



2024 Neighborhood Grant Information Session

October 11, 2023

Introduction

- Introductions
- Agenda for Today's Session
- Recording Today's Session
- Questions & Answers



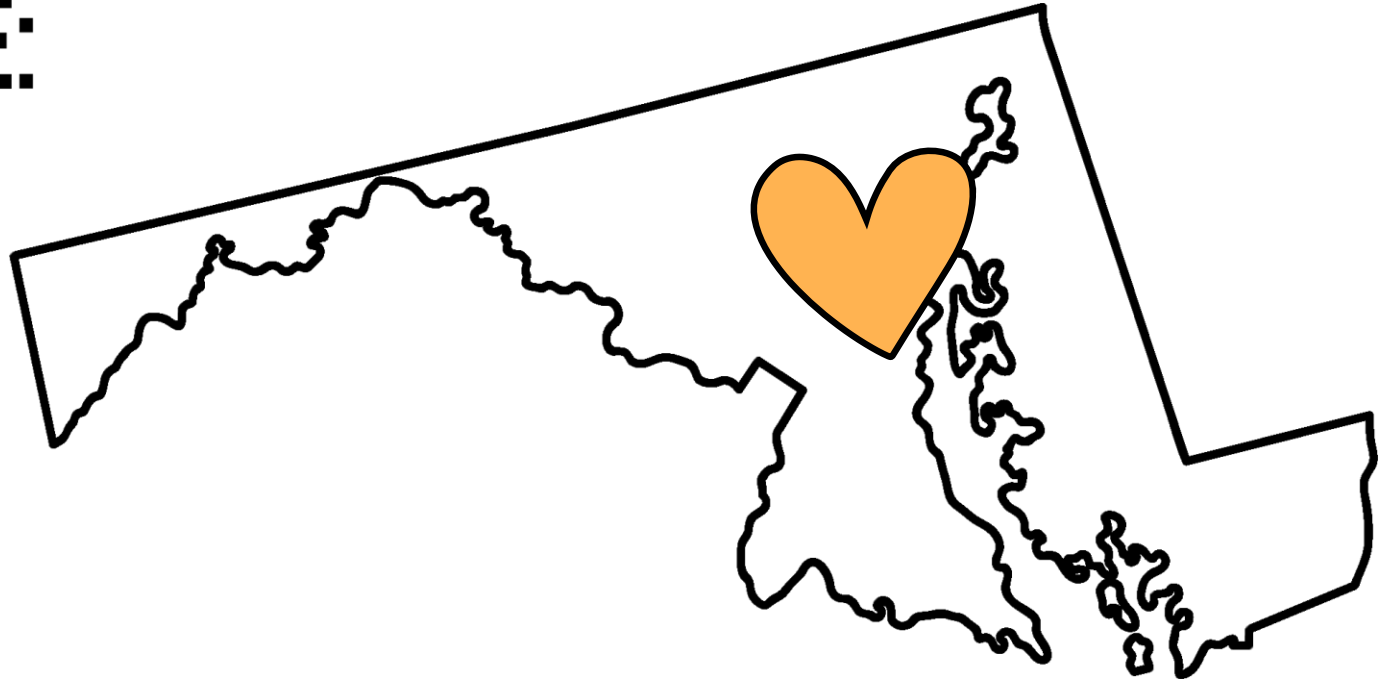
United Way
of Central Maryland



THE COMMUNITIES WE SERVE:

For nearly 100 years, we've worked tirelessly to improve Central Maryland and its neighborhoods by building deep and trusting relationships with our neighbors—engaging, listening, and taking action.

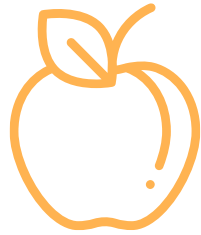
- ANNE ARUNDEL COUNTY
- BALTIMORE CITY
- BALTIMORE COUNTY
- CARROLL COUNTY
- HARFORD COUNTY
- HOWARD COUNTY



OUR AREAS OF IMPACT



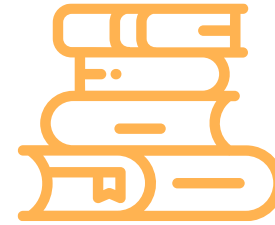
**211 MARYLAND
HELPLINE**



HEALTH



HOUSING



EDUCATION



**ECONOMIC
ADVANCEMENT**

Neighborhood Grant

OVERVIEW

Grants to support smaller non-profits that:

- Amplify the power of local leaders and community members
- Build on their knowledge of their community's assets and needs
- Support their vision for a healthier, happier community



Neighborhood Grant

OVERVIEW

- **Grant Award Range:**
\$2,500 - \$10,000
- **Grant Award Period:**
January 1 - October 31, 2024
- **Number of Total Awards:**
Estimated 50 to 60 total grant awards,
across all 6 jurisdictions.



Application Dates

Activity	Date
Grant Information Session	Wednesday, Oct 11, 2023, 1:00 - 2:30 pm
Q&A Deadline	Friday, Oct 13, 2023, 5 pm
Q&A Posted on uwcm.org	Wednesday, Oct 18, 2023
Decisions Announced	Early January 2024
Grant Period	January 1 - October 31, 2024
Grant Payment	January 2024

**A recording of the Grant Information Session will be made available.*

**Questions can be submitted to grantquestions@uwcm.org*

Neighborhood Grant

ELIGIBILITY

- Non-profit tax status*
- Good standing with State of MD Dept. Assessments & Taxation*
- Practice non-discrimination
- Annual operating budget \$500,000 or under
- Submission of Required Financial Document*
- Applicants may use a **Fiscal Agent**
 - Requirements with “*” above should be met by your Fiscal Agent

Neighborhood Grant

ELIGIBILITY

- Serving Baltimore City or Anne Arundel, Baltimore, Carroll, Harford or Howard County
- Only **one** application per organization
- Organizations that received Neighborhood Grants each of the past two years (2022 & 2023) are **not** eligible to apply this year.
- Organizations who receive other grants from United Way **are** eligible to apply for a 2024 Neighborhood Grant.

Financial Document Submission Required

Applicant's (or Fiscal Agent's) Annual Gross Income from Charitable Contributions	Financial Document Required
\$750,000 or more*	Financial Audit (performed by independent auditor)
Between \$300,000 and \$750,000*	Financial Review (performed by independent auditor)
\$300,000 or less	Internal Financial Statement (such as a Form990, Profit/Loss Statement or Organizational Budget)

*Remember: Eligible applicants must have an operating budget for their current fiscal year of \$500,000 or less. Fiscal Agents may have operating budgets above \$500,000.

Neighborhood Grant

PROJECT CATEGORIES

1. Vibrant Neighborhood Spaces
2. Socially Connected and Active Neighborhood Residents
3. Empowered Local Leaders



Neighborhood Grant

SELECTION CRITERIA

What we are looking for!

The extent to which the proposed project:

- Is **community-centered**
- Is **resident-driven**
- Inspires **community connection**
- Shows **strong promise of positive impact**



Defining Community

- Many neighborhoods or communities are defined by themselves.
- Not a strict definition - you may define it as you like.
 - Can define by geographic boundaries.
 - We will also consider applicants that define a community of people they propose to serve based on common interests, characteristics, and/or experiences.
- Either way, it is important that the applicant effectively describes how the people they will serve make up a neighborhood and/or community.

What we are not looking for:

- General operating requests
- Jurisdiction-wide or regional initiatives
- Outside organizations proposing to take their program or services to a community (e.g., B-City to Anne Arundel Co.)
- Projects that don't directly address/align with Neighborhood Grant criteria and at least one of the established categories.
- Ineligible activities: religious activities, lobbying activities

Additional Priority

While not required, priority will be given to applications that:

- Are led by Black, Indigenous, or People of Color (BIPOC), or people from marginalized communities / hard to reach populations.

Video Submission

Applicants are encouraged to upload a YouTube video visual submission:

- Short Allows us to better understand your organization, your neighborhood and what you are working to improve.
- Hand-held cell phone videos and pictures are welcome - content is more important than video quality.

QUESTIONS?

- If you have a question regarding the REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS (RFP), please type it into the Chat
- <https://www.uwcm.org/funding-opportunities-for-organizations>



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of Central Maryland

Application Top Eight Tips

1. Read the questions thoroughly and use the prompts as a pattern for your responses.
2. Draft narrative in a Word document and cut and paste it into application.
3. Be clear – do not assume the application reviewers know anything about your organization. (i.e., explain acronyms, stay away from industry jargon)
4. Be succinct and pay attention to character limits.

Application Top Eight Tips

5. Put the information in the right places.
6. Consider how you will measure your project's success and include this in the applicable questions. (SMART goals)
7. Link your budgeted expenses to proposed project activities.
8. Ensure your submitted application is easy for the application reviewers to understand and score. A disconnected application may impact your score.

Poll

Please answer the question:

Would you be interested in a Grant Writing 101 workshop?

Thank you!

Application Walkthrough

UWCM Grant Portal: *CommunityForce*

<https://uwcm.communityforce.com/Login.aspx>



Grant Portal – things to remember

- Save work when leaving sections
- Must answer all required questions*
- Narrative sections have word limits
- Some fields are restricted (number only, # of digits, etc.)
- YouTube Link
- To submit– all sections must be 100% complete, including:
 - Yes/No questions – even if answer is “no”
 - All required attachments



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THANK YOU

Visit <https://www.uwcm.org/funding-opportunities-for-organizations> for more information



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