

Who are Grantmaking Partners? Grantmaking Partners include forward-thinking businesses, family foundations, or individuals with established giving vehicles, such as a donor-advised fund at ECF, another community foundation, or a commercial fund. Grantmaking Partners are interested in making an impact in Evanston while removing the burden of soliciting and evaluating a wide range of proposals. We encourage unrestricted support while also providing options for proposal specific funding.

How does the Grantmaking Partner program work now? We advocate for unrestricted giving to maximize our community impact, entrusting our community-led committees to allocate funds in opportunity areas that they recommend. For partners desiring a more traditional approach, we're happy to share our approved grants slate for each cycle, allowing for directed support to one or more, in full or in part, of our top-rated grants proposals.

What are the benefits for Grantmaking Partners? By embracing unrestricted or directed giving, partners contribute to a variety of innovative programs that promise long-term community resilience and prosperity. This also removes the grantmaking partner's burden of the selecting who should get priority funding, as we trust the committee to make these decisions.

How are grants decided and monitored? Decision-making rests with our diverse, community-led committees, ensuring equitable distribution. Whether you choose unrestricted giving or select from our grants slate, all initiatives are recommended in alignment with ECF's mission to drive systemic social change and build a thriving, resilient Evanston.

How are Grantmaking Partners recognized? Partners can opt for recognition or anonymity. We will acknowledge your support throughout the year in our event programs, Annual Report, and on our website.

How are community-led grants funded other than Grantmaking Partners? The core of funding for community-led grants comes from ECF's unrestricted endowment and from endowed field of interest funds. Grantmaking partners help ensure we can meet the need and demand of support, as it is greater than our endowment draws allow. Grantmaking Partners help us meet that need.

Questions?

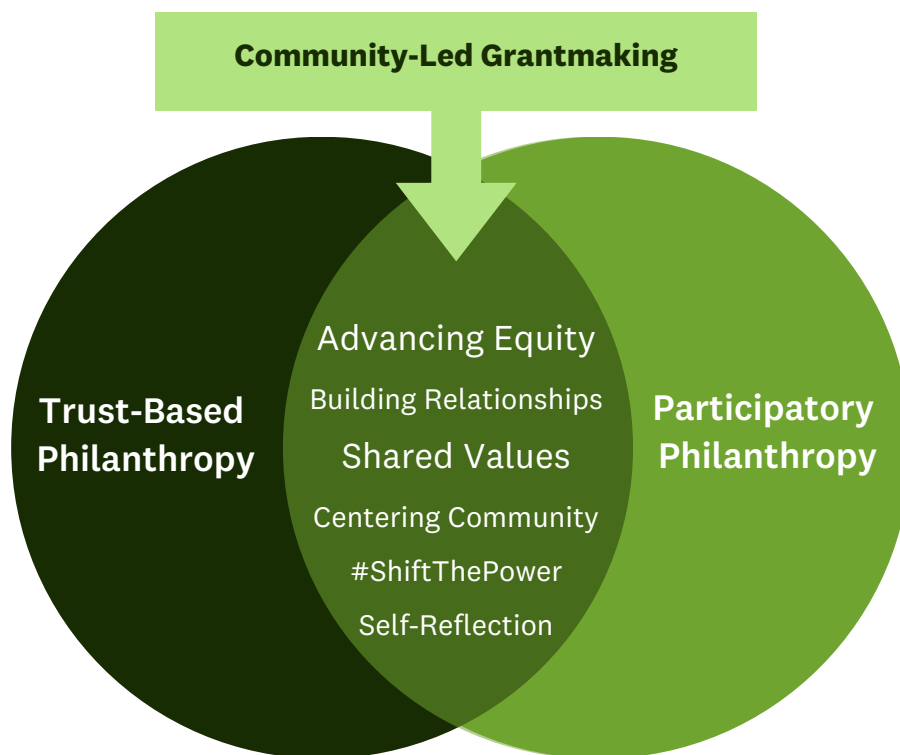
Please contact Robby Bardwell, Senior Director of Development at 847-492-0990 or bardwell@evanstonforever.org

ECF'S BRAND OF COMMUNITY-LED GRANTMAKING

ECF knows we have a responsibility to acknowledge and confront the reality that philanthropy has often contributed to systemic inequities, both in the ways wealth is accumulated and in the ways its dissemination is controlled. Evanston Community Foundation pioneered and actively employs a community-led grantmaking model that demonstrates humility and collaboration in what we do and how we show up as a grant-maker and community partner.

This community-led model is informed by a blend of best practices sourced from trust-based philanthropy and participatory grantmaking. The cornerstones of our community-led grantmaking approach: working to address systemic equity, redistributing power, centering relationships, being in service and transparent to community, and striving to always be learning.

ECF is proud that **our grantmaking is truly community-led, where community members who live or work in disinvested communities evaluate and rate our proposals.** In 2024, 74% of ECF's community-led grants committee members identify as BIPOC*. Only the committees' top-rated and vetted proposals are put forth to our Board for funding approval.



Source: Trust-based Philanthropy Project and Participatory Grantmakers.

**ECF uses the term BIPOC to highlight the unique history of oppression and continual, systemic discrimination that Black and Indigenous people experience within a U.S. context. These systems, built on white supremacy culture, impact all People of Color. As such, ECF prioritizes organizations led by and/or centered on the voices of Black, Indigenous, Latinx, and Asian community members, and those impacted by multiple intersectional systems of oppression.*

2024 GRANTS

E-Town Innovation

***Issued in Spring/Summer 2024**

Individual grants up to \$20,000 that support new or expanded innovative programs that:

- Prioritize equitable opportunities and outcomes for Black People, Indigenous People, and People of Color (BIPOC)*
- Support organizations working together to solve community challenges and change systems
- Embrace creative solutions that address community needs in ways that are more effective, equitable, or sustainable than standard approaches

Grassroots/Community Groups Grants

Club Tree'd House

Club Tree'd Self Care Project

Grant Amount: \$5,000

This project nurtures well-being by providing a safe space to practice self-care, self-sufficiency and socializing. Club Tree'd House offers out-of-school programs, recreational projects and social events that provide youth with the proper tools and education to overcome socioeconomic disparities, holistically.

The goal is to launch a seed starting project during school recess and in class, to repurpose an unused space and to implement the 2024 recreational project "Get Well" Greenhouse where students will maintain and care for plants indoors.

Evanston First Alliance, Inc.

Boxing Recreational Program

Grant Amount: \$20,000

This project looks empower underserved Evanston youth through a safe space after school program for boxing/martial arts, academic support, adult/peer mentoring, career development, and community building with Evanston Law Enforcement. This will improve each student's self-esteem by enhancing their physical and emotional control; and will instill the confidence to overcome life's obstacles, small and large, by nurturing the belief that they have the fortitude to persevere and succeed.

Padres Empoderados

Salud Mental Al Alcance De Todos

Grant Amount: \$20,000

This project will offer classes on mental health topics for Spanish-speaking parents. These workshops will be taught by specialists and will include an adult mental health first aid program. Each participant will receive a certificate upon completion of these trainings. This project will support the Latine community and open a path to monthly group chats, creating a safe space for Spanish-speaking parents, to express themselves free of judgment and in their language, to connect with their emotions, to release their worries and to feel heard and accompanied.

Community Institutions Grants

Books & Breakfast

Advancing Racial Equity by Reversing Summer Learning Loss in D65

Grant Amount: \$20,000

This project will support the sustainability and enhancement of B&B's Summer Reading Intensive Program. Created to address COVID-19 learning loss, RSLI has shown transformational promise: children gained an average of 6+ months in 6 weeks. This year's iteration and continued support aims for B&B students to gain over 3.5 years in reading by Grade 8.

Boys Hope/Girls Hope of Illinois (BHGH)

Professional Internship Support to Help Our Collegians Soar

Grant Amount: \$20,000

Boys Hope Girls Hope of Illinois mission is to nurture and guide motivated young people in need to become college-educated, career-ready, community-minded adults. Internships are critical to getting that first job, which gets difficult if students lack social networks to access these roles. This is a program built to help open doors and reduce barriers for all participant Collegians through BHGH College Intern Program with salary support, professional clothing, and intern housing and transportation.

Center for Independent Futures

Enhancing Equity and Opportunity for BIPOC Individuals w/Disabilities through Social Connection

Grant Amount: \$ 16,500

ETHS students and graduates with disabilities, with over 80% identifying as BIPOC, will join an expanded activities program fostering social connections and life skills while promoting community engagement. Participants will collaboratively develop a plan to stay connected, mitigating social isolation and advancing their equity of opportunity and inclusion.

Evanston Health Dept.

Fifth Ward Health Hub

Grant Amount: \$20,000

The City of Evanston HHS Department strives to increase equitable access to resources that allow all residents, particularly those in the 5th ward, to be healthy and to flourish. By creating a Fifth Ward Health Hub in a safe, trustworthy community space, this project aims to increase hyperlocal access to health resources for the population most in need.

Farmworker and Landscaper Advocacy Project

Empowering Low-income Latines with Inclusion, Information and Resources in Evanston

Grant Amount: \$20,000

FLAP seeks to support the Latine community through advocacy, community outreach & education, litigation, community legal education, information and referrals. This project is part of FLAP's ongoing efforts at preventing human labor trafficking, securing dual citizenship for children and facilitating access to cash transfers to very low-income populations in Evanston free of charge and without regard to immigration status.

PEER Services, Inc.

Supporting Students through Early Intervention

Grant Amount: \$20,000

PEER Services seeks to continue and enhance their successful partnership with ETHS to provide onsite substance use early intervention counseling. Using restorative practices, the program aims to stop or reduce students' substance use and its adverse impacts, which are disproportionately experienced by BIPOC individuals.

Nonprofit Growth and Sustainability

***Issued in Spring/Summer 2024**

Individual grants of up to \$25,000 in operating funds. Evanston Community Foundation is dedicated to bolstering a vibrant and thriving nonprofit sector in Evanston. We provide unrestricted, flexible funding for general operations to Evanston nonprofits that show a clear dedication to racial equity in their mission, vision, and day-to-day operations.

Books and Breakfast

General Operating

Grant Amount: \$25,000.00

This general operating grant will support projects that advance Books and Breakfast's work to disrupt systemic racism in D65 schools by tripling their support of native Spanish speaking families in the district. Native Spanish speakers, projected to become Evanston's majority minority, are the fastest-growing demographic group in D65; this project anchors Books and Breakfast's ability to scale existing pilot programs at Washington and Willard Schools, which host D65 Spanish-English Two-Way Immersion Programs.

Erie Family Health Centers – Evanston/Skokie

General Operating

Grant Amount: \$25,000.00

Erie Family Health Centers address a fundamental challenge: not everyone has an equal opportunity to live their healthiest lives, especially those from historically disinvested communities. Erie Evanston/Skokie Health Center is a healthcare home for residents of Evanston and nearby communities in need of comprehensive medical, oral, and behavioral healthcare. Erie is committed to addressing health inequities by providing high quality healthcare so all people can live their healthiest lives.

Farmworker and Landscaper Advocacy Project

General Operating

Grant Amount: \$25,000.00

A general operating grant would enhance Farmworker and Landscaper Advocacy Project’s mission in Evanston by supporting advocacy, community outreach and education, legal services, and collaboration to improve working conditions for low-income workers to ensure equitable access to justice and support services for marginalized individuals, combating labor exploitation and promoting social and economic empowerment.

Infant Welfare Society of Evanston

General Operating

Grant Amount: \$25,000.00

General operating grants provide crucial support to Infant Welfare Society of Evanston (IWSE), allowing the agency to deliver exceptional care to children and their families. Without such support, IWSE would face funding gaps and have to scale back programs for vulnerable Evanston children.

James B. Moran Center for Youth Advocacy

General Operating

Grant Amount: \$25,000.00

The James B. Moran Center for Youth Advocacy (“Moran Center”) is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit based in Evanston providing a free lifeline of integrated legal, mental health, and restorative services to youth and families. Their work advances the vision of a more just, racially equitable, and restorative society at the local, regional, and state level.

McGaw YMCA

General Operating

Grant Amount: \$25,000.00

McGaw YMCA is seeking general operating funding to strengthen staffing and improve quality and impactful programming to address emerging needs post-pandemic for all ages across the Evanston community. With rising costs for family basic needs, social isolation of older adults, physical and mental health and well-being challenges, and youth social-emotional setbacks, ECF support would help them maintain equitable services and build community while planning for future sustainability.



Mitchell Museum of the American Indian

General Operating

Grant Amount: \$25,000.00

This general operating grant will help support the Mitchell Museum of the American Indian to grow their capacity to provide equitable programs and educational resources that elevate Indigenous perspectives and share an accurate Native American history of the Evanston and Great Lakes area.

Young, Black & Lit

General Operating

Grant Amount: \$25,000.00

Young, Black & Lit will invest \$25,000 in unrestricted funding in FY25 to support the organization's shift to an operations/governance model during its sixth and seventh years as it continues to scale its Evanston programs and reach. This ECF grant supports increased administrative support over the 12-month grant period, as well as some daily operations costs to allow for greater volume in programming and reach, increased volunteer participation, and optimization of leadership time and focus.

Collective and Enduring

***These investments are intentionally multi-stakeholder, multi-year, and ever-growing, so the grant amounts change annually.**

These grants bring together nonprofit organizations, community institutions, and other stakeholders to address, challenge, and effect systems change over the long-term. Rather than an open application process, these grants stem from collaborations and dialogues among community stakeholders and ECF staff and leadership.

YWCA Evanston/Northshore -Savings for Success: Strategic Program Consultant Contract Extension

Builds the capacity of the Savings for Success (S4S) collaboration to launch and sustain a district-wide Children's Savings Account program by extending the contract of its consultant to support the S4S team as it works to relaunch the program and build out marketing materials, recruit and train program ambassadors, and plan for the 2024-25 school year. In 2025, the Savings for Success program is designed to enroll and incentivize District 65 Kindergartners and Sixth graders.

Connections for the Homeless - Affordable Housing Advocacy Evanston

This grant will support and grow the capacity of the Connections Advocacy program, which addresses systemic issues and the legacy of institutionalized racism and discrimination through building coalitions and leading local projects to work upstream to change the systems perpetuating homelessness and housing instability.

Reparations Stakeholder Authority of Evanston (RSAE)

Considering the core responsibilities of the RSAE, a need for an administrative assistant has become apparent. The right person for this position will assist in overseeing critical goals over the course of the next two years.

RSAA - Evanston Reconciliation Project

This initiative to advance epistemic reparations envisions a collaborative effort among several esteemed organizations in Evanston to host a year-long series of nine restorative community circles and artistic healing experiences across various Evanston community centers. These restorative circles will foster healing and reconciliation and provide valuable training to community members interested in facilitating such circles. Additionally, participants will have the opportunity to share their stories and artistic expressions, all captured by a team of Evanston-based filmmakers and documentarians.

NEW TO 2024 – COMING THIS NOVEMBER

Grassroot Community Groups and Emerging Nonprofits

ECF has a long history of supporting emerging nonprofits. To deepen our Strategic Plan commitment of Strengthening the Nonprofit Community, we are offering grants of up to \$25,000 in unrestricted, flexible funding to grassroots community groups and emerging nonprofits in Evanston with an operational budget under \$500,000.

These groups play a vital role in addressing unmet needs within the community. These grants will provide the needed resources to enhance operations, expand their reach, and amplify their impact within the community.

Partner With ECF

If these wonderful organizations or initiatives inspired you to join with ECF by becoming a Grantmaking Partner, please don't hesitate to reach out. Unrestricted donations are highly encouraged as they give us the flexibility to fund more projects, but if a specific grant resonates with you, we welcome restricted support as well. We'd be happy to share full proposals or answer any questions.

Contact

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