

2026 Equitable & Inclusive Communities Grant

Centre Foundation envisions a vibrant Centre County where everyone has the opportunity and resources needed to flourish. That's why we're launching the **Equitable & Inclusive Communities Fund**, a new Field-of-Interest fund designed to support the advancement of equity-centered leadership & capacity building and address issues of Diversity, Equity, Inclusion, and Belonging in Centre County.

This year, the **Equitable & Inclusive Communities Fund** has \$2,370 available to support the following types of projects:

- Arts, Culture, and Community Development
- Capacity Building, Consultation, and Leadership Development
- Education, Youth Development, and Workforce Development
- Health, Wellness, and Human Services

Priority will be given to projects that promote equity to populations who face systemic barriers in our community, including geographically underserved communities, communities of color, immigrants, refugees, English language learners, persons with disabilities, LGBTQ+ communities, and other under-represented populations.

Eligibility

- This opportunity is open to qualified 501(c)(3) nonprofit organizations and governmental units/agencies. Unincorporated groups may apply through a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization that acts as a fiscal sponsor.
- 501(c)(3) nonprofit organizations must be registered with the Pennsylvania Bureau of Charitable Organizations unless otherwise exempt.
- Funding must be used to support programs/projects in Centre County that comply with Centre Foundation's [Nondiscrimination Policy](#).
- If awarded, funding from this grant must be spent by recipient organizations by December 31, 2027.
- Recipient organizations are required to submit a final grant report at the conclusion of the program/project or by January 31, 2028.

Instructions

Applications must be submitted through [Foundant](#), Centre Foundation's online application portal, by 11:59 pm on **Thursday, November 12, 2026**.

For questions, information, or assistance, please contact Krista Williams, Grants and Scholarship Coordinator, at krista@centrefoundation.org or call (814) 237-6229.

Important Dates

- **Tuesday, September 29, 2026** – Online grant application opens.
- **Thursday, November 12, 2026** – Deadline to submit an application.
- **December 2026** – Notification of grant awards.
- **December 2026** – Grant payments issued; grant period begins.
- **December 31, 2027** – Grant period ends.
- **January 31, 2028** – Final grant reports are due.

Definitions*

Diversity means proportionate representation across all dimensions of human difference.

Equity means fair treatment for all while striving to identify and eliminate inequities and barriers.

Inclusion means that everyone is included, visible, heard, and considered.

Belonging means that everyone is treated and feels like a full member of the larger community and can thrive.

Capacity Building means an effort that increases an organization's ability to fulfill its mission and build long-term sustainability.

Foundant Grant Portal

Foundant is Centre Foundation's new grant management portal. This portal allows users to view, edit, and submit grant applications and related documents.

Foundant requires all users to create an account in order to access grant information and submit applications. For instructions on creating a new account, please view this [Applicant Tutorial](#) which includes a step-by-step guide and video demonstrations.

For additional assistance, please contact Krista Williams, Grants and Scholarship Coordinator, at krista@centrefoundation.org or call (814) 237-6229.

[Click Here to Access Foundant](#)

*These terms have been reproduced from the following sources:

1. Glossary of Diversity, Inclusion and Belonging (DIB) Terms. [Glossary](#). Harvard University.
2. Glossary of Terms – Explore & Learn: DEI Language. [Glossary](#). University of Pittsburgh.

Equitable & Inclusive Communities Fund (2026)

Centre Foundation

Applicant Information

Before you begin, please review our [Nondiscrimination Policy](#) and the [2026 Equitable & Inclusive Communities Grant Guidelines](#), which include eligibility information, important dates, and more.

Applicant Type*

Is your organization a **501(c)(3) Public Charity** or a **Governmental Unit/Agency**? Examples of governmental units/agencies include an agency of the Federal Government or a State or local government, local governmental unit, municipal corporation, or unit of a State university system.

Choices

Yes, 501(c)(3) Public Charity

Yes, Governmental Unit/Agency

Neither 501(c)(3) nor Unit of Government (Requires Fiscal Sponsor)

Fiscal Sponsorship: Additional Information

Unincorporated groups may use a fiscal sponsor that is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization to apply for Field-of-Interest funding.

Please provide information about your fiscal sponsor below.

Fiscal Sponsor Name

Character Limit: 100

Fiscal Sponsor EIN/Tax ID (##-#####)

Character Limit: 12

Fiscal Sponsor Street Address

Character Limit: 100

Fiscal Sponsor City

Character Limit: 100

Fiscal Sponsor State

Character Limit: 2

Fiscal Sponsor Zip Code*Character Limit: 15***Fiscal Sponsor Website URL***Character Limit: 2000***Fiscal Sponsor Contact First Name***Character Limit: 100***Fiscal Sponsor Contact Last Name***Character Limit: 100***Fiscal Sponsor Contact Title***Character Limit: 100***Fiscal Sponsor Contact Email Address***Character Limit: 254***Fiscal Sponsor Contact Phone Number***Character Limit: 25***Fiscal Sponsor IRS Determination Letter**

Upload the fiscal sponsor's IRS Determination Letter confirming nonprofit 501(c)(3) status.

*File Size Limit: 2 MB***Fiscal Sponsorship Agreement**

Please upload a fully-executed and active Fiscal Sponsorship Agreement between the fiscal sponsor and the entity being sponsored. This must include:

- duties and responsibilities of each part,
- the term of the agreement,
- termination provisions,
- ownership of intellectual property,
- dispute and indemnification clauses,
- and the method of the holding and distribution of funds.

File Size Limit: 2 MB

Request Narrative

Project Name*

Name of Project/Program

Character Limit: 100

Project Summary*

Please provide a brief summary (1-2 sentences) of your proposed project/program.

Character Limit: 350

Project Description*

Please describe the nature of your proposed project/program in detail, including:

- What problem or issue in the community will your project address? OR What opportunity do you see in the community that your organization is poised to respond to? Be sure to specify how your project addresses Diversity, Equity, Inclusion, and/or Belonging in Centre County.
- What are the specific activities and timeline that will be supported if this grant is awarded?
- What are the geographic area(s) of Centre County and which populations will be served? Include age, race, socioeconomic status, and any other pertinent demographic information that corresponds to the goals of your project.
- What other organizations or entities, if any, will be collaborating on this project?

Character Limit: 3000

Project Success*

Please describe the goals for the success of the project/program in detail, including:

- What are the measurable goals that could be met with this funding support?
- How will success will be measured and documented?
- How will you conduct program evaluation (numbers served, surveys, interviews, or other methods)?

Character Limit: 3000

Project Development and Community Engagement*

Who was involved in developing this project? How did you decide on this approach? Please include how members of the community are involved with the development and/or implementation of this project and how you have sought, or plan to seek, input from the people who will be served by this grant, as applicable.

Character Limit: 3000

Previous Work*

What planning and/or work has your organization undertaken so far to advance diversity, equity, inclusion, and belonging? How will this project build upon that work? If work is in early

stages, we are interested in knowing how your organization made the decision to undertake this work.

Character Limit: 3000

Numbers Served*

What is the estimated number of individuals that will be served by this grant?

Character Limit: 5

Ages Served*

Which age group(s) will be served by this grant?

Choices

0-5

6-17

18-25

26-65

65+

Not applicable

Geographic Areas Served*

Which specific areas of Centre County will this grant serve?

Choices

Entire County

Bald Eagle Area

Bellefonte Area

Penns Valley Area

Philipsburg Area

State College Area

Request Budget

For 2026, the Equitable & Inclusive Communities Fund has \$2,370 available to grant. You may apply for the full amount or a portion of the full amount.

Requested Grant Amount*

Character Limit: 20

Total Estimated Cost of Project/Program*

Character Limit: 20

Project Income*

Please list all committed and anticipated sources of income related to this project/program. Include funding and/or in-kind contributions from individuals, corporations, governments and/or other foundations and estimated amounts below.

Character Limit: 3000

Project Expenses*

Please list all expenses related to this project/program, including a description of each item or service and the portion of grant funds being dedicated to that piece.

Character Limit: 3000

Optional: Upload Budget

You may upload a copy of your project/program budget, but you are not required to do so.

File Size Limit: 2 MB

Additional Applicant Information

Answers provided in this section will be used to provide insight into our community and will not be used in the evaluation of your grant application.

Definitions:

- *BIPOC* means a person or group who identifies as Black, Indigenous, or Person of Color.
- *LGBTQ* is an abbreviation for lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, and queer.

For how many years has your organization existed?*

Choices

Less than 5 years
5-10 years
11-20 years
21-50 years
More than 50 years
Unsure

How many paid full-time employees or the equivalent does your organization have?*

Choices

No paid employees
1-2 full-time employees (or equivalent)
3-10 full-time employees (or equivalent)
11-20 full-time employees (or equivalent)
21-30 full-time employees (or equivalent)
31-50 full-time employees (or equivalent)
51-100 full-time employees (or equivalent)
More than 100 full-time employees (or equivalent)
Unsure

What are the demographics of your organization's leadership? Please check all that apply.*

Choices

- BIPOC led organization (Executive or Assistant Director, CEO, etc.)
- BIPOC members on the Board of Directors
- LGBTQ led organization (Executive or Assistant Director, CEO, etc.)
- LGBTQ members on the Board of Directors
- Veteran led organization (Executive or Assistant Director, CEO, etc.)
- Veteran members on Board of Directors
- People with disabilities lead the organization (Executive or Assistant Director, CEO, etc.)
- People with disabilities are members of the Board of Directors
- None of the above
- Unknown or prefer not to say
- Other, describe below

Other:

Character Limit: 500

Submission

Please review your application.

Upon submission of your application, a confirmation email will be sent to the email address you provided. If you have not received the confirmation email within a few minutes, please check your Spam or Junk folder.

Applicants will be notified of grant award decisions on or before December 18, 2026.

Organizations awarded a grant will be asked to submit additional data relevant to our Strategic Plan as part of their grant agreement.

If you have any questions, please contact Krista Williams, Centre Foundation's Grants and Scholarship Coordinator at krista@centrefoundation.org or call (814) 237-6229.

Application Review*

If you are submitting this application on or before October 29, 2026, you may request that Centre Foundation staff review your application for completeness.

Choices

- Yes
- No

Eligibility Review

Organization Type*

Is the applicant a 501(c)(3) public charity or a governmental unit/agency?

Choices

501(c)(3) Public Charity
Governmental Unit/Agency
Fiscally Sponsored by a 501(c)(3)
Other

IRS Status*

If the applicant is a 501(c)(3) public charity, is the applicant in good standing with the IRS?
Verify status through IRS Tax Exempt Organization Search or Guidestar Charity Check.

Choices

Yes
No
Not Applicable

Service Area*

Does the proposed project/program serve Centre County?

Choices

Yes
No

DEIB Focus*

Does the proposed project/program directly address issues of diversity, equity, inclusion, and/or belonging?

Choices

Yes
No
Unsure

Eligibility Determination*

Is this an eligible request?

Choices

Yes
No

Eligibility Determination Comments (Optional)

Character Limit: 250

Evaluators

Evaluator Name(s)

Character Limit: 250