



## Responsive Grant Opportunity (RGO)

Responsive Grant Opportunity funding allows Richmond Memorial Health Foundation (RMHF) to offer timely support for opportunities on a rolling basis to advance the foundation's mission of *fostering an equitable and healthy Richmond region* outside and beyond our strategic grant opportunities. Responsive Grant Opportunity (RGO) is also a tool for RMHF to expand its network of partnering organizations and support organizations and community groups in promoting equity and health.

These funds permit eligible organizations and community groups to apply for funding to respond in a time-sensitive<sup>1</sup> manner to a local or regional mission-aligned opportunity. RGO funds may also be used to leverage or match funding from other sources, such as funding from other foundations or government funding. Responsive Grant Opportunity applications are typically for \$2,000 or less, and cannot exceed \$10,000. The total amount of funding available in 2018-2019 for Responsive Grant Opportunities is \$100,000. Applications are reviewed on an on-going basis until funding is exhausted.

**This funding opportunity is not intended to support the cost of ongoing operations or programs. RGO funding should not be used to supplant existing funding.**

### Eligibility

Organizations eligible to receive RMHF funding are those entities recognized by the IRS as a [public charity](#). Community groups without legal status as a public charity, may apply to RMHF through the use of [fiscal sponsorship](#). For more information on eligibility, please see [RMHF's grant guidelines](#). Funding consideration will be given to organizations/groups and for applications that are mission-aligned and seek to address one or more of RMHF's priority areas:

1. Access to Health Care
2. Equity and Health (with a focus on racial equity)
3. Housing and the built environment

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<sup>1</sup> **Time-sensitive:** refers to funding opportunities that occur during a specific period of time, and not an ongoing service, program or activity. Generally, time-sensitive is understood to mean within the next few months. Time-sensitive refers to the funding opportunity, not the issue being addressed.



Additionally, applications that are responsive to the [2017 Equity + Health Fellows' recommendations](#) will also be considered for RGO funding:

1. Model and support practices across sectors that explicitly promote racial equity and improve health outcomes
2. Invest in the development and participation of traditionally underrepresented community members to be decision-makers and leaders in fostering equity.
3. Be a catalyst for greater racial equity and inclusion in nonprofit hiring and governance in the region.
4. Advocate for federal, state, regional and local public policies that foster health and equity in the region.

RMHF will consider applications related to the priority areas and recommendations above that propose one or more strategies, including:

- Research
- Community engagement
- Collaborative planning and action
- Convening
- Art-based projects
- Advocacy and policy efforts, such as:
  - Research & analysis
  - Community-based participatory research
  - Solutions identification
  - Issue framing & messaging
  - Education of opinion leaders & policymakers
  - Education of the general public
  - Evaluation/comment on administrative & regulatory proposals
  - Monitoring implementation of passed policy
- [Capacity-building](#)<sup>2</sup>, training and/or technical assistance

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<sup>2</sup> **Capacity-building:** A very broad term often defined as the ability of nonprofit organizations to fulfill their missions in an effective manner; a process of developing and strengthening skills, abilities, processes and resources that allow organizations to meet their missions in an effective manner; capacity-building includes various types of activities designed to improve and enhance an organization's ability to achieve its mission and sustain itself over time. See also [Grantmakers for Effective Organizations](#) for more detail on capacity-building.



- Organizational and leadership development, with priority given to organizations and groups led by people of color
- Learning and evaluation

Please note that Responsive Grant Opportunity funds cannot be used for direct or grassroots lobbying. Please see [here](#) for a distinction between [advocacy](#) and [lobbying](#). For more information on RMHF's work, please see our [Strategic Framework](#).

## Application

Please review [RMHF's grant guidelines](#) prior to submitting your application. Applications should be submitted online through RMHF's [Grants/Fellowships/Programs page](#). Applications should provide the following information:

1. Applicant information:
  - Organization/group name
  - Address, phone number, website and email address
  - Mission statement
  - Fiscal sponsor (if applicable)
  - Name, position, email address and phone number of contact person
2. Amount of funding requested (**generally \$2,000 or less, maximum \$10,000**)
3. Which of RMHF's priority areas and/or E +H recommendation(s) will your efforts seek to address? (Word limit: 50)
4. If your effort is geared towards policy change, what is the specific policy to be addressed? Who is affected by it? (Word limit: 150)
5. What do you propose to do? Please describe any activities you will undertake as part of this effort. (Word limit: 500)
6. Is this effort targeting a specific community or group? Please describe the target community and describe how you are/will engage the community in this work. (Word limit: 250)
7. Why is your organization/group qualified to undertake this activity? (Word limit: 250)
8. What is your total budget for this effort? (Please provide as much information as you have in regards to the project budget, such as an itemized budget, funding sources, any in-kind contributions as well as requested foundation funds, and specify how RMHF funds will be used) (Word limit: 250)



9. What will success look like? What do you hope to learn from this effort? (Word limit: 250)
10. What is the timeframe and time line for this effort (start and end date)? (Word limit: 250)

***If funding is being requested for support of an event, please provide an agenda or description of the event.***

If you have questions about this grant opportunity or the application process, please contact:

Lisa Bender  
Grants Manager  
Richmond Memorial Health Foundation  
804-282-6282, extension 700  
[LBender@rmhfoundation.org](mailto:LBender@rmhfoundation.org)

***You will be notified of the funding decision within 15 business days of receipt of the application. Response times may be delayed during major holidays.***

*All recipients of RGO will be invited to attend a racial equity training when it is offered by RMHF. While this training is not mandatory, RMHF strongly encourages applicants and grantees to attend such trainings when offered as RMHF will be incorporating a racial equity lens into its grantmaking. RMHF may also convene RGO grantees (voluntary) to RGO gatherings to share plans, projects and lessons learned with each other and RMHF.*

Please note, that if funded, RMHF requires a final report to be submitted prior to 60 days after completion of the project.

The final report will provide a brief (maximum 2 pages) overview of the funded effort and activities. The final report should include:

- **Organizational/group Information**
  - Organization/group name, address and grant number as it appears on the Grant Agreement.
  - Name of person submitting the report, phone number and email address.
  - A brief description of the project, detailing project activities supported by RMHF's RGO funding.
- **Learning and Impact**



- What did you learn from the effort that would be helpful for other nonprofits and/or funders to know?
- Do you consider this project a success?
- **Financial Accountability**
  - A summary/accounting of how the grant funds were expended
  - The reporting and return of any unexpended funds.