2020 Neighborhoods Rising Fund for Digital Inclusion

NRF for Digital Inclusion

In partnership with Google Fiber Kansas City, the 2020 Neighborhoods Rising Fund will administrate a special pool of funding made available to neighborhood organizations to enhance online learning opportunities and access to online resources in the neighborhoods.

Community Capital Fund will manage the distribution of awards to applicants and will collaborate with Google Fiber to gather impact data from grantees.

About the Neighborhoods Rising Fund

The Neighborhoods Rising Fund (NRF) is a unique funding collaborative between Community Capital Fund and LISC Greater Kansas City. The Neighborhoods Rising Fund exists through the support of a generous funding collaborative that includes: AltCap, Commerce Bank, Google Fiber Kansas City, Hall Family Foundation, Hallmark, JE Dunn Construction, The Sosland Foundation, UMB, US Bank, and The William T. Kemper Foundation.

Grant Restrictions and Requirements

Eligible applicants must:
- Align with the criteria outlined in the 2020 NRF Guidelines and Application
- Complete and submit their 2020 NRF grant application by March 2, 2020 (5:00 CST)
- Agree to participate in an external evaluation to measure the impact of the project

Eligible Projects for Digital Inclusion

2020 NRF applicants seeking support from this pilot program should target one or more of the following focus areas:
- Neighbors who do not use the Internet but are interested in learning how to get online and need help
- Neighbors who do not use the Internet and who lack a computer or perceive high costs to Internet access
- Neighborhoods with high unemployment, with emphasis on Internet-related career skills and job hunting
- Neighborhood senior citizens who do not use the Internet, with emphasis on access to health information
- Neighborhood school children in homes without Internet access

Eligible expenses and activities to be supported may include, but are not limited to:
- Program costs directly associated with the implementation of the project
- Hardware, software and Internet connectivity to be used to provide digital skills training and/or access for target population members (e.g. devices + portable hotspots for mobile computer labs)

Examples of expenses and activities that will NOT be supported include:
- Costs associated with updating an organization’s internal hardware, software, IT systems or support, or website content
- Construction fees or monthly service charges for home Internet subscriptions
- Development of Wi-Fi or other networks intended to provide wide-scale connectivity
- Purchase of hardware for end users and/or in-home use

Grant Range

The Neighborhoods Rising Fund annually awards grants up to $3,000 for community-driven neighborhood revitalization projects. Applicants seeking to apply under these guidelines may receive up to $5,000 (at discretion of the NRF grant administrators). Applicants should still seek a maximum request of $3,000 in their proposals.

For more information, contact Michael Carmona at michael@ccfkansascity.org or 816.502.9584.