

2025 Jewish Life Grant Request for Proposals | Cycle One

Overview

Rose Community Foundation's Jewish Life program area seeks to support organizations and programs that are reflective of Greater Denver's Jewish communities and offer meaningful and relevant opportunities to engage in Jewish life, while welcoming diverse individuals, families and practices. For more on this commitment and the Foundation's vision, please [visit our website](#).

Priority Funding Areas

Organizations funded under this opportunity should reflect at least one of the following priorities:

- **Efforts to increase the organizational strength and capacity of a Jewish organization working in support of the seven-county Denver metro area Jewish community.** Applications in this category should consist of grants working toward a major organizational goal that strengthens the core functions of the organization, like sustained increased enrollment or a new revenue stream. These may include key staff positions, planning grants, new systems (CRM, software, etc.), professional development, coaching, or other similar projects.
- **Program or project that is reflective of diverse Jewish communities and offers meaningful and relevant opportunities to engage in Jewish life.** These applications should include data demonstrating the need for the program/project/organization and show that the grant would fill a gap in the local Jewish ecosystem, rather than duplicating other existing efforts. General operating or program grants may fall into this category.
- **Jewish initiatives seeking to advance social justice by engaging Jewish people and using Jewish values and traditions to respond to one or more key social and economic issues of our time.** National data demonstrates that Jewish people, particularly younger generations, tend to express their Jewish identities through social justice. Applications in this category will ideally demonstrate that their justice-oriented work is informed by, and supports, the population/issue area it serves. In addition, there should be some measurement of how this social justice programming supports the development of Jewish identities, relationships, meaning, and/or values of its Jewish participants.

Desired Outcomes and Evaluation

By making grants within the priorities stated above, the Foundation seeks to help Greater Denver's Jewish organizations advance the following seven outcomes:

Organizational Sustainability: Metro Denver/Boulder Jewish communal organizations are strong, safe, and sustainable.

Diversity: Metro Denver/Boulder Jewish organizations reach and serve Jewish audiences that represent the full spectrum of Jewish life, including demographic, geographic, and denominational diversity.

Inclusion: Metro Denver/Boulder Jewish individuals and families of all stripes feel welcomed and included in Jewish programs and organizations.

Communal Connections: Jewish individuals and families feel a strong sense of connection to one or more parts of the Metro Denver/Boulder Jewish community.

Engagement: Metro Denver/Boulder Jewish individuals and families repeatedly participate in Jewish engagement opportunities that are meaningful and relevant to them.

Social & Economic Justice: Metro Denver/Boulder Jewish individuals and families participate in activities that address social and economic justice as an expression of their Jewish identity.

Basic Needs: Basic needs of all Metro Denver/Boulder Jewish individuals and families are being met.

To better understand the needs and opportunities of Greater Denver's Jewish communities and how Rose Community Foundation can best support Jewish-serving organizations in meeting these, the Foundation has committed to monitoring community progress toward these outcomes.

Reporting requirements for grants made through this funding opportunity will include reporting on indicators relevant to these outcome statements. Information about expectations and support from the Foundation for this data collection and reporting will be shared with grant recipients when funding decisions are made.

Eligible Applicants

Jewish organizations operating in the seven county Greater Denver region. Applicants must be a nonprofit organization, school, or other tax-exempt organization in the seven-county Greater Denver region of Adams, Arapahoe, Boulder, Broomfield, Denver, Douglas and Jefferson counties. Unincorporated organizations, groups and initiatives may apply but must have a tax-exempt fiscal sponsor.

Funds Available to Grant and Grant Period

Rose Community Foundation anticipates making individual, one-time, grant awards based on alignment with the stated funding priorities and availability of funds. We expect this grant opportunity to be highly competitive, and it is possible that not all applicants will be awarded funding and/or that awards may not be for the requested amount.

Grants may be structured as programmatic or general operating support. **Funds cannot be used for endowments, cash reserves, debt repayment, or pass-through grants.** Grants will be for a period of 12 months, and organizations are eligible to be awarded funds only once in a 12-month period. In limited instances, multi-year grants may be awarded based on staff, committee and board discretion. Priority will be given to organizations that have demonstrated community need and interest in a proposed project, and where multi-year support would help to advance or achieve outcomes which may otherwise not be possible. First-time grantees are unlikely to receive multi-year grants. Grant requests should generally not exceed 15% of the current year's operating budget.

If you have **never received a grant** from Rose Community Foundation before or wish to discuss your potential proposal, please contact Director of Jewish Community Grants & Partnerships Jacob Rosenblum at jrosenblum@rcfdenver.org.

Timeline

- **January 15 - February 12, 2025:** Application open. Office hours available for applicants.
- **February 12, 2025, at 5 p.m. MT:** Application process closes.
- **February 13 – March 10, 2025:** Follow ups for additional information, as needed.
- **May 2025:** All applicants will be notified of funding decisions.
- **Week of June 9, 2025:** Grantees required to attend one of two evaluation strategy meetings. Additional meeting details will be emailed.
- **May 1, 2025 - April 30, 2026:** Grant period for funded projects.
- **May 31, 2026:** Final report due in online grants portal.

How to Apply

Applications are to be submitted through the [online grants portal](#) no later than Wednesday, February 12, 2025, at 5 p.m. MDT. Since Rose Community Foundation staff anticipate a large volume of applications, email communication is preferred.

Application Questions

The following questions are available in the [online grants portal](#) and are provided here for reference only. Please submit your responses via the [online grants portal](#).

Organization Information

- **Executive Director/President/CEO's Name, Pronouns and Title**
- **Authorized Contract Signer's Name, Pronouns, Title and Email Address**
- **Type of Organization.** (501(c)(3) - not fiscally sponsored; Government Entity; Fiscally Sponsored Organization; Other)
- **Mission Statement**
- **Fiscal Sponsor Information (if applicable).** Provide the legal organization name and full contact information for your primary point of contact with the fiscal sponsor for this project.

Grant Request Information

- **Funding Priority Alignment.** Which of the following priorities is most aligned with this grant request? For project/program support, please answer this question as it relates to this grant request only:
 1. Increasing organizational strength and capacity
 2. Supporting programs or projects reflective of the diverse Jewish community
 3. Supporting a specifically Jewish effort seeking to advance social justice
- **Type of Request.** General operating support; Program or project support
- **Program/Project Name**
- **Short Description.** Provide a description of the grant request's specific charitable purpose.
- **Total Amount Requested**
- **Total Operating Budget (number)**

- **Current Fiscal Year Operating Budget (upload)**
- **Program Budget (program/project requests only).** Upload the program budget, including revenue and expenses, associated with this request.
- **Additional Financial Information (if applicable).** If a narrative explanation of financial statements or budget is helpful, let us know here.
- **Core Counties.** What are the three core counties (within the seven-county Greater Denver area) in which you do most of the work related to this grant request (i.e., most people served live within these three counties)?
- **Grant Impact.** Outline the ways in which this grant will support your organization, the people and communities served. If you are requesting project support, state the opportunity or problem your organization is addressing within the scope of this grant request.
- **Total Number of People Served.** Estimate the unique number of people directly served through this grant request.
- **Timeline.** What big goals for your organization would this grant support, and what benchmarks are you using to measure progress towards those goals?
- **Opportunities & Outcomes.** Describe what success might look like in the longer term, i.e., beyond the grant period.
- **Evaluation.** If you are not a current grantee of Rose Community Foundation: Rose Community Foundation requires its grantee partners to collect Key Performance Indicators (KPIs) [through participant surveys](#). Describe your current data collection practices (if any) and how KPIs could fit into these practices.
- **Other Funding Sources.** List any other funding sources, including any pending applications, related to this request. Include the status and amounts for each.
- **Additional Financial Information (requests for \$100,000 or more only).** Please upload audited financials. If audited financials are unavailable, include your organization's most recent fiscal year-end financial statements.

Information Sharing

One of our goals as a community foundation is to find alignment between donors' interests and the important work happening in our communities. In the event Foundation donor-advised fundholders are interested in funding organizations or projects in the space in which you are working, may we share with them the programmatic information you provide on this application? Your application may be shared in part or in whole. Your answer will not influence the funding decision for this request.

Nondiscrimination Policy

Rose Community Foundation values diversity, inclusion, and equity and is committed to ensuring that these values are reflected in all its activities and operations. The Foundation does not discriminate on the basis of race, ethnicity, disability, color, creed, religion, sex, sexual orientation, gender identity or expression, age, pregnancy (including childbirth and related medical conditions), national origin, ancestry, citizenship, military status, marital status, familial or caregiver status, or any other classification protected by applicable federal, state, or local law.

It is our policy to maintain a non-discriminatory environment free from intimidation, harassment, or bias based on these grounds. This policy applies to all areas of employment, including recruitment, hiring, training and development, promotions, terminations, layoffs, compensation, and all other conditions and privileges of employment, as well as to Foundation volunteers and vendors. The

Foundation is dedicated to equal employment opportunities and provides equal opportunities to all individuals based on job-related qualifications and ability to perform a job.

You can review Rose Community Foundation's nondiscrimination policy [at this link](#).

Please upload a copy of your board-approved nondiscrimination policy. If your organization's nondiscrimination policy is not board-approved or your organization does not have a nondiscrimination policy, please upload a document with an explanation. An uploaded document is required to submit this application.