



2026 Grant Guidelines

December 11, 2025: Grant theme announced on website and social

January 15, 2026: Grant application opens online

Optional information sessions will be offered virtually January 15 and 22 2026 for interested grant applicants. It will cover the grant theme, the process and requirements for application, and the expectations of grantees. Attendance is highly recommended but not mandatory. [REGISTER HERE](#)

Applicant Eligibility

- All funding proposals must follow the 2026 grant theme, ***Nourished Communities: Initiatives that build food access and community connection through homegrown solutions.*** Applicants are highly encouraged to attend an information session to learn more.
- Grants can only be made to 501(c)(3) organizations. Programs sponsored by fiscal agents* are welcome to apply, with a signed memorandum of understanding between the applicant and fiscal agent. Only one application per organization, including fiscal agents, may be submitted.
- All applicants or fiscal agents **MUST** have a [LIVEGIVEemidsouth.org](https://livegiveemidsouth.org) profile *in progress* by the application deadline in order to meet the eligibility criteria.** See specific dates under Application Process regarding submitting a new profile or updating an existing one. Programs sponsored by a fiscal agent must be listed under Programs on the LIVEGIVE profile.
- Applicants are limited to organizations serving the greater Memphis area.

**Please contact Aerial Ozuzu at aouzuzu@cfgm.org or (901)722-0022 before applying with a fiscal agent. The Community Foundation of Greater Memphis will not act as a fiscal agent.*

Important Dates & Deadlines

- **January 15:** Application opens online via the [Grants portal](#). Click on the portal link to login or register as a Grant Administrator for your organization to begin the application process.
- **February 6:** Deadline for all applicants or fiscal agents to submit a [LIVEGIVEemidsouth.org](https://livegiveemidsouth.org) profile *in progress* for review in order to meet the eligibility criteria*. If your nonprofit has not yet developed a profile, please visit [LIVEGIVEemidsouth.org](https://livegiveemidsouth.org) to create an account and begin the process. For extra assistance, email Community Impact Program Associate Randy Truong or call them at (901) 722-0020 for further assistance.
- **February 13:** Deadline to submit a complete application with all attachments via the [Grants portal](#) by **4:00 p.m.** Applicants must have a [LIVEGIVEemidsouth.org](https://livegiveemidsouth.org) profile *in progress* by this deadline. Late or incomplete applications will not be considered.

- **March 27:** All applicants will be notified via email by this date whether or not their proposal has been selected by GiVE 365 member review teams as a grant finalist. If selected, finalists are required to record a presentation for The Finals event.
- **April TBD:** Finalists **must** have an organizational representative participate in the Finals event. The presentation can be done by a staff or board member, or even a beneficiary of the project, **but it is required.**
- **May TBD:** GiVE 365 members will vote online after The Finals, and grant awards will be announced in May.
- Grantees are required to complete two grant updates – a check-in with foundation staff by December 1 and a final report to be submitted no later than April 15. These will be shared with GiVE 365 members via our website, social media pages, and other points of contact. These and any other grant requirements are included in the grant contract.
- Grantees are also strongly encouraged to participate in GiVE 365 member events, such as providing a volunteer opportunity for a small group of members; presenting at a lunch and learn; or inviting members to events or for a site visit. Community Foundation staff will share more about opportunities to engage with the membership at a GiVE 365 Grantee Breakfast following the awards announcement.

If you have questions, please [email](mailto:aozuzu@cfgm.org) Director of Community Impact Aerial Ozuzu at aozuzu@cfgm.org or call her at (901) 722-0022.