

# Texas Methodist Foundation 2026 Competitive Cycle Application Information Session

*Please make sure that your microphone is on mute, and your video is off. This makes the file size smaller to upload the recording to our website. If you have any questions, please use the chat.*

**Please put all questions in the chat.** By the end of the presentation, we will answer questions. We will attempt to group the questions by topic so we can answer as many questions as possible. We may not get to your individual question, but we hope to answer the area that you have questions about.

TMF is committed to finding bold new solutions for bringing about the loving world God imagines.

For more than 85 years, the Texas Methodist Foundation has supported churches and ministries across **Texas and New Mexico** to achieve their God-inspired potential through cultures of purpose, generosity, and courage.

## **Our purpose:**

We empower the church to achieve its God-appointed mission by providing financial services and leadership ministries that help build cultures of purpose, generosity, and courage

## **Our vision:**

At Texas Methodist Foundation, Stewarding Potential means we take every opportunity, through every point of contact, to help individuals, families, congregations and other nonprofits achieve their God-inspired potential.

Texas Methodist Foundation's Grants Ministry expands our impact by investing in strong nonprofits with a clear purpose and demonstrable outcomes. We are thankful for our generous donors who unite their faith and money to respond to the needs of the world through our Grants Ministry.

# TMF Grants Team

Wendolyn Abel – Vice President of Grants Ministry

Sarah Rich – Administrative Assistant – Grants Ministry

Email: [grants@texasmethodistfoundation.org](mailto:grants@texasmethodistfoundation.org)

Phone: 800-933-5502

# Who is eligible to apply?

- Must be a 501(c)(3) organization
- Must provide services in **Texas and/or New Mexico**
- Must provide services that align with our focus areas
  1. Evangelism with Social Impact
  2. Programs and services that improve the condition of those living in poverty

TMF's grant funds are generally **NOT** available for:

- Individuals
- Organizations that do not have a current 501(c)(3)
- Capital expenditures (Construction/real estate projects)
- Endowment funds
- Annual fund campaigns
- Debt retirement
- Research
- Programs or services that do not serve communities in Texas or New Mexico
- Lobbying efforts as defined by the Internal Revenue Service



# TMF Competitive Grant Cycle – Process Timeline

LOI Open – November 1 – 30<sup>th</sup>

Notification to submit a complete application – December 20<sup>th</sup>

Completion of full application -December 20<sup>th</sup> – January 20<sup>th</sup>

Site Visits – March 2026

Board Approval – May 2026

Notice of Award and Distribution of Funding – May/June 2026

Reporting Period – July 1, 2026 – June 30, 2027

There will be no multi-year  
grants for the 2026  
Competitive Cycle

From the TMF website  
you will find access to  
the TMF Grant's Platform.

## Application Process

### Competitive Grant Cycle

To begin the application process, fill out and submit a Letter of Intent (LOI) through the TMF Grants Platform. You will receive an automated email confirming TMF's receipt. If you don't receive an automated response, please contact Administrative Assistant to Grants Ministry, [Sarah Rich](#). You will be notified whether your LOI was accepted or rejected by email. If your LOI is approved for the next step in our grants process, you will receive a link to our grant application in the approval email. After LOI approval, the grant application is due no later than January 20, 2026.

### Current Competitive Grants Cycle: Important Dates

**LOI Submission:** November 1, 2025 – November 30, 2025

2026 COMPETITIVE GRANT CYCLE LOI

**Application Information Session (Virtual):** November 05, 2025, 10:00 a.m. or 2:00 p.m Central Time.

**Application Submission (if approved):** December 20, 2025 – January 20, 2026

**Approval:** Late May 2026

**Distribution of Funding:** June 2026

**Contract Reporting Period:** July 1, 2026 – June 30, 2027

From our “How to apply” page, you will come to the Grant Platform and the “Introduction” page of our application.

## Introduction to the LOI

**TMF seeks to encourage potential grantees to be purposeful and courageous in their missions.**

We fulfill our purpose by supporting effective programs that consider the evaluation and assessment of program needs and measure the impact and systemic change brought about by their efforts.

TMF's Competitive Grant Cycle focuses on two major areas of interest:

- Community programs and services that improve the conditions of those living in poverty.
- Evangelism with social impact.

*Please note: Methodist affiliation is not required for participation in our Competitive Grant Cycle and will only be used for demographic reporting.*

**We acknowledge there may be issues in saving the LOI. We recommend using Chrome or Microsoft Edge internet browsers to complete the LOI. We also recommend creating and saving your answers in a Word document and copying them into the form. Please contact us if there is any further issues.** Thank you for your patience, we are working to get this resolved.

For more information, please see our website:

[TMF Grants](#)

# Organization Information

Contact information about  
the applying organization  
is captured on this page

## Organization Information

### Organization Information

Name of Organization\*

Has your organization had a name change? \*

- ☐ Yes  
☐ No

Organization Website\*

Fed EIN/Tax ID Number\*

Mailing Address (Street)\*

Mailing Address (City)\*

Mailing Address (State/Province)\*

Mailing Address (ZIP/Postal Code)\*

Is the physical address the same as the mailing address\*

- ☐ Yes  
☐ No, able to disclose  
☐ No, not able to disclose

Has your organization received funding from Texas Methodist Foundation previously?\*

**Name of Organization:** the name of the organization applying

**Has organization had a name change?:** have you applied previously to TMF with a different organization name. If so, also provide the previous name

**Organization Website:** if no website, any social media ie: Facebook or Instagram

**Fed EIN Number:** the federal tax ID number for your organization

**Mailing Address: (Street, City, State, Zip Code)** Address of where you receive mail

## Organization Information

### Organization Information

Name of Organization\*

Has your organization had a name change? \*

- ☐ Yes  
☐ No

Organization Website\*

Fed EIN/Tax ID Number\*

Mailing Address (Street)\*

Mailing Address (City)\*

Mailing Address (State/Province)\*

Mailing Address (ZIP/Postal Code)\*

1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12

### Is physical address the same as the mailing address:

If no, but able to disclose, address will be requested.  
This is for in the case of a site visit; we know what location to go to.

**Has your organization received funding from Texas Methodist Foundation previously?** We want to ensure that we have the correct funding historical information.

**Amount Requested:** this should be in whole dollars with no cents. *We ask you limit your request to \$50,000.*

**Geographic Region Served:** You may select more than one if it applies.

**Do you operate as or affiliate with a Methodist entity?** *This does **not** affect decisions on funding it is for our records.*

Is the physical address the same as the mailing address\*

- ☐ Yes  
☐ No, able to disclose  
☐ No, not able to disclose

Has your organization received funding from Texas Methodist Foundation previously?\*

- ☐ Yes  
☐ No  
☐ Not Sure

Amount Requested\*

\$

Geographic Region Served

- ☐ New Mexico  
☐ Central Texas (Austin)  
☐ Northeast Texas (Tyler)  
☐ North Texas (Dallas)  
☐ Northwest Texas (Lubbock)  
☐ Southeast Texas (Houston)  
☐ South Texas (Brownsville)  
☐ Southwest Texas (San Antonio)  
☐ West Texas (El Paso)

Do you operate as or affiliate with a Methodist entity?\*

- ☐ Yes  
☐ No

\*- required

[Back](#)

[Save](#)

[Next](#)

**Amount of funding requested:** Please ask for the amount of dollars that are needed make the project successful. (Last year the largest gift awarded was \$50,000.)

You may apply for funds to go towards general operating funds.

*Nonprofit organizations may request up to 5% of your ask for administrative funds.*

There is **NO** guarantee that the total amount asked for will be granted. You may receive more or less than requested.



## Executive Director of Primary Grant Contact:

Submit the contact information of the person that will be responsible for the application and for communication with Texas Methodist Foundation.

### Executive Director or Primary Grant Contact

Salutation\*

--select an item--



First Name\*

Last Name\*

Title at the organization\*

Preferred Email Type\*

--select an item--



Email\*

Preferred Phone Type\*

--select an item--



Work Phone\*

Mobile Phone\*

Assistant Phone Number

**Please send me marketing email from Texas Methodist Foundation:** if you would like additional communication from Texas Methodist Foundation, check yes to be added to our mailing list.

**Additional Grant Contacts:** others who can be contacted with regards to application.

**REMINDER:** When there is a change in staff that is our contact for your organization, please make sure you email the update to grants team at [grants@texasmethodistfoundation.org](mailto:grants@texasmethodistfoundation.org)

Please send me marketing email and SMS text communication from Texas Methodist Foundation\*

- ☐ Yes  
☐ No

#### Additional Grant Contacts

Name

Title

Email

Phone

[- remove](#) / [+ add item](#)

\*- required

Back

Save

Next

### **LOI Program or Project Information:**

Texas Methodist Foundation believes in a strength base approach as our primary methodology in the projects and programs we choose to partner with. We use an asset-based community development (ABCD) philosophy to identify the gifts and talents of those who benefit from our partnership and collaboration.

### **Project/Program Information**

#### **LOI - Program or Project Information**

Texas Methodist Foundation believes in asset-based community development (ABCD) as a methodology for the sustainable development of communities based on their strengths and potentials. This involves assessing the resources, skills, and experience available in a community; organizing the community around issues that move its members into action; and then determining and taking appropriate action. This method uses the community's own assets and resources as the basis for development; it empowers the people of the community by encouraging them to use what they already possess. We desire to partner with organizations that can best describe their communities and the gifts that they possess but also how those gifts are used by the organization.

If you are interested in learning more about Asset Based Community Development, here are some resources:

**ABCD Institute- DePaul University**

Learn about the principals and applications of ABCD.

**Nurture development**

Learn how ABCD is a sustainable approach to community driven relationships

**International Association for Community Development**

Learn what ABCD is and how it differs from other approaches to community development

## Texas Methodist Foundation Funding Focus Areas:

**Evangelism – Faith Based Social Impact:** This focus area is for organizations whose evangelistic activities can be measured by social impact. Example: providing blankets a meal and bible study to those who may be homebound and measuring the impact your companionship helped keep those seniors more active, less isolated and feeling better about their life.

**Community programs/services that improve the conditions of those living in poverty:** This focus area is for those groups/organizations/churches that provide services/assistance for those living in impoverished conditions. Example: An organization that assist persons in the social determinants of health. i.e.: education, health, income, housing, employment, etc.

**Name of Program/Project:** this is the title of what you are asking funding for. It is not the name of a person.

**Funding Focus Area:** our funding focus areas are as follows:

1. Evangelism with social impact
2. Community programs and services that improve the condition of those living in poverty.

**How does the grant request align with Texas Methodist Foundation's funding focus area?**  
Describe how what you are requesting funding for aligns with our focus areas and interests.

**Name of Program/Project**

Create a title for your grant proposal. Please do not use the contact person's name.\*

**Funding Focus Area**

Select which focus area best describes your program\*

How does the grant request align with Texas Methodist Foundation's funding focus area? *Please describe how your grant request meets the areas of interest to the foundation.\**

**Estimated number of people served:** This will reflect the number of persons that will be served during the funding cycle with TMF grant dollars. *The funding year is July 1<sup>st</sup>, 2026 – June 30<sup>th</sup>, 2027.* This will be the number that you will also use as the basis of your measurement for selected metrics.

**Estimated Number of People Served**

Enter the total number of unique persons to be served by this funding.\*

**Community Assets:** Describe the people in the community you serve. These can be the geographic community or the demographic community. What are the gifts, seen and unseen they have? What treasures and talents are in the community you serve that contributes to your work. How do these community assets support your work. Community Assets are to be looked at as the gifts that the community you serve, bring to your table. ***Do you know the difference between who you serve and not what you serve?***

#### **Community Assets**

Share with us a description of the people you serve: their qualities, strengths, and positive attributes. How do you use those in your organization?

*4000 character limit\**



**Organizational Assets:** What are the gifts, talents and skills do you as an organization bring to the community you serve? Are you dependable, reliable, compassionate? **Do you know who you are and not what you are or the services you provide?**

### Organizational Assets

What qualities, strengths, and positive attributes does your organization bring to the community you serve? Describe who you are, and *not* services you provide to your community.

*4000 character limit*

**The Statement of Potential:** Texas Methodist Foundation is an asset/positive language funder. Instead of sharing a need or what is broken, we ask to see the potential that can happen if your program is funded one household at a time.

Example: Instead of describing a community with a food desert, describe what would the community look like if everyone had access to healthy, nutritious and affordable food. **If your vision/mission statement had flesh, what would it look like?**

**Potential Statement**

Describe the potential that could be realized in your community if resources were available.

*4000 character limit\**

**Program/Project Description:** Describe the program/project that you are requesting funding for. What does it look like when a “client” first comes to your program/project and their process through to the end. What are the steps one goes through in participating with your organization. Be sure to include all that is asked for in the section, population served, outreach, activities, completion measured and identified.

**Program/Project Description**

Describe broadly the program/activity overview for which you are requesting funds. Be sure to include the following: population to be served, type of outreach used to identify persons served, activities the program will conduct, and how the program's success/completion is identified.

*4000 character limit \**

The project dates for the 2026  
Competitive Grant Cycle are  
**July 1, 2026 – June 30, 2027.**

**Project Dates**

Your project must fall in the dates of July 1, 2026 to June 30, 2027. Please confirm your project falls within these dates by checking the box below.

Yes, I understand I will be held accountable for activities within these dates. \*

☐

# Metrics:

- Only **two** need to be selected
- Select metrics that you are already measuring. Don't create a new report or measure just for this funding. We may not be a fit for you.
- Select metrics that best reflect the work being done in your community and for those you serve
- These will be the metrics to be used for reporting during the contract year

## Metrics

### LOI - Metrics

**Choose 2 metrics to track during the reporting period for this cycle.**

**1. Social Services:** The number (#) or percent (%) of persons that receive social services.

**2. Spiritual Condition:** The number (#) or percent (%) of persons that demonstrate an improvement in spiritual condition.

**3. Access to Resources:** The number (#) or percent (%) of persons that have improved access to the following: nutrition, education, employment, increased income, health, and/or housing conditions.

**4. Improvement of Physical/Social Conditions:** The number (#) or percent (%) of persons who demonstrate improvement of nutrition, education, employment, increased income, health, and/or housing conditions

**5. Positive Perspective/Mental Health:** The number (#) or percent (%) of persons who demonstrate positive changes in beliefs and/or expectations about life prospects.

### Metrics (Choose 2)

- ☐ Social Services
- ☐ Spiritual Condition
- ☐ Access to Resources
- ☐ Improvement of Physical/Social Conditions
- ☐ Positive Perspective/Mental Health

\*- required

Back

Save

Next

**Fiscal Sponsor:** If the answer is “yes” for having a fiscal sponsor, there will be additional required documents to submit. If no, you will not see the additional required documents section.

**Program Budget:** Submit a program/project budget and show the line item where TMF funds are to be used.

## Financials

**Fiscal Sponsor:** Non-profit organization that provides fiduciary oversight, financial management, and other administrative services to help build the capacity of charitable projects.

Does the organization have a fiscal sponsor? \*

- ☐ Yes  
☐ No

## Required Documentation

### Program Budget

Please submit the budget for the program/operations for which funding is requested and show where TMF grant dollars will be spent.

*5 MB limit\**

Add File...

\*- required

Back

Save

Next

Required documents for organizations with a fiscal sponsor include:

1. The organizational budget of the fiscal sponsor
2. A letter of agreement from the fiscal sponsor

## Financials

**Fiscal Sponsor:** Non-profit organization that provides fiduciary oversight, financial management, and other administrative services to help build the capacity of charitable projects.

Does the organization have a fiscal sponsor? \*

- ☒ Yes  
☐ No

## Required Documentation

### Program Budget

Please submit the budget for the program/operations for which funding is requested and show where TMF grant dollars will be spent.

*5 MB limit\**

Add File...

## Fiscal Sponsor Documentation

The following documents are required if your organization has a fiscal sponsor.

### Fiscal Sponsor Organization Budget\*\*

*5MB limit*

Add File...

### Fiscal Sponsor Agreement\*\*

*5MB limit*

Add File...

**Example** of budget to be submitted. Clearly show where the requested TMF funds will be applied to the budget.

Program Expenses	Program/Project Budget	TMF Funds
Elephant Chairs	\$5,000	\$1,000
Gray Paint	\$3,000	
Medicine	\$2,000	
Vet Consult	\$4,000	\$4,000
Marketing	\$500	
Clowns	\$2,000	
HR/Payroll	\$800	
Office Expenses	\$1,000	
Total	\$18,300	\$5,000



**Signature:** The name of the person who has authority/permission to submit the request

### Signature

Sign the application here, indicating you are either the Executive Director of your organization or that you have permission from the Executive Director of the organization to submit this request.

[Typed](#)

[Drawn](#)

Signature \*

Date \*

Once you've signed and submitted your LOI, you will receive an email within 2 or 3 hours confirming your submission. If you do not receive an email, please contact [TMF Grants](#)

\*- required

[Back](#)

[Save](#)

[Submit](#)

## Save and Submit:

Once you've signed and submitted your LOI, you will receive an email within 2 or 3 hours confirming your submission. If you do not receive an email, please contact [TMF Grants](#)

\*- required

Back

Save

Submit

While creating your LOI, you can save to complete at another time. When you 'save', you will be asked for an email where the link can be sent for you to continue. Please only click 'save' if you are planning on completing the LOI at a later time. You will need to click 'save' each time you come back to the LOI. The original 'save' link will not update if you keep working on your LOI.

When submitting your LOI, you will receive an email confirmation. This will be sent to the primary contact on your "Representative Information" page. If your organization does not receive an email confirmation within 2 or 3 hours of submission, please let us know.

Included in your acceptance of your LOI letter you will find a link to a survey asking that you provide feedback on Texas Methodist Foundation's LOI process. Please take a few moments to complete the survey. Your comments assist us in providing a better user experience.

Please click the link to our survey. This is one of the ways we evaluate our process and make improvements. We want your user experience to be as smooth and friendly as possible. We can only know that with your feedback.

Thank you for your interest in TMF's Grants Ministry. We have received your LOI for Resident Subsidy Assistance Program on behalf of Tom Turkey Afterschool program and have begun the review process.

An email will be sent regarding our decision for the LOI no later than December 20, 2025.

Please take a moment to complete a survey of your experience with the TMF Grants LOI process.

[Click here to begin survey](#)

Blessings,  
Wendolyn Abel  
Vice President of Grants Ministry

Should you be asked to submit a full application, the following question will be asked. We want to share with you what we are looking for in the answer.

**Methodology:** How do you know that the way you are providing this service or that this program/project is the best for your community and those you serve. What other ways of service delivery did you research or investigate? Why is yours the one that works with those you serve. Are you following a best practice or creating a best practice.

Organizations that are awarded funding from the TMF Competitive Cycle will be required to attend and participate in quarterly cohort meetings.

Three are virtual. One is in person

Attendance to these meetings are part of your contractual obligation for being awarded funding.

## Tips

1. Use as many of the characters allowed in your answer. Every character you don't use is like leaving money on the table.
2. Make sure you follow the directions.
3. Give the answer that is being asked.
4. Have someone **not** in your organization to review your application. If they have questions so will the reader.

## A Reminder:

This year our application is due on Saturday, November 30<sup>th</sup>, at 11:59:59. This is also the Thanksgiving holiday. We will **NOT** be providing any technical assistance after noon on November 21<sup>st</sup>. We will be with our families, and we hope that you will be to.



## Another reminder:

Each year Texas Methodist Foundation receives hundreds of applications during its competitive cycle. We are only able to partner with between 30 to 40 organizations through funding opportunities. Many times, there is nothing “wrong” with your application, there just may be others that are stronger. Do your research, take a look at our website and see who we have partnered with in the past. As with all funders, we are constantly evolving to be better able to serve you.

A denial or rejection does not mean NO forever, it just means NO for today. Keep applying stay connected with us through out the year and continue to do the good work.

This presentation will be put onto the website for you to review. If you have any additional questions, contact us at [grants@texasmethodistfoundation.org](mailto:grants@texasmethodistfoundation.org)