Impact Grant informational Meeting

Thursday, January 20, 2022


Norman Ravski welcomed everyone to the meeting by stating it was nice to see many new faces from across the Jewish community, synagogues, agencies, and organizations. Norm reviewed the goals and process of the community strategic plan and shared that the key priorities are education, engagement, caring for the elderly, helping those most in need and security.

The impact grant process is a direct result of the responses indicated in the surveys, focus groups, interviews, and board meetings. Dr. David Haas has been advocating for this for several years. It is imperative that the New Haven Jewish community works in collaboration to provide programs that are directly in-line with the strategic plan.

David Hass reviewed the online application questions. Dena Schulman Green provided clear directives for each question:

1. Clearly describe how your program will relate to the specific goals and highlight any partnership that may be a result of the request.
2. Progress reports are to help the applying organization stay on track and to engage the committee members as liaisons to provide guidance and support.
3. Be sure to stay in alignment with the plan (timeline, budget, goals, etc.).
4. Be sure you are writing clearly and communicating in simple language.
5. Tell a story of the issue and the impact your program will have and how it will enhance the community.
6. Share what is new and innovative. Why is your program creative and how will it be sustained.

Overall grant writing tips:

✔ Follow directions.
✔ Answer questions concisely.
✔ Review for typos, punctuation, and grammar. This is your first impression.
✔ Have an objective person read your grant to ensure it is clear and has a logical flow.

Questions and Answers

• Grant funding – requests for grants is up to $25,000. Each year there will be an allocated amount of funding to use for impact grants. This year the total is close to $100,000.
• How will proposals be reviewed – the task force will read and discuss every application. Decisions will be based on collaborative efforts, new and creative programs, the impact of the program, and how much is being requested.

• Three Year requests – will be discussed and reports of how things are progressing will determine future planning

• What is the committee missing? Request for feedback about the application, process, and liaison connections

Norman Ravski thanked the committee members who have dedicated time and effort to institute this new program and to all who attended.