



VIBRANT COMMUNITIES MENTAL HEALTH GRANT PROGRAM GUIDELINES

OVERVIEW

Since its founding in 1995, the St. Croix Valley Foundation (SCVF) has stayed true to its mission: *to enhance the quality of life in the St. Croix Valley*. One strategy that puts that mission to work is foundation-led competitive grant programs that respond to region-wide needs.

CURRENT FOCUS

For many years, qualitative and quantitative health data has identified mental health and substance abuse as priority issues throughout SCVF's six-county service area (Chisago and Washington counties in MN and Burnett, Polk, St. Croix and Pierce counties in WI). The increased isolation and stress due to COVID-19 has exacerbated what was already a significant concern. SCVF's **Mental Health** grant program intends to support organizations addressing the behavioral health needs of our communities to promote good mental health. Grants will fund the prevention and treatment of mental illness.

FUNDING CATEGORIES

- General Operating Support:
 - Organization's mission, programs, and services focus on mental health.
- Project/Program Support:
 - Crisis intervention for individuals experiencing mental illness and/or substance use disorder.
 - Mental wellness programs that engage vulnerable populations.

COMMUNITY OR REGIONAL GRANT

Applicants will indicate on the application whether they are applying for the **Community** or **Regional** grant opportunity.

- Community Grant: Seven SCVF Affiliates (Amery Community Foundation, Chisago Lakes Area Community Foundation, Hudson Community Foundation, Northwest Alliance Community Foundation, Prescott Foundation, River Falls Community Foundation, and Somerset Community Foundation) are offering a community grant program to local organizations implementing mental health interventions, policy, or projects specific to one of those participating Affiliate communities.
- Regional Grant: Three SCVF Affiliates (Lower St. Croix Valley Community Foundation, New Richmond Area Community Foundation, and Stillwater Area Community Foundation) are partnering with SCVF to offer a regional grant program for organizations implementing mental health interventions, policy, or projects in more than one participating Affiliate community.

GRANT RANGE

- Community Grants: \$500 to \$2,500
- Regional Grants: \$500 to \$10,000



ELIGIBILITY

- Applicant must provide services in the ten participating affiliate communities.
- Applicants must be a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization, partner with an eligible fiscal agent, or be a governmental entity, tribal entity, educational or religious organization defined as tax exempt.

PRIORITY POPULATIONS

- Vulnerable populations (including, but not limited to, children, the elderly, victims of domestic abuse, LGBTQ, persons with disabilities).
- Low-income families.
- Communities of color and indigenous peoples.

FUNDING CRITERIA

- The organization has the capacity to deliver programming to priority populations
- There is strong rationale for the proposed work.
- Project details are thorough, and the scope is appropriate.
- There is a compelling case for how the proposed activities will benefit participants and produce intended outcomes.
- Additional consideration will be given to work that engages identified priority populations.

TIMELINE

- Application Live: Monday, **February 8, 2021**
- Application Due: Monday, **March 8, 2021**
- Notifications Mailed: Mid-April
- Grant funds must be expended within one year from the date of the award