



Overview

Foundation Beyond Belief (FBB) was founded with a mission to demonstrate humanism at its best by supporting efforts to improve this world and this life, and to challenge humanists to embody the highest principles of humanism, including mutual care and responsibility.

Grant making: In the past four years, FBB donors have raised and donated more than \$1.7 million to charitable organizations. In the Spring of 2015, our grant making efforts are focused on increasing the impact of innovative non-profits through capacity building grants. FBB seeks to support and increase the capacity of organizations that are developing or broadening potentially transformative evidence-based and evidence-informed social innovations that solve critical community problems. The **Compassionate Impact Grant** is designed to provide a capacity building grant to a non-profit that provides an innovative, evidence-driven solution to a community or societal problem.

Funding Opportunity Description

Foundation Beyond Belief intends to increase the capacity of an innovative organization to address issues that impact low-income communities or populations. In Spring 2015, FBB will make a capacity building grant in the amount of \$50,000 to \$65,000 to one innovative organization with the goal to increase that organization's capacity to support those in need and create solutions. This is an open, competitive process with applicants assessed on their ability to provide evidence-driven, innovative solutions that reach different or larger numbers of constituents.

Purpose of funding

The purpose of the Foundation Beyond Belief Compassionate Impact Grant program is to increase the capacity of innovative, community-based organizations, so they have a greater impact on critical problems in low-income communities.

Funding priorities for U.S based 501(c)3 organizations with U.S. based programs

Foundation Beyond Belief will give priority to organizations that can establish that their approach:

1. Impacts low-income communities

For the purpose of this Request For Proposal (RFP), a low-income community is defined as one in which a preponderance of households have incomes at 200% or less of the federal poverty guidelines, or where other indicators of low-income are present such as significant numbers of children enrolled in the free or reduced lunch program, long term unemployment, significant risk of homelessness for the population, low school achievement, persistent hunger or serious mental illness.

2. Targets one or more of the following Focus Areas

FBB seeks programs that focus in one or more of these areas:

- A. Youth development – preparing America’s youth for success in school, active citizenship, productive work, and healthy safe lives. FBB is interested in programs which serve at-risk youth ages 14 to 24. FBB will give special consideration to programs that serve youth who are unemployed, homeless, in foster care, in the juvenile justice system, or not enrolled in an educational institution.
- B. Economic opportunity –increasing economic opportunities for economically disadvantaged individuals;
- C. Healthy futures – promoting healthy lifestyles and reducing the risk factors that can lead to illness.

3. Priority Consideration

- A. FBB will give priority to applicants who demonstrate that they work within a **significantly philanthropically under-served community** with considerably less than the average number of active philanthropic institutions or investments than similarly populated communities in the region.
- B. FBB will also give priority to applicants who work in **traditionally under-served or under-represented** geographic areas and populations.
- C. We will also give priority to applicants who use a **collaborative approach**, especially collaborations that involve cross-sector coalitions (non-profit, corporate, government, school, etc.).

Funding Priorities for U.S. based 501(c)3 organization with international based programs

Foundation Beyond Belief will give priority to organizations that can establish that their approach:

1. Impacts economically disadvantaged communities

Project serves communities that struggle to meet the basic needs of their residents (jobs, sanitation, education) and/or is located in a region where the cost of living is below the Gross National Income (GNI).

2. Targets one or more of the following Focus Areas

- A. Economic opportunity –Project increases safe economic opportunities for economically disadvantaged individuals or communities;
- B. Educational Programs: Projects focus on improving quality of education for underserved populations;
- C. Health Care: Project focuses on improving quality or access to healthcare services and/or services that increase health outcomes for an underserved population.

3. *Priority Consideration*

- D. FBB will give priority to applicants who demonstrate that they work within a ***significantly philanthropically under-served community*** with considerably less than the average number of active philanthropic institutions or investments than similarly populated communities in the region.
- E. FBB will also give priority to applicants who work in ***traditionally under-served or under-represented*** geographic areas and populations.
- F. We will also give priority to applicants who use a ***collaborative approach***, especially collaborations that involve cross-sector coalitions (non-profit, corporate, government, school, etc.).

Key program requirements for US and International projects

1. Innovative:

The Compassionate Impact Grant Program will fund organizations that are developing potentially transformative solutions or who are increasing the impact of a solution to a larger or different population. FBB seeks to support an organization that pursues a new way to solve old problems with a solution that is more efficient, faster, increases cost effectiveness and leads to better results for the population served and the broader community.

2. Evidence-driven:

Organization must utilize evidence to drive the development and implementation of their program. Organizations are asked to provide a thorough summary of the evidence or studies that have influenced their program. In addition, the organization must demonstrate their understanding of the range of studies and various schools of thought regarding how communities should approach this particular problem.

FBB categorizes evidence-driven program as relying on one of three types of evidence:

- i. Preliminary evidence – evidence is based on reasonable hypothesis supported by credible research findings;

- ii. Moderate evidence – a collection of studies supports causal conclusions, but studies have not been conducted across wide populations or groups;
- iii. Strong evidence – significant number of studies which support causal conclusions and studies have been conducted across a range of participants and settings to support scaling up to larger implementation.

Organization must use rigorous methods to collect data regarding their program. Applicants must demonstrate past use of data to perform program evaluation and make improvements in the overall efficacy of their program.

Possible sources of evidence to document/support your approach:

- Your past performance measurement outcome data collected over time and in a rigorous manner;
- Results from an impact evaluation of your program conducted by an outside vendor;
- Research that documents the outcomes of similar programs;
- Impact evaluations that document outcomes of similar programs.

A program that draws on multiple types of evidence to inform their approach to an issue will be given priority.

3. Performance Measures:

Foundation Beyond Belief seeks to fund organizations that utilize rigorous methods to collect and analyze data regarding the performance of their programs. Sufficient performance measure systems will involve the collection of valid and reliable data, analysis of evidence at regular intervals and appropriate evaluation and modification of programs.

Award information

Estimated available funds: \$50,000 to \$65,000
Estimated award amount: \$60,000
Project Period: August 1, 2015 – November 1, 2016

Eligibility Information

Eligible applicants

All applicants must be non-profits with current 501(c)3 status with United States Internal Revenue Service.

Matching requirements

All applicants are required to provide a 1:1 match.

Previous Applicants

Previous Applicants are welcome to reapply by updating their narrative and supporting materials.
Application and submission information

How to submit application

Applicants must submit all material online by February 6, 2015 11:59:59 pm (Eastern Standard Time).
Late applications will not be accepted. Applicants shall submit their application at the link listed below,
the form cannot be saved mid-application so be prepared to submit all materials together:

<https://podio.com/webforms/8317060/621181>

Content and form of application submission

Applicants must provide a well-designed plan with a clear and compelling justification for receiving the
requested funds. Reviewers will assess your application on the basis of your program design,
organizational capability, and the cost effectiveness and budget adequacy.
Applicants must provide all information within the online submission form as well as provide all
requested attachments.

APPLICATION CHECKLIST:

(Please label attachments with filenames indicating your organization)

1. Online application form
2. Narrative Proposal
3. Logic Model (3 page limit, 11 pt. font)
4. Project Budget Form: Project Line Item Budget and Narrative, Budget Match Detail, and Match Verification (funders for organization, description and date of match source) located at:- <https://foundationbeyondbelief.org/humanist-giving/compassionate-impact-grant-program/>
5. Match Verification Documentation: Verification letters of funds awarded..
6. Current Organization Budget
7. Most recent audit
8. An example of prior evaluation reports that demonstrate your organization's ability to collect and analyze data and evaluate your program.
9. Letters of support (5 page limit)
10. Memorandum of Understanding or Agreement (as needed)
11. Board of Directors and key staff

Submission deadline: February 6, 2015, 11:59:59 pm (Eastern Standard Time). Applications submitted after deadline will not be reviewed. There will be no exceptions.

Review description: All complete applications submitted by the deadline will be reviewed by staff from Foundation Beyond Belief. FBB reserves the right to consult subject area experts to further evaluate applications. FBB reserves the right to request additional information from the applicant.

Award Administration Information

Award notices: Foundation Beyond Belief will notify applicants of their final status no later than April 1, 2015.

Administrative and national policy requirements:

Awardee will be required to enter into a cooperative agreement with Foundation Beyond Belief to ensure appropriate performance measures and reporting requirements are met.

Use of material:

Foundation Beyond Belief requires that materials generated through FBB funding be made available for use by the general public. Foundation Beyond Belief reserves a royalty-free, nonexclusive, and irrevocable right to obtain, use, modify, reproduce and publish or disseminate publications and materials produced under this award, including data and to authorize others to do so.

Reporting requirements:

Applicants are required to work with Foundation Beyond Belief staff to establish appropriate data measures and reporting requirements. Awardee will be required to provide progress reports on a quarterly basis which will be reviewed by FBB staff. Staff will provide feedback and, if necessary, technical assistance if insufficient progress is indicated on reports. Awardee will be required to submit a closing report at the end of the project period.

Continuation funding information and requirements:

The Foundation Beyond Belief understands that building capacity and increasing impact require long-term commitments of resources. Foundation Beyond Belief will consider multi-year grant awards if:

1. Awardee meets all program benchmarks and performs in a satisfactory manner;
2. Funding is available.

Agency contacts:

For information regarding this grant application, please contact:

AJ Chalom, Humanist Giving Program Coordinator
ajchalom@foundationbeyondbelief.org

For questions regarding Narrative requirements, please contact
Tonja Holder, FBB Development Manager
development@foundationbeyondbelief.org

Proposal Structure

Complete Online Application and Additional Materials (5 points)

<https://podio.com/webforms/8317060/621181>

Executive Summary

No more than 2 pages – may be single spaced, 11 point font or higher, one-inch margins

Organization Name and address:

Year Established:

EIN:

Mission Statement:

Organization Contact Person (name, title, email, phone, mailing address)

Project Contact (if different) (name, title, email, phone, mailing address)

Amount Requested:

Total Program Cost:

Program to be funded:

Proposed Program Description (one paragraph):

Problem being addressed, objectives of program, summary of activities and expected outcomes

Narrative

Must be double-spaced, 11 point font or higher, one-inch margins, 25 page limit

NOTE: All statistics or evidence should be properly cited so reviewers may easily find the sources of information.

Organization Description

Brief paragraph indicating what your organization does, how long it has operated, its mission and history, etc.

Need Statement/Problem: (10 points)

Provide statistics or evidence to indicate that the problem you are addressing is significant.

Target Population:

Describe the target group of people or geographic area that will be served by program. Provide a clear picture of this target population citing current and relevant statistics or demographic information.

Approach (20 points)

Approach: Indicate why your approach is superior to previous approaches to the problem. Why your approach is more effective, cost efficient, and/or sustainable than other approaches.

Theory of Change: Provide a clear, logical theory of change that outlines your approach and proposed impact of your program.

Evidence-driven: Provide the studies and evidence that inform your approach to this problem. Provide a description of various schools of thought regarding how to approach this particular problem and explain why you are choosing a particular approach. Please furnish complete citations so FBB reviewers may refer to original sources of evidence.

Organizational Capacity: Make a compelling case regarding you organization's ability to successfully implement the program and provide valid, reliable data regarding your past successes and ability to implement this program.

Innovative approach : Describe aspects of the program proposed that are new, forward thinking and different from similar programs

Capacity Building model: Address how your program will grow and its potential to be applied to localities other than your current location by yourself, or other similar entities.

Work plan: (25 points)

Provide a clear and comprehensive plan for carrying out a comprehensive program. Activities should be clearly linked to the theory of change and evidence-informed. Please include a timeline of activities as well as outputs or benchmarks to gauge progress.

Program Design – Describe how you translate your approach to a problem into an implementation plan. Provide a concise, clear picture of your overall program.

Activities – What activities do staff and/or volunteers engage in to implement your program?

Timeline: Give a picture of how and when various activities occur throughout the Project Period. If appropriate, summarize activities and achievements for subsequent years of the program. You may provide forecasts for up to 5 years of program implementation.

Benchmarks: What outputs will be achieved and when? *For example:*

- August – December 1, 2015, 250 constituents will be provided counseling on housing and transportation;
- January – March, 2016, our organization will finalize the training curriculum; or
- April – August, 2016, our organization will provide 200 hours of tutoring and mentoring activities to at-risk youth.

Logic Model – (no more than 3 pages in length).

Please provide the logic model in the attachments. Logic model should include:

Resources/Inputs	Activities	Outputs	Performance Measure	Outcomes	Performance Measure
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Budget Considerations (25 points)

Budget Summary in Proposal: Indicate major budget expenditures focusing on major accounting category areas needed to fund the project.

****Budget Line Item Detail and Narrative; Match Detail, and Match Verification in attachments:** Provide a line by line item detail using the budget form downloadable on the website. Provide a thorough explanation of each line item. Please include full budget needs for each item to accurately portray complete project costs. Monies designated from other sources or general funds in the 2015 and 2016 budgets should be included in the narrative. There are three worksheets within the budget form. The first sheet is your line item budget and narrative. The second sheet provides space for you to detail the sources and amount of your 1:1 match (second sheet), which automatically calculates your entry into your line item budget, and a Match verification form.

****Budget Forms can be downloaded:** <https://foundationbeyondbelief.org/humanist-giving/compassionate-impact-grant-program/>

Match Verification – Provide match copies of award letters as verification of your match.

Evaluation Plan (15 points)

Performance Evaluation: Please clearly define the system you use to evaluate the program output and impact. The performance evaluation system should indicate:

- What data you collect?
- How you collect it?
- How you ensure data is valid and collection methods are rigorous?
- What measures indicate adequate progress in achieving program outputs?
- What measures indicate adequate progress in achieving program outcomes?
- How your organization uses data and analysis to regularly evaluate your program and make improvements?

Data Collection: Please provide clear definitions of what data you will collect; how this data will be analyzed and how you will evaluate your progress towards goals and your overall program effectiveness. In the attachments, please provide two examples of prior evaluation reports that demonstrate your organization's ability to collect and analyze data and evaluate your program. These may either be external reports provided to funders or annual reports or they may also be internal reports used by staff to improve programs.

Outputs:

Please provide the outputs of program activity. Outputs should be listed on a timeline, preferably on a quarterly basis.

Output Performance Measures: What benchmarks will you use to determine whether your program is achieving the appropriate outputs? Clearly define what measure will indicate adequate progress.

Outcomes:

Please identify specific outcomes that will be achieved through your proposed program. Outcomes should identify what profound impact your program has on a constituent, organization, or community.

Outcome Performance Measures: What benchmark will you use to ensure that your program is having the desired outcome for constituents? This should be a measureable, clearly determined standard.

ATTACHMENTS

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4. Match Verification Documentation: Verification letters of funds awarded..
5. Organizational Budget
6. Most recent audit
7. An example of prior reports for program that include data collection, analysis and program evaluation
8. Letters of support (5 page limit)
9. Memorandum of Understanding or Agreement (if appropriate)
10. Board of Directors and key staff