2027 Vibrant Villages Barstow Built Environment Grant Summary

Grant Purpose

The Built Environment Grant funds *visible, place-based physical improvements* that strengthen trusted community institutions and promote health, safety, resilience, and belonging for residents of:

- Barstow
- Daggett
- Hinkley
- Lenwood
- Newberry Springs
- Yermo

These grants support capital projects and upgrades that improve community spaces, enhance heat and emergency resilience, expand opportunities for healthy behaviors, and reinforce Vibrant Villages Barstow Steering Committee priorities.

Priority populations include youth, families with children, seniors, and veterans, consistent with Steering Committee guidance.

Funding Amounts

- **Grant Awards:** $25,000–$75,000
- **Grant Cycle Length:** January 1 – December 31, 2027 (12 months)

Who Should Apply

Organizations that:

- Have long-term site control for proposed improvements
- Are positioned to strengthen community-serving spaces
- Can complete a capital improvement project within a 12-month timeline
- Serve residents in Barstow and its defined rural communities
- Deliver services for youth, families, seniors, or veterans

Organizations must have a minimum $150,000 annual operating budget and be in business for at least three years.

Project Types Funded

Applicants must select **one** Built Environment project type.

1. Community Wellbeing Hub (CWH)

A trusted, walkable site offering access to basic needs, health navigation, cooling/safety functions, and community learning or connection.

Minimum Expectations (provided onsite or through partners):

- Trusted engagement space with IT infrastructure
- Space for a rotating **Community Health Navigator**
- Cooling center capability
- At least **four** of the following service categories:
    - Basic needs access
    - Community education
    - Healthcare access
    - Behavioral health/social services
    - Life-skills programming

Eligibility: Ownership or qualifying long-term lease, ≥$150K annual budget, operational sustainability, maintenance plan.

2. Built Environment & Infrastructure Improvements

Capital projects that enhance community access, physical activity, cooling/heat resilience, safety, or comfort.

Eligible Examples:

- Parks
- Walking trails
- Shade structures & heat-resilience features
- Outdoor recreation/playground upgrades
- Community gathering space renovations
- Safety lighting and visibility improvements

These are ideal for improving public-facing areas where Barstow residents gather, walk, play, or access services.

3. Last-Mile Capital Funding (Final-Stage Improvements)

The *final investment required* to complete or activate a capital project that will directly support health, wellbeing, access, or community use.

Eligible Examples:

- Final construction work needed to open/activate a space
- Equipment needed for service delivery (e.g., refrigerated cold-storage, cooling systems, backup power)
- Safety, accessibility, or code-required improvements

This category is designed for projects that already have committed capital but need the last $25K–$75K to become fully operational.

4. Other Built Environment Projects

Physical improvements that enhance **health, safety, access, or belonging**, but do not fit the categories above.

Applicants must clearly show:

- How the project improves community health or wellbeing
- Why the project does not align with the other three categories

Eligible Examples:

- Small-scale beautification
- Indoor gathering room improvements
- IT/technology upgrades enabling onsite services
- Emergency response equipment
- Placemaking projects that foster community identity

Eligibility Criteria

All Built Environment applicants must:

- Serve **Barstow or its defined rural communities**
- Provide documentation of **site control**
- Have a **minimum $150K budget** (past 3 years)
- Demonstrate **operational sustainability**
- Provide a **maintenance and insurance plan**
- Agree to complete the **Vibrant Villages shared community survey** if funded

Application Timeline

Date	Milestone
October 2, 2026	LOI Opens
October 9, 2026	Info Session Posted
October 30	LOI Due
November 6, 2026	Invitations to Apply
November 25, 2026	Full Applications Due
December 15, 2026	Award Notifications
January 1 – December 31, 2027	Grant Cycle
February 4, 2028	Grant Report Due

How to Apply

LOI's must be submitted in IEHP Foundation's grant management system **no later than Friday, October 30, by 12:00 pm PT**. To access the grant management system, click here.

What Will Not Be Funded

- Academic scholarships
- Endowments
- Individuals
- Major capital projects
- Private foundations
- Retroactive funding
- Sabbaticals
- Vehicles