2027 Vibrant Villages San Bernardino Steering Committee Priorities Grant Summary

The Vibrant Villages San Bernardino Steering Committee Priorities Grant supports nonprofit organizations and fiscally sponsored projects advancing priorities identified through the Vibrant Villages San Bernardino planning process. Funding is intended for targeted projects that pilot promising approaches, expand services to address unmet needs, strengthen organizational capacity and long-term sustainability, improve coordination, or advance systems-level change. Applicants should demonstrate measurable benefits for San Bernardino residents.

Priority will be given to projects that align with one or more of the following investment approaches:

- Pilot & Innovation
- Service Expansion
- Capacity & Sustainability
- Systems Change

Competitive proposals will address an identified community need and demonstrate how the project will expand services, test innovative approaches, strengthen organizational capacity, improve coordination, or contribute to sustainable systems-level change. Applicants should identify measurable outcomes and a clear plan for implementation.

Steering Committee Priorities:

- **Basic Needs: Food Access:** Improve access to food and nutrition resources; support CalFresh enrollment, recertification, retention, and awareness; and strengthen coordination among food-access providers.
- **Basic Needs: Healthcare Access:** Support Medi-Cal enrollment, renewal, and navigation; reduce transportation and appointment barriers; and increase use of healthcare and preventive services.
- **Meaningful Work & Wealth: Pathways for High School Graduates:** Connect students and recent graduates to education, credentials, apprenticeships, internships, paid work experiences, career preparation, and employment opportunities.
- **Meaningful Work & Wealth: Small Business Development & Entrepreneurship:** Help entrepreneurs, startups, and microbusinesses access training, technical assistance, business planning, capital-readiness resources, and networks that support stability and growth.

A more detailed description of Steering Committee Priorities, including grant application guidance, is available by clicking here.

Note: Projects submitted under the Small Business Development & Entrepreneurship priority area will be reviewed by IEHP Foundation and shared with a partner funding agency for additional funding

consideration. Additional eligibility, documentation, and funding requirements may apply. Applicants will be asked to authorize this sharing during the application process.

Funding Amounts:

- Award Range: Up to $25,000
- Grant Cycle Length: January 1 – October 31, 2027 (10 months)

Who Should Apply:

Organizations that:

- Serve residents in San Bernardino
- Deliver programs benefiting youth, families with children, small businesses, entrepreneurs
- Implement strategies aligned with one or more Steering Committee pillars
- Have the operational capacity to carry out a 10-month project.

Fiscally sponsored organizations are eligible for this grant.

What This Grant Supports:

Eligible projects may include, but are not limited to:

- CalFresh screening, enrollment, recertification, food-resource expansion, navigation, outreach, mapping, or coordinated referral efforts.
- Medi-Cal enrollment and renewal assistance, healthcare navigation, appointment reminders, transportation support, or other strategies that reduce barriers to care.
- Entrepreneurship cohorts, participant stipends, business planning and bookkeeping assistance, licensing support, capital readiness, or outreach connecting microbusinesses to resources.
- Programs connecting students and recent graduates to credentials, postsecondary education, apprenticeships, internships, paid work experience, entry-level employment, career exposure, and job-readiness support.
- Pilot projects, service expansions, capacity-building efforts, partnerships, and coordinated strategies that address unmet needs and contribute to sustainable community impact.

Eligibility Criteria:

Organizations must meet the following:

- 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization or fiscally sponsored project.
- Located in and/or primarily serving San Bernardino
- Minimum $150,000 annual organizational budget for the past 3 years
- Good standing with IRS and up-to-date Candid/Guidestar Gold or Platinum Seal of Transparency
- Ability to complete the project within the 10-month grant cycle

What Will Not Be Funded:

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

Questions About Eligibility:

Organizations that do not meet one or more of the eligibility requirements, or that are unsure whether they qualify, are encouraged to contact IEHP Foundation staff before applying. Foundation staff can provide guidance on eligibility and help organizations determine whether this funding opportunity is an appropriate fit.

Evaluation of Applications:

Applications will be reviewed by IEHP Foundation staff and volunteers, with evaluation criteria aligned with IEHP Foundation's mission, values and priority populations.

In particular, special consideration will be given to how applicants demonstrate how participation in this grant program will help expand the **ARCH** of their organizational strength. ARCH includes:

- **Accountability** to funders and community by being operationally efficient through healthy finances and strong leadership.
- **Results-oriented** by striving to achieve results that are identifiable, measurable, demonstrate progress and provide opportunities for learning and improvement.
- **Connectedness** to community and partnership networks, coalitions and collaborations.
- **Health Outcomes** by improving organization's position to be a trusted messenger of health to IEHPF's priority populations through improving health outcomes related to IEHPF's priority Vital Condition action areas.

A full evaluation matrix is available for viewing here.

Key Dates and Deadlines:

- November 6, 2026: Application opens
- November 12, 2026: Information Session Recording
- November 25, 2026 (5pm PT): Applications close
- Mid December 2026: Final Award Notifications
- January 1 – October 31, 2027: Grant Cycle
- November 23, 2027: Grant Report due

How To Apply:

Applications must be submitted in IEHP Foundation's grant management system **no later than Wednesday, November 25, by 5:00 pm PT**. To access the grant management system, click here.

Communications:

Email communications regarding the status of your application will come from IEHP Foundation Grants <administrator@grantinterface.com> or grants@iehpfoundation.org. Make sure both these email addresses are marked safe on your server to avoid communications being blocked or sent to a SPAM folder.

Additional Questions:

For any additional questions, comments or accommodation needs, please email grants@iehpfoundation.org. Please allow 3 - 5 business days for a response.