Rooted in Evidence

RFP Frequently Asked Questions

1. ***My organization is technically not a food bank. Are we still eligible to apply?***
   We are targeting **food banks** in particular for this round of the Rooted in Evidence Evaluation and Grant Program in order to have the potential for greater reach. We are somewhat flexible on the classification of how we define "food bank," and we will consider any 501(c)3 non-profit organization that procures and distributes food to other sites (i.e., pantries, mobile pantries, and schools). Unfortunately, if your organization procures food and distributes directly to clients only, that does not fall within our definition for this grant program. We encourage food pantries to collaborate with their parent food bank on a project, however, the food bank must be the lead fiscal agent.

2. ***What can the $25,000 be used to fund?***
   We are open to funding any aspect of a project including resources, personnel, and incentives. We also encourage applicants to allocate funding for evaluation activities such as incentives and personnel time for administering surveys. Up to $5,000 may be used to directly fund the procurement of fresh fruits and vegetables.

3. ***Should our evaluation focus on one specific program or all of our programming?***
   Proposals should focus on supporting the implementation and evaluation of one unique program. Projects should focus on directly measuring the impact an intervention has on participants. Throughout the grant program, we hope to build evaluation capacity in your organization that is transferable and applicable to other programming you may have.

4. ***Are grantees required to get Institutional Review Board (IRB) approval?***
   We would like all projects to receive IRB approval. This is an activity that GSCN will help all grantees do. Grantees do not need to have their own affiliate IRB as GSCN's affiliate IRB can be used.

5. ***My food bank is not located in Nebraska, are we still eligible to apply?***
   Yes. We encourage food banks throughout the United States and its territories to apply.

6. ***Any tips on creating a successful proposal?***
   Submitted proposals should include information that addresses all of the requirements outlined in the RFP and should be in the required format. Successful proposals from the past round of funding were well thought out and concise. They each displayed thorough consideration as to what their projects would be and how they would manage both the implementation and evaluation of programming. These proposals all included a project that was innovative either in the population they were reaching or in introducing programming that wasn't widely used among food banks.