



| 2021 Request for Proposal

Overview

The long-term health and welfare of a community is directly correlated to the health and welfare of its children. Those who are strong, prepared and ready for kindergarten have a significantly greater chance for success in school and life. Fox Valley United Way (FVUW) is committing all of its resources to promoting positive early childhood experiences. The impact of our SPARK program has proven that to advance the common good, we need to ensure that children birth to five years old in the communities we support have equitable access to early childhood resources and education.

We have set a bold goal that **All children will be Strong, Prepared And Ready for Kindergarten**. We hope to achieve this goal by focusing on the whole child and the whole family.

Our Approach

We believe by incorporating this approach described below, as a community we can achieve equitable and positive outcomes for families and children.

Leverage Resources and support for families and children

- How can your agency further leverage resources and support families through a collaborative framework?

Build Capacity

- How can your agency build capacity to reach the shared capacity goal of ensuring that all children birth to 5 have equitable access to early childhood resources, services and education?

Work Collectively

- How can your agency coordinate efforts with other agencies to support efficiencies and achieve greater impact for families and children?

Impact Strategies & Metrics

Applicants have the opportunity to apply under one or more Fox Valley United Way impact strategies.

Impact Strategy and Metrics: Fox Valley United Way strives to improve and strengthen outcomes for families and their children by collaborating with partner agencies to support the following strategies:

Strategy 1: Parents and the community are educated and informed about the importance and value of an early childhood education for all of our young children and the impact it has on children's success in school and life.

Metric:

of parent engagement sessions and/ or workshops

of Early Childhood Awareness Campaigns

What is the expected change of behavior or how will your program gauge your stakeholders increase understanding of the value of early childhood experiences?

Strategy 2: Support the on-going improvement of the early childhood programs in the Fox Valley area through continued professional development of individuals who work with families and children and/ or improving the quality of early childhood program

Metric:

of early childhood trainings

of early childhood professionals trained

What is the expected change of behavior and how will your program gauge an increase in participants understanding of developmentally appropriate practices and teaching?

If you are focusing on program accreditation and/or ExceleRate IL, what is the expected change to your program and how will you gauge these changes (include staff practices, children's experiences and parent engagement).

Strategy 3: Ensure that all children have equitable access to quality early childhood programs and resources.

Metric:

of referral to early childhood services and programs

of children enrolled into early childhood programs

How will your program demonstrate equitable access for young children?

Strategy 4: Build an early childhood coordinated system in Fox Valley communities in which the school districts, community based early childhood programs, community agencies, serving families and children, all work as one unit to ensure that Fox Valley's young children have the resources, knowledge and skills to be Strong, Prepared And Ready for Kindergarten.

Metric:

of organizations the agency has collaborated with to ensure greater outcomes for families and children.

Describe the results of your collaboration with other agencies. What has resulted from the partnership, beyond an MOU?

Eligibility

- Must confirm status as a nonprofit under Section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code
- Must be chartered as a nonprofit organization in the state of Illinois
- Agency must have a Federal Employer ID Number (FEIN)

- Request must be for services provided in accordance with FVUW corporate purpose to initiate and coordinate programs of service for persons with mental health issues, substance use disorders and developmental/intellectual disabilities.
- Funds requested must be for service provisions for residents in the twenty-three communities in the Kane and Kendall county (Aurora, Big Rock, Bristol, Campton Hills, Elburn, Geneva, Hinckley, Kaneville, La Fox, Little Rock, Maple Park, Millbrook, Montgomery, Mooseheart, North Aurora, Oswego Plano, Platville, St. Charles, Sandwich, Sugar Grove, Wasco and Yorkville) supported by Fox Valley United Way.

Important dates

Organizations are strongly encouraged to attend informational session to learn more about the grant process.

- The online Request for Proposal (RFP) process opens on February 10, 2020.
- Informational Session will be on February 10, 2020 (more details will be available at www.foxvalleyunitedway.org)
- Due date for online application submission March 27, 2020.
- Applications will be reviewed during the April-May period. Funding recommendations are made at the end of May. The grant award notification timeframe is late June
- Program funding will begin July 1, 2020 and end June 30, 2021

Details can be found on FVUW's website at www.foxvalleyunitedway.org.

Proposal Guide:

Please choose ONE program. The proposed program must align with one or more Fox Valley United Way early childhood priorities reflected in the impact strategies described in this document. Proposals must demonstrate that services to be provided are tailored to meet the needs of the identified population in one of the 23 identified communities supported by FVUW.

- Determine which of the FVUW strategies and corresponding metrics/indicators apply to the proposed program.
- Consider the extent to which the proposed program is able to track and report on the FVUW "shared outcomes."
- Clearly describe plans to collect and report data on the shared outcomes in the upcoming funding years.
- Clearly describe the training, experience, skills, and qualifications of program staff for effective delivery of the model proposed.
- Clearly state how the proposed program will be sustained and/or scaled at the end of the grant cycle.

Selection Criteria:

Each proposal will be reviewed by members of the FVUW Investment Committee and scored according to the following criteria:

1. Community needs
 - Is this program needed in our community? Use data to support your proposal.
 - Are there similar programs already being implemented? If so how will this program complement existing programs?
 - Program proposal provides a clear description of community outreach and strategies for targeted participant identification, engagement and retention.
 - Program proposal demonstrates a return on investment with measurable benefits to the community.
2. Program review
 - Program description: Program proposal describes the services that will be provided.
 - Program structure: Program proposal explains the service activities, times, frequencies, locations, and are conducive to unique client needs.
 - Program collaboration: The proposal describes the program's ability to collaborate and how the impact of the collaboration will be measured.
 - Program outcomes: The proposed program provides a thorough description of the specific outcomes and indicators.
 - Program reporting: The proposed program provides a thorough description on data collection methods, measurement process and tools used.
3. Organizational capacity
 - The proposed program describes current plans and future opportunities to leverage funding to draw additional resources.
 - The applicant organization provided a clear explanation of how the program aligns within the selected impact strategy.
 - The applicant organization possesses the staff, volunteers, space, equipment, and general organizational capacity to implement the work plan/logic model.
 - The applicant organization has the capacity to effectively manage and implement the program.
4. Financial capacity
 - Does the organization's most recent audit reflect major or ongoing concerns?
 - Does the organization's current budget balance
 - Does the organization have the ability to operate the program for three months despite material fluctuation in income and expenses?
 - Are there strong financial concerns based on the ratios calculated in the audit review worksheet?

5. FVUW relationship (returning applicants)
- Did the organization promote FVUW?
 - Does the organization comply with current policies and procedures?
 - Does the organization submit required documentation on time and has the ability to report on a timely manner?

All information and application processes will be available through the grant portal. The website contains additional information regarding the RFP process, as well as pertinent application information.

Components of the online competitive grant include:

Program Description

Please describe the program/project. Include how it will serve the educational and developmental needs of at-risk children from birth through five years old. Include target audience. Use data to support your rationale for the program. Clearly articulate the 5 selection criteria above

Program Plan (see attached and upload) components including resources (inputs), activities, outputs, outcomes and goals.

Outcomes and Evaluation

What benefit is your program/project intended to provide? Provide a minimum of three measurable goals you are trying to achieve.

How will you measure the success of the program/project? Include quantitative and qualitative outcomes.

Current grantees- please provide a one-page outcome summary for the program(s) you are funded for in 2019-2020

- Did you meet the objectives and outcomes of your grant? If not, what challenges did you face and how did you address the challenges? How did you evaluate your program? Provide both a quantitative and qualitative outcome.

Budget(s)

Program Budget

Contact Information:

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