

United Way of the River Cities is conducting workshops across its five-county service area for organizations interested in applying for funding. Workshops are open to any registered nonprofit that provides human services in one or more counties: Cabell, Wayne, Lincoln and Mason counties in West Virginia and Lawrence County, Ohio. Workshop content is identical, so potential applicants need only attend one session.

- Tuesday, January 9 from 9 AM – 11 AM at City National Bank Conference Room, 6888 McClellan Street, West Hamlin, WV 25571
- Thursday, January 11 from 10 AM – noon at WVU Extension Service, Wayne County Office, 27572 East Lynn Road, Wayne, WV 25570
- Wednesday, January 17 from 10 AM – noon in the Caucus Room at the Ohio University Southern Academic Center, 1804 Liberty Avenue, Ironton, OH 45638
- Thursday, January 18 from 10 AM – noon at United Way office, 820 Madison Avenue, Huntington, WV 25701
- Friday, January 19 from 10 AM – noon, Mason County Public Library, 508 Viand Street, Point Pleasant, WV 25550

This year, United Way of the River Cities is offering two different grant opportunities:

- 1) **Safety Net Grants:** Safety Net Grants are awarded each year to programs that provide short-term assistance with the following basic needs: food, clothing, personal care products, safe shelter, utilities/rent assistance, healthcare, and prescription medication.
- 2) **Impact Grants:** Impact Grants are awarded every two years to programs designed to drive change around one or more of UWRC's critical issues.

Identified by a group of community volunteers, these critical issues guide United Way of the River Cities' work and are organized around the focus areas of health, education, and financial stability. To be eligible for impact funding, an agency must propose a program that demonstrates outcomes related to one of these issues.

Health

- The rate of obesity in our community is high and continues to increase.
- Substance abuse impedes the physical and behavioral well-being of individuals in our community.
- The high rate of tobacco use contributes to cancer and chronic disease.

Education

- Too many students are reading below their grade level.
- Too many students are leaving high school without graduating.
- Too many adults lack basic life skills that promote independence and employment.

Financial Stability

- Too many students are graduating high school lacking the skills for post-secondary success.
- Many families do not have access to affordable stabilizing supports that allow people to work.

- Individuals lack the tools to achieve financial stability.

Although the workshop is not mandatory, it is strongly recommended that nonprofits interested in applying for funding attend. The session will include a description of the funding process, a review of the application, tips for developing a competitive grant, an introduction to the online application platform, and more.

The Letter of Intent will open on Wednesday, January 24, and the deadline to submit will be Tuesday, February, Wednesday, February 14 at 5 PM.

Registration for the workshops is required, as the seating capacity is limited. To register for the workshop or for more information, contact Andrea Roy at 304-523-8929, ext. 107 or andrea.roy@unitedwayrivercities.org.