### **Request for Proposals (RFP): UW Helps NC Fund**

#### **Introduction**

The UW Helps NC Fund was established by United Way of North Carolina in response to devastating effects of natural disasters in North Carolina. Most recently, the fund was opened to support Hurricane Helene response and repair efforts. Our mission with this RFP is to support nonprofit agencies in Western North Carolina that are dedicated to providing housing-related assistance to individuals and families affected by the hurricane. This document outlines the grant process for eligible nonprofit agencies to apply for funding.

#### **Grant Overview**

**Grant Focus:** This funding is focused on housing-related grants. Eligible projects may include, but are not limited to, rent assistance, housing repairs, home furnishings, etc.

**Minimum Grant Request:** $100,000

**Target Beneficiaries:** Special emphasis will be placed on serving ALICE (Asset Limited, Income Constrained, Employed) individuals and families who have been impacted by Hurricane Helene. You can find more information about ALICE [here.](https://www.unitedwaync.org/alice-north-carolina)

#### **Priority Considerations**

Local United Ways (LUWs) will be given priority consideration within their respective counties and service areas. Non LUW applicants are encouraged to collaborate with their LUWs to enhance their proposals or inform their LUW that they are planning to apply (only applicable to agencies that have a LUW in their county/serving their area). You can find a list of all LUWs in NC [here](https://www.unitedwaync.org/nc-united-way-directory). Nonprofits in counties without a local United Way (i.e., Clay, Jackson, Macon, Madison, McDowell, Polk, Surry, Swain, Transylvania, Yadkin) are encouraged to partner with other local organizations (e.g., nonprofits, faith organizations, government) to ensure reach to as many impacted residents as possible.

#### **Application Process**

##### **Eligibility Criteria**

Eligible applicants must:

* Be a registered nonprofit agency.
* Operates within Western North Carolina.
* Demonstrate a clear plan for addressing housing needs related to Hurricane Helene.
* Prioritize serving ALICE individuals and families.

##### **Submission Guidelines**

Applicants must submit a comprehensive proposal that includes:

1. **Executive Summary:** A brief overview of the proposed project, including goals and expected outcomes.
2. **Organizational Background:** Information about the nonprofit's history, mission, and previous experience with similar projects.
3. **Project Description:** Detailed information on the housing-related direct services to be provided, target population, project timeline, anticipated number to be served, desired outcomes (i.e. preventing eviction/becoming unhoused, improving housing quality or making critical repairs, preventing utility disconnection). Description of any collaborations with Local United Ways or other community organizations.
4. **Budget:** A detailed project/program budget outlining the proposed use of grant funds, including any additional funding sources. The primary applicant can request a total of 3% administrative fee to be used at their discretion.

##### **Evaluation Criteria**

Proposals will be evaluated based on the following criteria:

* Alignment with the UW Helps NC Fund's mission and priorities.
* Clarity and feasibility of the project plan.
* Demonstrated impact on ALICE individuals and families.
* Strength of partnerships and collaborations.
* Organizational capacity and experience.
* Questions are weighted on a points system

**Ongoing Reporting Requirements**

By applying to this grant, grantees are required to enter client data into an online system (iCarol) to record services provided to consumers. Grantees must obtain consent to exchange and release information from the clients/consumers. Trainings will be provided in late August.

* Client details, client demographics, description of assistance provided, dollar amount

#### **Timeline**

* **RFP Release Date:** July 28, 2025
* **Proposal Submission Deadline:** August 11, 2025
* **Notification of Awards:** August 18, 2025
* **Required Trainings:** August 22, 2025, 10am or August 26, 2025, 1pm
* **Project Start Date:** September 1, 2025
* **Project End Date:** September 1, 2026

#### **Contact Information**

For further inquiries or assistance with the application process, please contact:

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