Based on input from the community it serves, TGKVF makes thoughtful and proactive investments that grow the multiple forms of wealth necessary for our community to thrive.

These forms of wealth include the individual, intellectual, social, political, natural, built, and financial assets within our community.
The Greater Kanawha Valley Foundation envisions a forward-thinking and closely connected community that fearlessly works together to promote the prosperity of all.
Introduction

The Greater Kanawha Valley Foundation (TGKVF) is a 501(c)3 community foundation established in 1962 as a charitable trust for, and by, the people of the greater Kanawha Valley region. The Foundation manages approximately 500 separate funds that make investments in the communities we serve.

TGKVF is guided by its vision of a forward-thinking, closely connected community that fearlessly works together to promote the prosperity of all.

Strategic Plan Development

In 2014, our analysis of the root cause issues and the development of the Foundation’s new strategic direction were completed in collaboration with over 300 of our grantees, donors, and advisors. During this process, our partners not only helped identify the root cause issues, but also defined the places where the Foundation can have the greatest impact on these hard-to-solve problems. This process resulted in our new Strategic Plan and an organizational shift to being a more proactive and deliberate investor in social change.

During the planning process, the Foundation Board and staff also realized that the issues we seek to address are too deep and complex for any one organization to solve. For this reason, we seek to fund collaborative efforts that target the priorities found in TGKVF’s Strategic Plan. The Greater Kanawha Valley Foundation has shifted from solely supporting individual organizations and programs to supporting the multiple organizations and intersecting networks that support our priorities. Once you become a grantee partner, the Foundation will work to strengthen the collaborative capacity of your team and help foster supportive relationships and strategic thinking among grantee partners working on similar priorities.

Root Causes Issues

- Underperforming education system and ill-prepared students
- Poor health of our population
- Not enough strong and visionary leadership
- Weak community connections and lack of collaboration
- Apathetic attitudes and unhelpful cultural beliefs
- Economic disparities and lack of a diverse economy

Geographic Service Area

Applicants who apply through our discretionary grantmaking process must be located and/or operate within our six-county region of Kanawha, Putnam, Clay, Boone, Fayette, and Lincoln counties in West Virginia.
Exclusions

The following items are generally not funded:

- National or statewide proposals that do not focus on our six-county service area
- Organizations’ general operating budgets
- Annual campaigns or membership drives
- School uniform purchases
- Consultants, consultant fees, conferences or workshop speakers
- Staff costs only
- Individuals, student aid, or fellowships
- Endowments
- Religious activities
- Purchases prior to the grant decision
- Vehicles

- Debt retirement/reduction
- An organization can be the lead applicant on one application per year
- Individual school classrooms or individual schools that do not enact a system-wide or county change
- Individual athletic organizations (e.g. school boosters, community-based leagues, etc.)
- Requests that are more than 25% of the agency’s (or combined agencies’) annual budget(s)
- Requests that include indirect costs exceeding 10%
- Requests from organizations that have one year or more of their expected annual budget available in unrestricted reserves (such as an operating fund, endowment, and/or any special purpose funds)
- Any organization that discriminates on the basis of age, race, national origin, ethnicity, gender, disability, sexual orientation, political affiliation, or religious belief

Community Wealth Building

TGKVF believes that only by uplifting the forms of capital that are already present in our communities and building up those forms that are lacking can we begin to truly prosper.

Applicants must demonstrate how their projects will enhance, strengthen, and measure the following forms of wealth:

- Individual: Skills, Health, Confidence, & Income
- Intellectual: Shared Knowledge, Innovation, & Technology
- Social: Trust, Relationships, & Mutual Support
- Natural: Resilient Natural Resources
- Built: Community Infrastructure
- Political: Influence & Voice
- Financial: Community Investments & Household Savings

For more information on how we define community wealth building efforts, visit our website at www.tgkvf.org.
Grant Programs

The Foundation has two major competitive grant programs: Proactive Community Collaborations (page 6) and Responsive Grantmaking in Arts & Culture and Basic Needs (page 8).
Proactive Community Collaborations

Timeline:
• Applicants may apply throughout the year through one or more proposals as working collaborations that address our three priority areas of education, health, and community economic development
• Funding decisions are made quarterly (March, June, September, December) by our Board of Trustees
• TGKVF’s current grantmaking structure allows for both one-year and multi-year grants. While some grants may achieve their anticipated outcomes within a 12-month period, others will need longer than a grant period of one year to become sustainable and achieve the kind of impact the Foundation seeks. For this reason, grants of 2-5 years will be considered
• Grantees selected as potential multi-year funding recipients will be required to demonstrate measurable outcomes at the end of each year they are funded via an annual report. Multi-year funding will be contingent upon a grantee’s outcome-based progress and the Foundation’s available spending. Multi-year quarterly, annual, and final reports will be due at the appropriate times, as directed by a program officer, throughout the grant period.
• Visit www.tgkvf.org for full timeline

Application and Review Sequence and Flow
• An organization may be the lead applicant on one application per year
• Applicants are invited to apply on a rolling basis
• Applicants must work with a program officer prior to receiving an invitation to apply—this work generally has a two to three month timeline from the moment an applicant calls a program officer to pitch a project idea to the moment an online application link is sent
• Applicants must complete a logic model as part of their application, which may be used for both program planning and evaluation purposes
• Applicants are invited to meet with the appropriate TGKVF task group in health, education, or community economic development to discuss their projects
• Applications are reviewed by task groups with expertise in each of TGKVF’s priority areas
• The Distribution Committee makes funding recommendations to TGKVF’s Board of Trustees
• The Board of Trustees makes final funding decisions at their meetings in March, June, September, and December

Eligibility Criteria
Proactive applicants must:
• be 501(c)3 nonprofit organizations or public government entities as determined by the Internal Revenue Service
• demonstrate their ability to build community wealth
• address one or more of TGKVF’s priorities
• be part of a collaborative effort amongst multiple agencies and intersecting networks
• work within TGKVF’s six-county area
Priority Areas in Proactive Collaborative Applications

**EDUCATION**

1. Out-of-school time tutoring, mentoring, and/or learning programs that focus on Science, Technology, Reading, Engineering, Arts, and Math (STREAM) education
2. Programs at home, school, and community centers that connect families to their children’s development
3. Programs that provide proven post-secondary guidance, career advisory, and career and technical education that prepare students for jobs in promising economic sectors

**HEALTH**

1. Capacity building of communities, organizations, and social entrepreneurs to develop healthy recreational opportunities and/or expand access to locally grown, healthy foods
2. Development of public greenspace, access to streams and bikeable/walkable paths within our community
3. Access to preventative, behavioral, and/or oral healthcare in marginalized communities

**COMMUNITY ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT**

1. Workforce development including:
   a. career and technical education for in-demand fields
   b. guidance and support for unemployed residents pursuing post-secondary education
   c. soft skills training and job placement assistance
2. Development of job opportunities that pay livable wages and benefits
3. Business development programs that teach participants business planning and business operations skills

For more information about these priority areas, please visit our website at www.tgkvf.org
Application and Review Sequence and Flow

- An organization may be the lead applicant on one application per year
- Applicants are invited to apply on a rolling basis
- Applicants must work with a program officer prior to receiving the invitation to apply. There is a draft application deadline and a final application deadline
- It is important to contact the appropriate program officer at least one month before the draft application deadline
- Applications are reviewed by the Distribution Committee which makes funding recommendations to TGKVF’s Board of Trustees
- Funding decisions are made quarterly (March, June, September, December) by TGKVF’s Board of Trustees
- Funded projects typically have a one-year timespan; interim & final reports are due at appropriate times throughout the grant period

Responsive Grantmaking Eligibility Criteria:

Applicants must:

- Be 501(c)3 nonprofit organizations or public government entities as determined by the Internal Revenue Service
- Demonstrate their ability to build community wealth
- Demonstrate their ability to partner with other organizations
- Work within TGKVF’s six-county area

Arts & Culture Responsive Grantmaking

TGKVF believes that arts and cultural activities are integral to a community’s vitality. The Foundation funds organizations that increase opportunities for marginalized communities to participate in diverse and artistic experiences.

Priority will be given to organizations that:

- Foster creativity, self-expression and cross-cultural exchange
- Demonstrate the ability to achieve measureable results
- Involve goal-oriented, flexible partnerships among the non-profit, public, and private sectors

Basic Needs Responsive Grantmaking

TGKVF believes that without caring for its residents’ basic needs, a community is incapable of thriving. For this reason, the Foundation supports basic needs projects through a competitive, responsive grantmaking fund. Basic needs, as defined by the TGKVF fund, are shelter, food, and clothing.

Priority will be given to organizations that:

- Demonstrate the potential to expand or deepen their impact
- Involve goal-oriented, flexible partnerships among the nonprofit, public, and private sectors
- Take a long-term view of what is required to move people and places out of poverty
Program Officer Contact Information

For Education projects, contact Program Officer Stephanie Hyre at shyre@tgkvf.org or at 304-346-3620

For Health projects, contact Program Officer Megan Simpson at msimpson@tgkvf.org or at 304-346-3620

For Community Economic Development projects, contact Todd Dorcas at tdorcas@tgkvf.org or at 304-346-3620

For Arts & Culture or Basic Needs projects, contact Senior Program Officer Sheri Ryder at sryder@tgkvf.org or at 304-346-3620

For more information, please visit our website at www.tgkvf.org
TGKVF encompasses a six county region: Kanawha, Putnam, Boone, Clay, Lincoln, and Fayette. The Greater Kanawha Valley Foundation is the largest community foundation in the state of West Virginia.

Our Values are to:

Lead with integrity and respect for all. We serve our community with honesty, compassion, and thoughtfulness.

Act with a long-term perspective. We take a long-term approach to our investments by creating lasting cycles of wealth for the entire community.

Build on our community assets. We build on the strengths of our community while fostering innovation and connections that improve the livelihoods of all people in our area.

Seek excellence. We seek excellence in ourselves and our organization, and support and encourage all of our partners to create optimal impact through their work.

Advocate for inclusiveness. We believe in transparency, acceptance, and the celebration of diversity.

Promote collaboration. We work to create genuine, honest, and mutually supportive relationships with and among all of our stakeholders.