



Nonprofit Capacity Building Priority Area

[The Lake County Community Foundation](#) (LCCF) board and staff launched this funding priority area to help nonprofits build their internal capacity so they can better serve the community. At LCCF, we recognize that capacity building grants are a critical tool in supporting nonprofit sustainability, efficiency and growth. This priority area is incorporated into [LCCF's Fall Grant Cycle](#), which opens annually in August.

Capacity Building Grant FAQs and Eligibility

- Eligible organizations may apply for grants between **\$1,000-\$5,000** to support capacity building projects and activities.
- These grants are intended to support one-time organizational costs and expenses. ***No reoccurring salaries, fees or costs will be considered.***
- Funds may be used to either support a consultant/contractor/trainer or to cover staff time required to complete a capacity building project.
- Receiving a capacity building grant award does not preclude your organization from receiving funding via the Spring Grant Cycle; you may apply for and receive grants in both cycles.

Capacity Building Grant Purposes

Examples of eligible projects include:

- Strategic Planning: Creation of a strategic plan or succession planning
- Development/Finance: Fundraising consultation; creation of a comprehensive fundraising plan; organizational financial resiliency building planning; training on or procurement of financial systems and tools
- Evaluation and Data Tracking: Develop evaluation tools and plans, surveys, tracking tools, performing a needs assessment or asset mapping project
- Board Development: Training and support to develop board policies and procedures, board training
- Staff Development and Support: Staff or management training or coaching; support of conference participation; staff wellness initiatives (mental health support, healing circles, etc.); improving volunteer recruitment and management
- Organizational Infrastructure: Creating or improving internal systems, databases and software; technology improvements and updates
- Diversity, Equity and Inclusion Initiatives: Training or coaching for board and staff, working towards becoming a more equity-forward institution; please see our website for more information about resources and services available through our [Racial Equity Program](#)
- Marketing/Communications: Development of a comprehensive communications plan, website development or improvement

Eligible projects are not limited to those listed above. We encourage you to reach out prior to submitting an application to ensure that your request aligns with this priority area. LCCF can also help you identify consultants or coaches if desired. Please contact Emily Weber, Director of Programs & Community Investment at Emily@lakecountycf.org for more information and visit our [website](#) for application instructions.