



Grant Guidelines 2024

PRIMARY FOCUS: MENTAL HEALTH & SUBSTANCE ABUSE

In 2024, Bethany Legacy Foundation (Bethany Legacy) will use our resources strategically to primarily fund work and organizations focused on improving mental health for the youth, adults and seniors in Jefferson County, IN. Mental illnesses are among the most common health conditions in the world and Jefferson County is no different. According to the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, Jefferson County is part of a federally designated Health Professional Shortage Area for Mental Health Providers – thus labeled as a ‘mental healthcare desert’. According to the Indiana Youth Institute, in 2022, the Jefferson County ratio for total population to mental healthcare providers was 808 to 1, compared to 560 to 1 for the entire state.

We understand that mental health is often interconnected with substance use disorders. Due to the lack of treatment services in our county, opportunities to support new, existing, or expanding programs that will allow more people to seek recovery are particularly attractive to Bethany Legacy.

Hope should not be lost—even the most serious mental health conditions can be treated, allowing people to live better lives.

Looking ahead, the primary focus for Bethany Legacy in 2025 and beyond will be aligned with the greatest needs in our community, driven by a set of ‘shared community goals.’ Those shared goals will be developed in 2024 in partnership with multiple stakeholders in Jefferson County.

GRANT ELIGIBILITY

1. Bethany Legacy awards grants to 501(c)(3) not-for-profit organizations, churches, state-accredited schools, and government entities. If your organization does not fall within those guidelines, you may apply with an eligible organization serving as your fiscal sponsor. When using a fiscal sponsor, a formal agreement between the grant applicant and sponsor will be required.
2. Grant-funded activities must serve residents of Jefferson County, Indiana. The funded organization does not have to be located in Jefferson County, IN.
3. Amenities funded by Bethany Legacy must be available to the general public, not restricted to a limited group(s) (e.g. parks, schools, playgrounds, pools etc.).
4. Grant requests should have a direct impact on mental health or substance use disorder. We seek proposals that build psychological resiliency and improve mental health and emotional wellness for the youth, adults, or seniors – or all the above. In addition, we also seek proposals with the primary goal of achieving and maintaining recovery from substance abuse.

BETHANY LEGACY WILL NOT FUND

1. Organizations, programs, or projects that discriminate in any way based on participation or membership in a specific religious faith, race, gender, citizenship status, sexual orientation, age, or disability.
2. Lobbying or political campaigns.
3. Conference or event sponsorships.
4. Projects that use Bethany Legacy grant funds to replace existing funding sources.
5. Real estate purchases with Bethany Legacy as the sole funder.
6. Direct grants to individuals.

Note: Organizations designated as public charities by the IRS need to pass the public test to maintain that status. Based on this, projects where Bethany Legacy grant funds account for more than 40% of the organization’s total operating budget might require additional technical steps or may be declined.

FUNDING PRIORITIES

Important Attributes of the Grant Proposal - Please note Bethany Legacy will not fund all applications it receives. All applications will be assessed and scored for:

- **Evidence-Based Practice or Supporting Data.** We seek proposals that represent an evidence-based practice or are otherwise supported by research or data. This can include academic research, evaluations of other programs, or even your own internal data (e.g. surveys).
- **Systems Impact Potential.** We seek proposals that lead to systems change – altering how policies, practices, resources, relationships, and mindsets hold problems in place, especially those that impact mental health and substance use. This can include solutions that promote a thriving mental health workforce.
- **Prevention.** We seek proposals that consider upstream factors to improve the mental health and/or substance use disorders of residents of Jefferson County, IN. Prevention aims to increase the likelihood that people will stay healthy and well for as long as possible.
- **Innovation.** We seek proposals that represent experimentation with new approaches and innovations that question the status quo and break from previous practices in Jefferson County. We are willing to take smart risks with grantees.
- **Service Enhancement.** We are willing to fund proposals that enhance delivery of mental health services in Jefferson County. This can include supplies, technology, equipment and/or overhead needs for programs that directly impact mental health and substance abuse.

In addition, we will prioritize proposals that have these factors:

- **Collaboration.** We value collaboration and are open to funding grants which involve a cohort of multiple organizations or groups of stakeholders working together towards a shared goal.
- **Community Engagement.** We look for ways in which applicants engage their customers, clients, and residents in developing and implementing solutions.
- **Comprehensive Project Budget.** We expect budgets to be clear, detailed, and outline all expenses and revenue (such as other sources of funding). The budget may include reasonable indirect or overhead costs.
- **Leveraged Funding.** We appreciate when grantees can leverage multiple sources of funding to bring their vision to fruition. This can mean having other sources of funding secured and using Bethany Legacy funds to close a gap, or it can mean securing Bethany Legacy funding first and using that to attract other sources of funding.
- **Multiple Quotes.** We prefer projects that involve vendors to have at least two quotes.
- **Funding Sustainability.** We look for grantees to demonstrate how they are working toward supporting the development, implementation, and sustainability of promising programs beyond Bethany Legacy funding.
- **Plan for Project Assessment and Evaluation.** We expect projects to clearly identify the target population(s), the number of clients served, and the specific outcomes grantees seek to achieve.

We want our grantee partners to succeed, and we know that the priorities listed above will be a stretch for many organizations. Because of this, Bethany Legacy welcomes requests to pay for strengthening your organization's knowledge, skills, systems, data and evaluation capacity, and ability to leverage additional resources.