

# **GIVING WoMN**

## **Grant Criteria 2020-21**

### **Section A: Criteria for Organization Eligibility for GW Funding**

1. Recommendation from a GW member
2. Deliver services in one or more of the following areas: health, education, human services
3. Qualify as tax exempt under section 501(c)(3) of the IRS code
4. Serve the greater St. Paul/Minneapolis 7-County Area
5. Not funded by GW within the previous three funding cycles (ex, funded in winter 2016, not eligible for nomination until fall 2019)

### **Section B: Criteria for Evaluating LOI Proposals:**

1. GW particularly values proposals that demonstrate one or more of the following:
  - Significant impact on the community, which can include either 1) services that affect relatively fewer individuals deeply for longer-term impact OR 2) services that are broader, affecting relatively more people with a lesser depth of service (weighted 1.5)
  - Urgency or immediacy in addressing a critical need or solutions to systemic issues (weighted 1.5)
  - Introduction of an exciting new venture and/or a creative and effective solution to a time-worn problem
  - Offers opportunities to leverage volunteers, other funds, and/or forge partnerships that will increase the impact of GW funds.
  - Organization has multiple (first choice) nominations in the current year or has been nominated (first choice) within the previous two grant cycles, and has not been funded by GW (or WOC before that).
2. Funds are intended for programs, projects, capacity building. Tier 2\* organization funding can also be used for an unrestricted grant supporting organizational operations and services.
3. Funds are not intended for capital campaigns, endowment funds, special events/galas, travel expenses, direct scholarship requests from individuals or exclusively sectarian purposes.

### **Section C: Criteria for Evaluating Full Grant Proposals:**

1. Organization demonstrates a reasonable degree of long-term viability based on financial information and appropriate leadership and staff.
2. Proposal demonstrates a reasonable ability to achieve the intended purpose of funding or includes rationale to warrant GW taking a risk.
3. Other criteria for differentiating proposals:
  - Presents opportunities to reduce unnecessary duplication of services
  - Fosters capacity building among the people targeted for service or is a useful community model
  - Provides solutions to systemic issues
4. GW would prefer at least one smaller organization funding proposal to be on the final ballot.

### **Section D: Criteria for Final Ballot Proposal Determination**

1. What impact will GW's funding have?
2. What makes the proposal compelling?
3. How viable are the organization and the proposal?

\* Definition of Tier 2: a "small" organization that has total gross revenue of less than \$2 million in its last full fiscal year. All other organizations are considered "large" (Tier 1) for GW grant purposes.