

NEW INITIATIVE GRANTS PROGRAM GUIDELINES

DARE TO THINK BIG

The New Initiative Grants Program encourages community thinkers, social entrepreneurs and forward thinking organizations to propose programs of high impact and visibility designed to create positive transformation in the Greater Hartford Jewish community.

The Foundation is interested in funding cutting edge programs for up to three years that address important needs in the Greater Hartford Jewish community and have measurable outcomes. Collaboration is strongly encouraged.

GRANT AWARDS

The Foundation will award grants of up to \$125,000 a year, over two to three years, in the following fields of interest: “Big Tent Judaism,” arts and culture, education, Jewish continuity, health and social services.

The Foundation may also award grants of lesser amounts to sponsor discrete events with strong Jewish content, in both the Jewish and general community, that foster collaboration among organizations, encourage public participation of a wide-ranging constituency and have broad and long-lasting impact.

APPLICANT ELIGIBILITY REQUIREMENTS

In order to participate in the Foundation's New Initiative Grants Program, you must meet at least one of the following requirements:

- Existing organization described in Section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code or a collaboration of such organizations
- Social entrepreneur(s) or group of community members partnered with an appropriate 501(c)(3) public charity acting as a “fiscal sponsor” that can receive grants and tax-deductible contributions for the program

To determine if your program is the right fit for a New Initiative Grant, complete our Eligibility Checklist at the end of these guidelines.

PROGRAM ELIGIBILITY REQUIREMENTS

The following types of programs that benefit the Greater Hartford Jewish community are eligible for consideration:

- Innovative programs that have not been tested previously in any location
- Programs that have been piloted in Greater Hartford, proved to be viable and which are proposed for community-wide implementation
- Programs operating elsewhere in the United States that may be suitable for trial replication or adaptation in the Greater Hartford area
- One-time events that foster collaboration among organizations, encourage public participation of a wide-ranging constituency and have broad and long-lasting impact

SELECTION CRITERIA

We look for the following:

- Applicants that have substantiated a community need for the proposed program
- Programs which have the capacity to create meaningful positive transformation in the Greater Hartford Jewish community
- Presence of innovative features that qualify the program as “cutting edge”
- Demonstration that the proposed program is aligned with, and appropriate to, the applicant’s core mission
- Programs with clearly articulated short-term and long-term measurable outcomes

Preference will be given to collaborative projects.

PROGRAM EXCLUSIONS

The following types of applicants and programs are excluded from consideration for New Initiative Grants:

- Individuals, unless partnered with a “fiscal sponsor”
- Private foundations

- Endowment programs
- Individual synagogues or schools; however an application from a consortium of at least two (2) synagogues and/or schools is encouraged
- Requests for ongoing general operating expenses, including fundraising campaigns, existing financial deficits, continuation funding and program expansion
- Capital projects
- Programs not proposed for implementation in Greater Hartford

Eligibility Checklist

If you can answer "YES" to ALL of these questions, your program may be eligible for a New Initiative Grant:

- Does your organization serve the Greater Hartford Jewish community?
 - Are you either a nonprofit organization described in Internal Revenue Code Section 501(c)(3) or social entrepreneur(s) with a 501(c)(3) public charity serving as your fiscal sponsor?
 - Is your program aligned with the mission of the applicant organization or partnering fiscal sponsor?
 - Does your program address a substantiated community need or have the capacity to create positive transformation in the Greater Hartford Jewish community?
 - Does your program have unique elements that set it apart from existing programs and make it cutting edge?
 - Does your program fall into **one** of these categories?
 - 1) A program that has not yet been tested in any location
 - 2) A program that has been piloted in Greater Hartford, proved to be viable and is proposed for community-wide implementation
 - 3) A program that has operated elsewhere and is suitable for trial replication or adaptation in the Greater Hartford community
- <OR>
- Does your program have strong Jewish content, foster collaboration with other charitable organizations, encourage public participation of a wide-ranging constituency and have broad and long lasting impact?

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