



2026 MULTI-YEAR GRANTS

RFP Evaluator Training

April 7, 2026



KEY DATES

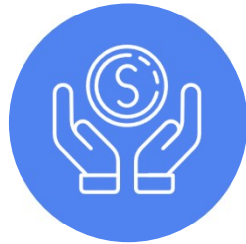
- LOI opens Jan 5 and due Feb. 5.
- LOI review period: **Feb 6 – Feb 20**
- Full Proposal opens March 2 and due April 2.
- **Evaluator Training** (virtual): **April 7**
- **Full Proposal review period: April 10 – May 4**
- **Final review meeting: May 19**



5 COUNTIES; 3 INVESTMENT PRIORITIES



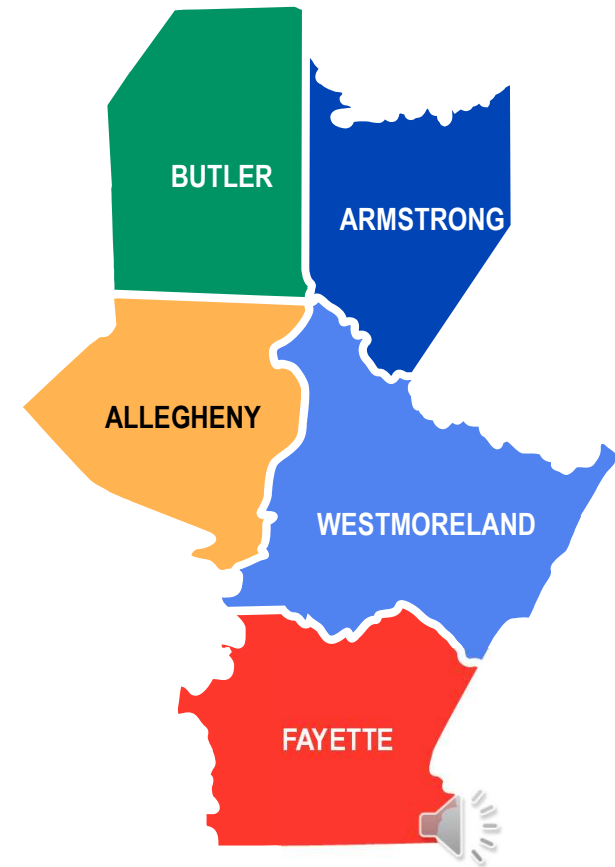
MEETING
basic needs



MOVING
to financial stability



BUILDING
for success in
school and life



EVALUATOR WEBSITE

- Links to meetings and training recordings.
- Access to the GLM grant system, with video and PDF walkthroughs.
- Downloadable copies of the Full Proposal application and scoring rubric.
- Information about optional evaluator office hours and in-person evaluator cafés.
- Contact information if questions come up along the way.

Evaluator Resources & Key Dates

Please review the information below and mark your calendar for the required training session.

Required & Encouraged Meetings

Access the Grant System (GLM)

Key Documents

Optional Support & Connection Opportunities

Questions or need support?

United Way staff are available throughout the review period and are always happy to help.

No question is too small – please reach out if something feels unclear or if you'd like to talk through your review.

SARA NOEL, SENIOR DIRECTOR OF
STRATEGIC IMPACT. ✉

JACOB GRANDE, MANAGER OF COMMUNITY IMPACT
DATA AND RESEARCH. ✉

<https://unitedwayswpa.org/rfp-evaluator-resources/>





APPLICATION QUESTIONS



PROGRAM DETAILS

- Program Details provide foundational context for the full application
- Non-profit status is verified by staff — evaluators do not need to confirm
- Investment Priority is assigned by United Way based on the LOI
- Consistency check: information here should align with and carry through all later application responses

Organization Name

Are you a 501(c)3 non-profit organization?

Yes, and we have our own EIN/ Tax ID

No, but we have a Fiscal Sponsor or Partner Organization

EIN or Tax ID Number

#

Tell us about your organization

This may include organization history, core programs and services, and other work that may be outside of the specific program you are applying for.

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County

Please select the county(s) where your organization is located.

Allegheny

Armstrong

Butler

Fayette

Westmoreland

The questions below are about the specific program you are applying for.

Program Name

Investment Priority

While you may have selected a different Investment Priority, or more than one, at the LOI, we have assigned this priority area based on how your work fits our [Investment Priority Framework](#).

Meeting

Moving

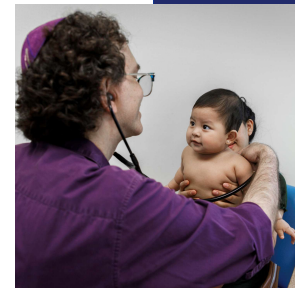
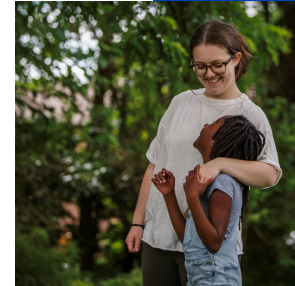
Building

Capacity Building

ALIGNMENT

How does your program align with the United Way goal of (Investment Priority)?

How does your program align with United Way's Aspirational Goals?



OUR ASPIRATIONAL GOALS: 2025-2027

A bold vision for our region's future.

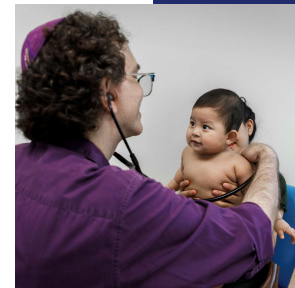
1. **Economic Mobility:** Lift 6,600 households above the ALICE threshold across our five-county region.
2. **Premier Human Services Connector:** Position 211 as the foremost human services connector in southwestern Pennsylvania.
3. **Civic Engagement and Community Momentum:** Build civic engagement that gives people hope that change is possible and provides ways to take action.
4. **Nonprofit Sector Capacity Building:** Build capacity at our partner agencies to encourage innovation and help the sector achieve greater efficiency and effectiveness.
5. **Young People's Success Pipeline:** Ensure young people are prepared for success starting at kindergarten readiness through career pathway completion.
6. **Community Voice and Advocacy:** Amplify community voices and drive policy change that helps people thrive.

ALIGNMENT

How does your program align with the United Way goal of (Investment Priority)?

How does your program align with United Way's Aspirational Goals?

- Good answer: Clearly defines alignment with at least one strategy under the assigned Investment Priority and one Aspirational Goal — the connection to the program's core framework is evident and easy to follow
- Exceptional answer: Identifies connections to multiple strategies and Aspirational Goals — the link is deep, intentional and a direct result of how the program is designed
- Note: Programs may touch strategies across multiple investment priorities — evaluators should focus on alignment with the assigned priority
- Alignment doesn't end here — it should remain a thread throughout the rest of the application



PROGRAM DETAILS

- Questions carried over directly from the LOI
- These were scored in depth at the LOI stage, but they remain foundational to the full proposal
- The next rubric section expands on these answers — evaluators should assess how well the applicant builds on what they established here

What community need(s) does your program address?

3,000 characters left of 3,000

Organizational readiness and local relevance

Why you are uniquely equipped to run this program, in your area, for the population you serve?

3,000 characters left of 3,000

Program description

Tell us about your program.

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PROGRAM ACTIVITIES AND TIMELINE

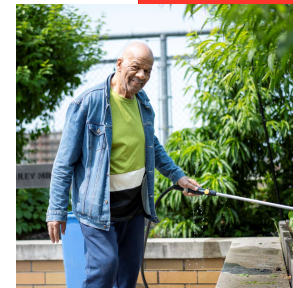
Program Activities and Timeline (one year)

Partners and collaborators

How does your organization consider community need to inform design and changes to programming?

Who do you serve?

- Good answer: You understand what the program is doing and can see how it supports United Way's strategies and aspirational goals
- Exceptional answer: No questions remain — what they do, how they'll do it and how it advances the investment priority are all clearly demonstrated; you are confident in the program's ability to support the community
- The partnership and community-informed design questions help separate a good answer from an exceptional one
- The narrative established in earlier answers must carry through here

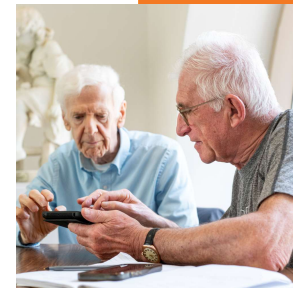


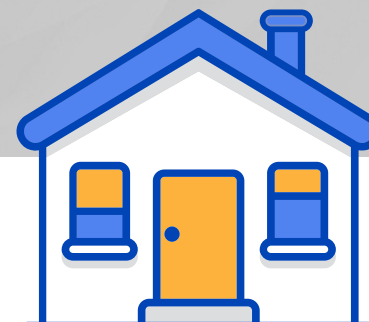
OUTCOMES AND MEASUREMENTS

Outcome / Corresponding UWSWPA Strategy / Method to Track
Approximately how many of the people you expect to serve in Outcome 1 are below the ALICE threshold?

How do you plan to estimate or track the number of people below the ALICE threshold that you serve?

- Outcome 1 is required for everyone — people served, strategy should align with their assigned Investment Priority
- Additional outcomes are optional and the strategy does not have to align with the assigned Investment Priority
- Additional outcomes are meant to highlight the additional impacts of the program





ASSET LIMITED, INCOME- CONSTRAINED EMPLOYED

Captures households above the federal poverty level yet struggle to afford basic expenses.

Who are people living in ALICE?

- Households living paycheck to paycheck.
- Workers whose wages are not keeping up with the rising costs of goods and services.
- Spans all races, ages, ethnicities and abilities, but disproportionately affects Black, Indigenous People of Color (BIPOC) households.

Source: <https://www.uwp.org/alice/reports/>

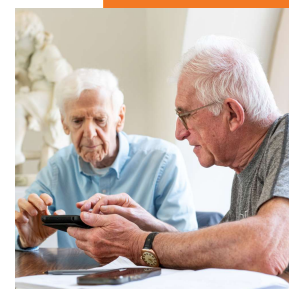
OUTCOMES AND MEASUREMENTS

Outcome / Corresponding UWSWPA Strategy / Method to Track

Approximately how many of the people you expect to serve in Outcome 1 are below the ALICE threshold?

How do you plan to estimate or track the number of people below the ALICE threshold that you serve?

- ALICE questions are not directly tied to rubric scoring — they help United Way understand the population being served and identify progress toward lifting households out of ALICE
- Helpful for evaluators to get a better understanding of the population served
- Good answer: Outcomes align with the program and United Way's solutions-based strategies, with a feasible method to track success
- Exceptional answer: Additional outcomes are meaningfully connected to the program and United Way, with a strong and clear tracking plan
- Strength of alignment separates good from exceptional — not volume of people served
- Ask yourself: do the outcomes align with the program description and the narrative established throughout the application?



BUDGET, NARRATIVE AND FINANCIAL FEASIBILITY

Total Request Amount / Program Budget / Budget Narrative

If you receive less funding than requested, how would that affect your program

- The budget should be clear and easy to follow — you should understand exactly what the request amount is being used for
- The budget, narrative and request amount should align with the program description and activities listed
- The "if you receive less funding" question speaks to program sustainability, flexibility and contingency planning — it is an important part of scoring this section



SUPPORTING DOCUMENTS

- Supporting documents are primarily for internal compliance purposes
- The Logic Model and Others upload are optional but can provide helpful context
- Submitting supporting documents should not result in a higher score

Form 990*

[10 MiB allowed]

Financial Audit*

Please provide your most recent audited financial statements. If your Gross Annual Contributions were under \$750,000, you may provide a copy of your most recent tax return instead of State.

[10 MiB allowed]

Logic Model (optional)

While including the logic model with your application is optional, we recommend using it as a tool as to work through your proposal.

The logic model template can be found [here](#).

[10 MiB allowed]

Others (optional)

[10 MiB allowed]

OVERALL IMPRESSION / DO YOU RECOMMEND?

- What's your overall impression of the application as a whole
- Will this program support United Way's Investment Priorities and Aspirational Goals
- Will this program effectively address the needs of the community?





TIPS & LESSONS LEARNED

- Confidentiality is very important to us.
- Conflict of interest.
- Read the whole application before scoring – answers can come from different questions, attachments and the website.
- Not scoring grammar.
- Evaluators are not responsible for final funding decisions. Scores will be combined and averaged.
- Don't stress on the first few evaluations – you can always adjust your scores.
- Scores are supposed to be subjective, so leave comments!!!
- **REACH OUT AT ANY TIME!**



KEY DATES

- **Full Proposal Review Period: April 10 to May 4**
 - Evaluator Office Hours (virtual, optional): April 14, 1 to 5 p.m.
 - Evaluator Office Hours (virtual, optional): April 24, 9 a.m. to 5 p.m.
 - Evaluator Office Hours (virtual, optional): April 29, 9 a.m. to 1 p.m.
 - (Butler) In-Person Evaluator Café (optional): April 15, 10 a.m. to 5 p.m.
 - (Pittsburgh) In-Person Evaluator Café (optional): April 17, 11 a.m. to 2 p.m.
 - (Greensburg) In-Person Evaluator Café (optional): April 22, 10 a.m. to 3 p.m.
 - (Pittsburgh) In-Person Evaluator Café (optional): April 28, 3 to 7 p.m.
- **Full Proposal Review Meeting (virtual): May 19**





Contact Info:
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