

2017 United Way Suncoast Innovation and Community Response Mini Grant

United Way Suncoast is accepting applications for grant requests from **\$1,000 - \$7,500** through the Innovation and Community Response Mini Grant fund.

The Innovation and Community Response Mini Grant is open to any nonprofit 501©3 organization providing services in Hillsborough and Pinellas Counties. This mini grant is supported through a special investment from an anonymous donor and is intended to provide small, flexible grants awarded to local organizations to encourage creative ways in addressing community problems through the following:

- Technology
- Collaboration
- Capacity Building
- Innovation

Process

Interested organizations should complete the online application in United Way's E-CImpact portal.

To access the portal, please go to the link below to register with E-CImpact.

<https://agency.e-cimpact.com/login.aspx?org=11435F>

You will find the application link on the left-hand side once you have registered or signed into the system.

Application Opens: September 27th at 12:00 PM

Application Closes: October 25th at 12:00 PM

- The size and number of grants awarded are directly related to the amount of money available and the restrictions the donor has placed upon the uses of certain funds.
- All applicants will be notified within 6 weeks of the deadline as to whether or not a grant has been awarded.
- Please review the grant eligibility and guidelines before applying.

For any questions, please contact Ashley Heath, Senior Manager, Investment Strategies at aheath@uwsuncoast.org or 813-274-0910.

Eligibility and Guidelines

Eligibility

To be Eligible, your organization must:

- Be recognized as a 501©3 tax-exempt nonprofit organization, according to the Internal Revenue Code.
- Be established for at least two years and have a track record of sustainability.
- Benefit the citizens in the Hillsborough or Pinellas counties.
- Conduct independent audit.
- Have at least 1-part time staff.

Mini Grant Guidelines:

United Way Suncoast gives priority to projects that meet one or more of the following criteria:

- **Technology:** Funds to support both hardware and software to improve productivity, scalability of programs, service delivery, impact or efficiency.
- **Capacity Building:** Support to increase the knowledge, skill level and/or efficiency of the organization, strategic planning, organizational development, program and or/process evaluation, mergers and strategic alliances.
- **Collaboration:** Funds to enhance an existing collaborative, new efforts to build partnerships or initiate a collective impact strategy to address a community issue.
- **Innovation Projects or Programs:** Funds for testing a new approach or solution to addressing a community issue.

We generally do not award mini grants for:

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • General organizational operations and ongoing programs, operational deficits or reduced/lost funding • Individuals, travel, professional development • Religious, sectarian causes • Fundraising drives • Special events • Political activities • Public or private schools • Endowment funds 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Hospitals and universities for internal programs • Newly organized non-profits • Matching grants (unless local dollars are needed to fulfill a condition for a state or federal grants) • Publications, scientific, medial or academic research paper, research papers
--	---

How to Apply

2017 Application Due Date: Wednesday, October 25th at 12:00 PM

Step 1: Login or Sign up to United Way Suncoast's Grant Portal – E-CImpact

- Please use the link provided to take you to the agency portal page to log in or sign up.
<https://agency.e-cimpact.com/login.aspx?org=11435F>

Step 2: Find Application in the System

- Once you have logged in or signed up, the application will be on the left hand under the heading "Innovation and Community Response Grant"

Step 3: Select "Create new project or program"

- You will see a button in the middle right of your screen to add the title of your project or program. Please click this in order to add the name of project or program you are seeking support.

Step 4: Complete Online Application by the Deadline.

- Every aspect of the process is now online, including submission of all required documents and supporting documentation. Please DO NOT send any hard copies to United Way Suncoast. If you miss the deadline, your application will not be considered.
-

Reporting Requirements

All funded proposals will be required to submit a report in E-CImpact within six months from project or program commencement. Your organization will be notified when this report is available for completion.