

## Frequently Asked Questions Request for Proposals 2020

*Note: this is a “living” document and may be updated periodically as needed.*

### Q. What types of proposals will United Way accept for this cycle?

- A. To align with the Bold Goals 2030 initiative, the United Way of Rutherford and Cannon Counties is seeking proposals that reflect the following Bold Goals areas/leading indicators during its spring 2020 RFP cycle:
- Early Childhood Success: by the year 2030, 50% or more of children will be kindergarten ready.
  - Affordable Housing: by the year 2030, 80% or more of households will pay less than 30% of their income on housing.
  - Meeting Basic Needs: by the year 2030, 75% or more of households will be above the "ALICE" (Asset-Limited, Income-Constrained, Employed) threshold.

RFPs related to mental health, substance abuse, nutrition, and obesity are expected to be available in spring of 2021.

### Q. What is expected for a proposal submission?

- A. A standard form proposal is available on the United Way of Rutherford and Cannon Counties website at [www.yourlocaluw.org](http://www.yourlocaluw.org) under the “Our Work” tab. Submission of this form, along with other required accompanying documents noted on the form and website, is required for consideration.

In addition, as a component of the submission, the applicant will sign the partnership agreement that would become effective should funding be awarded. The applicant is expected to meet all terms of the agreement during the period of the agreement and should be confident in their ability to meet these terms **prior to submitting a proposal**.

### Q. When are proposals due?

- A. All proposals for this cycle are due Friday, March 6, 2020 by 11:59 PM CST. **Late submissions will not be considered.**

### Q. What is the time period for this grant opportunity?

- A. Beginning with awards made in 2020, grants will be renewable annually (i.e., a new, competitive application/proposal will not necessarily be required each year) contingent upon terms of agreement being met (regular participation in collaborative working sessions, goals being met, etc.) and priority of service/program within the Bold Goals strategies as determined by United Way’s Community Impact Committee (CIC) and UWRCC board.

**Mission Statement**

*To improve lives by advancing opportunities for education, health and financial stability for all.*

**Vision Statement**

*To be the primary community solutions leader for human services.*

**United Way may terminate or dissolve a funding relationship at any time for any reason.**  
**Note: although a competitive proposal may not be required each year, this does not mean that funding is guaranteed each year.**

**Q. What are the collaborative working sessions?**

A. Members of UWRCC's Community Impact Committee (CIC) will join collaborative working sessions focused on each Bold Goal (est. 2-3 committee members per working group) in addition to delegates of funded programs working within that Bold Goal. Subject matter experts or other partners may also be extended an invitation by UWRCC to participate in a particular working group. Benchmarks will be set within the working groups, with approval from the CIC, for progress toward goals.

**Q. When will grant awards be announced?**

A. The announcement for grant awards will be made no later than Friday, June 12, 2020.

**Q. Is there a minimum or maximum request that my proposal should reflect?**

A. There is not a minimum or maximum request set by United Way. You are essentially putting in your "bid" for funding for being able to offer a program or service that aligns with United Way's mission and vision at a price point that is determined by your agency. You will want to consider the time and resources involved, not only in the RFP process, but in meeting the expectations of the grant should funding be awarded – collaborative working sessions, reporting, etc.

**Q. Am I allowed to sub-grant funds should I receive an award?**

A. You are able to sub-grant funds, and plans to do so should be outlined in your proposal. Please note that the primary agency will be responsible for the sub-grantee meeting expectations of the grant agreement, and funding to the primary agency may be at risk should a sub-grantee not meet those expectations.

**Q. Will standardized tools be provided to measure the collective outcomes?**

A. Yes, grant recipients will be provided with tools and resources to equip them with providing collective outcomes.

**Q. Can we submit more than one proposal?**

A. Yes, if you have more than one program or service line that aligns with different Bold Goals area/leading indicators or strategies, you may submit more than one proposal. Please note that these would be separate funding relationships and may involve varying time periods for funding, collaborative working sessions, etc.

**Q. What if my agency receives donor designations through a United Way campaign? Is that separate from the grant awards?**

A. Yes, beginning with awards made in 2020, donor designations will be considered a "separate stream" and not be related to grant awards made through United Way's Community Impact Fund. For more information about our donor designation policy, please visit [this page of our website](#).

*Last revised 01/09/2020.*

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