



Dear Community,

Rose Youth Foundation, an initiative of Rose Community Foundation, engages Jewish high school students in collaborative grantmaking. In Spring 2024, the members of Rose Youth Foundation will make grants totaling \$60,000 to support youth experiencing homelessness and housing instability in the Greater Denver region. Grants will support organizations and projects that provide safe spaces which foster a sense of community, provide basic needs assistance and/or comprehensive wrap-around services. These include but are not limited to mental and physical health services for youth and families with children experiencing housing instability.

Each year, Rose Youth Foundation members work together to reflect on Jewish teachings and traditions of giving, explore community needs, and practice strategic philanthropy. We have identified the following Jewish values to guide our grantmaking:

- From Generation to Generation, *L'dor vador*: Safe and stable housing is foundational to a child's immediate and long-term wellbeing. We seek to support the healthy physical, mental and psychological development of youth experiencing homelessness so that trauma is not passed down through generations.
- Do Not Stand Idly By, *Lo ta'amod al dam rei'echa*: We recognize that homelessness is both a visible and invisible problem. We hope to support the full continuum of youth experiencing housing instability; from those who are transitionally houseless to those experiencing chronic instability.
- Lovingkindness, *Chesed*: We believe that youth experiencing homelessness deserve to be cared for, shown dignity and treated with love and kindness. We hope to foster a community of belonging for our peers experiencing housing instability.

We invite nonprofit organizations in the Greater Denver region that are providing supportive services to youth under the age of 18 and families with children under the age of 18 to apply for this funding opportunity. We are interested in reviewing proposals that reach those who are farthest from opportunity, recognizing that youth who have been involved with the justice system, those who are Black or African American, Native Hawaiian or Pacific Islander, American Indian or Alaska Native, LGBTQIA+ or have a disabling physical or mental health condition are disproportionately represented in the homeless community. Up to \$60,000 is available to grant; we anticipate making two to three grants ranging from \$20,000 - \$30,000. We understand that community needs far outpace the resources available, and as a result it is expected that not all applicants will receive funding.

Sincerely,

2023-2024 Rose Youth Foundation Members

Joseph Blaine
Harper Cohen
Ami Gelman
Gabe Huberman
Lila Reed
Jeremy Simon
Mia Wexler

Samantha Brenner
Holden Demain
Cooper Hansen
Hannah Kutnick
Jacob Rossow
Marley Stoler
Mia Williams

Molly Citrin
Max Gart
Brianna Hazak
Charlie May
Sachi Rothberg
Sammy Weiser

Overview

Between July 2021 and June 2022, 1,787 youth accessed homelessness services from Homeless Management Information System (HMIS) partner agencies in metro Denver.¹ We know that without access to safe and stable housing, youth and their families are confronted with persistent challenges that can have life-long impacts.

Youth experiencing homelessness face significant and long-lasting developmental impacts, including being at higher risk for “cognitive, emotional, and health related problems”.² Additionally, youth experiencing homelessness may have trouble accessing other services such as health care, employment, and basic needs such as food, clothing, and transportation. In the 2022 VI SPDAT survey, over 98% of respondents reported being homeless one or more times in the past 3 years.³ Repeated or chronic homelessness is not a choice, but rather influenced by a variety of risk factors.

In 2023, Mayor Mike Johnston declared homelessness in Denver a “state of emergency.” This issue is pervasive nationwide, but overburdened support systems make the Greater Denver region particularly susceptible. As affordable housing remains in short supply, but the demand for housing and access to supportive services continues to increase, we see a unique need for intervention.

Intervention for youth and families looks different based on each individual’s history, needs and current situation. Youth report that better housing, case planning, and authentic connections would be helpful in securing safe and stable housing.⁴ Both emergency services and plans to create long term stability are needed.⁵

The members of Rose Youth Foundation understand that Black or African American, Native Hawaiian or Pacific Islander (NHPI), American Indian or Alaska Native (AIAN), and Multiracial youth are overrepresented in youth homelessness data.⁶ They know that homelessness is the result of systemic inequities that create intergenerational trauma and disparities and is not the result of individual choices. They also recognize that youth with disabilities and youth from different geographic regions in Denver will experience homelessness differently.

Through these grants, Rose Youth Foundation members hope to support youth experiencing homelessness by creating safe spaces where they can access needed services. Broadband systemic change is needed to fully eradicate youth homelessness, but we hope to create a lasting and impactful difference for youth in our community.

Eligibility and Application Information

All applications must be received through Rose Community Foundation’s [online grants portal](#) by **5 p.m. on Monday, February 5, 2024**. Late or incomplete proposals may not be considered. All applicants will be notified by June 2024 whether their request is granted.

¹ [Homeless Youth Media Kit — MDHI](#), Metro Denver Homeless Initiative, page 10

² [Effects of poverty, hunger and homelessness on children and youth \(apa.org\)](#), American Psychological Association

³ [Homeless Youth Needs Assessment 2022 \(squarespace.com\)](#), Metro Denver Homeless Initiative

⁴ Ibid.

⁵ [Education Series March 2023: Homelessness 101 + Accessing Services \(youtube.com\)](#), Colorado Coalition for the Homeless

⁶ [Homeless Youth Needs Assessment 2022 \(squarespace.com\)](#), Metro Denver Homeless Initiative

Funds Available and Grant Period

Approximately \$60,000 is available to grant through this request for proposals. Rose Youth Foundation anticipates making two to three grants ranging from \$20,000 to \$30,000, and we encourage organizations to apply for the level of funding they feel is needed. Rose Youth Foundation makes one-year grants; funds must be expended between June 2024 and May 2025. Because funds are limited, it is anticipated that not all applicants will receive funding.

We encourage organizations whose mission and work largely align with the Rose Youth Foundation 2023-2024 grantmaking priority to request general operating support. Organizations that have a specific initiative that aligns with the grantmaking priority should apply for program/project support.

Eligibility Requirements

Rose Youth Foundation will accept proposals from organizations and programs that serve the seven-county Greater Denver region of Adams, Arapahoe, Boulder, Broomfield, Denver, Douglas and/or Jefferson Counties. Programs with a broader geographic focus may apply; however, the application must address its relevance to and impact on people living within these seven counties. Applicants must be nonprofit organizations with tax-exempt classification from the Internal Revenue Service or must have a formal fiscal sponsorship arrangement with a tax-exempt organization. Organizations with a pending grant request to Rose Community Foundation may also apply for this grant opportunity. Organizations may only submit one application in response to this request for proposals. In cases where two or more organizations are partnering on a program or project, one organization should submit a single proposal on behalf of the partnership.

Completing Your Application

Applications must be submitted online through Rose Community Foundation's [online grants portal](#). You will need to create or log into an existing account to view and complete the grant application. Only applications submitted through Rose Community Foundation's online grants portal will be considered.

Once you have submitted your online grant application, you will receive an email confirming your application was successfully received. If you wish to access your application after submittal or to apply for another grant in the future, log in to your account by visiting rcfdenver.org/grantsapply.

Listening and Learning Session

Rose Youth Foundation will conduct listening and learning meetings with some applicants as part of the grant review process. If your organization is selected for a meeting, the visit will take place on **Wednesday, March 6 or Wednesday, March 13 between 4 and 5 p.m.** with a small group of teen members and should include any key staff from your organization. Rose Community Foundation staff will reach out to the applicant's primary contact to schedule this meeting. Organizations will be able to choose whether these conversations take place in-person or virtually.

Questions

For questions about the funding opportunity, contact Gillian Nyland, philanthropic initiatives coordinator at gnyland@rcfdenver.org or 303.398.7441. For questions about the online grants portal, contact Tejas Iyer, donor and fund services coordinator, at tiyer@rcfdenver.org or 303.398.7459.

Application Questions and Required Attachments

All grant applications must be completed and submitted through the [online grants portal](#). The following information is provided as a resource to help you prepare your proposal.

Basic Information

- **Program/Project Name** (Character Limit: 100)
- **Executive Director Name** (Character Limit: 50)
- **Name and Title of Primary Contact for this Proposal** (Character Limit: 70)
- **Primary Contact's Email Address** (Character Limit: 50)
- **Primary Contact's Phone Number** (Character Limit: 20)
- **Grant Request Type:** General Operating Support or Program/Project Support (Select one)
- **Total Grant Amount Requested**

Fiscal Sponsor (if applicable)

- **Fiscal Sponsor:** Does your organization have a fiscal sponsor? If yes: Please provide the legal organization name and full contact information (name, gender pronouns, title, email address, phone number, and mailing address) for your point of contact with the fiscal sponsor for this project.

Request Details

- **Mission and Vision Statements, Goals and Objectives, and History:** Provide your organization's mission statement and vision statement, current goals and objectives, and a brief history of the organization. (Character Limit: 2,000)
- **Community Needs:** Provide a description of the community need, and what or who informs your understanding of the community need. To what extent do the communities most impacted inform and guide the work of the organization? (Character Limit: 2,000)
- **Request Description:** Describe the work or resources for which your organization seeks funding, including how you intend to address the community need outlined above. Include a description of the population served and the number of people who will be served. (Character Limit: 2,000)
- **Outcomes and Impact:** Describe the desired short and long-term outcomes and impacts related to this request. Describe why this project or proposal is effective and necessary in providing resources and support to youth and families in need. (Character Limit: 2,000)

Financial Information

- **Fiscal Year End Date** (Character Limit: 10)
- **Total Approximate Annual Expenses** (for the period covered by the grant June 2024-May 2025) (Character Limit: 20)
- **Operating Budget:** (if applicable) If applying for general operating support, provide the organization's operating budget including all expenses and revenue. If possible, provide the projected budget for the period covered by the grant (June 2024-May 2025). If this is not available, please provide the current operating budget. An Excel file is preferred.
- **Program Budget:** (if applicable): If applying for program support, provide a detailed line-item budget for all program expenses and revenue. Itemize each major budget category and include the total cost of the program. In the case of revenue, include all funds available for the program and indicate pending or secured for each. Include the amount requested from Rose Youth Foundation as a pending source of revenue. An Excel file is preferred.