

Fund to End Hunger Guidelines

The Worcester County Food Bank (WCFB) Fund to end Hunger was established in 2011 by the WCFB as a resource to support nonprofit organizations working towards a hunger-free Worcester County.

Eligibility

- 501(c)(3) organizations or fiscally sponsored programs
- The proposed work is set to begin at a date after payment is made.
- If you have been a long time recipient of the fund (5 or more years- please consider taking a one year break from applying)

Scope & Requirements

- Average grant size is \$3,000
- Larger projects should demonstrate they can secure additional funding
- Requests should be for discrete programs, projects or supplies.
- The proposed work must have a demonstrable impact on Worcester County residents
- Requested work for any large purchases must include a quote
- Grant should be expended within 18 months of disbursement
- In lieu of a formal report, grantees will engage in a follow up conversation with staff

Areas of Support

1. *Increasing Access to Healthy Foods*
 - a. *Formal Meal Programs*
 - i. *In School, Out of School & Summer*
 - ii. *Increasing capacity of programs such as WIC or Meals on Wheels*
 - b. *Community Food & Nutrition Resources*
 - i. *Farmers Markets*
 - ii. *Community Gardens*
 - iii. *Food Rescue Programs*
 - c. *Programs Supporting Marginalized Communities*
 - d. *Programs promoting economic self-sufficiency and skillbuilding*
 - i. *Meal preparation and nutrition courses*
 - ii. *Workforce training*
 - iii. *Financial planning*
2. *Building Capacity for Food Serving Organizations*
 - a. *Equipment & Materials*
 - i. *Storage*
 - ii. *Food Handling*
 - iii. *Items or systems that support growth and/or increase efficiency*
 - b. *Training & Certifications for staff and volunteers*
3. *Advocacy & Policy Change*
 - a. *Advocacy efforts for Supplemental Nutritional Assistance Program (SNAP) and/or the Healthy Incentives Program (HIP)*
 - b. *Efforts to support those considered benefit ineligible*

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Selection Criteria: Projects will be assessed in the following areas:

- Alignment with areas of support
- Feasibility of the work: Is the organization the right folks to lead the effort, is the budget realistic and does it match the scope of work)
- Impact for Worcester County residents

What we are not able to support

- Individuals
- Businesses
- General operating
- Routine food costs. (food purchases are accepted on a limited basis and solely for the purposes of religious/medical/cultural needs)

How We Can Help:

- Applicants are encouraged (but not required) to reach out to GWCF Program staff before submitting an application to discuss project details.
- GWCF staff are happy to offer coaching on your application
- All applications receive a thorough and fair review and will be notified of your decision.
- You are encouraged to set up a feedback conversation with staff to learn more about your application review.