



2019 Request for Proposals – Summer Fund

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I. Organizational Overview

United Way of Greater New Bedford was founded in 1953 and for the past 65 years has been working to address the most pressing needs in the community. As a leading non-profit in the Southcoast, we have raised and invested nearly \$10M dollars into community programs over the past decade.

Our Vision: We envision a region where all people have access to the resources and opportunities they need to thrive.

Our Mission: We mobilize people, partnerships, and resources to catalyze change that strengthens the communities we serve.

Our Focus: Like United Way Worldwide, we are focused on creating community-based and community-led solutions that strengthen the cornerstones for a good quality of life: Health, Education, and Financial Stability.

Communities: United Way of Greater New Bedford serves the City of New Bedford and surrounding towns of Acushnet, Dartmouth, Fairhaven, Freetown, Marion, Mattapoisett, Rochester and Wareham.

II. Program Summary

For over 20 years, United Way’s Summer Fund Program has provided local children who face financial obstacles or physical disabilities with the opportunity to attend summer camps and enrichment programs through “camperships.” In response to local needs, Summer Fund was expanded in 2008 to include employment opportunities for older youth ages 16-21 (including a pre-employment job training course).

Youth participation in summer programs is linked with a variety of positive outcomes for youth, families, and communities. Unfortunately, summer programs can be very costly for families, and for those living paycheck to paycheck, facing unemployment, or attempting to pay back their debt, summer programs can feel out of reach.

United Way’s Summer Fund plays an important role in helping address the lack of access to structured, high quality summer programs. Summer Fund consolidates the support of local funders to provide low-income youth access to a wide variety of structured summer enrichment experiences—including summer jobs and summer camp.

Through Summer Fund, Greater New Bedford non-profits (“sites”) are invited to apply for a maximum of \$5,000.

In 2018, United Way of Greater New Bedford funded fifteen organizations’ programs, totaling \$60,000. Three organizations received funding in the area of Youth Employment and twelve organizations received funding in the area of Camperships.

III. Focus Areas

United Way of Greater New Bedford provides two tracks from which applicants choose. Please apply for only one track.

Track 1: Youth Employment: Youth ages 16-21 are able to participate in employment opportunities where they build job skills and also provide additional capacity to local non-profits.

Track 2: Camperships: Camperships are available for low-income youth ages 6-15 and must cover the full cost of camp. Through camperships, youth are able to participate in activities that range from the traditional camp experiences to learning how to sail.

- Funds should be used for camperships only (scholarships for camp or a summer program).
- Funds must cover 100% of the cost of the camp or program.
- These funds must be used to directly serve children campers ages 6 to 16.
- Camp sites must be the direct program operator to qualify for funding.
- Funds may NOT be used for capital improvements, staff salaries, meals, supplies, busing, rent or utility costs. Youth receiving financial assistance should currently receive free or reduced lunch.

IV. Grant Details

Investment Information

United Way anticipates making approximately \$60,000 in annual investments through this RFP. Investments will begin in July 2019, and end by August 31, 2019. We anticipate approximately 15 total successful proposals, each for up to \$5,000.

Reporting & Milestones

Grantees are required to:

- sign a grant agreement, outlining terms & conditions, once notified of the award
- participate in a site visit by United Way of Greater New Bedford. Supervisors must be present at these visits. Please note: supervisors new to the program must meet with United Way's program coordinator to discuss the expectations and goals of the summer of the organization and youth employee. New organizations that do not schedule a meeting to discuss the program must forfeit the funds allocated.
- notify United Way of Greater New Bedford if there are changes related to the grant. In the case of a change in a youth employment status (termination, leave, etc.), United Way must be notified within 24 hours in order to approve the change. Any position that becomes available must either be filled or the remaining funds must be returned to United Way. If a new youth is hired, United Way must be notified at the time of the hire. In the case of change in supervisor, United Way must be notified within 24 hours.
- submit a final report to United Way of Greater New Bedford.
 - For Youth Employment, a final report to be completed by the supervisor and employer/employee survey will be required at the completion of the grant cycle. The final report should document any changes made during the summer and a complete budget detailing how students were paid.
 - For Camperships, a final report will be due at the completion of the grant cycle. This report will require a budget submission that should clearly show how funds were used. Camp sites must also submit demographics of the campers that receive financial assistance. This will include information on campers' age, sex, race and income.

V. Application Details

Eligibility Requirements

- 501(c)(3) non-profit organizations and public entities are eligible to apply.
- Non-profit organizations who have merged within the past 3 years may qualify for up to two \$5,000 grants a year for up to 3 years – allowing merged programs ample time to become established as one unified organization.
- Organizations who receive support for summer programs through other United Way funding (e.g., Community Impact Grants) will NOT be eligible for a Summer Fund 2019. If you want to be eligible for both, the program request should differ from your other United Way application.
- Accreditation: The private non-profit agency serving as the fiscal agent for the program must have been determined to be tax-exempt under Section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code, and not a private foundation under Section 509 (a).
- Non-sectarian Programming: Summer Fund is limited to non-sectarian programming for youth of all religious and ethnic backgrounds. Programs sponsored by religious organizations are eligible, provided the enrollment is open to all youth and the program is free of mandatory religious instruction, worship, or other sectarian activities.
- Non-discrimination Policy: Your organization must attach its non-discrimination policy.

How to Apply

The applications will be available through United Way’s Community Force grant application software. To access the application, visit: unitedwayofgnb.communityforce.com.

For questions, contact Anne Nichelson, Vice President of Community Impact, anichelson@unitedwayofgnb.org, (508) 994-9625 ext. 215

VI. Proposal Review Criteria

The Review Committee for Summer Fund is made up of other funders. Proposals will be evaluated in consideration of the following criteria, which will inform United Way’s investment decisions. The same criteria applies to both Youth Employment and Camperships.

- *Quality*: Quality of overall proposal
- *Impact*: How well the proposal conveys that the site will have a positive impact on youth
- *Program Alignment*: The appropriateness of the request based on our goals and specified criteria

Additional consideration may be given to programs that demonstrate the ability to partner effectively with United Way and others which are able to advance to UWGNB programs and strategies.

VII. Timeline

- March 11, 2019: Grant application opens
- April 5, 2019: Proposals due
- Early May 2019: Award announcements
- June 2019: Youth Employment Training
- July 1, 2019: Funding begins
- July 2019: Site visits
- August 2019: Summer Recognition Luncheon
- August 31, 2019: Funding ends
- September 30, 2019: Grant report due