



Fall Grant Cycle Guidelines and Prequalification Requirements

The Community Foundation is committed to foster collaboration and strategic approaches to improve the quality of life for all in Tompkins County. In 2015, the Foundation offered a grant cycle that encouraged collaboration among agencies and organizations as an approach to solving complex local problems. In the fall of 2017, continuing to build on the principle of collective impact, we are offering a grant cycle to support and sustain local collective impact initiatives. Examples of issues that the review team might consider (but certainly not limited to these) are:

- Successful attainment of educational and employment goals for young people in Tompkins County, birth to age 24
- Successful prevention of incarceration and re-entry after incarceration
- Access to affordable housing and transportation for vulnerable populations
- Successful prevention and recovery from substance abuse
- Attainment of nutritional health for all in Tompkins County

Applications will be carried out in three stages:

1. A brief online application that determines eligibility for an interview with the review team.
2. An interview with the review team that provides an opportunity for more dynamic discussion around the issue and request for funding.
3. An invitation to complete a more thorough application for the review team to consider.

In order to qualify for an interview with the review team, initiatives must meet these requirements.

1. There must be three or more collaborating entities involved, with evidence of how each will contribute to meet the overall goal of the initiative. These entities can represent the non-profit, public, private or community sector (i.e. neighborhood, local residents, etc.). The team will look for evidence of active collaboration in strategic work (beyond referrals). Some examples are shared planning and decision making, planned check-ins among groups, and shared measurements.
2. A Common Goal of the Initiative must be clear and shared by all collaborating entities.
3. There must be clear evidence, both qualitative and quantitative for the need for such an initiative.
4. In keeping with the larger goal of collective impact, there must be clear evidence of how this initiative will work to alter the structures and systems that have contributed to the problem addressed.

Grantee candidates must serve Tompkins County and provide services for a charitable purpose to residents of Tompkins County. Lead applicants must also be one of the following:

- a. 501(c)3, not-for-profit organization
- b. Government (e.g. public schools, municipality)
- c. religious organization (to support non-religious activities directed toward a public purpose)