

# 2025 Project Connect: Civic Life and Belonging Grants

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*Community Foundation of South Puget Sound*

## *Grant Overview*

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### **Project Connect: Civic Life & Belonging Grant Overview:**

The Community Foundation promotes generosity and advances well-being in the South Puget Sound by stewarding long-term charitable resources that support the evolving needs and opportunities of our communities. We believe that inclusive, engaged communities—where people come together to address local challenges, welcome each other's differences, and collaborate—are essential to creating strong and healthy communities where everyone has access to opportunities to thrive.

Project Connect is a new pilot program designed to support this vision. With this funding, we aim to support efforts to bring people together in new and meaningful ways—especially those who might not normally interact—to strengthen civic life, connection, and belonging.

Please be sure to read the grant guidelines before submitting an application. You can view or download the grant guidelines [HERE](#).

### **Tips for using the online grants platform:**

- Character limits include spaces and punctuation.
- To work on your application in a language other than English, please use the "Select Language" drop down button in the top left corner to activate Google Translate (it takes a few minutes to reload page).
- While there is an autosave feature, double check for a "Save" button at the bottom of the page before closing your browser.
- The size of the text boxes may be adjusted by dragging the lower right corner.
- Required fields are indicated with an asterisk (\*).
- To create a PDF version of your completed application that you can save and/or print, click the "Application Packet" button at the top-right corner of your application page.
- To create a blank PDF copy of the application instructions and questions, click on the "Questions List" button at the top-right corner of your application page.

- Double check formatting and character count after copying/pasting from Word, as there are software differences that can cause an error in how your application appears on the grants platform.

If you have any questions, accessibility issues, or need help with language translation, please contact Heidi@thecommunityfoundation.com or 360-705-3340 for assistance.

## Organization Information

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### Mission Statement\*

What is your organization's Mission Statement?

*Character Limit: 700*

### Organization Overview\*

Briefly describe the history and purpose of your organization.

*Character Limit: 1250*

### Operating Budget\*

Enter your organization's current operating budget.

*Character Limit: 20*

### Primary Service Area\*

The Community Foundation supports work that contributes to the well-being of people and communities in Lewis, Mason, and Thurston Counties (WA). Indicate the primary county your organization serves.

#### Choices

Lewis  
Mason  
Thurston

### Secondary Service Area(s)

Indicate any additional counties this proposal would serve. Select N/A if the proposal will only serve the primary county selected above.

#### Choices

Lewis  
Mason  
Thurston  
Other  
N/A

### Other Service Area(s)

If you selected "other", please list additional areas of service this proposal would serve.

*Character Limit: 250*

### Population(s) Served\*

Does your organization have a special emphasis or focus on a specific population?

*If your primary focus includes more than one population, you may select more than one category. It is fine to choose 'General population' if you serve all or nearly all populations and do not have a special emphasis or focus on any specific population(s).*

#### Choices

Black, Indigenous, and/or People of Color (BIPOC)  
Children/Youth (0 - 18)  
Formerly or actively incarcerated people  
General population  
Low-income  
People experiencing homelessness or houselessness  
People living with disabilities  
People struggling with substance abuse or dependency  
People who identify as LGBTQ+  
Refugees, immigrants, migrant workers, and/or undocumented persons  
Rural residents  
Seniors  
Survivors of domestic and/or sexual violence and/or child abuse  
Veterans or active military  
Other

### Nondiscrimination Policy\*

#### **Community Foundation Nondiscrimination Policy**

*The Community Foundation of South Puget Sound does not discriminate on the basis of race, ethnicity, religion, gender, gender identity or expression, sexual orientation, disabilities, age, status as a veteran, national origin, or any other protected classes. Applicants for Community Foundation grants must hold similar standards in the provision of services.*

Does your organization have a nondiscrimination policy that aligns with the Community Foundation's nondiscrimination requirement?

#### Choices

Yes  
No

## Project Information

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### Project Name\*

Name of Project

*Character Limit: 100*

*Character Limit: 100*

## Project Description\*

Clearly explain how the funding will be used, how the project will be implemented and how it will benefit the community (including an estimated number of people you expect to serve with these funds.)

*Character Limit: 1250*

## Goals\*

Select the goals your project will meet (select all that apply)

### Choices

- Bring people together across differences to build understanding and connection
- Create new opportunities for civic participation and locally driven solutions
- Celebrate and strengthen a sense of community and shared purpose

## Alignment to Project Connect: Civic Life & Belonging Grant\*

Describe how your project aligns with the goals of the Project Connect: Civic Life & Belonging Grant. This grant supports efforts that strengthen civic life, foster a sense of connection and belonging, and bring people together - especially those who might not typically interact. We're particularly interested in new projects that help neighbors get to know one another and create new meaningful opportunities to collaborate.

In your response, please share how your project advances one or more of the following goals:

- Bring people together across differences to build understanding and connection
- Create new opportunities for civic participation and locally driven solutions
- Celebrate and strengthen a sense of community and shared purpose

*Character Limit: 1250*

## Anything Else

Is there anything else you would like us to know about your proposal?

*Character Limit: 750*

## Amount Requested\*

Grant amounts will range from \$1,000 to \$5,000.

*Character Limit: 20*

## Project Budget\*

What is the total cost of the project?

*Character Limit: 20*

## May we share this proposal with other potential funders?

### Choices

Yes

No

## Supporting Documents

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### Current Board Members\*

Please upload or type in the list of your organization's current board members and their affiliations. You may also post a link to the board page of your website instead.

*Character Limit: 1500 | File Size Limit: 1 MB*

### Fiscal Sponsor

If you are applying under a fiscal sponsor, include their contact information (phone and email) in the text box below AND upload an authorization signed by the fiscal sponsor organization's Chief Executive or Board Chair. Leave blank if you do not require a fiscal sponsor.

*Nonprofit 501(c)(3) charitable organizations, booster clubs, public schools and/or school districts, and tribal organizations are eligible to be considered for this grant. If your organization does not fall under an eligible category, you must secure a fiscal sponsor.*

*Character Limit: 500 | File Size Limit: 2 MB*

## Declarations

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### By submitting this grant application, you agree to the following:

1. I have read the Project Connect: Civic Life & Belonging Grant Guidelines linked in the grant overview section.
2. I understand that my request may not be funded.
3. I understand that I will be required to submit a grant report within 8-12 months of the award date if my request is selected for funding.
4. The information above is true and correct to the best of my knowledge.

*Character Limit: 100*

### I agree to the declarations above\*

Type your full name below.

*Character Limit: 250*