



PETER & ELIZABETH TOWER FOUNDATION

Community Change

2023 Guidelines

The Foundation is pausing new Community Change grantmaking for 2023. We intend to use the year to clarify the goals, scope, scale, and types of projects it will fund through the Community Change portfolio. Existing Community Change grant partners should contact your Program Officer if you anticipate needing an extension.

While we are not accepting unsolicited Community Change requests this year, please feel free to [schedule a time to speak with a Program Officer](#) if you have an idea that meets the criteria below.

Eligibility

- It's easiest for us to accept grant applications from:
 - Not-for-profit organizations with a 501(c)(3) designation that are not private foundations;
 - Not-for-profit public benefit corporations;
 - Public or diocesan school districts; or
 - Private or charter schools.
- We will be making grants to organizations currently providing services in one or more of these regions:
 - Massachusetts: Barnstable County, Dukes County, Essex County, Nantucket County
 - New York: Erie County, Niagara County
- At a minimum, grant partners currently provide prevention, treatment, and/or recovery services to people aged 26 years or younger from at least one of these populations:
 - People with intellectual disabilities (including those on the autism spectrum)
 - People with specific learning disabilities
 - People with mental illness/mental health challenges
 - People with substance use disorders
- Our ideal grant partners serve one or more of the populations listed above who also have intersecting identities as members of historically marginalized communities (e.g., Black/African-American, Hispanic/Latinx, Native American/Indigenous Peoples, disability, housing insecure, immigrant/refugee, LGBTQIA+).

Funding Availability

The Foundation has not made a budget allocation for 2023 Community Change grants. While all Community Change grants must support work within the regions in which the Foundation funds and benefit one or more of the populations it serves, there is no pre-defined allocation of funds to any of its geographies or funding categories.

There is no set amount or cap for Community Change grant awards. Owing to their community-wide or systems-level focus, Community Change grants may be larger than those seen through the Foundation's Programs & Services portfolio (which typically range from \$15,000 to \$50,000 per year). We are most interested in establishing a level of support appropriate to the work's scope and duration.

Application Timeline

The Foundation is not accepting unsolicited requests in its Community Change portfolio in 2023. If you have an idea that meets the criteria listed throughout these guidelines, please feel free to [schedule a time to speak with a Program Officer](#).

Further discussion is not an indication of likely support. There is no specific time line for development or award of Community Change grants, as projects vary in their scope and readiness for funding.

What We're Most Interested in Funding

The Foundation is interested in funding requests that support communities in establishing accessible, holistic, integrated, collaborative services benefitting young people affected by intellectual disabilities, learning disabilities, mental health, and substance use disorders who also have intersecting identities as members of historically marginalized communities (e.g., Black/African-American, Hispanic/Latinx, Native American/Indigenous Peoples, disability, housing insecure, immigrant/refugee, LGBTQIA+).

Community Change grants often support multi-year efforts and generally feature collaborative work intended to effect community-wide and/or systems-level change (e.g., efforts to eliminate structural barriers preventing the Foundation's populations of interest from accessing services). **Requests to create or expand programs operated or managed by a single agency are more appropriate for the Foundation's Programs & Services grant portfolio.**

The Tower Foundation allows organizations to apply an **administrative overhead rate** of 15% on grant requests over \$100,000, and 20% for requests of \$100,000 or less. The administrative overhead rate for colleges, universities, and affiliated organizations is capped at 10%.

How to Apply

- The Foundation will not be accepting unsolicited Community Change requests in 2023.
- If you have an idea for a Community Change project that meets the guidelines in this document, please [get in touch with a Program Officer](#).
- Existing Community Change grant partners should contact your Program Officer if you anticipate needing an extension.

How to Contact Us

If you have any questions that aren't covered in these guidelines, you'd like to discuss a special circumstance, or you want to see whether an idea you have for a grant is a good fit for the Foundation, please get in touch with one of our Program Officers.

- Schedule a phone call: <https://calendly.com/towerfdn-program>
- Send us an email: info@thetowerfoundation.org