



OUR VISION

Vibrant and resilient Reno County communities where every person has the opportunity to thrive

OUR MISSION

Inspire philanthropy, leadership, and collaboration to strengthen Reno County

OUR VALUES

We believe in uniting people and building trust among residents.

We believe in empowering local people to address our most pressing challenges and improve livelihoods, especially for those who are most vulnerable.

We believe in being exemplary stewards and community partners—the go-to source for philanthropy in Reno County.

REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS FUND FOR RENO COUNTY GRANTS

Designed to strengthen Reno County’s resilience and capacity, the Fund for Reno County is the unrestricted grantmaking fund that allows Hutchinson Community Foundation to invest in our partner organizations to address the ever-changing and diverse needs and dreams of Reno County communities.

Among Reno County’s strongest assets are the community-based organizations and nonprofits that enhance the lives of the people they serve and our community’s quality of life. We believe that high-performing, adaptive, and collaborative organizations are essential to achieving our vision of a thriving community where dreams are fulfilled through the power of philanthropy.

CRITERIA FOR FUNDING PROPOSALS

Who can apply?

Proposals must come from organizations that are exempt from federal income tax under Section 501(c)(3) and serve Reno County. Special purpose units of government may apply for support of innovative projects. Community groups who do not have a 501(c)(3) status may apply for grant awards if another tax-exempt organization acts as a fiscal sponsor. Grant proposals from individuals or non-qualifying organizations will not be considered. Applicants must conduct business without discrimination on the basis of race, gender, marital status, sexual orientation, age, disability, religion, creed, or ethnicity.

How much funding can an organization apply for?

Proposals are reviewed and awarded by community volunteers on Hutch CF’s Strategic Impact Committee. Grant awards have typically ranged from \$3,000 to \$15,000 and averaged around \$7,000. Multi-year proposals and larger requests will be considered, particularly for collaborations, innovations, and efforts around systems and environment change. The Strategic Impact Committee may choose to partially fund an applicant’s requested budget. We ask that organizations do not apply a second time in one calendar year if their first proposal was approved.

What kinds of proposals will NOT be funded?

Ineligible projects include religious indoctrination or other proselytization activities, deficit financing, lobbying, electioneering and activities of a political nature, sponsorships for special events, endowment building, direct fundraising, ongoing programmatic support, and reimbursement of pre-award costs.

Which proposals will be given priority in funding?

Innovation – Proposals that represent new and promising approaches, smart experiments, or bold ideas that shift the collective focus from reactive problem solving to creating the vision of our future.

Collaboration – Proposals that strengthen cross-sector and inter-sector relationships, leverage resources to optimize shared goals of multiple organizations, and create increasingly inclusive and seamless systems of services.

Effective organizations – Proposals that evaluate, expand, or improve the effective services, operations, and leadership development of established organizations.

Adaptive leadership – Proposals that prioritize an attitude of curiosity, acknowledge the multiple perspectives in a system, and foster reflection and trust among people with diverse life experiences.

Systems and environment change – Proposals that go beyond programming and into changing policies, systems, and environments that lead to improving the livelihoods of all people, especially those living on the margins.

PROCEDURE FOR SUBMITTING PROPOSALS

To best position your proposal for success, applicants are strongly encouraged to speak with Hutch CF program staff ahead of submission to discuss their project and approach.

Proposals must be submitted online through the Foundant Grant Lifecycle Management system, accessed through HutchCF.org.

Proposals are accepted year-round, with award decisions made at bi-monthly Strategic Impact Committee meetings. Notification of approvals and denials will be sent within one week following committee meetings. Application due dates and award notification dates are listed on our website in the Fund for Reno County section of our Available Grants page on the guideline sheet linked to the FFRC process in GLM (noted above).

REPORTING REQUIREMENTS

Grantees are required to complete and submit a report midway through the grant project to assist the Community Foundation in telling the story of the project's impact. A final report is due 30 days following the completion of the project and no later than one year after the grant award date. Report forms will be requested via email for completion in the Foundant online system. Failure to complete final reports on time may impact an organization's ability to receive future funding from the Community Foundation.

ABOUT THE FUND FOR RENO COUNTY

The Fund for Reno County was established by the founding Board of Directors as a permanent resource for the changing needs of Reno County. It serves as a "community savings account" that allows our community to take risks on new projects, address deep and daunting issues, and try innovative solutions. Over \$4 million has been awarded to community-based organizations serving Reno County since 1990.

Contact Sarah Blake at Sarah@HutchCF.org or 663.5293 with questions, or visit www.HutchCF.org.