



# Project Grant Guidelines

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Snow-Redfern Foundation provides financial support to nonprofit partners that offer programs and services that make a life-changing impact for kids in need. The Project Grant is a small supplemental grant aimed to support these existing nonprofit programs that have demonstrated effectiveness in improving outcomes for youth.

## **General Guidelines**

- Timeframe: Project grants are only available once per year. Submission window is 8:00am (mountain time) on July 1 – 5:00pm (mountain time) on August 1
- Submission: Only grant applications that include all required supplemental documents and are submitted online at [snowredfern.org](http://snowredfern.org) within the designated timeframe will be accepted
- Nonprofit Status: All entities must be qualified as a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization under IRS regulations, designated as a Public Charity meeting the public support test
- Geography: support is provided only to programs operating in Nebraska
- Types of Support: We favor short-term projects that directly impact youth, can demonstrate how they improve youth outcomes, and that utilize a strength-based approach
- Preference is given to applications that can demonstrate project goal alignment with their local Public Health District's Community Health Improvement Plan (see supplemental document)
- Only one application is accepted per organization each year
- Typical Project Grant Range: \$1,000 to \$15,000

## **Exclusions**

- Multiple-year grants
- Grants to individuals
- Nonprofit organizations located outside of Nebraska
- Grants to other Private Foundations
- Capital requests, construction, purchase of vehicles, salaries
- Grants that serve populations of youth over the age of 18 years
- Hardcopy, faxed, or emailed proposals will not be accepted

Please review the focus area guidelines and online application instructions before applying. If you have questions concerning program eligibility, please contact Foundation Executive Director at [info@snowredfern.org](mailto:info@snowredfern.org).

We favor applications that contain only the necessary information for us to carefully review the request and to contact your organization.

## **Areas of Focus**

We concentrate awards on programs and projects that support young people in three principal areas: Basic Needs, Well-Being, and Education. Preference is given to applications that can demonstrate how their project will address one or more of these focus areas, as further defined below.

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## **Basic Needs**

Those things that are necessary to sustain life, including:

- **Biological and physiological needs:** air, food, drink, shelter, warmth, sleep
- **Safety needs:** protection from elements, security, order, law, stability, freedom from fear, abuse.
- **Love and belongingness needs:** friendship, intimacy, trust, and acceptance, receiving and giving affection and love. Affiliating, being part of a group (family, friends, work).
- **Esteem needs:** esteem for oneself (dignity, achievement, mastery, independence) and the desire for reputation or respect from others (e.g., status, prestige).
- **Cognitive needs:** knowledge and understanding, curiosity, exploration, need for meaning and predictability.
- **Aesthetic needs:** appreciation and search for beauty, balance, form, etc.
- **Self-actualization needs:** realizing personal potential, self-fulfillment, seeking personal growth and peak experiences.

## **Well-Being**

The presence of positive emotions and moods (e.g., contentment, happiness), the absence of negative emotions (e.g., depression, anxiety), satisfaction with life, fulfillment, and positive functioning, including:

- **Physical well-being:** the ability to improve the functioning of your body through healthy living and good exercise habits.
- **Economic well-being:** a person's or family's standard of living based primarily on how well they are doing financially.
- **Social well-being:** the ability to communicate, develop meaningful relationships with others, and maintain a support network that helps you overcome loneliness.
- **Development and activity:** physical growth, cognitive growth, and social growth
- **Emotional well-being:** the ability to practice stress-management and relaxation techniques, be resilient, boost self-love, and generate the emotions that lead to good feelings.
- **Psychological well-being:** one's level of psychological happiness/health, encompassing life satisfaction, and feelings of accomplishment, encompasses physical health, including disease states, fitness level, and ability to perform activities of daily living.
- **Life satisfaction:** the way in which children show their emotions, feelings (moods) and how they feel about their directions and options for the future.

## **Education**

The process of facilitating learning, or the acquisition of knowledge, skills, values, morals, beliefs, and habits and categorized as one or more of the following:

- **Formal:** the systematic way where a person attends a school or university and receives training from teachers that are equipped and licensed to teach you what you need to know.
- **Informal:** the ways children learn outside of the classroom.
- **Non-formal learning:** the balance between formal and non-formal education, with no approved curriculum or certification associated, but more structured than informal learning.
- **Special education:** classes for students with individual differences and needs and may not be able to cope with the rigid standards of traditional formal education.

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- **Preschool:** young children from early childhood before they begin mandatory primary school education
- **Elementary:** 6 to 13 years old
- **Secondary:** Middle school and High School
- **Post-Secondary:** college undergraduate degrees, postgraduate degrees (including graduate school and specialized schools like law school and medical school), vocational schools, and non-degree certificate programs.
  - Please note that Snow-Redfern Foundation only provides Project Grant funding to support youth 18 years and younger.
- **Summer Learning Programs:** programs that allow kids to explore interests, develop new skills, get hands-on experience that a classroom does not offer, and meet other students with similar interests.
- **Afterschool Programs:** any program that provides child-care for elementary and middle school youth when students are not at school, and parents are not at home and the program meets the supervision expectations of working parent(s) who want enrichment for their child or have been recommended by the school for extra academic support.

## **Target Population**

All young people have potential, but not all are given the same chance to realize it. Our project grant funding is specifically aimed at kids that may need help realizing their potential and include organizations that serve vulnerable, at-risk, and disconnected populations. This includes children and youth ages 0-18 years that are most vulnerable or at risk of disparities in access, service use, and outcomes.

- *Vulnerable populations* are often defined by race or ethnicity or by sex or gender and include other such groups as foster youth; disconnected youth; families/youth that are homeless or in transition; and youth at risk for exploitation.
- *Disconnected Youth (At-risk children/youth)* are kids who face extreme threats to a successful transition into adulthood and experience circumstances that place them at greater vulnerability for problematic behaviors such as substance abuse, school failure, and juvenile delinquency, disconnection from school or family, along with mental health disorders, such as depression and anxiety. The principal areas of risk are related to individual, family, peers, school, neighborhood, and community.

## **Sub-Population Preference**

Though Snow Redfern awards support many populations of youth within the realm of Basic Needs, Well-Being, and Education, preference this year will be given to projects that identify creative trauma-informed solutions that are demonstrated effective at improving outcomes for the following target populations:

- Children/youth with mental health challenges (prevention, access to care, etc.)
- Transitional youth (including projects that address stable housing, individual support, and life skills development for transitional age youth and support for children transitioning between kinship care homes)



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- Foster youth/youth in care/juvenile justice involved youth (including supplemental support when funds cannot otherwise be accessed, respite programs, etc.)
- At-risk and disconnected youth (including resilience-based programs, skill development support, mentoring/social connectedness, school-based support, bullying prevention, suicide prevention, pro-social activities, etc.)
- Food and housing insecure youth (including various projects that aim to provide adequate food, clothing, housing, hygiene supplies, etc.)

## Online Application Submission Instructions

Applications are accepted during one window each year and an organization may only submit one application per year. Applications can be found at: <https://www.snowredfern.org/nonprofits/>.

Prior to submitting a proposal through the Snow-Redfern Foundation online grants link, applicants should review the grant guidelines to ensure that their request aligns with the Snow-Redfern foundation.

All fields must be completed to submit the application. Failure to do so will create an error message for each incomplete field, prompting you to complete. Most narrative sections have a 500-character limit, as is indicated on the bottom of each narrative box.

**Important:** If you want to exit your application before it is complete, click on “Save and Continue Later” at the bottom of the screen. You can then come back later and continue to work on your application by following the provided link to return and complete the form from any computer after you provide your email address at the bottom of the page. Once the link has been sent, a screen will pop up indicating the email address to which it was successfully sent. The link will expire after 30 days.

The email you will receive says: “*You can use the unique link below to return to the Grant Application form from any computer. (a link will be identified here) This link will expire after 30 days, so please return via the provided link to complete your form submission within that timeframe.*”

When your application is complete click the “submit application” button. A new screen will then appear confirming receipt of your application. You will then receive an email that says, “*Thank You! We have received your grant application. The Snow-Redfern Foundation Grant Committee will be reviewing all eligible applications for this grant season and notifying applicants about award decisions. In the meantime, see how we are investing in the good life for kids at SnowRedfern.org. Best Regards, Snow-Redfern Foundation Team*

**All application materials must be received by 5:00pm on the day of the deadline – however, technical support is only available until noon on that date.**

Should you require assistance with the online proposal submission, please contact Sara Nicholson at 308-762-6370 or send an email to [info@snowredfern.org](mailto:info@snowredfern.org). Please do not send any grant-related documents separately by email or mail.



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Click [here](#) to begin your Project Grant application to the Snow-Redfern Foundation.

## **Reporting Requirements**

Grant recipients are required to collect and report data related to achieving outcomes using the provided [Final Grant Report](#) document.

New grant applications will not be accepted if the Final Grant Report was not submitted for the previous year's grant.