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Parkinson's Foundation Community Grants
2027 Request for Applications

About the Parkinson's Foundation

The Parkinson's Foundation makes life better for people with Parkinson's disease (PD) by improving care and advancing research toward a cure. In everything we do, we build on the energy, experience and passion of our global Parkinson's community. For more information, visit www.parkinson.org or call 1-(800) 4PD-INFO (473-4636).

Funding Overview

The Parkinson's Foundation funds local education and outreach programs that address unmet needs in the Parkinson's community through its Community Grants program. The Foundation's model of grant funding is designed to support programs that are impactful, scalable, sustainable and measurable.

Funding decisions are based on merit, as determined by the Foundation's peer review committees. The Foundation may limit the amount of funding available to programs that have received Community Grant funding for the same program for three years or more.

The 2027 request for applications (RFA) is open to all communities across the country. Programs in this grant cycle should expand or create access for populations of focus and must incorporate at least one of the following focus areas:

- **Programs that address emotional/mental health and Parkinson's**
  Programs should promote awareness, support, education, and socialization which help improve the emotional, social, and psychological well-being of those living with and affected by Parkinson's (i.e. support groups, peer mentorship, art/creative therapy clubs or education addressing fear/stigma/isolation, etc).

- **Programming and resources designed for care partners**
  Programs should offer education, resources, and support that address the specific needs and interests of primary and secondary care partners (i.e., support groups, programs that promote joy, peer mentorship, policy/advocacy education, etc.)

- **Programs that deliver exercise/movement designed for people with Parkinson's**
  Programs should provide education and activities centered around exercise and movement for people living with Parkinson's. Programming should be designed by professionals with experience in various Parkinson's exercise/movement fields (i.e. dance, Tai Chi, adaptive fitness, etc). Proposed programs should align with the Parkinson's Exercise Guidelines.

Key Dates

The following are key dates for this program:

- Application opens…….Tuesday, November 10, 2026
- Application deadline…….Friday, January 29, 2027 **(11:59 pm ET)**
- Application reviews conclude……..Early June 2027
- Award notification……..Mid/Late June 2027
- Grant period……July 1, 2027 – June 30, 2028

Funding Range

For 2027, the Foundation will provide $1 million to the Community Grants program. Grants may range from a minimum of $10,000 to a maximum of $25,000 for one year; grant requests under $10,000 will be considered on a case-by-case basis. Detailed budget justifications must be included in the application.

How to Apply

Applications must be submitted electronically through ProposalCentral. Applications must follow RFA guidelines and will be reviewed only based on submitted content. Organizations may submit up to two applications.

Eligibility

Applicants must fall under one of the following categories. Eligibility requirements must be met at the time of the application submission.

1. Non-profit and other tax-exempt organizations

2. For-profit organizations, such as rehab centers, healthcare facilities, private fitness centers, etc., may be eligible to apply if the proposed program is offered at no cost (grant funds can be used to make this possible).

3. Parkinson's Foundation Global Care Network (US Based Centers)

4. This funding opportunity is available only to independent community/local organizations and does **not** extend to chapters of a national organization.

The proposal types listed below are **not** eligible for funding.

1. Proposals solely focused on instructor/facilitator/professional training and/or certification.

2. Proposals that solely focus on outreach or marketing campaigns.

3. Proposals designed to reach communities outside of their local community/state.

4. Clinical research studies.

Budget Guidelines

The Foundation **will** support the following:

- Marketing-related costs (targeted ads on social media, radio/tv spots, etc) Cannot exceed 40% of total budget.
- Printing costs
- Participant fees (i.e., scholarships)
- Speaker fees (cannot exceed 10% of total budget)
- Instructor(s) and/or Facilitator(s) fees (individuals providing direct program services to participants, cannot be FTE)
- Parkinson's related training/certification costs. Only programs/courses accredited through the Parkinson's Foundation Exercise and Movement Education Accreditation program are eligible. (cannot exceed 10% of total budget). **Can only support training/certifications that occur during the grant period.**
- Program support/administrative time, used to cover team members' support of the proposed program (i.e., data analysis, program planning, etc.) Cannot exceed 5% of the total budget and cannot be FTEs.
- Program supplies, items that qualify as safety/support materials, art supplies, and exercise equipment for pilot programs only (cannot exceed 10% of total budget)
- Room rental for events or meetings that bring programming to areas not previously served (cannot exceed 10% of total budget)
- Food for events or meetings
- Participant transportation (cannot exceed 15% of total budget)
- Virtual meeting platform subscription (i.e., Zoom) used to offer virtual/hybrid program options. **One license per team/proposal.**
- Audio/Visual and Production costs, equipment purchases **excluded** (cannot exceed 5% of the total budget)

The Foundation **does not** provide funding for the following:

- Salary cost for individuals employed by their organization (FTE's)
- Capital expenses (i.e., computers, furniture, building fixtures)
- Indirect costs (i.e., administrative, facility fees, facility rent, utilities, insurance)
- Office supplies
- Promotional materials (t-shirts, mugs, pens, etc)
- Conference-related costs
- Travel for staff/speakers
- Individual/staff memberships, and/or licensing
- Endowments or individual support
- Multi-year grants and franchise organization fees

Review Process

All applications will be reviewed in three phases:

- Foundation administrative review will confirm basic eligibility requirements.
- Local peer review committee will review and score all eligible local applications.
- Regional peer review committee will provide the final grant decision on top of scoring applications from local review.

Applications are reviewed by members of the Parkinson's community (people living with PD, care partners/family members, and healthcare professionals) and evaluated for impact, scalability, sustainability and measurability. After an application is submitted, there will be no communication from the Foundation until a decision is made on the funding of the application. All decisions made during the review process are final and confidential.

Grantee Responsibilities

1. The Parkinson's Foundation expects that any Foundation funded program will adhere to federal, state, and local public health guidelines to ensure the safety and well-being of all participants.

2. The Foundation requires acknowledgement of funding in any marketing collateral and communication about the program.

3. All grantees will be **required** to submit two reports on impact and outputs during the grant period: an interim report for the first half of the year and a final report upon completion of the program. Failure to submit these reports will require the grantee to forfeit remaining funds and could jeopardize future funding opportunities.

4. Grant funds will be dispersed in three payments, the first will be 60% of the total grant, tied to the submission of the grant agreement/related documents. The second payment will be 30% of the total grant amount, tied to the submission of the interim report. The final payment will be 10% of the total grant (tied to the submission of the final report) and will be dispersed after the grant has concluded.

5. All grantees are encouraged to collaborate/connect with Parkinson's Foundation Chapter teams via site visits or community work.

6. The individual submitting the application ("Applicant") will designate an individual who is not receiving salary support in the application (such as a CFO, grants officer, or member of a board of directors) to review and sign off on budgets and financial statements related to the grant.

Funding Acknowledgement

The Foundation's support for the program must be acknowledged in all program materials. The Foundation shall be listed more prominently than any other sponsor unless the other sponsor provides more direct financial support than the Foundation. (Applicants will be required to detail other funding sources during the application process.) Further, acknowledgment of the Foundation should be clearly indicated that the Foundation provided a grant to fund the program. The Foundation takes no responsibility for the program or its content. Once Foundation funding has concluded, messaging must specify either that the Foundation formerly funded the program, or the Foundation logo must be removed from messaging.

Application Commitment

If awarded, grantees agree to conduct the activity described in the application and use the funds as proposed. Applicants agree that any substantive change in the project or use of funds must have the prior approval of the Foundation in writing and submitted to programs@parkinson.org. Applicants agree that for this grant funding they are to submit an interim and a final report on the progress of their programs and the use of funds. The Foundation will provide the report templates, and any unspent funds are to be returned to the Foundation.

Sharing Research and Findings

The Foundation is a public charity and activities funded by the Foundation must be conducted in the public's interest. Applicants shall have a right to ownership of their work product funded by the Foundation, but each Applicant shall perform the funded activities in the public's interest. Applicants acknowledge the Foundation's right to publish a *summary* of all programs funded.