

## **The Kids Fund – Giving Voice to Children**

**Accepting online Letters of Interest until November 13, 2026 at 5:00 p.m. MST**

One-time and multi-year grants for Flathead County programs serving youth at-risk of becoming homeless

The Kids Fund is a catalyst for change, supporting innovative expansion of current programs and/or launching new programs.

**Kids Fund grants support a wide variety of programs impacting youth and their families in the following areas:**

- Housing
- Health and mental wellness
- Safety
- Food access
- Education

**Eligible organizations may apply for one of the following:**

1. One-time request of up to \$50,000, OR
2. Multi-year request of up to \$50,000 per year for up to three consecutive years, depending on the scale and needs of the program

**Application Process:**

1. Applicants submit a Letter of Interest (LOI) through the Community Foundation grant management software.
2. The LOI will be reviewed to determine if the Kids Fund is the best grant program to serve the request.
3. Applicants will be notified within 7 business days if their LOI has been approved, and successful applicants will be invited to submit a Kids Fund application.
4. Once the LOI is approved, applicants will have 4 weeks to complete and submit their application.

**Eligibility:**

- Applying organizations must be based in Flathead County, or operate a premises in Flathead County offering well-established programs serving youth at risk of becoming homeless in Flathead County.
- The applicant must be an I.R.S designated §501(c)(3) nonprofit public charity described in either I.R.C. §509(a)(1) or (a)(2), or a publicly-owned tax-exempt corporation. Supporting organizations described in I.R.C. §509(a)(3) should contact WCF to discuss eligibility.
- §501(c)(3) nonprofit public charities must have an IRS determination letter which can be verified in the applicant's GuideStar profile. Eligible supporting organizations and applicants that rely on a group exemption letter should contact Whitefish Community Foundation to discuss verification of nonprofit status.
- Applicants must have submitted all required documentation for previous grant awards by the specified deadline.
- Organizations operating under a fiscal sponsorship are not eligible to apply.

**Applying organizations must be one of the following:**

- An organization that predominantly works in or serves Flathead County, MT, with Flathead County representation on the board of directors, or
- An official Flathead County, MT chapter in good standing of a state/regional/national organization, with a board or local advisory board comprised predominantly of Flathead County, MT residents, or
- A regional/national organization, with a board or local advisory board comprised predominantly of Flathead County, MT residents

**Application Requirements and Information:**

- A copy of the organization's I.R.S. Determination Letter will be uploaded into the application.
- An organizational Budget vs Actual Profit & Loss Statement for the most recently completed fiscal year, and a 2-Year Comparative Balance Sheet will be uploaded into the application, as well as a detailed project/program budget illustrating how grant funds will be allocated.
- The applicant will upload board of director's meeting minutes demonstrating the project/program has been discussed, and the application to the Kids Fund has been approved
- The Kids Fund supports programs offered by a single nonprofit organization, and collaborative programs involving multiple nonprofit organizations.

**Kids Fund grants will not support:**

\*Programs or projects promoting a religious doctrine

\*Organizations outside Flathead County

\*Individuals

\*Deficits or retirement of debt

\*Political campaigns or projects/programs promoting a political agenda

\*Conduit organizations or organizations under fiscal sponsorship (organizations or events that pass funds to other organizations)

\*Fundraising event sponsorships

Please contact Jill Seigmund at (406) 863-1781 or email [grants@whitefishcommunityfoundation.org](mailto:grants@whitefishcommunityfoundation.org) if you have questions regarding this grant program.