



# FOUNDATION BEYOND BELIEF

*humanism at work*

Foundation Beyond Belief (FBB) aims to unite the humanist community in charitable and volunteer efforts, and to advocate for compassionate action throughout the world. The [Humanist Grants](#) program collectively demonstrates humanist generosity and compassion in the nonprofit and philanthropic world by awarding grants to highly qualified and thoroughly vetted organizations that reflect the values of our program’s donors.

## **Grant Making**

FBB donors have raised and donated more than \$3 million to charitable organizations. In the fall of 2020, our grant-making efforts are focused on increasing the impact of an innovative non-profit through the [Compassionate Impact Grant](#) (CIG). Our goal is to support organizations that address critical community problems through evidence-based and culturally responsible social innovations.

## **Funding Opportunity**

In Fall 2020, FBB will make a grant in the amount of \$30,000 to one organization with the goal of increasing that organization’s ability to fulfil its mission. Priority will be given to organizations that can show how the grant would tangibly increase their capacity. Not all—or even most—of the grant money must be spent on “capacity building” per se, but the grant should be a true game-changer for your organization (e.g., jump-start projects that are stalled from underfunding, allow for critical staffing additions, fund the implementation of a data evaluation system). At the conclusion of the grant period, the grantee organization will be asked to submit a final report illustrating the impact of the grant on the organization, outlining what evaluative criteria was used to show that impact, and what, if any, adjustments will be made based on that evaluation. Based on this report, a single follow-up grant of \$5,000 may be awarded in 2021.

This is an open, competitive process and will assess applicants on their ability to provide evidence-driven, innovative solutions that reach underserved communities. Our key program requirements are:

1. *Innovation*: Grant will fund organizations that are developing potentially transformative solutions. FBB seeks to support an organization that pursues new ways to solve old problems with solutions that are more efficient, faster, increase cost effectiveness, and lead to better results for the population served and the broader community.

2. *Evidence-driven*: Organizations must utilize evidence to drive the development and implementation of their programs. Organizations are asked to provide a summary of the evidence/best practices or studies that have influenced their program design and articulate their [theory of change](#)—explain the process of change with causal links from the issue(s) they are addressing to the long-term goal(s).

FBB will give priority consideration to organizations that can establish that their approach:

1. Impacts historically oppressed peoples (e.g. racial minorities, minority sexual or gender identities, people living with disability)
2. Is organized and led by members of the target community.

Programs **not** eligible for consideration:

1. Advocacy organizations and projects.
2. Religiously based programs/organizations or programs/organizations that participate in or are affiliated with proselytizing.
3. Organizations which have already received a Compassionate Impact Grant from FBB.

### **Eligibility Information**

**Eligible applicants:** All applicants must be non-profit organizations with current 501(c)3 status with United States Internal Revenue Service with an organization expense budget that does not exceed \$500,000 USD

**Previous applicants:** Previous applicants are welcome to reapply.

Please direct any questions to Wendy Webber at [programs@foundationbeyondbelief.org](mailto:programs@foundationbeyondbelief.org). Emails will be answered between January 13th and 24th only.

### LETTER OF INTENT REQUIREMENTS

All organizations completing the Letter of Intent (LOI) process are required to complete an executive summary and provide a narrative document via our online portal. The LOI application window begins on January 6, 2020 and ends on **February 7, 2020, 12:00pm Central Time**. The LOI is an open call for organizations to submit funding requests that meet the aforementioned eligibility criteria. You cannot save your LOI mid-process. Please allow extra time and have all materials ready before beginning. Late applications **will not** be considered.

**Executive Summary:** completed on [online](#) form

Complete Letter of Intent Executive Summary: **(8 points)**

1. Organization Name
2. Website Address
3. Contact Name
4. Contact Email
5. Mission Statement (100 words max)
6. Organization/Project Location
7. **Brief** Organization Description (100 words max)
8. LOI document attached

**Letter of Intent** must be no longer than 750 words, double spaced, PDF format please. **Submit in the Files section of the online form. (20 Points)**

Name your document: LOICIG7YourOrganizationName

1. Describe your organization's target population(s) (50 words max)
2. Describe the specific issue(s) your organization is addressing (100 words max)
3. Describe the history of your organization in working with this target population/issue (100 words max)
4. Describe the most important outcome(s) your organization is working toward and activities you are engaged in to reach this goal(s). (Basic theory of change.) (250 words max)
5. Describe what the grant will be used for and how it is a "game-changer" for your organization (200 words max)
6. Conclusion (50 words max)

FBB staff will notify organizations **no later than March 20, 2020** of our **invitation** to submit a full proposal. We may not contact organizations that do not receive an award. If you are not contacted directly by that time, your LOI has not advanced your organization to the next round. Please do not request information if you are **not** invited to submit a full application.