involved young people, particularly with additional focus, funding, and learning.^{2,3} While housing remains the foundation of well-being, housing alone is insufficient to ensure long-term stability. Research in Minnesota demonstrates that individuals experience stronger long-term outcomes when housing is paired with supportive services.⁴

Learnings from Phase 1 also highlighted that housing providers are not aware of the services of others and systems coordination can be improved through additional relationship development and collaboration through tools like a Community of Practice, Memorandums of Understanding, and warm handoff referral systems.

Phase 2 builds on learnings gathered in Phase 1, which showed that helping young people access housing remains critical, but maintaining housing over time requires stronger, more consistent investment

¹ United States Department of Health and Human Services. (n.d.). *Housing Instability*. <https://odphp.health.gov/healthypeople/priority-areas/social-determinants-health/literature-summaries/housing-instability>

² United States Department of Health and Human Services. (n.d.). *Promising Strategies to End Youth Homelessness*. https://acf.gov/sites/default/files/documents/fysb/youth_homelessness.pdf

³ Rogers, Erika. (2023). *Literature Review: Emerging Youth Intervention Practices*. Homelessness Policy Research Institute https://hpri.usc.edu/wp-content/uploads/2023/12/Price-HPRI-Literature-Review-Emerging-Youth-Intervention_Rnd2.pdf

⁴ Wilder Research. (December 2015). *Outcomes of Supportive Housing Targeting Homelessness in Minnesota: Executive Summary*. https://www.wilder.org/wp-content/pdf-file/SupportiveHousingOutcomesInMN_Summary-12_15.pdf

in WLS and the networks that support them, as young people transition to adulthood. The intention is that best practices could be replicated and scaled in future phases alongside identifying policy and advocacy solutions.

Funding Opportunity Overview

This RFP launches Pathways Home Phase 2, a cohort-based funding opportunity designed to improve, refine, and share high-quality models that integrate housing supports and Whole Living Skills (WLS) to improve long-term housing stability for young people exiting foster care and the justice system.

This RFP is not intended to fund housing or WLS in isolation. Instead, GTCUW seeks proposals that demonstrate how these two elements work together to help young people obtain housing, maintain housing over time, build skills for independent living, and stay connected to the systems and relationships that support long-term well-being.

Through Pathways Home Phase 2, GTCUW will support a cohort of organizations to strengthen integrated WLS and housing stability models while improving systems coordination through collaboration. Selected organizations will generate learning about the practices, partnerships, and implementation strategies that most effectively support consistent, long-term housing stability and successful transitions. As a cohort, participating organizations will collaborate to identify shared challenges, align approaches, co-develop solutions, and contribute to field-level insights that extend beyond individual programs and organizations.

By the end of the grant cycle, Pathways Home Phase 2 aims to achieve outcomes at three levels:

Young People

- Increased housing stability and successful transitions to adulthood, assessed through maintaining housing over time, applying Whole Living Skills, and sustaining connections to education, employment, and support systems
- Improved and applied Whole Living Skills, assessed through confidence, skills use, and ability to navigate systems

Organizations

- Refinement and advancement of integrated WLS approaches, including documented program models, defined implementation practices, and use of data to inform continuous improvement
- More consistent transition supports, including development of referral pathways, coordination with other providers, and use of warm handoff practices

Systems/Ecosystem

- Alignment across providers and sectors, reflected in shared approaches to WLS, coordinated service delivery, and more consistent experiences for young people
- Learning from Pathways Home Phase 2 shared to inform future practice, investment, and systems change, including reports, presentations, and other field-facing outputs

This RFP is for organizations working with young people exiting foster care and/or the justice system that can provide, or partner to provide, both housing supports and WLS programming.

Organizations do not need to provide housing directly to be eligible; however, applicants that do not directly provide housing must demonstrate a formal partnership with a housing provider. All applicants must show how the combined housing and WLS approach will support young people's long-term housing stability.

- Support or provide housing and track housing outcomes among young people over time
- Improve existing or add new elements to their Whole Living Skills programming
- Participate in evaluation and learning activities to build understanding of WLS models and most effective practices to sustain housing for young people in the foster and/or justice systems.
- Be an active partner, working with funded organizations, GTCUW and other partners to create WLS practices and models that are effective, accessible and can be replicated by others across the state.

Through this RFP, GTCUW anticipates providing **\$1,000,000 in grants to 10 organizations**. Each organization will receive approximately \$100,000 over the two-year grant period from November 2026 to October 2028. Each organization selected through this RFP will advance the following strategies:

Strategy 1: Whole Living Skills (WLS) Provide, refine, and evaluate WLS programming among young people experiencing systems transitions to help them get or maintain housing. Organizations must work directly with young people to help them find and keep housing.

Strategy 2: Improved Systems Coordination and Connection This funding supports efforts to strengthen coordination across the housing and transition ecosystem. Funded partners will participate in a Community of Practice designed to strengthen coordination and alignment across

organizations. Through ongoing collaboration, partners will build relationships, share strategies, and co-develop approaches that support more consistent and effective delivery of WLS alongside housing. Consistent participation is expected to support relationship-building and sustained collaboration over time.

Selected partners will have access to technical assistance throughout the funding period to support their success implementing both strategies. The Pathways Home Program Officer will provide support to funded partners throughout the grant period including connection to resources, check-ins as requested, and ongoing technical assistance.

To see a visual of this RFP's strategies, activities, and intended outcomes within Pathways Home Phase 2, please see the logic model in the appendix.

Required Activities

The table below outlines the required activities and proposed measures for reporting. Final measures will be developed in partnership with funded organizations and Greater Twin Cities United Way staff.

All funded organizations are expected to provide programming that helps young people build WLS and maintain housing stability and participate actively in the cohort. Organizations may take different approaches based on their models, but all proposed work should clearly connect to the two strategies.

The following required activities and measures are designed to capture participant, organizational, and systems-level outcomes aligned to this RFP and the Pathways Home logic model (See [appendix 2](#)).

Table 1: Required Program Activities and Evaluation		
Associated Strategy	Required Activity	Proposed Measures for Annual Reporting
Strategy 1	1. Provide direct services related to housing, Whole Living Skills, and wraparound supports to young people	- Total number of young people served including race/ethnicity, income, age, and county of residence demographics - Number of young people who obtain housing

	experiencing transition, while also supporting the ongoing refinement and strengthening of program models.	• Number of young people who maintain stable housing for 3, 6, 9, 12, 12-23, and 24+ months • Number of young people utilizing key financial and supportive resources (Fostering Independence Grant, Fostering Independence Voucher, Extended Foster Care, Education and Training Voucher, other) • Qualitative description of whole living skills programming and models provided • Number of young people connected to wrap around supports • Qualitative description of wrap around/navigation supports provided and the observed benefits to young people • Qualitative description of barriers to longer-term housing stability and program implementation experienced by young people and organizations • Qualitative examples of changes in young people's ability to manage daily life • Quantitative metric(s) of participant-reported growth in confidence or skills specific to partner programming
Strategy 1 and 2	2. Engage in technical assistance and evaluation with GTCUW to support the development and refinement of Whole Living Skills (WLS) approaches and organizational practices,	• Number of hours engaged in technical assistance • Qualitative description of technical assistance focus areas (e.g., WLS implementation, partnerships, sustainability, service integration) • Description of how technical assistance informed program implementation or organizational practices, including examples of changes made to programming, partnerships, or operations

	quality, and sustainability.	
Strategy 2	3. At least one member of program leadership consistently participates in-person learning Communities of Practice with other funded partners and housing leaders to improve and refine WLS models, referral systems, and collaboratively generate knowledge and best practices to be shared externally	• Qualitative description of changes to partnerships or service coordination approaches that support more integrated or consistent delivery of services • Qualitative description of knowledge, promising practices, or implementation strategies gained through the Community of Practice and how they were applied within the organization

Learning and Evaluation

All funded partners are expected to take part in learning and evaluation activities with GTCUW. The purpose of this work is to understand what is working, identify what can be improved, and share learning across partners. This work is also intended to build shared understanding of which WLS approaches support sustained housing stability, how they are implemented in practice, what conditions enable strong outcomes across different organizational and system contexts, and best practices for replicating WLS models.

GTCUW aims to make evaluation simple, useful, and meaningful. GTCUW does not want evaluation to feel like extra work that is separate from programming. Instead, evaluation is an opportunity to reflect on successes and outcomes, learn alongside other partners, and strengthen the funded partner's evaluation approach over time. A more detailed learning and evaluation plan will be developed in collaboration

between GTCUW and successful applicants before the start of the grant. Final expectations, including what information will be collected and when, will be included in the grant agreement. In general, funded partners should expect to take part in the evaluation activities below (Table 2).

Table 2: Evaluation Activities		
Evaluation Activity	Frequency	Funded Partner Engagement
Implementation check-in meetings with GTCUW staff	Every 2 to 3 months	At least one member of program leadership at the funded partner organization will consistently connect with GTCUW staff for a conversation (30-60 minutes) to share updates, identify resources and support that GTCUW can provide, and discuss challenges and needs.
Community of Practice surveys	After each session, at least 2 times per year	GTCUW staff will track attendance and gather feedback through post-event surveys. Partners will be expected to actively participate and report annually on what was learned.
Year 1 Annual Report	Fall 2027	Funded partners will submit a report using GTCUW grant software including all required metrics noted in the grant agreement.
Midpoint reflection conversation	Fall 2027	Connect with GTCUW evaluation staff for a 30-60 minute conversation to provide short update on progress, early results, and any changes to

		programming and scope of work.
Year 2 Final Report	Fall 2028	Funded partners will submit a report using GTCUW grant software including all required metrics noted in the grant agreement.
Final Learning Conversation	Fall 2028	At least one member of the funded partner organization will connect with GTCUW evaluation staff for a 60-minute conversation to share successes, lessons learned, and reflections
Optional Nonprofit Perception Survey	Annually	GTCUW invites all funded partners to complete an optional, anonymous survey to provide feedback to GTCUW on how to improve as a funder, supports needed, and suggestions for how to better work with partners.

Utilization of Grant Funds

Grant funds are restricted to support activities that directly advance the outcomes and priorities outlined in this RFP. All proposed uses of funds must demonstrate a clear and explicit connection to project goals, deliverables, and intended impact. Allowable expenses may include but are not limited to: personnel costs dedicated to project implementation; program-specific equipment and supplies essential to delivering proposed activities; targeted training or technical assistance that strengthens project effectiveness; data collection and evaluation tied to defined outcomes; and outreach or collaboration activities that directly support participant engagement or program delivery. *Funded partners are expected to communicate with their GTCUW Program Officer before making meaningful changes to approved budget uses.* Funds may not be used for lobbying or capital expenses.

These funds are not general operating support. While limited administrative or indirect costs may be included, they must be proportionate and directly attributable to the execution of the proposed project.

GTCUW may ask funded partners for additional expense or budget information, including but not limited to, high-level overview of how grant funds were used over the course of the funding period.

Misuse of funds and/or noncompliance with grant terms may result in stopped payments, cancelled grants, and could impact future funding decisions with GTCUW. GTCUW partners closely and relationally with all funded partners to maintain consistent communication and complete multiple due diligence processes, positioning GTCUW to address concerns early. GTCUW is committed to stewardship of resources in alignment with the intended impact and use of funds. If there are concerns about fraud or misuse, GTCUW implements the following process:

- GTCUW will initiate a conversation with the funded partner and may pause the grant agreement.
- Engage the organizational leadership and board chair to explore the concern and gather additional information.
- When a concern is substantiated, grant payments are immediately terminated, and the organization is asked to repay any GTCUW funds that were misused.
- When a concern is resolved and unsubstantiated, grant payments will resume.

Funding Priorities

This RFP will prioritize funding organizations that reflect the following values within the broader goals of Pathways Home Phase 2:

- **Center young people that have experienced foster care and/or justice systems-** We prioritize projects that primarily serve these populations because they often experience the greatest barriers to housing instability. Centering young people means they have real opportunities to share their ideas, give feedback, and influence how programs are designed and delivered. This could look like organizations that have young people on the board or advisory councils.
- **Are grounded in equity-** We prioritize projects that respect and work towards racial justice, cultural responsiveness, equity in access, and inclusivity. Programs reflect the backgrounds, identities, and lived experiences of the young people they serve. Young people feel seen, respected, and understood. This could look like organizations that have people of lived experience in leadership

positions, adapt to be culturally respectful, and are committed to creating safer spaces for all.

- **Demonstrated effectiveness and readiness to strengthen impact** - Your organization has a documented track record or evidence of success in delivering either housing, whole living skills, or both, and is prepared to use this funding to strengthen, expand, and more rigorously evaluate that work. Applications should clearly describe past outcomes or results and outline how this funding will enhance program quality, deepen impact, or improve evaluation practices.
- **Integrated, cross-system service delivery** - Competitive proposals will show how housing supports and Whole Living Skills programming are coordinated with the formal systems young people are exiting or continuing to navigate, such as foster care, corrections, probation, courts, child welfare, education, workforce, health care, county, or other public agencies. Applicants may provide services directly, through community-based partnerships, or through a broader cross-sector model. Proposals should clearly explain partner roles, referral pathways, warm handoffs, communication practices, appropriate information-sharing, and shared accountability for participant outcomes. If the applicant does not directly provide both housing and Whole Living Skills programming, the proposal must include a formal partnership with an organization that provides the complementary service. Applicants should also describe key public-system partnerships that support young people's transition planning and ongoing stability. Letters of partnership or other documentation of key partnerships will be required.

Funding Eligibility

Organizations must meet the following requirements to apply:

- Your organization or lead organization (for partnerships) is a 501c3 nonprofit organization or has a fiscal sponsor who is a 501c3.
- Your organization's budget for the current fiscal year must be \$250,000 or higher.
- Organizations must operate within the Greater Twin Cities United Way nine-county service region (Anoka, Carver, Chisago, Dakota, Hennepin, Isanti, Ramsey, Scott, Washington).
- Your organization works directly with young people ages 16-24, **especially those 16-20 years of age.**
- Your organization works with young people who are transitioning out of foster care and/or the justice system.
- Your organization provides or partners to provide both Whole Living Skills programming **and** housing supports for young people transitioning out of foster care and/or the justice system. If the organization provides only one of these services, the proposal must include a formal partnership

with an organization that provides complementary service. *The proposal should also describe how the applicant coordinates, or will coordinate, with relevant public systems involved in young people's transition planning and ongoing stability, such as child welfare, corrections, probation, courts, education, workforce, health care, county, or other public agencies.* Letters of partnership or other documentation of key partnerships will be required.

Important Note on Financial Review: Your organization must meet the financial standards for Greater Twin Cities United Way funded partners based on a review of financial documents such as your most recent financial statements, form 990, and audit (if your organization is required by law to complete an audit) in order to receive funding. **Organizations required to complete an audit are highly recommended to have a “clean” (unqualified) audit opinion to be considered for funding under this RFP.** Please note that organizations are only eligible to receive a maximum grant size of up to 20% of their overall organizational budget. You will be asked to share the following financial documents if invited to the second phase of application.

- Last three years of 990s
- Most recent organization budget or forecast
- Most recent board-approved audit
- 501c3 determination letter
- If not funded by Greater Twin Cities United Way before, W9

Please note: Each year, Greater Twin Cities United Way will conduct a financial health assessment of nonprofit partners to help ensure we are responsible stewards of the funds entrusted to us by our supporters. This assessment helps us more fully understand the complex issues and constraints facing our partners, and better positions us to proactively engage organizations who may be facing significant financial challenges.

For any special considerations related to these criteria, please contact us at rfp@gtcuw.org to determine your eligibility.

Application Process

How to Apply- Greater Twin Cities United Way Grants Portal

Non-profit organizations applying for this RFP must submit an online application by **5:00 pm CST on August 28, 2026.**

IMPORTANT: To access this RFP, please use one of the following sets of directions:

To sign up as a **New User** of the GTCUW Grants Portal:

1. [Check to see if you have an existing account](#) by entering your work email as your username and your password. If your email is recognized and you need a new password, click *Forgot User ID or Password?* If your email is not recognized and you need to create an account, proceed to step 2.
2. If you need to create an account, [fill out this form to get started](#). *It may take our team 3 business days to get your account up and running.* You can also use this form to sign up to receive access to any open GTCUW RFPs. If you already have an account, please refer to the next set of directions for **Current Users** on how to receive access to open GTCUW RFPs.
3. Once your account has been created, you will receive an automated email from RFP@gtcuw.org directing you to log in to your Grants Portal account.
4. After creating your account, [you can log in here](#). **You may want to bookmark this page for future use.**

For **Current Users**, here is how to sign up to access open GTCUW RFPs:

1. [Log in](#) to your online Grants Portal account. If you don't have a login, refer to the above instructions on creating one.
2. First check if you already have access to your desired RFP(s).
 - a. After logging in to your Grants Portal account, navigate to the *Applications/Reports* tab at the top of the web page to check which RFPs you currently have access to.
3. If you don't see your desired RFP(s) available in the *Applications/Reports* tab, navigate to the *Sign Up for Open RFPs* tab and sign up for the Full Lives RFP. *It may take our team 3 business days to process this request and for you to see the requested RFP(s) in your Applications/Reports tab.*

Please refer to our [info sheet](#) for further details on how to navigate your Grants Portal account and reach out to RFP@gtcuw.org with any questions.

All applicants will submit a written application in their [online Grants Portal](#). To make applications easier to draft, we are providing a Word template of the application. However, applicants **MUST** submit their

application information in their [online Grants Portal](#). Applications will be scored by a team of Greater Twin Cities United Way staff and community reviewers with knowledge of systems-involved young people and housing against an assessment rubric provided below.

Virtual conversations: Top-scoring organizations will be invited to participate in a conversation to discuss their work in more detail and learn more about the Pathways Home initiative. Prior to these calls, GTCUW will provide a detailed agendas and discussion questions. **Invited applicants will be expected to share a simple proposed Pathways Home Phase 2 project budget at least two days prior to the conversation. GTCUW will share a budget template with invited applicants.** Financial compliance documents that include Form 990 and most recent approved board budget will be asked for during the virtual conversation period as well.

Applicants that do not score highly on their application will be notified the week of September 14th, 2026, that they are no longer being considered for this funding opportunity.

Application Materials

To download a document version of the required written application please [click here](#).

Proposal Assessment Rubric

All applicants will be required to submit a written application and a selection of applicants will be invited to a conversation that will serve as the second round of award decision making. The written application and will be scored against the following proposal assessment rubric.

Area of Assessment	% of Total Score
Services provided and populations served aligned to priorities	30%
Whole Living Skills and Housing proposed work	30%
Organizational readiness	30%
Evaluation capacity	10%
Total	100%

Written applications will be scored and decisions communicated in the week of September 14th, 2026.

Applicants that scored highly on the written application will be invited to a 60–90-minute conversation

facilitated by at least two GTCUW representatives asking pre-determined questions to learn more about proposed work. **Invited applicants will be expected to share a simple proposed Pathways Home Phase 2 project budget at least two days prior to the conversation. GTCUW will share a budget template with invited applicants.** Financial compliance documents that include Form 990 and most recent approved board budget will be asked for during the virtual conversation period as well.

After the virtual conversations, GTCUW will recommend final grant decisions to GTCUW leadership. Applicants will be notified of funding decisions via email in October 2026. Please refer to “Key Dates for Applications.”

Greater Twin Cities United Way reserves the right to make awards that support our cultivation of a balanced grant portfolio that most effectively advances our mission, goals, and priorities. Toward this end, and in addition to criteria identified in this RFP, funding decisions may include considerations of geography, scale and ecosystem factors, among other factors.

Grant Terms and Payments

- Grants are anticipated to be around \$100,000 with a grant term November 2026 – October 2028.
- Grant award will be made in three payments throughout the funding period:
 - 40% of funds will be released upon signature of the grant agreement in Fall 2026.
 - 40% of funds will be released following Year 1 annual report submission and midpoint evaluation conversation.
 - 20% of funds will be released following Year 2 annual report submission and final evaluation conversation.
- Funded partners will be asked to provide direct deposit information for payment.
- All funded partners will be required to participate in the following:
 - Provide direct services related to housing, Whole Living Skills, and wraparound supports to young people experiencing transition
 - Engage in technical assistance and evaluation with GTCUW
 - Consistently participates in-person learning Communities of Practice with other funded partners and housing leaders
- Funded partners are expected to connect with the GTCUW Program Officer **at least once every quarter during the funding period.**

- Funded partners are expected to have at least one program leader **participate in every Community of Practice.**

Misuse of funds and/or noncompliance with grant terms may result in stopped payments, cancelled grants, and could impact future funding decisions with GTCUW.

Application Resources and Other Questions

During the application period, Greater Twin Cities United Way staff are available to answer your questions and assist with your application.

- The Pathways Home Program Officer will hold a live Q&A on Wednesday, August 12, 2026, at 11 AM. You can find the video recording of the session and the slide deck from the session following that session.
- Four opportunities for office hours will be held by appointment with the Pathways Home Program Officer the following dates from noon – 2 PM CST. Click on the date to sign up for a 30-minute slot.
 - [Thursday, August 13](#)
 - [Tuesday, August 18](#)
 - [Thursday, August 20](#)
 - [Thursday, August 25](#)
- Please refer to our [info sheet](#) for further details on how to navigate your Grants Portal account, and reach out to RFP@gtcuw.org with any questions.
- Contact us at rfp@gtcuw.org and a Greater Twin Cities United Way staff person will respond to your question within 3 business days.

Appendix 1: Glossary of Terms

Justice System

Refers to the range of settings and processes through which young people may come into contact with law enforcement, courts, supervision, or detention in response to alleged or adjudicated legal issues. This includes police, courts, probation, detention or correctional facilities, and specialty courts such as drug or mental health courts. In this RFP, it includes both juvenile and adult contexts and recognizes that involvement can shape young people's experiences, opportunities, and access to support in different ways.

Young People

In our work at Pathways Home, "young people" refers to those ages 16–24 who are navigating the transition to adulthood. This includes young people with experience in foster care (ages 16–24) and young adults returning to the community following involvement with the justice system (ages 18–24). This definition recognizes young people as whole, with strengths, goals, and varied lived experiences as they work toward stability and independence.

Foster

Refers to the range of caregiving arrangements in which children and youth are raised outside of their biological parents, including formal placements and informal care. This includes licensed foster homes, kinship care with relatives, and care by trusted adults in a young person's community—regardless of whether those arrangements are formally supervised by a county or public agency. *Pathways Home recognizes that many young people experience caregiving relationships that function as foster care, even if they are not formally part of a child welfare system.*

Whole Life Skills

Refers to the practical knowledge, supports, and abilities young people build to navigate daily life, maintain stable housing, and move toward their goals. In this RFP, whole life skills include areas such as financial stability, employment readiness, education, health and well-being, relationship-building, and navigating systems like housing, healthcare, and public benefits. These skills are developed through real-life application and ongoing support, helping young people achieve stability, connection, and long-term independence.

Direct Service

Refers to activities and supports provided directly to young people through in-person, virtual, or field-based

interaction. This includes services such as case management, coaching, mentoring, housing support, life skills development, and other hands-on assistance that helps young people meet their goals. Direct service emphasizes building relationships, responding to immediate needs, and supporting progress toward stability and independence.

Wraparound Services

Refers to a group of organizations and practitioners who come together to learn, share experiences, and strengthen their work in support of young people. A Community of Practice creates space for reflection, problem-solving, and relationship-building to improve services and outcomes. Participation may include peer learning, sharing challenges and successes, and developing approaches that better support young people's stability and goals.

Community of Practice

Refers to a group of organizations and practitioners who come together regularly to learn from one another, share experiences, and strengthen their work in support of young people. A Community of Practice creates space for reflection, problem-solving, and relationship-building, with a focus on improving how services are delivered and how outcomes are achieved. Participation may include peer learning, sharing challenges and successes, and building approaches that better support young people's stability and goals..

Transition

Refers to the process young people move through as they shift into adulthood and greater independence, including changes in housing, relationships, responsibilities, and access to support. In this RFP, transition often includes leaving foster care, returning to the community, or moving from unstable situations into stable housing. This process is not linear and requires consistent relationships, practical support, and opportunities for growth.

Appendix 2: Logic Model

Pathways Home Phase 2

Funding Opportunity Goal: To improve housing stability among youth experiencing systems transitions by strengthening whole living skills (WLS) and systems connections in the 9-county Twin Cities metro region.

