



2027 – 2029 SAFETY NET FUNDING CYCLE

APPLICATION INSTRUCTIONS

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EXPECTATIONS AND BENEFITS OF SAFETY NET MEMBERSHIP

Submission of a funding request for the 2027 – 2029 Safety Net Funding cycle will result in a multi-year contract with selected agencies for United Way of Greater St. Louis' member agency network.

United Way's Safety Net is a collaborative network of agencies that deliver an array of **essential direct services** to address the region's immediate and most pressing needs **by helping families and individuals work toward stability**. Safety Net agencies provide direct services that address basic, urgent needs—such as access to food, access to housing, in addition to supports to move individuals and families toward stability, like education, addressing health and well-being, accessing the workforce, or attaining financial mobility.

Agencies selected for United Way Agency Membership will be required to meet the following contract requirements during the three (3) year contract timeframe. All applicants should note that acceptance of the funding award and contract means that the agency will adhere to these contract requirements in alignment and partnership with United Way of Greater St. Louis.

- **Conduct a Workplace United Way Community Campaign Annually** – The annual Community Campaign period occurs during the fall, typically from Labor Day through October 31. Member Agency participation in support of the Annual Community Campaign is significant and amplifies overall fundraising that supports the full network's ability to support the community. Through conducting an internal United Way workplace campaign annually, member agencies engage staff members and their board in support of the community. During the annual Community Campaign period, members may not solicit businesses or corporations, and any such corporate solicitations must occur before or after the annual Community Campaign period.
- **Co-branding with United Way** - Member agencies regularly co-brand with United Way, yielding fundraising and public awareness benefits for the entire network. Member agencies are required:
 - To display the United Way logo on the following:
 - Member Agency's website on the homepage. The logo must be linked to the United Way homepage
 - On the Member's Agency brochures, annual report, printed newsletters, and promotional materials. The logo should be placed on either the front or back cover, or both
 - On e-newsletters for both email and web-based communications
 - On the front door and a second entry to the members' agency building
 - Share Stories of Impact – Narratives of client success and achievement help to tell the story of the funded network's collective impact. These success stories may be used in United Way's mission video, public service announcements, digital or print communications, or in marketing that speaks about the Safety Net Network.
 - Engage in Digital Marketing – Annually share an announcement of the United Way allocation award via the agency's social media platforms and support/repost additional digital announcements in partnership with United Way.

- Member agencies also periodically have the opportunity to feature their agency or programs in partnership with United Way to corporate donors, constituents, and through various media platforms (e.g., TV, digital, print communications, podcasts)
- **Submit Annual Impact Reporting** – United Way annually collects data and information from member agencies for the purpose of measuring impact in addition to accountability to donors and the community, to inform community investments, internal evaluation, research, benchmarking, and aggregate knowledge sharing. The information captured during annual reporting illustrates the services and collaborative impact provided through the member agency network to the community.
- **Participate in Site Visits** – Member agencies will participate in scheduled site visits with United Way volunteers and staff aimed at measuring the organizational health, capacity of the member agency network to meet community needs, impacts achieved as a result of affiliation, and to highlight member agency alignment with United Way and the broader Safety Net network.
- **Maintain a 211 Profile** – 211 Powered by United Way is a public information tool designed to connect individuals 24/7 to available services and resources. Member agencies have an active profile in 211 information and referral platform and share annual updates on program changes to ensure accuracy in resource information for community.
- **Actively Engage in the Community Information Exchange (CIE)** – The Community Information Exchange (CIE) is a network of partners focused on improving the health and well-being of residents in the region through closed-loop referral processing. Member agencies and select external partners actively participate in sending and accepting referrals and agree to use shared technology associated with the CIE to strengthen service delivery and achieve direct service outcomes within the member agency network. Partners virtually coordinate efforts to maximize resources in the delivery of holistic, person-centered care – moving families from crisis to long-term stability.

FUNDING REQUIREMENTS FOR NEW APPLICANTS

To qualify for United Way funding, an organization must meet the following minimum eligibility requirements. **Any applicant not currently funded as a 2024-2026 Safety Net Member Agency is considered a new applicant and is subject to the following:**

- Must provide direct services to individuals living in at least one of the [16 counties](#) within United Way’s geographic footprint.
- The organization and the specified program(s) must have been operational for at least 2 years prior to submission on April 17, 2026.
- Must be a nonprofit operating with a current federal 501(c)(3) tax determination
- Must be in good standing with the state of Missouri or Illinois (applicants must be able to provide a certificate of good standing with the state of Illinois or Missouri dated on or after October 17, 2025)
- Must have the following financial documentation:

- Must submit the most recent audited financial statements within six (6) months of the agency’s fiscal year-end, including the auditor’s opinion, management and/or internal control findings letter prepared by an independent auditor.
 - Organizations with operating budgets of \$250,000 or more are expected to have audits performed by a certified public accountant (CPA).
 - Organizations with operating budgets less than \$250,000 may choose not to submit a formal financial audit. However, if they do not submit an audit, they must provide all of the following instead.
 - A narrative explanation for why a formal audit was not obtained
 - The agency’s most recent 990 or 990 EZ
 - A third-party financial compilation report for the same fiscal period.

FUNDING REQUIREMENTS FOR CURRENT 2024 – 2026 FUNDED SAFETY NET AGENCIES

To qualify for funding under the 2027 Safety Net cycle, a currently funded Safety Net agency must meet the following minimum eligibility requirements:

- Be in good standing with United Way (i.e. all required materials submitted, consistent and responsive engagement with Community Investment staff)
- Audited and financial statements must be up to date and in good standing in submitting the agency’s most recent audited financial statements, including the auditor’s opinion, management and/or internal control findings letter prepared by an independent auditor.
- Must provide a current certificate of good standing with the State of Illinois or State of Missouri dated on or before October 17, 2025.

Expected Safety Net Funding Award Ranges:

Final award announcements will be made by December 16, 2026, for agencies selected at the conclusion of the Fall 2026 Community Campaign.

The minimum amount that an agency may be awarded is \$50,000; the maximum is \$1,500,000. For new applicants not currently funded within the Safety Net, an agency may be awarded between \$50,000 - \$100,000. **PLEASE NOTE: Funding awards for all applicants may not exceed more than 20% of the agency’s programmatic budget for which funding is being requested.**

Final funding level determinations will be based on review, performance, and recommendation of United Way’s volunteer Regional Investment Committee.

SAFETY NET CYCLE TIMELINE:

Key Milestone	Date
Application Released	March 13, 2026
Virtual Informational Meetings	New Applicants ONLY: March 24, 2026 , 2pm-4pm March 26, 2026 , 10am-noon Current Safety Agencies ONLY: March 25, 2026, 2pm-4pm <i>Access link will be provided by United Way.</i>
Cycle Virtual Office Hours, for support and clarifying questions	March 27, 2026 Click here to sign up for a 15 minute slot.
Application Due Date	April 17, 2026, by 5:00pm
Member Agency Selection Announcement	Week of June 29, 2026

SUBMISSION GUIDELINES

Applicants may submit a maximum of one (1) application per agency.

ACCESSING THE APPLICATION

All submissions must be made through the online application portal; no submissions will be reviewed outside the application portal. Instructions for logging into the online application portal and accessing the 2027 Safety Net Cycle Application are provided in Appendix F. Click [here](#) to access and complete the 2027 Safety Net Cycle Application Form. To submit a 2027 Safety Net Cycle Application, the applicant must complete a profile in United Way’s grants management system, including the agency profile sections noted in the application questions referenced in Appendix F of this packet.

The deadline to apply is April 17, 2026, at 5:00 pm without exception. Applicants are encouraged to plan accordingly to submit in advance of the deadline. All questions regarding this funding opportunity should be emailed to grantsupport@unitedwaystl.org.

REQUIRED DOCUMENT UPLOADS

All required documents must be uploaded to United Way's online application portal. Please do not provide links to the organization's website and/or file storage system in lieu of uploading the required documents in their entirety. Please contact grantsupport@unitedwaystl.org for assistance with files that exceed the maximum allowable size.

UPLOADS FOR NEW APPLICANTS

All new applicants must provide the documents listed below. **An organization not funded as a 2026 Safety Net Member agency is considered a new applicant.**

- 501(c)3 IRS Tax Determination Letter (including Employee Identification Number [EIN])
- Current Missouri / Illinois Certificate of Good Standing (dated on or after October 17, 2025). For more information or to access a certificate, reference the links below:
 - [Link to the Illinois Secretary of State website](#)
 - [Link to the Missouri Secretary of State website](#)
- Policy for background checks, including child abuse and neglect screenings, if applicable
- Policy on non-discrimination in hiring and service delivery
- Policy(s) on privacy protection practices required for services provided as required by law. (HIPAA, FERPA, etc.)
- Grievance policy for program participants or primary stakeholders
- Current Board Roster, including contact information for the Board Chair/President
- Financial Health Documentation:
 - The most recent audited financial statements within six (6) months of the agency's fiscal year-end, including the auditor's opinion, management and/or internal control findings letter prepared by an independent auditor.
 - Organizations with budgets less than \$250,000 may provide narrative justification for not obtaining a formal financial audit and, in lieu thereof, submit 1) narrative justification, 2) the agency's most recent 990 or 990 EZ, AND 3) a third-party financial compilation report.
 - Organizations with operating budgets of \$250,000 or more are expected to have audits performed by a certified public accountant (CPA).

PLEASE NOTE:

- If the required documentation is not submitted, your application will not be reviewed or considered for funding.
- If funded, the agency should be prepared to conduct an annual compilation or a full financial audit by an independent auditor.

- Copies of the documents noted for new and returning applicants may be requested at any time during the 2027 – 2029 Safety Net contract timeframe.

UPLOADS FOR RETURNING 2024 – 2026 FUNDED SAFETY NET AGENCIES

Currently funded Safety Net agency must submit:

- Current Missouri / Illinois Certificate of Good Standing (dated on or after October 17, 2025).
- Current Board Roster with Board Chair / President contact info
- Financial Health Documentation:
 - Must be up to date, and the agency may not have any outstanding required submissions of the most recent Audited Financial Statements, including the auditor’s opinion, management, and/or an internal control findings letter prepared by an independent auditor.
 - Organizations with operating budgets of \$250,000 or more are expected to have audits performed by a certified public accountant (CPA).
 - PLEASE NOTE: If funded, the agency should be prepared to conduct an annual compilation or a full financial audit by an independent auditor.
- In addition to the required uploads, you will be asked to affirm that there have been no changes to the following policies:
 - Policy for background checks, including child abuse and neglect screenings, if applicable
 - Policy on non-discrimination in hiring and service delivery
 - Grievance policy for program participants or primary stakeholders
 - Policy(ies) on privacy protection practices required for services provided as required by law (HIPAA, FERPA, etc.)

PLEASE NOTE:

- If the required documentation is not submitted, your application will not be reviewed or considered for funding.
- If funded, the agency should be prepared to conduct an annual compilation or a full financial audit by an independent auditor.
- Copies of the documents noted for new and returning applicants may be requested at any time during the 2027 – 2029 Safety Net contract timeframe.

ORGANIZATIONAL PROFILE (NEW APPLICANTS ONLY):

Please see Appendix F for instructions on creating a user and organization profile in United Way’s online application portal. Agencies funded during the 2024–2026 cycle, as well as any organization with an existing portal account, should not create a new profile.

SECTION 1 – INTRODUCTION

1. Is your organization currently funded as a 2024 – 2026 Safety Net member agency?
 - Choices: No / Yes
2. This grant management system requires all applications to have a project name. This name is not tied to the agency’s list of programs. For informational purposes, please input the words “General Operating” or “Programmatic” depending on the type of support requested.
3. Agency Headquarters address. If different than what is stated in your organizational profile within the grant management system, please include the county in your response. For state-wide and multi-state agencies, please provide the address of the main office in United Way’s 16-county region.
4. Please provide the locations (address and county) of other satellite locations in United Way’s service area.
5. Please check all counties within the agency’s service territory being served by your agency.

SECTION 2 – ADMINISTRATIVE OVERVIEW

1. Enter the total number of staff employed at any time between January 1 and December 31, 2025.*
2. Current total number of employees. This number will be automatically calculated from the answers to questions 3 and 5.
3. Enter the current number of full-time equivalent (FTE) employees*
4. Enter the approximate number of FTE positions normally employed.*
5. Enter the current number of part-time employees*
6. Enter the approximate number of part-time positions normally employed.*
7. Staff Reductions
 - a. Did the agency experience any unplanned staff reductions in 2025?
 - b. If yes, provide the number of staff affected, a brief explanation of the cause, and the timeframe during which the reduction occurred.
8. Staff Capacity
 - a. Does the agency plan to expand staff capacity in the future?
 - b. If yes, describe the number of staff anticipated to be added, the reason for the expansion, and the expected timeline.
9. List any legal, ethical, safety, or regulatory issues occurring with the agency in the past 5 years.
10. List any official complaints or grievances filed or submitted to the agency between January 1, 2025, and December 31, 2025. Include the total number of complaints and a brief summary. Please enter “None” if not applicable.
11. Memberships and Affiliations

- a. Is the agency affiliated or operating as a local chapter of a statewide or national organization (including entities with statewide or multi-state coverage)?
 - b. If so, please list affiliations or national organizations for which the agency is a chapter/member.
12. Is the agency planning to change its name in 2027?
- Choices: No / Yes

13. Mergers/Strategic Alliances

- a. Is the agency merging or exploring a merger with another organization?
 - Choices: No / Yes
- b. If yes, please provide details on the status (anticipated date, participating organization(s), reason for exploring).

SECTION 3 - FINANCIAL OVERVIEW

1. Please provide the total dollar amount for your current operating and program budgets. For agencies with a service region greater than the United Way of Greater St. Louis' 16-county region, please provide an operating and programmatic budget for total services within our region.
 - a. Current fiscal year operating budget.
 - b. Current fiscal year program budgets. The application can accommodate up to 10 program budgets. Please contact grantsupport@unitedwaystl.org to request space for additional programs, if needed.
2. Please denote the existing major sources of funding for the program(s) for which you are requesting Safety Net Cycle support. Include details that illustrate the program(s) associated with this United Way request:
 - a. confirmed funding source(s), funding amount(s), funding timeframe, and,
 - b. projected funding requests that are outstanding to support the requested effort, and estimated notification timing of funding request status.
3. Fiscal year-end status
 - a. Please note whether the agency ended the prior fiscal year in a deficit or surplus position.
 - b. Please provide a summary of the circumstances that led to the agency's fiscal year-end status. Include in your response a plan and timeline to address any identified deficits or surplus funds.
4. For the **prior** fiscal year, please describe any significant changes to the agency's financial position, including losses or shifts in grants or other previously projected revenue sources.
5. Please note whether the agency anticipates ending its current fiscal year in a deficit or surplus position. Please include the projected amount for the referenced deficit or surplus in your response.

6. For the current fiscal year-end, please denote any anticipated shifts in the agency's financial position.
7. Please indicate whether the agency has been in arrears in submitting payroll taxes.
Choice: No/Yes
8. Please detail the process for establishing and monitoring the agency's budget. Include details of timing for establishing the budget, periodic review of budget versus actual, and the process to revise the annual budget based on financial forecasts.

SECTION 4 – IMPACT ALIGNMENT

1. Mission – Please detail the agency's mission and a brief history of the organization.
2. Impact Area - Please select one United Way [Impact Area](#) your agency will advance during the 2027 -2029 Safety Net contract timeframe.
3. Please share how the agency's program approach addresses the selected United Way impact area. Include any research, evidence, or prior operating experience that supports the referenced approach.
4. Please detail the programmatic activities and interventions associated with this request that address the selected impact area and help program participants achieve desired outcomes.
5. Please share how the agency's programs are best positioned to address the specific needs of the selected impact area. Include information about the prevalence of the issue(s) in the community, likely consequences if the specified need is not addressed, and how partnership with United Way will enhance the agency's capacity to meet identified community needs.
6. Please describe the primary population(s) served by the program(s) associated with this funding request (e.g., youth, women, unemployed, unhoused/underhoused, uninsured/underinsured, seniors, individuals living with a disability).
7. If applicable, describe how your agency will collaborate or align programs and services with existing United Way-funded service providers and programs (i.e., 211, Community Information Exchange (CIE)). Denote the other agency partners and briefly describe their role(s) in supporting the agency in achieving selected outcomes referenced within this application.

SECTION 5 – PERFORMANCE AND QUALITY IMPROVEMENT

1. Describe how your agency evaluates the broader impact of your programs on participants and the community. In your response, please include:
 - a. How you assess changes or outcomes over time at the population or community level
 - b. Any evaluation frameworks, external standards, or research-based models used to assess effectiveness
 - c. How you compare your performance to external peers or benchmarks, including any data sources, accreditation standards, or field-specific indicators used to understand how your agency is performing relative to similar organizations

2. Please describe the agency's continuous quality improvement process. Include details that highlight the role of leadership, inputs to organizational strategy, agency staff and workforce, and operational integration.
3. Please describe the agency's process for developing new programs, addressing emerging needs, and utilizing best or emerging practices to ensure overall organizational impact.
4. Please describe how the agency's mission and approach positively impact the lives of the program participants it serves. Include highlights of the organization's community-level impacts within the last three (3) years.
5. Accreditation
 - a. Is the agency accredited or subject to review by a national organization?
 - b. If so, please list the accrediting body or bodies, including the expiration date for the referenced entities.
6. Please detail any anticipated shifts with your agency's operating environment or the specific field of service. Please provide details on how those anticipated changes could affect your organization's ability to deliver on its mission.

SECTION 6 - PROGRAMS

1. Provide the name and contact information for the lead staff responsible for managing the operation of the agency's programs.
2. Please select up to five agency programs that align with the impact area selected for this funding request.
3. For each program, please provide:
 - a. Program name
 - b. Number of direct participants residing in the United Way service area served by the program in 2025
 - c. Target number of direct participants residing in the United Way service area to be served in 2026
 - d. Number of indirect participants residing in the United Way service area served by the program in 2025.
 - e. Target number of indirect participants residing in the United Way service area to be served in 2026
4. Program Outcomes
 - a. Select up to **five (5)** outcome indicators from the list associated with the selected impact area.
5. Describe your agency's approach to measuring program performance. In your response, please include:
 - a. The specific performance measures and participant outcomes you track

- b. The methods, tools, or instruments used to collect and verify data (e.g., assessments, surveys, screening tools)
- c. How your agency reviews and learns from this information, including how data informs program improvements, service delivery changes, or strategic adjustments

SECTION 7 – SUBMISSION ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

1. Do you agree to the following anti-terrorism certification in compliance with the USA Patriot Act?

“If funded, the agency agrees to the following anti-terrorism certification in compliance with the USA Patriot Act: In compliance with the USA Patriot Act and other counterterrorism laws and United Way World Wide's recommendation, the United Way of Greater St. Louis requires that the Organization Leader (Executive Director, CEO, etc.) of each member agency annually certify on behalf of the member agency that all United Way funds and donations will be used in compliance with all applicable anti- terrorist financing and asset control laws, statutes, and executive orders.”

Choices: No / Yes

2. Thank you for providing the requested information for funding consideration. Before submitting the application, ensure the organization leader (executive director, CEO, etc.) has reviewed the application and attests to the following statement:
 - a. “I hereby certify that the information provided in this submission is accurate and complete.”

Choices: No/ Yes

3. Organization Leader – Printed Name for Acknowledgement.
 - a. **Please note: the application must be submitted by the organization’s leader.**

When ready, click the “Submit Application” button. To return to the agency dashboard, click the “Continue” button.

PROGRAM PARTICIPANT DEMOGRAPHICS

As part of annual impact reporting, United Way requires submission of program participants' demographic information to understand who is being served and the extent to which program participants reflect the populations within United Way's [service area](#). The "Decline to Disclose" and "Unknown" options may be used when a program participant chooses not to disclose information for any reason.

Gender

Female	Male
Self-Defined (Can include Nonbinary, Genderfluid, Agender, Genderqueer, Two-Spirit, Bigender/Pangender, X, etc.)	Decline to Disclose
Unknown	

Age

0 to 2	3 to 5	6 to 9
10 to 14	15 to 19	20 to 34
35 to 54	55 to 64	65 to 74
75 to 84	85 +	Decline to Disclose
Unknown		

Race/Ethnicity

Asian	Bi-Racial/Multi-Racial	Black/African American
Hispanic/Latino/Latinx	Native American/Alaskan Native	Native Hawaiian/Other Pacific Islander
White/Caucasian	Decline to Disclose	Unknown

Household Income

\$0 - \$9,999	\$10,000 - \$14,999	\$15,000 - \$19,999
\$20,000 - \$29,999	\$30,000 - \$49,999	\$50,000 - \$59,999
\$60,000 - \$99,999	\$100,000 +	Decline to Disclose
Unknown		

*If the agency is unable to break out program participants into the \$50,000 - \$59,999 and \$60,000 - \$100,000 brackets, an optional box for incomes of \$50,000 - \$100,000 is provided. Please use this box only if you are unable to further divide program participants' income into the more detailed brackets.

Populations

Immigrants or refugees	Individuals with a disability
Members of the LGBTQIA+ community	Veterans

KEY TERMS

- Annual Community Campaign –The United Way of Greater St. Louis annual Community Campaign runs from Labor Day through October 31. Safety Net Member Agencies’ full participation in the Annual Community Campaign is significant and helps raise funds that enable the full network to support the community. All Safety Net member agencies are required to execute an internal United Way campaign annually, engaging their workforce, staff, and board in support of the community and the network of member agencies.

During the annual Community Campaign period, however, member agencies may host specific fundraising events and solicit individuals. These fundraising events may include galas, dinners, auctions, cocktail parties, lunches, fashion shows, trivia nights, golf tournaments, award ceremonies, or similar events.

- Audit - a comprehensive review by an external auditor of an organization’s records, reports, transactions, policies, and procedures. When a nonprofit audit is conducted by an independent auditor, its goal is to assess the organization’s overall health and ensure compliance with federal, state, and general financial regulations.
- Auditor Management Letter - auditing standards require external auditors to communicate in writing to nonprofit management about material weaknesses or significant deficiencies in internal controls discovered during an audit. This letter is intended for an organization’s management and governing bodies, i.e., the board of directors, the audit committee, etc.
- Direct Program Participants - These participants generally receive tangible services in small groups or one-on-one. Intake records and other reliable methods of collecting information on these participants are maintained.
- [Impact Area](#) - United Way’s Impact Areas were informed by top needs identified in the most recent Community Needs Assessment. Based on the results of that assessment, United Way categorized the top-priority needs into one of five impact areas. In our Safety Net network, agencies within each impact area provide a wide variety of services to help United Way highlight how they address and meet community needs.
- Indirect Program Participants - These clients generally receive one-time or infrequent services from the agency, which may be provided in a group setting. Detailed records for each client are not maintained, although a basic participant count is available. Demographic information is typically difficult or impossible to collect. Thus, if you do not have demographic information, the client is likely an indirect client.
- Internal Controls Findings Letter - a formal document issued by external auditors to a nonprofit’s management and governing board. Internal Control Finding document highlights weaknesses in internal controls identified during an audit—such as material weaknesses or significant deficiencies—that could lead to financial errors.
- Portfolio Manager - a United Way staff member who serves as a liaison between funded agencies and the volunteers responsible for reviewing agency programs and operations. Portfolio Managers have expertise in multiple fields of service and nonprofit best practices.
- Program Outcome - the measurable changes, results, or benefits that occur as a result of a program or service. Outcomes can be short-term or long-term, and generally measure changes

in knowledge, attitudes, behaviors, skills, or other indicators. Outcomes should not be confused with program outputs.

- Program Output- Outputs demonstrate the quantity of work provided by a program by measuring the direct services produced. Outputs can include the number of people served, the number of events held, or the number of rides provided.
- Safety Net - A collaborative network of agencies that deliver an array of essential direct services to address the region's immediate and most pressing needs by helping families and individuals work toward stability. Safety net agencies provide direct services that address basic, urgent needs—such as access to food and housing —and supports to move individuals and families toward stability, including education, health and well-being, workforce access, and financial mobility.

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS (FAQS)

TECHNICAL QUESTIONS – for questions about completing the application in the online application portal, email grantsupport@unitedwaystl.org.

1. How do I access the application?
 - a. See Appendix C. Instructions for accessing the application can be found in SECTION 2: ACCESSING AND STARTING YOUR APPLICATION.
2. I accidentally submitted my application. What should I do?
 - a. Please reach out to grantsupport@unitedwaystl.org for assistance before the deadline.
3. I forgot my password. What should I do?
 - a. Step 1: Click the blue “Forgot your Password” link on the login screen. Complete the steps to set a new password.
 - b. Step 2: In the event the website returns you to the login screen without allowing you to change your password, send an email to grantsupport@unitedwaystl.org to request assistance.
4. What if I do not complete and submit the application by the deadline?
 - a. The application portal will stop accepting applications at the deadline referenced at the beginning of this document. All applications in “Draft” status will not be reviewed or funded. Organizations are encouraged to check the status of their application before the submission deadline. Complete applications will appear on the agency dashboard with the status “Submitted” and the submission date.
5. I am trying to upload an attachment, but the application says it exceeds the maximum size. What should I do?
 - a. Try saving your document as a reduced-size PDF.
 - b. Reach out to grantsupport@unitedwaystl.org for assistance.

CONTENT QUESTIONS – for clarification on context for application questions, email grantsupport@unitedwaystl.org.

UNITED WAY OF GREATER ST. LOUIS' IMPACT AREAS

United Way's Impact Areas are informed by periodic landscape and community needs assessments. Based on the results of those assessments, United Way identifies and categorizes the top needs under the impact areas noted below:

BASIC NEEDS: By supporting people's basic needs, we are helping now so they can be better positioned to become independent later. Services provided in this impact area include crisis intervention, food security, housing security, and legal assistance.

COMMUNITY STABILITY AND CRISIS RESPONSE: A robust, safe community can strengthen and enhance its members' lives, affording them the tools to thrive. Services provided in this impact area include aging and senior support, improving the built environment, disability services, community building, disaster preparedness & response, justice, and safety.

EARLY CHILDHOOD AND YOUTH SUCCESS: When kids are safe, nurtured, and ready to learn, they are more likely to graduate, succeed, and become productive citizens. Services provided in this impact area include child welfare, early childhood education, and K-12 & out-of-schooltime.

HEALTH AND WELLBEING: Being healthy is vital for children to grow and develop, and for adults to live a full and productive quality of life. Services provided in this area include access to healthcare, behavioral health and substance abuse, disability services, and physical health.

JOBS AND FINANCIAL MOBILITY: If families and individuals have a secure financial footing, they are less likely to require other services and more likely to succeed. Services provided in this area include jobs, financial education, and a financial safety net.

OUTCOMES BY IMPACT AREA

BASIC NEEDS: By supporting people's basic needs, we are helping now so they can be better positioned to become independent later. Services provided in this impact area include crisis intervention, food security, housing security, and legal assistance.

- Clients experience no out-of-home placements.
- Clients gain/maintain independent living/essential life skills.
- Clients have immediate basic needs met (food, clothing, shelter, etc.).
- Clients maintain/improve their level of functioning.
- Clients secure/maintain safe, stable housing.
- Clients have reduced/overcome barriers that restrict life choices.

COMMUNITY STABILITY AND CRISIS RESPONSE: A robust, safe community can strengthen and enhance its members' lives, affording them the tools to thrive. Services provided in this impact area include aging and senior support, improving the built environment, disability services, community building, disaster preparedness & response, justice, and safety.

- Clients are free from law enforcement/juvenile justice involvement or re-offending.
- Clients gain knowledge and skills to prevent and respond to emergencies.
- Clients gain strategies for enhancing safety.
- Clients recover their normal lifestyle after a disaster.
- The community experiences reduced risk of violent crime.
- Clients increase awareness of/engage with crime prevention efforts.

EARLY CHILDHOOD AND YOUTH SUCCESS: When kids are safe, nurtured, and ready to learn, they are more likely to graduate, succeed, and become productive citizens. Services provided in this impact area include child welfare, early childhood education, and K-12 & out-of-schooltime.

- Clients are free from substantiated incidents of child abuse and/or neglect.
- Clients are ready to enter kindergarten.
- Clients graduate from high school, earn a GED, or other high school equivalent.
- Clients meet or exceed age-appropriate developmental milestones.
- The community has increased access to quality curricular and extracurricular education that is designed to help all children reach their full potential

- Clients gain knowledge, skills, and/or support for positive parenting.
- Clients meet or exceed age-appropriate developmental milestones.

HEALTH AND WELLBEING: Being healthy is vital for children to grow and develop, and for adults to live a full and productive quality of life. Services provided in this impact area include access to healthcare, behavioral health and substance abuse, disability services, and physical health.

- Clients are successfully able to manage physical health conditions.
- Clients experience fewer mental, emotional, and/or behavioral symptoms.
- Clients identify, manage, and appropriately express emotions and behaviors.
- Clients receive routine medical care and age-appropriate immunizations.
- Clients are connected with a regular, quality health care provider or facility that meets their needs

JOBS AND FINANCIAL MOBILITY: If families and individuals have a secure financial footing, they are less likely to require other services and more likely to succeed. Services provided in this impact area include jobs, financial education, and a financial safety net.

- Clients increase income, savings, assets.
- Clients have accessed financial products and/or services.
- Clients that were formerly credit invisible have established a credit score.
- Clients obtain employment.
- Clients obtain job readiness skills.
- Clients complete job training, college, or vocational training.
- Clients have been able to secure consistent, reliable transportation.

INSTRUCTIONS FOR THE ONLINE APPLICATION PORTAL

Follow these steps to create an account, complete your application, and manage your information. 2024-2026 Safety Net Member Agencies **do not** need to create a new organization in the portal.

SECTION 1: CREATING A NEW ACCOUNT

1. Go to the Portal: Log onto the application portal using this link:
<https://www.grantinterface.com/Home/Logon?urlkey=stlunitedway>
2. Start Account: Click the Create New Account button.

The screenshot shows a 'Logon' form with two input fields. The first field is labeled 'Email Address*' and has a red border with the error message 'The Email Address* field is required.' below it. The second field is labeled 'Password*' and has a red border with the error message 'The Password* field is required.' below it. To the right of the password field is a small icon for password visibility. At the bottom of the form are two buttons: 'Log On' (dark grey) and 'Create New Account' (light grey). Below the buttons is a link that says 'Forgot your Password?'.

3. Organization Information:
 - Complete the following required fields: Organization Name, EIN / Tax ID, Website, Telephone Number, Organization Email, Address, City, State, Postal Code, Fiscal Year End, and Mission Statement.
 - The 'Country' field is required only for international applicants.
 - The Executive Director Race field is optional. Some United Way of Greater St. Louis donors are interested in supporting agencies led by people of color, and this information helps us respond to those requests. Executive leadership names and personal information are kept confidential and are not shared outside of the United Way staff.
4. User Information:
 - Click Next and complete the User Information section. This will become your personal profile and login information.
 - Your name, title, email, phone, and address are required.
 - If your address is the same as the organization's, click the Copy Address from Organization button to auto-fill the fields.

Copy Address from Organization

Prefix (Mr, Mrs, Ms, Mx, etc.)

First Name*

Middle Name

Last Name*

5. Executive Officer Question:

- Click Next. You will be asked if you are the Chief Executive Officer, President, or Executive Director. Select Yes or No.
- If you select 'Yes': The next page will ask for optional information (prefix, suffix, mobile number).
- If you select 'No': The next page will require you to complete the contact information for your Executive Director.

6. Create Password:

- Click Next, choose a secure password, and click Create Account.

7. Verify Email:

- You will receive an email verifying your username.
- Return to the portal and click either "I received the email" or "Continue without checking" to proceed to your dashboard.

SECTION 2: ACCESSING AND STARTING YOUR APPLICATION

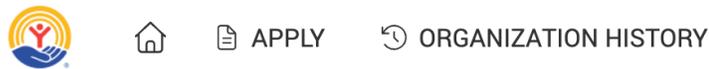
1. Log In: Log in to the portal to access your Dashboard.



2. Start Application: Click the Apply button at the top of the screen and select the "Safety Net Grant Funding Cycle 2027 – 2029" application.

SECTION 3: COMPLETING THE APPLICATION

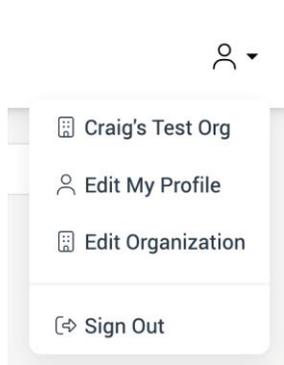
1. Fill Out Form: Complete all questions. Questions marked with an asterisk are required.
2. Save, Submit, or Abandon: You have three options at the bottom of the page:
 - Save: The system automatically saves your progress as you complete each question, but you can also click this button to save your work manually.
 - Submit Application: Click this when your application is 100% complete and ready for review.
 - Abandon: This will delete your draft and lock the application. Do not click this unless you are certain you want to delete your work.
3. Return to Dashboard: After submitting, you can return to the main page by clicking the home icon (a small house) at the top of the page.



SECTION 4: MANAGING YOUR ACCOUNT

You can update your personal or organization information at any time.

1. Access Profile: Click the profile icon (a person) in the top-right corner of the page.



2. Edit Your Profile:
 - Select Edit My Profile to update your name, title, email, or phone number.
 - To change your password, go to Edit My Profile and scroll to the bottom of the page. Click the Change Password link next to the 'Save' button.
3. Edit Organization Profile:

- Select Edit My Organization to update your organization's website, main phone number, email, or address. The organization's name can only be changed by United Way staff.
- Select View Organization Profile to see a summary of your organization's details.