



The Wabash Valley is made up of problem solvers, difference makers, and opportunity creators.

UNITED is the WAY to create lasting change!

**United Way of the Wabash Valley, Inc.
Collective Impact Grant Opportunity Announcement
*Request for Proposals***

United Way is dedicated to creating prosperity in our community, knowing that every family's success strengthens us all. But we don't do it alone. United Way serves as a collaborator and convener, tackling the pressing issues that prevent families from reaching their full potential. To this end we advance the education, health, and financial security of every person throughout our 6-county service area in the Wabash Valley.

Grant Title: Fall 2025 Expanding Access & Resources to Behavioral Health

Announcement Date: September 2025

Two tracks: Impact Grant: LOI deadline

Mini-Grant: Application

Fiscal Year Funding: 2025-2028

Contained in this document is the grant overview, schedule, application requirements, and instructions to provide a proposal to United Way of the Wabash Valley, Inc.

Overview of Funding Opportunity

Community Impact Goal

United Way of the Wabash Valley (UWWV) works with and for our community to create lasting solutions to our greatest challenges. We envision a thriving, inspired community focused on care and collaboration. We pursue this by investing financial resources in entities that measurably impact youth opportunity, financial security, and healthy communities, thus improving lives and breaking the cycle of generational poverty.

In the United Way service area (Clay, Parke, Sullivan, Vermillion, and Vigo Counties in Indiana and Clark County in Illinois), more than 37,981 households live below a bare-bones financial income referred to as ALICE (see www.uwwv.org/ALICE).

Issue Background

The need for additional behavioral health support in our community is well-documented:

- Approximately one in five Hoosiers experience mental illness each year.
- For every four Hoosiers treated for mental illness, one additional Hoosier is untreated.
- Behavioral health is associated with the prevalence and progression of many burdensome and costly chronic diseases, such as diabetes and cardiovascular disease.
- An estimated 40% of individuals who are incarcerated have a mental illness. In 2019, 72-83% of the incarcerated individuals in Vigo County suffered from either/both substance use disorder (SUD) or mental health issues. (Hamilton Center Report)
- One in four who are incarcerated have a serious mental illness. Currently 263 individuals incarcerated in Vigo County jail are participating in substance use disorder (SUD) RT Training and 183 are participating in PTSD treatment.
- Nearly half (45%) of homeless individuals have a mental illness, particularly among those who are chronically homeless.
- Eighty percent of Hoosiers with a serious mental illness are unemployed.
(Data from the Indiana Behavioral Health Commission 2022)

Whether it's due to insufficient resources and services to meet the needs of people in our community, a lack of awareness that these resources exist, or barriers that make it difficult for people to connect with the resources, many people with behavioral health issues are not getting the help they need.

Grant Offering and Goals

UWWV is making available \$175,000 to fund innovative programs and services that will improve the behavioral health of individuals or groups in our community. Specifically, grants will be awarded to:

- **Deliver innovative programs and services** that treat mental health and substance use disorders or expand existing programs/services that have track record for success.
- **Promote awareness** of and education on mental health and substance use disorders.
- **Improve access and remove barriers** to mental health and substance use disorder treatment and care.

Applicants should address at least one of the three goals listed above.

Examples of possible programs and services:

- Behavioral health education for youth.
- Behavioral health programs and services that train others (train the trainer).
- Behavioral health services that are conducted through a partnership between a nonprofit and another organization.
- Programs/services that help individuals/groups overcome barriers that prevent them from getting help. Barriers might include transportation, childcare, knowledge of available services, etc.

Special consideration will be given to programs that:

- Encourage and facilitate participation from members of the ALICE population.
- Collaborate with one or more organizations.
- Provide emergency services for basic needs.
- Focus on capacity building.

Grant Required Outcome Indicators

To achieve the overall outcome of improving behavioral health in our community, UWWV expects awarded applications to track measurements that lead to new programs and services (or expanded existing ones), better awareness and understanding of behavioral health issues, and improved access to treatment. Applicants must choose at least one measurement from the list below.

- # of individuals participating in new programs and/or services
- # of new participants in existing programs/services
- # of staff/volunteers who successfully completed training
- # of individuals who were helped to overcome barriers
- # of organizations that completed training
- # of individuals who received information about resources, tools, and/or education
- Other: You may include an indicator of your own ***in addition to*** one from the above list.

Eligibility

The UWWV invites applications from the following categories of entities based in or operating programs or services in Clay, Parke, Sullivan, Vermillion, or Vigo Counties in Indiana or in Clark County in Illinois:

- Nonprofit 501c3 organizations (may form partnerships with for-profit organizations, but the lead applicant must be nonprofit)
- Faith-based and community-based organizations
- Educational institutions
- Units of local government

TWO APPLICATION TRACKS ARE AVAILABLE

UWWV is offering two types of grant applications and awards for this investment. **Applicants must choose one** of the two grant funding tracks:

1. Mini-Grant: Minimum award \$1000, Maximum award of \$10,000
 - Awards respond to small, targeted, time-sensitive funding needs
 - Application process and timeline is shorter; the application has fewer steps
 - Must expend funds within one year
2. Impact Grant: Minimum award \$10,001, Maximum award of \$40,000 (\$20,000 per year over two years)
 - Awards respond to needs that are more complex or must be addressed over time.

Mini-Grant Track

Grant Timeline

There are no exceptions to any deadlines for the applicant; however, UWWV reserves the right to change the dates, with proper communication to potential applicants. All times provided below are in Eastern time.

Mini-Grant Track	Date
Grant announcement. Solicitation of applicants.	September 12, 2025
Grant application period	September 12 - October 24, 2025
Full application electronic submission due to the UWWV by 4:00 PM	October 24, 2025
Review of applications	October 27 to November 14, 2025
Notification of awards	December 1, 2025
Funding period begins	January 2026
Progress report due per grant agreement	June 30, 2026

How to Apply for Mini-Grant:

Please go to <https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/PBFWW3T> and complete the application form by 4:00 pm ET on October 21, 2025.

The recommended budget template is found at <https://uwwv.org/wp-content/uploads/2025/09/SN-Mini-Grant-Budget-Template.xlsx>

Mini-Grant Applications Must:

- Discuss the problem/need the proposed project will address.
- Identify the specific population this project will serve.
- Discuss the ideal number of participants for a successful project. How will participants be recruited?
- If project is to overcome barriers such as transportation, childcare, knowledge of available services, etc... how will participants be identified and how will resources be distributed?
- Describe the project in detail, including leadership and staffing, any partnerships, or collaborations with other organizations.
- How will success be measured? What skills/tools will participants retain at the end of the project?
- Provide a detailed, itemized budget (example budget included in application).
- Provide a letter of commitment from any partnering organization in the proposed project.

Impact Grant Track

Impact Grant Track	Date
Grant announcement. Solicitation for <i>required</i> Letter of Intent (LOI).	September 12, 2025
LOI/Stewardship Package Meeting. Organizations interested in submitting an LOI package are <i>strongly encouraged</i> to attend. Please RSVP to Michele Bennett @ 812.235.6287 or mbennett@uwwv.org .	October 2, 2025
LOI/Stewardship Package is due electronically through United Way's e-CImpact™ system to UWWV by 4:00PM .	October 23, 2025
Notification of application status. Only approved submissions will proceed beyond this point.	October 27, 2025
Meeting and training to submit applications electronically through United Way's e-CImpact™ system. <i>Required meeting</i> for application submission. Please RSVP to Michele Bennett @ 812.235.6287 or mbennett@uwwv.org	November 5, 2025
Grant application period	November 5 to December 15, 2025
Full application electronic submission due to the UWWV by 4:00 PM	December 15, 2025
Review of applications	December 17, 2025- January 16, 2026
Notification of awards	February 2026

Funding period begins	February 2026
Progress report due per grant agreement	August 31, 2026

Letter of Intent (LOI)

All applicants for impact grant must submit an online Letter of Intent (LOI) indicating their interest in this funding opportunity. These letters will be used to narrow the field of applicants to a reasonable number who will be asked to submit a full proposal. Organizations are strongly advised to attend the LOI and Stewardship Package meeting either virtually or in person.

The LOI will provide the following information:

1. the contact information for the applying organization and confirmation of tax status.
2. a description of the proposed project and project goals.
3. a description of how the proposed project fits the organization's mission and goals.
4. the amount of funds being requested, the intended use of the funds, and a brief description of how the funds will help the project achieve the outputs/outcomes listed for this grant opportunity. The amount requested in the LOI is not binding but should be a reasonable estimate and will be used to evaluate the LOI. If the project is selected for a full application, the budget can be adjusted as supported in the application.

Stewardship Package Requirements for Impact Grant

All applicants for impact grant must also complete a Stewardship Documentation Checklist that will be provided and reviewed at the LOI and Stewardship Package meeting listed in the grant timeline. The checklist will provide the minimum criteria for organizations to apply for grant funding, including but not limited to the following:

1. Current fiscal year budget for the applying organization
2. Proof of financial oversight/organization's financial review
3. Board of directors roster and recent board meeting minutes (as applicable)
4. Stated policies of nondiscrimination and compliance with all the requirements of state and federal laws and regulations on nondiscrimination and equal opportunity
5. Certified compliance with U.S. Patriot Act, including recommended counterterrorism measures
6. IRS Determination Letter

Application Content for Impact Grant

UWWV uses Seabrook's e-CImpact Grant Management Community Impact software system for submission and review of issued funding opportunities. The grant application will require the following content to be completed and submitted online by the applicant.

1. Applicant Organization General Information
2. Program/Initiative Proposal General Information
3. Project Narrative (see explanation below)
4. Project Workplan (see explanation below)

5. Project Budget and Budget Narrative (see explanation below)
6. Additional Documents (at discretion of applicant)

Items 1-3 will be a series of online forms and text boxes; items 4-6 will be PDF attachments to be uploaded to the online application. The following instructions provide details for the completion of each section of the proposal.

Project Narrative

This RFP is seeking projects that will create new programs and services (or expand existing ones), build better awareness and understanding of behavioral health issues, and improve access to treatment and care. The project narrative should provide a detailed description of what the applicant intends to do with this grant money. The narrative should also describe how the funds will help the program achieve the required outcomes referred to in this Request for Proposals.

Project Workplan

The applicant will develop a detailed workplan that outlines all activities described in the project narrative. The workplan should be laid out as a table and contain the following minimum elements:

- **Activities:** All activities should be included in the workplan as line items.
- **Responsible Party:** For each activity in the workplan, identify the organization and/or staff member responsible and/or involved in the activity.
- **Timeline:** Outline the specific time period, with start dates and end dates, during which each activity will occur.

The workplan should contain all required elements to fully implement the proposed program and achieve the required outputs/outcomes, including key meetings, development time, identified milestones, reporting requirements, target outcomes achieved, etc.

Project Budget and Budget Narrative for Impact Grant

The project budget and budget narrative for a impact grant should be combined into a single document. The applicant may choose the format, making sure the financial content and associated narrative explanations are easy to review and understand.

The budget should provide details for each budget line item for the proposal, listing the total cost of each with the associated narrative explaining how such items were calculated. For example, costs for personnel should show the annual salary rate and the percentage of time devoted to the project for each employee that may be paid with grant funding. The budget should present—as completely as possible—an itemization of all proposed costs for the length of the project.

If the applicant is requesting funding to support or expand an existing program, the budget narrative should include details on how the funds will be used, and the budget should represent the entire program as well as highlight the use of the grant funding.

Finally, the budget narrative should provide details on how the budget will allow for sustainability of the program.

Selection Criteria for Impact Grant

UWWV staff members do not make selection decisions for grant applications. Rather, UWWV recruits volunteers to participate in the evaluation process. Volunteers are trained to use the “Best Investment Criteria” to make their decisions. “Best Investment Criteria” refer to the programs that most clearly demonstrate:

- **ALIGNMENT:** Connection between proposed program goals and UWWV’s goal of creating prosperity in our community by addressing issues that prevent families from reaching their full potential
- **IMPACT:** Effectiveness of programming as reflected by evaluation efforts and evidence-based outcomes
- **RESOURCES:** Access to the resources (staff, experience, financial, etc.) to successfully implement the program

Additional Considerations for Impact Grant

The following additional considerations are not required criteria, but are recommended so that applicants may enhance their application based on these most basic evaluation criteria.

Organizational Capacity

- The applicant has provided a clear explanation of its mission, vision, and goals.
- The applicant’s budget is consistent in terms of current and proposed fiscal years, and acceptable accounting practices are used.
- The applicant possesses the staff, space, equipment, and general organizational capacity to implement the outcomes.
- The applicant demonstrates the knowledge required to successfully provide programs of the quality proposed in this initiative through past experience or existing programs.
- Evidence of community engagement and partnerships is preferred.

Achieving Results/Program Evaluation

- The application clearly describes how the new investment will be evaluated for effectiveness.
- The application confirms how results data will be collected and reported.

Program Budget and Expenditure Detail

- If the program is current or existing, the proposal adequately describes current funding sources.
- The grant request amount seems adequate to support the proposed initiative/program.
- The application adequately describes how the requested grant funding will be used.

Sustainability

- The application describes a plan to ensure the sustainability of the program after the grant period ends and grant funds have been expended.
- The application includes information on additional resources or community partnerships that could be drawn upon, if necessary, to ensure sustainability.

Final Notes

IMPORTANT: UWWV awards full requests only; partial funding will not be considered. Therefore it is important that applicants request exactly what is needed. For example, applicants should not request \$25,000, expecting to receive \$15,000; this could disqualify a proposal from consideration.

The UWWV Community Impact Staff is the primary point of contact during the application process, from the issue date of the RFP until selection of the successful applicant(s). The Community Impact Staff for this RFP is:

Michele Bennett
100 S. 7th Street, Terre Haute, IN 47807
812.235.6287
mbennett@uwwv.org

All questions, requests for clarification, and suggested changes may be addressed only to UWWV staff. UWWV assumes no responsibility for verbal representations made by its staff unless such representations are confirmed in writing or electronically. In addition, the UWWV written responses to questions will not be considered part of the RFP.

UWWV reserves the right to amend or provide clarifications to the RFP at any time. If the amendment occurs after the closing date for receipt of applications, UWWV may, in its sole discretion, allow applicants to amend their applications.

UWWV may request clarification from applicants in order to resolve ambiguities or question information presented in the applications. Clarifications may occur throughout the application review process. Clarification responses shall be in writing and shall address only the information requested. Responses shall be submitted to UWWV within the time stipulated with the request.

UWWV acknowledges that selected applicant(s) may contract with third parties for the performance of any of the applicant's obligations. The UWWV reserves the right to provide prior approval for any subcontractor used to perform services under any contract that may result from this RFP.

The application shall be received by the UWWV Community Impact Staff by the time and date specified in the grant timeline. UWWV will not waive this requirement. Any application received after this deadline will not be considered. It is the applicant's responsibility to ensure that the application is received prior to the deadline.

All programs that are awarded funding through any collective impact grant issued from UWWV will be required to sign a grant recipient agreement. This agreement will confirm that grant recipients understand all stipulations of the grant and all requirements for abiding by them, in order to receive the full designated funding over the grant period. Failure to abide by the stipulations of the agreement will result in forfeiture of remaining funds and may prevent the organization from applying for future funds.