

Chan Zuckerberg Initiative

The Community Fund Application

The Chan Zuckerberg Community Fund (CZ Community Fund) supports nonprofit organizations that are helping build a thriving San Mateo County, where everyone has the opportunity to prosper. The CZ Community Fund is an annual grantmaking program for local organizations to have access to the resources they need to advance their work.

Now in its tenth grantmaking cycle, the CZ Community Fund supports organizations that provide direct services in priority areas like housing, healthcare, education, job and career skills, and other social supports.

Organizations working in and providing direct services to San Mateo County in the following priority areas are eligible for the CZ Community Fund:

- Affordable Housing
- Homelessness
- Food Security
- Workforce Development
- Health & Wellbeing
- Education and Youth
- Arts and Culture

The CZ Community Fund request for applications (RFA) **opens on May 5, 2026, at 8 a.m. PT, and closes on June 5, 2026, at 5 p.m. PT.** Selected organizations will join the CZ Community Fund grant partner cohort, receiving two-year general operations or project support grants of up to \$200,000.

Eligibility Verification

School Districts, education foundations and government agencies: Are you applying on behalf of a government agency, school or school district, or an education foundation that supports a local school district?

- Yes
- No

CZI supports our local school districts, education foundations and government agencies via other programs. These entities are not eligible to apply to the CZ Community Fund.

Eligibility Verification Continued

Please answer the following questions to confirm your organization's eligibility for a CZ Community Fund grant.

Chan Zuckerberg Initiative

Does your organization have substantial programming in San Mateo County?

- Yes
- No

Is your organization:

- Tax-exempt as a public charity under section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code; or
 - Applying via a valid fiscal agent or sponsor that is tax-exempt as a public charity under section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code;
- Yes
 - No

Does your organization have all the necessary documentation to validate the information above?

- Yes
- No

Did you read, and do you fully understand, the eligibility requirements and decision-making criteria? CZ Community Fund eligibility and evaluation criteria can be found on our [website](#)

- Yes
- No

Fiscal Sponsor Question

Does your organization use a fiscal agent/is your organization fiscally sponsored by another institution?

- Yes
- No

Fiscal Sponsor Information

Fiscal Sponsor/Fiscal Agent Information

(Note: if you are awarded a grant, your fiscal sponsor will receive the funds)

- Fiscal Sponsor Legal Name*
- IRS Tax ID Number (EIN)*
- Physical Address Line 1*
- Physical Address Line 2
- Physical Address City*
- Physical Address State*
- Physical Address ZIP Code*
- Physical Address Country*
- Organization Website (if available)

Chan Zuckerberg Initiative

Is the mailing address different from the physical address?

- Yes
- No

Fiscal Sponsor/Fiscal Agent Mailing Address

- Mailing Address Line 1*
- Mailing Address Line 2*
- Mailing Address City*
- Mailing Address State*
- Mailing Address Zip Code*
- Mailing Address Country*

Primary Fiscal Sponsor Contact Information

(Please enter the contact information of the person responsible for the sponsored project at the fiscal sponsor organization)

- First Name*
- Last Name*
- Title*
- Phone*
- Email Address*

Sponsored Project Information

- Project Name:
- Physical Address Line 1*
- Physical Address Line 2
- Physical Address City*
- Physical Address State*
- Physical Address ZIP Code*
- Physical Address Country*
- Mailing Address Line 1 (if different than physical address)
- Mailing Address Line 2
- Mailing Address City
- Mailing Address State
- Mailing Address Zip Code
- Mailing Address Country
- Organization Website (if available)

Organization Information

- Organization Name*
- IRS Tax ID Number (EIN)

Chan Zuckerberg Initiative

- Physical Address Line 1*
- Physical Address Line 2
- Physical Address City*
- Physical Address State*
- Physical Address ZIP Code*
- Physical Address Country*
- Mailing Address Line 1 (if different than physical address)
- Mailing Address Line 2
- Mailing Address City
- Mailing Address State
- Mailing Address ZIP Code
- Mailing Address Country
- Organization Website (if available)

Primary Contact

Please enter the following information for the primary contact for your organization. This person will connect with CZI staff and be responsible for **all** communication related to the grant proposal and partnership during the two-year grant cycle.

- First Name*
- Last Name*
- Title*
- Phone Number*
- Email Address

Executive Director/President/CEO Contact

(The most senior staff member in your organization)

- First Name*
- Last Name*
- Title*
- Phone Number*
- Email Address*

If you are awarded a grant, are you comfortable with your contact information being included in a directory along with other partners?

- Yes
- No

Application Form

Please note that there are multiple reviewers for each application, and your primary contact at CZI may not review your application. Please provide enough information for the reviewer to get an understanding of your work.

Chan Zuckerberg Initiative

Additionally, you should be able to access your previous applications on the landing page after logging in. If you do not see the application, it is connected to a previous login that your organization used. If you are not able to access your organization's application through the old login, please contact us at community@chanzuckerberg.com.

Communities Served

What region(s) of San Mateo County does your organization directly support* (Select all that apply)

- **South County:** Belle Haven, East Palo Alto, North Fair Oaks, Menlo Park, Redwood City, etc.
- **North County:** Brisbane, Daly City, Millbrae, San Bruno, South San Francisco, etc.
- **Coast County:** El Granada, Half Moon Bay, La Honda, Loma Mar, Pacífica, Pescadero, etc.
- **Central County:** Burlingame, Belmont, San Mateo, San Carlos, etc.
- **Other, please specify...**

Primary Focus Area (Choose One)

-
- Affordable Housing
- Homelessness
- Food Security
- Workforce Development
- Health & Wellbeing
- Education and Youth
- Arts and Culture

Other Focus Areas

-
- Affordable Housing
- Homelessness
- Food Security
- Workforce Development
- Health & Wellbeing
- Education and Youth
- Arts and Culture
- N/A

Number of Full-Time Staff

Please include the current number of full-time staff at your organization.

Chan Zuckerberg Initiative

Section 1: Organization and/or Project Mission

Note: If your organization receives a grant, elements of the information below may appear on chanzuckerberg.com. Please start the mission statement with your organization's name, followed by what it does; for example, "The San Francisco YMCA builds strong kids, strong families, and strong communities by enriching the lives of all people in spirit, mind, and body."

Section 2: Community Supported

Describe how your organization understands, views, and supports the people and community it serves. Relevant information includes a reflection of your organization's relationship with the community supported. (350 words)

Section 3: Impact and Approach

Please provide an overview of your organization's work. Consider the following: How would you characterize the challenges and opportunities your organization addresses? How does your organization address the issues and opportunities presented? Include any historical information that is relevant to the local context. (450 words)

Section 4: Community Informed Programming

Describe how your strategy, programs, and services are informed by impacted community members' experiences. Relevant information includes how your organization engages community members to ensure strategies and solutions are tailored to and meet the needs of the communities supported. (350 words)

Section 5: Organization Impact

Please describe what success might look like in the near and long term. What indicators (qualitative or quantitative) do you use to assess your progress and engage in continuous improvement? Are there specific challenges your organization is currently facing? Examples and bullet points are welcome! (350 words)

Section 6: Leadership and Governance / Board

Please tell us more about your leadership team. Consider these questions: How are members of your leadership team and governance / board uniquely positioned (e.g. given their role in the community, experiences, etc.) to advance your organization's mission? How does your staff and leadership ensure it understands and responds to the needs of the communities you serve?

Section 7: Collaboration

How do you collaborate with partners to advance the work? Who are some of your core partners and allies (nonprofits, government agencies, businesses, etc.)? Where appropriate, what are your plans to engage with other organizations and/or community assets to effectively support the communities you work with? (350 words)

Chan Zuckerberg Initiative

Section 8: Fiscal Responsibility and Sustainability

Note that CZ Community Fund will be unrestricted, general operating support or project support grants. CZI will review applications individually and make these specific funding decisions on a case-by-case basis.

Please enter your organization's total annual operating budget (actual amount). Feel free to use the prior year's actual budget.

Section 8A: Fiscal Responsibility and Sustainability

Please enter the total requested amount. Note that this request can be up to \$200,000 for the two-year grant period. Please keep the requested grant amount at or below 25% of your organization's **annual** budget. Given the short-term nature of the CZ Community Fund grants, CZI will not fund more than 25% of your annual organization budget during the two-year grant cycle. For example, if your organization's budget is \$400,000, the total request amount for the two years should not exceed \$100,000.

Upload/ Attachments

- Most Recent Organization Operating Budget (not fiscal sponsor budget).
- If Applicable - Fiscal Sponsor Letter (in which the fiscal sponsor acknowledges that they have agreed to act as fiscal sponsor for the applying fiscally sponsored nonprofit organization or project applying to this RFA).

We do not require a specific format for these documents. If you need a template, please contact us directly at community@chanzuckerberg.com. Please include "Budget Templates Request" in the subject line.

Application Checklist

You are ALMOST done! Please complete the following checklist:

I have completed all **required sections** of the application.

- Yes
- No

I have uploaded all **required documents**.

- Yes
- No

From time to time, other funding partners ask for information about CZ Community Fund applicants. Are you comfortable with CZI sharing your full application -- including your

Chan Zuckerberg Initiative

organization's name, contact information, application details, and budget documents with other funders, if asked?

- Yes, please share with other funders, if prompted.
- No, please do not share our application with other funders.

How did you hear about the CZ Community Fund?

- CZI Website
- Social Media
- Press / News
- Member Organization / Group Website, Newsletter, Meeting
- Peer or Colleague
- Other, Please specify...

Submit Your Application

Once you've submitted your application, you will receive a confirmation email to your verified email address. If you do not receive an email within 2 hours of submitting your application, please email us at community@chanzuckerberg.com. Please be sure to check your spam folder.

The CZ Community Fund RFA closes on Friday, June 5, 2026, at 5 p.m. PT. Selected organizations will receive a two-year general operating or project grant of up to \$200,000, and announcements will be made by early September 2026. Please visit our [website](#) to learn more about our work.

Thank you!

You have to press the submit button on this page and on the main application page (make sure your browser is maximized).