

# United Way of Greater Chattanooga 2025-26 Community Investments Application

## Letter of Intent / Pre-Application Questions

### 1. Eligibility Requirements

Please review our grantmaking policies, procedures and guidelines and only proceed if you can certify agreement by checking **all** the boxes.

My organization (**multiple checkboxes**):

- Has services within the geographic service area – Hamilton County (TN) or Catoosa, Dade, and/or Walker Counties (GA). Not accepting proposals from Marion & Sequatchie Counties (TN) currently.
- Can show 501(c)(3) status chartered prior to January 1, 2022
- Can provide banking information if awarded
- Agrees to all grantmaking policies, procedures and guidelines

### 2. 501(c)(3) Form

Please attach a copy of your 501(c)(3) here

### 3. Organization Mission Statement

Please feel free to provide a link to the page on your website where this and other information (vision, goals, etc.) may be found.

### 4. Which grant type(s) are you applying for?

#### **Impact Collaborative**

Multi-year collaborative cohort, with investments in transformative collaborations that address complex, intergenerational issues for ALICE households with children.

**Eligible Counties:** Hamilton

**Projected Average:** ~\$75,000 to \$125,000 annually

- *NEW* Three-year funding period
- Organizations applying for Impact Collaborative must have 1 or more full-time staff members
- Funds must be used for programs or services primarily serving residents of Hamilton County.
- Can apply for both Impact & Catalyst simultaneously but cannot receive both simultaneously.
- If you do not have a data collection person on staff, we recommend allocating ~10% of your request toward an individual on your team who will participate in our data collection and reporting cohort.

### **Bridge Fund**

Supports programming of organizations helping to meet the emergency and basic needs of 211 callers referred to them.

**Eligible Counties:** Hamilton, Walker, Dade, Catoosa

**Projected Average:** ~\$35,000

- One-year funding period
- Dollars go primarily towards client's needs, as well as admin expenses to support)
- 211 closed-loop referral partners will be prioritized
- Bridge Funds may be received alongside Impact or Catalyst grant.

### **Catalyst Accelerator**

Investing in pilots or scaling programs that provide an innovative solution for ALICE households with children, encouraging collaboration and a two-generational approach.

**Eligible Counties:** Hamilton, Walker, Dade, Catoosa

**Projected Average:** Max Funding Request is \$50,000

- One-year funding period
- Can apply for both Impact & Catalyst simultaneously but cannot receive both simultaneously.
- Funding for a new program/new aspects of an existing program, scaling up/expanding a current program, or to test a potential solution to a root cause issue/barrier to effectiveness in your work
- Strong preference given to applicants showing clear collaboration with one or more organizations.

## **5. Amount Requested by Type**

Please list the dollar amount you are requesting for each funding focus area. Review request amount notes for each fund type above to avoid having your LOI kicked back for changes:

**Please note:** For Impact requests, please list the amount being requested in Year 1 only. Funding will be provided to qualifying programs for up to three years, contingent on program performance and continued availability of funds. Investments are expected to range from \$75,000 to \$125,000 annually.

- Bridge Funds projected average is \$35,000
- Catalyst requests may not exceed \$50,000.
- Any requests of \$150,000 or more MUST attach a recent audit in the full application.

## **6. With which 2030 UWGC Impact Goal does your agency/program most closely align?**

Prior to making a selection, please do one or more of the following:

- View our 2030 Impact Agenda Executive Summary [here](#).
- View [this webinar](#) with an overview of our 2030 Impact Agenda
- Read our full 2030 Impact Agenda [here](#).

*Still have questions about how, if at all, your program aligns? Let's connect:*  
[impact@uwchatt.org](mailto:impact@uwchatt.org).

### **Selection Options:**

- Opportunities for All Children (see LOI question #11 for output selection options)
- Economic Mobility for Families (see LOI question #11 for output selection options)
- A More Connected Community (see LOI question #11 for output selection options)

**Branching** (Once a selection is made, applicants will need to select an output to measure within the aligned impact goal).

### **7. Program/Project Description**

If the request is for general operating expenses, versus a program/project, share how funds will support your organization (Suggested length: 3-4 sentences).

### **8. Program/Project Proposal Narrative**

Describe the need your organization is addressing in the community, the target population being served and your unique solution. Be sure to expand upon how you intend to support your selected Impact Goal using the priority areas below:

- Asset Limited, Income Constrained, Employed (**ALICE**) Families with children
  - Addressing needs through a two-generational approach (child & caregiver)
  - **Collaboration** among entities to create a more connected community
  - **Equity and inclusion** to move toward a thriving community for all
- Suggested length: Up to 5,000 characters, 4-5 paragraphs

### **Organizational Budget Questions**

#### **9. Estimated Total Project Budget:**

What will it cost to fund this project/program in its entirety? If more than one grant type is selected, break out costs by type. (Example: Bridge \$XX,XXX, Catalyst \$XX,XXX)

#### **10. Operating Budget for Your Organization**

Total entity-wide budgeted expenses for the year.

#### **11. What program outputs will you measure?**

Remember - It's not about the quantity of data you're collecting- it's how you'll track and use this data to measure outcomes. You will be asked about your plan to measure outcomes of checked boxes in the full application stage.

#### **Opportunities for All Children**

- # of new or expectant mothers served who received quality prenatal care
- # of individuals (children & adults) served to support health insurance enrollment
- # of children & adults served to support accessing healthcare & mental health services
- # of children (0-5) enrolled in high-quality early childhood programs supported by UWGC
- # of individual family members/caregivers served to support their 0-5 child's development
- # of early childhood opportunities that are active, accessible and quality
- # of youth (K-12) served by school or community programs or receiving individualized supports

- # of family members/caregivers served to support their K-12 child's development
- # of individuals served via programs promoting healthy lifestyles or access to food/nutrition
- # of individuals in programs increasing awareness of or reducing risky behavior

**Economic Mobility for Families**

- # of individuals receiving job skills training
- # of individuals in programs reducing employment barriers
- # of champions advocating for policy/system changes to reduce employment barriers
- # of individuals receiving affordable housing services
- # of individuals in financial literacy programs or accessing financial services
- # of small business owners providing services/resources to increase stability
- # of individuals earning job-relevant licenses, certificates, or credentials
- # of individuals in programs helping families with tax refunds (VITA/MyFreeTaxes)
- # of employers educated on adapting practices to meet employee needs

**A More Connected Community**

- # of individuals served in programs improving access to safe, inclusive outdoor environments
- # of collaborative partnerships or coalitions formed to address disaster relief & recovery
- # of collaborative partnerships/coalitions strengthened/adapted to address disaster relief & recovery
- # of partnerships formed
- # of collaborative relationships strengthened or adapted to foster innovation
- # of individuals participating in volunteer opportunities
- # of individuals attending community events or workshops
- # of networking events or platforms established

**THIS IS THE END OF THE LOI / PRE-APPLICATION**

## Full Application Questions

**Note:** all answered questions from the LOI / Pre-Application will be carried over to the Full Application.

### **Common Questions (Regardless of Funding Type(s) Selection)**

#### **Organization Contact Information**

1. **Secondary Contact Name (Other than CEO and Grant Applicant)**
2. **Secondary Contact Title**
3. **Secondary Contact Phone Number**
4. **Secondary Contact Email**
5. **County to be Served with Funding**

**Note:** Select the county/region that indicates where the majority of **beneficiaries** of your services **reside** for this/these specific request(s).

**Selection Choices:** Hamilton, Walker, Dade, Catoosa

#### 6. **Select all demographics your organization already collects regarding impact:**

- Age
- County
- Gender
- Income
- Race & Ethnicity
- Household Size
- Number of Minors in Household
- Household Income

#### 7. **Financial Questions:**

- Current Year Financials & income Statement (Most Current Balance Sheet)
- Last Year's Financials & Income Statement (Balance sheet)

**Recent Audit:** Required if your request is \$150,000 or more. Regardless of amount please attach if available.

### **IMPACT COLLABORATIVE REQUESTS ONLY**

#### **Impact: Short Term Outcomes**

1. **What outcomes will you measure (both short-term and intermediate), based on the outputs you selected on the LOI?**

#### 2. **Request Strategy**

In 3-4 paragraphs address:

- The strategic priorities your organization will be working towards over the next 12 months?
- How do these strategies align with the direction of the 2030 UWGC Impact Agenda?

- What other funders are supporting this work?

*Recommended length: Up to 2,500 characters*

### **BRIDGE FUNDS REQUESTS ONLY**

#### **Bridge: Short Term Outcomes**

1. **What short term outcomes will you measure, if any, based on the outputs you selected on the LOI?**

Note: We recognize most of Bridge Fund reporting is demographic information. If you have tried collecting feedback beyond this, we would love to hear more about your experience.

### **CATALYST ACCELERATOR REQUESTS ONLY**

#### **Catalyst: Short Term Outcomes**

1. **What short term outcomes will you measure, based on the outputs you selected on the LOI?**

2. **Collaboration- A More Connected Community**

Expand upon 'collaboration' as outlined in your narrative to address these questions:

- What new partnerships are you forming by implementing this program/project?
- What existing collaborative relationships will be strengthened or adapted to foster innovation as a result of this program/project?

**Note:** *All partners must provide consent to participation should funding be received.*

*Suggested length: 2-3 paragraphs*

3. **What makes this program innovative? How, if at all, does it scale/expand upon a current program?**

**THIS IS THE END OF THE FULL APPLICATION**