

2026 Project Neighborly in Collaboration with the City of Bellingham - Grant Application

Whatcom Community Foundation

Project Neighborly Information and Questions



This year Project Neighborly will be a **collaborative effort** by both the City of Bellingham's Small & Simple grants and Whatcom Community Foundation! You are invited to share your best ideas for building connections and working together. **Project Neighborly** (PN) fuels efforts in Whatcom County to increase kindness and curiosity, build trust among the people who share this place, and connect people who would not normally come together.

- applications due by February 23, 2026 at 4pm.
- awards made end of April, 2026
- grant awards up to \$5,000
- for tips on using this online grant application system click [HERE](#)
- for Project Neighborly special guidelines and frequently asked questions click [HERE](#)

Due to the requirements of project funding, some projects may be required to provide documentation/receipts for expenditures.

Grants Catalog

We may share vetted proposals through an online Grants Catalog. The Catalog will include your organization name, project name, a short description, a photo and the amount requested. We will also share the link with you and other applicants so you can choose whether or not to promote it through your social media channels. Local donors can use the catalog to fund more projects and stretch our limited grant dollars even further.

Project Name*

Name of your project (8 word maximum)

Character Limit: 100

Do you have a fiscal sponsor?*

Please mark NO if you are one of the below types of entities.

- 501(c)(3) tax status
- government agency,
- recognized religious entity
- educational institution,
- tribal agency

We can only grant funding to federally recognized nonprofits as listed above. You will need a fiscal sponsorship agreement if you are not one of the above types of entities. For more information on this topic, click [HERE](#). Please mark YES if you need a fiscal sponsor.

Choices

Yes

No

If you marked yes above, who is your fiscal sponsor?

Character Limit: 250

Short Project Description*

Please describe your project in one paragraph (400 characters or less). Your description should represent your project or organization well. It should focus on how it will make our community better, stronger, and more connected. Keep your paragraph brief, but inspiring and tell us how this grant will make an impact. We will also ask you to upload a photo in the attachment section of this application, which may also appear on the catalog. (may be edited for length)

Character Limit: 400

Grants Catalog Opt Out

Check this box if you do not wish to have your project featured in our online Grants Catalog.

Choices

I do not wish to have my project featured in the Grants Catalog

Demographic Social & Econ Status

Please mark one of the below if applicable

Choices

Economically Disadvantaged People

Immigrants and Migrants

At-risk youth

Veterans

Demographic-Race*

Primary population involved in your project

Choices

All races

Indigenous people

Multiracial people

People of Black or African descent

People of Asian descent

People of Latin American descent

People of Middle Eastern descent

Other

Demographic-Age*

Choices

All ages

Children and youth

Early Childhood

Seniors

Adults (not seniors)

Project Website (if applicable)

Character Limit: 2000

Amount of Request*

up to \$5,000

Character Limit: 20

Whatcom County Area Served*

*Due to the requirements of City of Bellingham project funding, **Bellingham** project awardees may be required to provide documentation/receipts for expenditures on or before the due date of the grant report.*

Choices

WAWB-Alabama Hill

WAWB-Alderwood

WAWB-Bellingham

WAWB-Birchwood

WAWB-Columbia

WAWB-Edgemoor

WAWB-Fairhaven

WAWB-Guide Meridian

WAWB-Happy Valley

WAWB-King Mountain
WAWB-Letterd Street
WAWB-Meridian
WAWB-Mt. Baker
WAWB-Puget
WAWB-Roosevelt
WAWB-Samish
WAWB-Sehome
WAWB-Silver Beach
WAWB-South
WAWB-South Hill
WAWB-Sunnyland
WAWB-Whatcom Falls
WAWB-WWU
WAWB-York
WAW-Birch Bay
WAW-Blaine
WAW-Custer
WAW-East County
WAW-Everson/Nooksack/Sumas
WAW-Ferndale
WAW-Lummi Island
WAW-Lummi Nation (or Native American)
WAW-Lynden
WAW-Nooksack Tribe
WAW-Point Roberts
WAW-South Fork
WAW-Whatcom County (general)

Grant Type*

Choices

A&C-Arts & Culture
BC-Building Community
BC-Civic Engagement & Advocacy
BC-Community & Neighborhood Improvement
BC-Diversity, Equity & Inclusion
BC-Economic Development
BC-Impact Investing
BC-Nonprofit Capacity Building
ED-Education
ED-Libraries
ED-Scholarships
EN-Animal Related
EN-Environment
EN-Natural Resources Conservation Protection
EN-Wildlife Preservation Protection Services
HS-Criminal & Legal

HS-Food, Agriculture & Nutrition
HS-Housing & Shelter
HS-Human Services
HS-Public Safety, Disaster Planning & Relief
HS-Transportation
HS-Veterans
H&W-Healthcare
H&W-Health & Wellness
H&W-Medical Research
H&W-Mental Health & Crisis Intervention
H&W-Rec & Sports
Interfund Transfer
O-Other
R-Religious
HS-Domestic Violence
HS-Sexual Assault
H&W-People with Disabilities
U-Unrestricted

Project Timeline

Can project be completed by December 1, 2026?*

Choices

Yes
No

Project Start Date*

Character Limit: 10

Project End Date*

Character Limit: 10

Does your organization serve youth under 18?*

Choices

Yes
No

Do you have a youth and child safety policy?*

Choices

Yes
No

People Involved*

Tell us about who will organize the project. Please include if you have any related qualifications, including experience with other similar projects.

Character Limit: 3000

Project Neighborly*

Tell us about your project and how it will benefit our community.

Please include who you hope will participate, how you will invite groups of people, what will happen, where the activities will take place, and if any other groups, partners or collaborators are involved.

Character Limit: 3000

Anticipated Outcomes*

Please describe how the activities will cultivate a sense of neighborliness, and/or build/improve relationships among people within a defined community who would otherwise be unlikely to come together.

Character Limit: 1000

Project Implementation*

What do you think will be your biggest challenges?

Character Limit: 3000

Project Expenses*

If this grant does not cover all of your project expenses, please explain how you will complete the project.

Character Limit: 2500

Permits and Permissions*

Will you need written permissions/permits from landowners or City department(s)? If so, please confirm that you will have the necessary permissions or permits in hand when project begins.

Character Limit: 1000

Budget Expenses

The following questions ask for projected expense descriptions and amounts. If you have more line items, you can upload a project budget as an attachment.

Expense 1 Description

Character Limit: 100

Expense 1 Amount

Character Limit: 20

Expense 2 Description

Character Limit: 100

Expense 2 Amount

Character Limit: 20

Expense 3 Description

Character Limit: 100

Expense 3 Amount

Character Limit: 20

Expense 4 Description

Character Limit: 100

Expense 4 Amount

Character Limit: 20

Expense 5 Description

Character Limit: 100

Expense 5 Amount

Character Limit: 20

Total Expenses (Amount)*

Character Limit: 20

Attachments

Photo upload

Please upload a photo that represents your organization or project well so that we can share your idea with our donors as a funding opportunity in our online **Grants Catalog**. Please use **our photo release** for any people in your photo and upload the completed one in the next question. The photo must be 300dpi, note: the image will be cropped to a square, so keep that in mind when choosing your photo –no pano or wide angle photos please.

Remember, a photo is worth a thousand words!

File Size Limit: 6 MB

Photo Release

Please upload our signed photo release if there are people in your photo.

File Size Limit: 6 MB

Fiscal Sponsorship Agreement

If you have a Fiscal Sponsor, please upload a signed agreement from the Executive Director of the sponsoring agency.

File Size Limit: 6 MB

Project Budget

If you had more than 5 expense line items, then please upload your project budget. Please include how the Whatcom Community Foundation funds will be spent.

File Size Limit: 6 MB

Youth and Child Safety Policy

File Size Limit: 6 MB