



# Community Programs

## Goals and Pharos Fund

### Grant Guidelines

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# Community Programs Goals

Bohemian Foundation's Community Programs is committed to the care and enrichment of our community. We passionately believe that by working together, we can build a stronger Larimer County.

COMMUNITY PROGRAMS ACTS ON OUR COMMITMENT THROUGH THREE MAIN GOALS:

Encourage and enable **youth** to thrive.

Empower individuals and families on the path toward **economic stability**.

Strengthen our **vibrant community**.

WE BELIEVE THAT THERE'S A POSITIVE PATHWAY FOR CHANGE IF WE CAN:

Facilitate meaningful connections and foster a sense of belonging.

Offer engaging opportunities to learn.

Help build the skills required to navigate through challenges.

Provide inspiration and tools so everyone can contribute their time, talent, and treasure.

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# Youth: Encourage and enable youth to thrive.

Youth have always been at the heart of Community Programs. We believe that if we can support and inspire our youth, they will be on the path toward becoming productive members of society.

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## SUBGOALS

<p>Youth develop positive relationships, strengthen their sense of belonging, and build positive self-esteem.</p>	<p>Youth experience educational success, participate in inspiring learning environments, and prepare for the future.</p>	<p>Youth foster healthy coping mechanisms so they can effectively navigate through the challenges they encounter.</p>	<p>Youth understand and participate in their community by recognizing and contributing their strengths.</p>
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EXAMPLES INCLUDE (BUT ARE NOT LIMITED TO) PROGRAMS OR ACTIVITIES THAT ARE DESIGNED TO:

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Support at-risk youth</li> <li>• Mentor youth</li> <li>• Help youth find and build groups to identify with and belong to</li> <li>• Promote positive messages about youth and generate community support for youth</li> <li>• Build relationships among diverse community members and community groups</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Ensure children's basic needs are met</li> <li>• Ensure students achieve 3rd grade literacy proficiency</li> <li>• Ensure successful student transitions to middle school, high school, and post-secondary</li> <li>• Support youth workforce development and prepare youth for post-secondary success</li> <li>• Support high-achieving youth from disadvantaged families</li> <li>• Provide after-school academic and enrichment activities</li> <li>• Provide early care and education experiences</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Promote prevention through awareness and education about the following:                         <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>» Teen pregnancy</li> <li>» Suicide</li> <li>» Substance abuse</li> <li>» Child abuse and neglect</li> <li>» Sexual assault and abuse</li> </ul> </li> <li>• Provide services and wellness support to the impacted youth</li> <li>• Model positive relationships</li> <li>• Influence and improve systems that support youth</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Support service learning</li> <li>• Promote youth philanthropy</li> <li>• Provide youth leadership experiences</li> <li>• Facilitate youth leadership in areas that impact their lives and community (youth organizing)</li> <li>• Promote youth potential</li> </ul>
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### Goal specific requests not eligible for funding:

1. Sliding-fee programs for child care providers (does not apply to Community Event Fund applications)
2. Requests that support participants over 18 years old (Bohemian Foundation identifies "youth" from birth through grade 12, or through age 18 if not enrolled in secondary education.)

# Economic Stability: Empower individuals and families on the path toward economic stability.

We want to ensure that our community is a place where everyone can thrive. We want individuals and families who are embarking on the challenging journey of achieving economic stability to have access to a range of high-quality programs for support and training. We strive for everyone in our community to be able to navigate difficult terrain to achieve their dreams.

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## SUBGOALS

Individuals and families develop positive relationships, strengthen their sense of belonging, and build positive self-esteem.

Individuals and families experience educational and professional success.

Individuals and families build skills and support networks so they can effectively navigate through the issues they encounter on their path to economic stability.

Individuals and families understand their strengths and have pathways to contribute their insight and experience to inform potential solutions and further strengthen our community.

### EXAMPLES INCLUDE (BUT ARE NOT LIMITED TO) PROGRAMS OR ACTIVITIES THAT ARE DESIGNED TO:

- Build relationships among diverse community members and community groups
- Foster meaningful connections and build networks and communities of support

- Ensure basic needs are met (e.g. housing, transportation, food)
- Support parents as their children's first teachers
- Employ two-generation strategies (child and parent/child and caregiver)
- Support workforce development (job training, career pathway development)
- Provide financial education and asset development
- Provide peer learning opportunities

- Help individuals and families act on their own behalf
- Help individuals and families manage the impact of unexpected financial challenges
- Help families advocate effectively for their children

- Use participant input to inform program development
- Create experiences where community members come together and contribute together
- Provide peer learning opportunities

### Goal specific requests not eligible for funding:

1. Sliding-fee programs for child care providers (does not apply to Community Event Fund applications)

# Vibrant Community: Strengthen our vibrant community.

Building a vibrant community requires intentional participation, reflection, and a commitment to constant improvement. We believe in our community’s strengths, but also know that we can do more to ensure these strengths are available to everyone. We aim to fortify our community’s capacity to welcome diverse cultures, experiences, and perspectives. We support efforts that actively cultivate new connections, build a sense belonging, and create access to our community’s best features where barriers may currently exist.

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## SUBGOALS

Cultivate strong connections and build a sense of belonging across the community.

Offer opportunities to learn and encourage broad participation across the community.

Provide pathways for skillfully and collaboratively navigating through current and future challenges.

Support and inspire individuals, businesses and other organizations to contribute their time, talent, and treasure.

### EXAMPLES INCLUDE (BUT ARE NOT LIMITED TO) PROGRAMS OR ACTIVITIES THAT ARE DESIGNED TO:

- Create areas with a strong sense of place (sense of identity and character) that facilitate meaningful social connections
- Ensure arts and cultural experiences are accessible to all community members (Note: all music-related support will be provided through Music Programs only)
- Recognize and celebrate a range of cultures and foster broad community participation

- Host national and international experts and apply learning locally
- Expand the reach and impact of local experts
- Host community learning exchange events
- Foster broad participation in community learning events

- Facilitate projects that encourage citizens to identify issues, formulate solutions, and resolve challenges related to community improvement
- Provide forums for community dialogue
- Encourage community members to come together in new networks, across all community groups and members, for conversations and activities that will move the community toward creating a shared understanding of an issue and provide an avenue to work together
- Use research and data to navigate through challenges and plan for the future of our community

- Encourage and support meaningful volunteer experiences
- Expand the skills and impact of volunteers and community members serving the community
- Provide learning opportunities and encourage community members to expand their giving

### Goal specific requests not eligible for funding:

1. General operating support for arts and culture organizations

# What We Look For

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Pharos Fund is a responsive, competitive grant program. Strong proposals will address the following priorities:

## GOAL FIT

Pharos is an important tool in advancing our Community Program goals. Alignment with one or more of the Community Program goals is a requirement. Applicants must clearly demonstrate how their work helps to advance our Community Program goals and subgoals.

## IMPACT

Impact can mean many different things. To us it means: a) effectively meeting a community need; b) a continuous improvement orientation; c) balancing measurable outcome data with stories which bring to life the impact of an individual's experience; and d) contributing to the overall improvement of the community.

## STAKEHOLDER SUPPORT

Understanding how other funding sources support programming is important. We look for diverse funding sources, along with local support and buy-in. Where relevant, we also look for the potential for financial sustainability beyond Bohemian Foundation's support.

## ALIGNMENT WITH OUR PRINCIPLES

In addition to the principles that guide the Foundation, Pharos Fund values programs that:

- are responsive to the backgrounds, interests, and needs of participants
- reach or serve a broad range of participants
- set high expectations for participants and provide effective support for success
- are either innovative ideas that need testing or are programs that have a long history with a proven track record (both new and existing programs are equally valued)
- provide experiential learning opportunities
- have an understanding of the cost to deliver programming, and also ensure costs are aligned with program's reach and impact
- supplement (instead of replace or duplicate) public funding

Pharos Fund guidelines are updated before each grant round. Be sure to check our website and ensure you've downloaded the current version.

## Applicant Eligibility and Geographic Focus

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Applicants must be a 501(c)(3) public charity nonprofit organization. Private foundations and fiscal sponsorship programs are ineligible to apply to Pharos Fund.

Applicants must provide services within Poudre School District boundary. Agencies don't need to be headquartered in Fort Collins to receive funding. However, applicants must serve clients within the Poudre School District boundary or have a direct impact on individuals in our grantmaking area.

Organizations may only submit one application per grant round. (For Poudre School District and Colorado State University applicants, one applicant per school or department is allowable.) If organizations are applying as part of a collaborative effort, one organization must be selected to serve as the Pharos Fund applicant.

### IMPORTANT NOTES FOR GOVERNMENTAL UNIT APPLICANTS

- Please contact the Community Programs team to evaluate eligibility before beginning a Pharos Fund application.
- Additional documentation may be required for governmental unit applicants. This could include statement(s) or a legal opinion from your legal counsel. We reserve the right in our sole discretion to determine your eligibility for grant funding.
- If you have an associated 501(c)(3) entity, please apply through that entity and with the associated documentation.
- Not all governmental units are eligible to apply. To be eligible, a governmental unit must be described in section 170(c)(1) of the Internal Revenue Code, which includes "A State, a possession of the United States, or any political subdivision of any of the foregoing..." Federal tax laws not state law determines whether an entity is a political subdivision. Federal tax laws require an entity to have one or more of three sovereign powers to qualify as a political subdivision: 1) the power of taxation; 2) the power of condemnation/ eminent domain; or 3) the police power. Applicants should check with their legal counsel to determine whether they have these powers.
- Also, the governmental unit's project or program to be funded by the grant must serve charitable purposes. The term "charitable" is defined broadly under section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code and related regulations to include purposes that are education; scientific; literary; prevention of cruelty to children and animals; relief of the poor and distressed or underprivileged; advancement of education or science; erection or maintenance of public buildings, monuments or works; lessening of the burdens of government; and promotion of social welfare through efforts such as lessening neighborhood tensions, eliminating prejudice and discrimination, defending human and civil rights, and combating community deterioration and juvenile delinquency.

## Funding Amounts and Request Categories

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Applicants may request up to \$30,000 per application. Applicants may request support for one of the three following categories:

1. Program support
  - Programs are typically operational each year; they are not one-time efforts.
  - Programs do not need to be 12-months in duration. However, consistent delivery and integration into organizational planning is required for a request to be considered a program support request.
  - Pilot programs are eligible under this category, even if they may just happen once in their testing phase.
2. General operating support (organizational support)
3. Project support for requests that are one-time in nature within one of the two following sub-categories:
  - Equipment/capital projects
  - Technical assistance/capacity building
  - Other (explanation will be required in the application)

## Requests Not Eligible for Funding

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### GENERAL EXCLUSIONS

#### Organization

- Non-501(c)(3) organizations (except eligible governmental units serving a charitable purpose), private foundations, or programs and projects under fiscal sponsorship
- The same request for general operating support twice in a calendar year, even if the initial request was declined
- Type III non-functionally integrated supporting organizations
- Private schools
- Faith-based organizations in which participation in faith-based programming is required to access services

#### Program/Project

- Music-related requests (See Bohemian Foundation's Music Programs goals for Music Program eligibility)
- Applications to both Bohemian Foundation's Muse and Pharos Fund grant programs for the same request
- The same program/project request twice in a calendar year, even if the initial request was declined
- Individual mental health therapy (e.g. 1:1 counseling)

- Respite services, including adult care/programming
- Medical supplies, equipment, and/or medical devices for individuals
- Funding for individuals or teams (i.e. athletic tournaments, academic competitions, band trips, etc.)
- Awards to individuals
- Programs and projects of a governmental unit that do not further a charitable purpose
- Discriminatory programs
- Political campaigns or legislative issues
- Activities that support a specific religious purpose

#### Funding Type

- Multi-year requests (Requests can be for a maximum of 12 months in duration)
- Multi-support requests (Applicants must choose from general operating, program, or project support. Applications may not be a combination of different request categories.)
- Capital campaigns
- Debt reduction
- Endowment funding
- Supplanting public (government) funding

#### Events

- Fundraising events (See Community Event Fund or Music Event Fund)
- Single-day or multi-day events (See Community Event Fund or Music Event Fund)

## GOAL-SPECIFIC EXCLUSIONS

#### Youth Goal Related Exclusions

- Sliding-fee programs for child care providers
- Requests that support participants over 18 years old (Bohemian Foundation identifies “youth” from birth through grade 12, or through age 18 if not enrolled in secondary education.)

#### Economic Stability Goal Related Exclusions

- Sliding-fee programs for child care providers

#### Vibrant Community Goal Related Exclusions

- General operating support for arts and culture organizations

## Funding Cycles, Application Process, and Review Timeline

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Applications are accepted two times per year (Spring and Fall). Be sure to visit our website regularly for updated deadlines as they do change each year.

All Pharos Fund applications must be submitted via the Bohemian Foundation Grantee Portal. Applications must be completely submitted, in advance of the deadline, to be considered for review.

Decisions typically are communicated to applicants within three months of the application deadline.

## Updates to the Application, Guidelines, and FAQs

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Pharos Fund guidelines and applications are often updated each cycle. Please be sure to reference updated materials on our website or via the grantee portal.

## Break in Submitting Applications

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Organizations that have received Pharos funding consecutively over a five year period may be asked to refrain from submitting additional applications for up to 12 months. Foundation staff will contact grantee organizations if this stipulation applies to an organization.

## Public Support

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For any organization that has been classified by the IRS as a public charity because of the public nature of its support (i.e., under Section 509(a)(1)/170(b)(1)(A)(vi) or Section 509(a)(2) of the Internal Revenue Code), total grant awards from Bohemian Foundation, within the calendar year, may not exceed 30% of the organization's annual budget or otherwise hinder its ability to meet its public support requirements. The impact of our grant awards on an organization's ability to meet the public support requirements can differ greatly, depending on whether grantees rely on the public support test of Section 509(a)(1)/170(b)(1)(A)(vi) or Section 509(a)(2). Therefore, grantees should contact a tax advisor and address any questions regarding the public support requirements.

In some cases, applicants may be asked to provide a written statement, signed by an officer, that a new grant from Bohemian Foundation will not result in a loss of public charity status, accompanied by a summary of financial data for the five years preceding the current tax year, as well as estimates for the current tax year.