Capacity Building Grants for Technology

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Overview

- Introductions
- Capacity building orientation
- Making a strong request
- Examples
- Q&A

Who am I?

cloudbreak
COLLECTIVE

SEATTLE UNIVERSITY
IHS
1891

UNIVERSITY OF WASHINGTON
LVX SIT
1861

Who are you?

- What is your role?
- What experience do you have with grants of any type?
- What is one thing you want to learn?

On Capacity Building

Whether organizations are focused on staff training, strategic planning, or technology upgrades, we see investments in capacity building as critical investments in the impact of our nonprofit sector on our community.

– Kelly Thompson, Vice President of Grantmaking and Community Initiatives, Quad Cities Community Foundation

QUAD CITIES Community Foundation

Generosity lives here.®

Capacity Building for Technology

What is capacity building?

Focused activities carried out in a set time period and designed to increase the capabilities, knowledge, and resources within an organization.

Why capacity building?

Process of building and strengthening the systems, structures, cultures, skills, resources, and power that organizations need to serve their communities. – Grantmakers for Effective Organizations

Capacity Building Categories

- Core infrastructure (technology, systems development)
- Financial capacity
- Fundraising capacity
- Leadership development
- Succession planning
- Talent development
- Governance
- General management
- Strategic communications
- Strategy development
- Adaptability and resilience
- Monitoring
- Evaluation and learning
- Innovation
- Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion (DEI)

Common Thread:

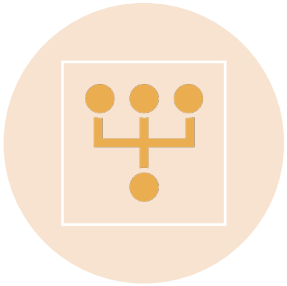
Critical moment of growth or change

Grantmaking Trends

Hewlett Foundation found DEI was top topic for foundations in 2020

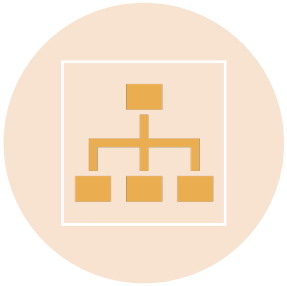
Trends in Capacity Building

William & Flora Hewlett Foundation

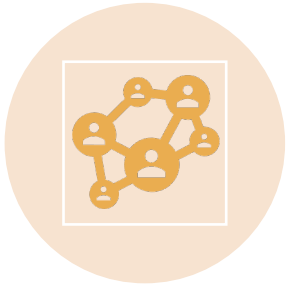


Distinction emerging between short-term capacity building and longer-term organizational development

Funders rethinking resource allocation and practices to correct historic bias the excluded BIPOC organizations



Shift toward asset-framing for organizational assessments



Increasing support for networks, coalitions, and movements (peer capacity building)

What is your critical need for growth or change in technology?

Common Grant Application Process

Work with fundraising team to identify need

Research: Identify the right grant opportunities that align with your organization's mission and goals.

Eligibility: Check the eligibility criteria and ensure that your organization meets the requirements.

LOI: Screening tool for eligibility, strength, and fit with priorities

Full application: Invitation to expand on details

Site visit: virtual or on-site

Full application

- Organizational Strengths
- Community opportunities and benefits
- Project plan with clear goals, objectives, outcomes, timeline, budget, and work plan
- Evaluation Plan
- Sustainability Plan

What makes a strong capacity building request?

- Story of your mission and community impact
- Opportunity, not a problem
- Benefit to organization's ability to fulfill mission
- Urgent organizational priority, tied to strategic plan
- Clear, achievable, and measurable
- Leveraging other funding sources, volunteers, and partnerships
- Leadership buy-in

Technology Capacity Building Examples

TIPPING POINT COMMUNITY

Impact Cohort

- Strengthening capacity and using data for equity
- Identify DEI-focused question about strategy or program and build capacity for collecting, analyzing, and using data about clients' race, risks, and protective factors
- TPC provides technical support and coaching on data analysis and DEI expert

world relief
QUAD CITIES

VERA FRENCH
Mental Health for Healthy Living

40 ANNIVERSARY
RIVER BEND FOOD BANK
1982 - 2022
MEMBER OF FEEDING AMERICA

2023 Quad Cities Community Foundation Technology Capacity Building Grants

On Capacity Building

Wilburforce Foundation will advance its mission only if our grantees have the leaders and systems they need to thrive. That's why for more than twenty years we've made a significant commitment in grantee capacity building. We know that when we support our grantees beyond the grant check, we all benefit.

2022-23 Wilburforce Foundation Capacity Building Grants

Q&A