25th Anniversary Grant Program Guidelines

As we celebrate our 25th anniversary, we are thrilled to partner with MathWorks to inspire and fund big ideas designed to address community problems and to improve lives in MetroWest. Foundation for MetroWest invites you to think big, think bold, and think to the next 25 years of life in our region!

As part of thinking big, we encourage you to share your ideas to address the gaps and inequalities in our communities aligned with the new, local data provided through our Impact MetroWest initiative. We are excited to offer Impact MetroWest as a gift to the region. We hope it will be a strong tool that will help all community members collectively work towards making MetroWest more equitable and lifting up everyone that lives in our region. Below you will see suggested indicators that align with our funding focuses. We hope you will use this information to guide and strengthen your application, as you see fit.

WHAT WE WILL FUND
This one-time grant program is aimed at funding organizations with a vision to tackle complex issues with creative and lasting solutions. We encourage nonprofits in the region to use this opportunity to:

- Turn existing solutions on their head
- Create or energize collaborations
- Seed or boost emerging ideas

Program or project-specific, general operating and capacity building grants will be considered.

The Foundation will provide one (1) $25,000, one (1) $10,000, and one (1) $5,000 grant in each of the following categories:

<table>
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<tr>
<th>Category</th>
<th>Our Vision</th>
<th>Suggested Impact MetroWest Indicators</th>
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<tr>
<td>Arts &amp; Culture</td>
<td>To build awareness of and equitable access to local arts and cultural organizations and education through increased outreach efforts and opportunities for community participation.</td>
<td>-Arts, Entertainment and Recreation Establishments</td>
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<td>Environment</td>
<td>To protect our region’s natural resources and open spaces and to engage the community in solutions to achieve climate resilience through increased outreach and education.</td>
<td>-Protected Land</td>
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<td>Family Support</td>
<td>To increase economic opportunity and assistance and reduce gaps experienced by under-resourced communities.</td>
<td>-Seniors Living Alone</td>
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<td>-Change in Population by Age/Gender</td>
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<td>-Foreign-Born Population</td>
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<td>-Language Diversity</td>
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<td>-People with Disabilities</td>
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<td>Food Insecurity</td>
<td>To reduce hunger in the region through innovative and accessible solutions and creative community collaborations.</td>
<td>-People Living in Poverty</td>
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<td>-Households Receiving Temporary Assistance</td>
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<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>-Participation in Food Assistance by Race/Ethnicity</td>
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<td>Youth Development</td>
<td>To reduce achievement gaps and promote happy, safe, and resilient children and youth.</td>
<td>-Children Living in Poverty</td>
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<td>-Children Living in Poverty by Race/Ethnicity</td>
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<td>-Disengaged Youth</td>
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<td>-Student Performance on Grade 3 English</td>
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<td>-High School Cohort Graduation Rates</td>
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<td></td>
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<td>-Chronically Absent Students</td>
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If your organization provides STEM programming to children and youth in MetroWest, please see the MathWorks Visionary Grant Guidelines on our [website](#) for more details.
ELIGIBILITY
Proposals must come from designated 501c(3) MetroWest-serving organizations. We will accept proposals from those with an eligible fiscal sponsor. We will not fund:

- City/town agencies
- Religious institutions that do not serve broad community need
- Schools (private, public, pre-k, charter, or Chapter 766)
- Individuals
- Capital or endowment campaigns
- Organizations who discriminate in the hiring of staff or the provision of services on the basis of race, religion, gender or gender identity, sexual orientation, age, national origin, or disability.

Organizations may submit one application to the 25th Anniversary Grant Program; this includes the MathWorks Visionary Grant. Please submit your proposal to the category that you feel is the best fit for your organization or project.

Organizations that have previously applied to or are planning to apply to the Foundation for MetroWest's competitive grant programs are eligible and encouraged to apply.

GRANT PROCESS
The 25th Anniversary Grant Program is a video submission process and will operate based on the following timeline:

- January 22 9:00 AM………………Video grant submissions open: www.bit.ly/ffmw_foundant
- February 28 5:00 PM………………Deadline for video grant submissions
- April 27 9:00 AM………………Category finalists announced, community voting opens
- May 22 5:00 PM………………Community voting closes
- June 4 4:00 PM………………Grant celebration and award announcements

SELECTION CRITERIA
All submissions will be reviewed by our 25th Anniversary Grant Program Committee, comprised of MetroWest community members and MathWorks staff members. The Committee will select three finalists for each grant category: Arts and Culture, Environment, Family Support, Hunger Relief and Youth Development. Then community voting begins!

Finalists’ videos will be available for viewing at our 25th Anniversary Grant Program website. MetroWest community members are encouraged to view all videos and to help select the $25,000 grant recipient by voting one time per category per day. The Committee and community look forward to learning more about your:

- Known or proven commitment to the MetroWest community
- Organizational strengths including financial, leadership, board, and program delivery
- Plans to reduce gaps and inequalities and to lift up those living in our region
- Big and bold ideas, solutions, and collaborations
- Goals as you look towards your next 25 years

Videos that are three minutes or less will be considered for funding. We will not consider any videos that are professionally produced.

HOW TO APPLY
1. Upload your completed video to your preferred video platform (i.e. YouTube, Vimeo, Wistia).
3. Once you are logged in, click on the “Apply” icon on the top of the menu bar.
4. Select “25th Anniversary Grant Program.” You will be asked to complete a brief form about your organization and to submit your video link.

Never made a video before? Don’t fret! Find helpful tips and tricks to create your video on our website.
GRANT AWARD
Grant awards will be determined by community vote and will be announced at a 25th Anniversary Grant Program Celebration on June 2. Grantees will receive all necessary paperwork by email, following the celebration event.

DEADLINE TO APPLY: February 28 at 5:00pm

We encourage you to email grants@foundationformetrowest.org by January 31 to discuss the eligibility and suitability of your proposal.