

### 2025 FUND PURPOSES OVERVIEW – COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT AND IMPACT

This overview explains the major discretionary funds managed each year by the CEI staff and, where indicated, overseen by the CEI board committee. It includes the distinct purposes, eligibility criteria, and timelines for the following processes: *Collaborative, Capital, Special and Urgent Needs, and Strengthening Non-Profits*. Responsive grants are not accepted annually and are not included in this overview.

## **GEOGRAPHIC, LEGAL AND FINANCIAL REQUIREMENTS**

Funding is available exclusively for established 501(c)(3) nonprofit organizations that are listed in GuideStar and the IRS database and have been in operation for at least one year. Organizations with fiscal sponsors with a strong operational history are eligible. All organizations must provide services in one or more of the following counties: Atascosa, Bexar, Bandera, Comal, Guadalupe, Kendall, Medina, and Wilson Counties. Schools and government bodies are generally ineligible for grants.

Organizations must be able to: a) demonstrate solid fiscal management, b) explain their governance and management approach, and c) describe their operations history, desired impact, and key service details (e.g. relevant goals, number of clients served).

### **COLLABORATIVE GRANTS**

**Purpose:** To promote innovation and support deep partnerships between multiple organizations working toward collective impact at program, neighborhood, or policy levels.

Total Available in 2025: \$1 Million

## **Eligible Categories:**

- Discrete Programs
  - For program providers looking to innovate and/or deepen key partnerships
  - Requires 3+ institutional partners (MOU and/or Letters of Support)
  - Up to 1 year of funding
  - Maximum award: \$75,000

- Community Collaboratives
  - For backbones of ongoing partnerships with projected impact at the neighborhood level or greater
  - o Requires 3+ institutional partners (MOU or Letters of Support)
  - Up to 1 year of funding
  - Maximum annual award: \$200,000

#### **Timeline and Process:**

- Application Opens: April 2nd, 2025Application Closes: June 30th, 2025
- Decisions Announced: By October 1, 2025
- All grants must be approved by the Community Engagement and Impact Committee of the San Antonio Area Foundation's Board of Directors.

#### **CAPITAL GRANTS**

**Purpose:** To provide funding for nonprofit infrastructure development projects at critical stages of completion.

Total Available in 2025: \$1.5 Million

# **Eligible Categories:**

- Early Stage Projects (less than 25% funded)
  - o Maximum award: \$250,000
  - o Points awarded for designated accessibility projects
- Late Stage Projects (at least 25% funded)
  - o Maximum award: \$350,000
  - o Points awarded for designated accessibility projects
- Potential Reserve
  - o Up to \$250,000 protected for special requests from funding partners

#### Timeline and Process:

- Application Opens: June 2nd, 2025
- Application Closes: September 1st, 2025
- Decisions Announced: By December 15, 2025
- All grants must be approved by the Community Engagement and Impact Committee of the San Antonio Area Foundation's Board of Directors.

#### **SPECIAL AND URGENT NEEDS GRANTS**

**Purpose:** To provide rapid response funding for nonprofits facing unexpected challenges that threaten service delivery and/or unexpected opportunities to expand services. **Maximum Grant of** \$10,000.

#### **Total Available in 2025:**

## **Eligible Categories:**

- Community crises (e.g., extreme weather, vandalism, theft)
- Operational emergencies (e.g., facility damage, executive crises)
- Unplanned opportunities (e.g., unexpected financial and property gifts that require unplanned and unbudgeted expenditures to effectively leverage them)

## **Ineligible Categories:**

- Routine operating or program costs
- Start-up costs
- Endowments, capital campaigns, debt reduction
- Planned transitions, executive searches, strategic planning
- Loss of funding support (government or other foundations)
- Lobbying expenses

#### **Timeline and Process:**

- Reviewed monthly by CEI Grants Review Team.
- Applications accepted on a rolling basis throughout the year.
- All grants must be approved by the San Antonio Area Foundation's Chief Impact Officer.

### STRENGTHENING NONPROFIT GRANTS

**Purpose:** To improve overall organizational health and capacity of nonprofits at various stages of development.

Total Available: \$500,000

**Eligible Categories:** 

- Training and Professional Development Scholarships
  - o Supports skills development of nonprofit professionals
- Early-stage Capacity Building
  - Supports pioneering (under 5 years, budget under \$250,000) and emerging organizations (5+ years, budget \$250,000-\$1 million)
  - Helps build organizational infrastructure
  - o Partner with Geekdom on Mission Pitch
- Organizational Capacity Building Grants
  - o One-year, targeted cohort model
  - Led by Community Engagement and Impact staff
  - o Guided through iCAT assessment and capacity building plan development
- Responsive Capacity Building Support
  - Pooled capacity building
  - Press Forward support for grantee storytelling

# **Eligibility Notes:**

- Organizations must fall into one of these categories:
  - Pioneering: Typically under 5 years in operation or volunteer-staffed with budget under \$250,000
  - Emerging: Typically 5+ years in operation with budget \$250,000-\$1 million
  - Sustaining organizations in transition: 10+ years in operation with budget over \$1 million (only eligible if experiencing significant organizational change)
- Must demonstrate capacity readiness
- Support must align with one of 6 iCAT capacities
- Cannot have received a capacity building grant in the last two years

#### **Timeline and Process:**

- Ongoing throughout 2025 with different processes for each category
- Selection processes vary by category and may include partner organizations
- All grants must be approved by the San Antonio Area Foundation's Chief Impact
  Officer