

# 2024 GRANTS CYCLE

## Guiding Principles



## Women's Fund Purpose and Benefits

Women's economic mobility is an essential component of strengthening communities in Central Texas. The Women's Fund supports this statement by engaging in strategic grantmaking to organizations whose work makes a difference in one of the our five key strategy areas: Childcare, Education, Housing, Unintended Pregnancy Prevention, and Women's Health. The decision-making process is community-led. Grants Committee members have several resources at their disposal and are charged with adhering to the approved data-driven guidelines. This Guiding Principles document will be utilized alongside the **Strategy Statements & Guiding Definitions** by the Grants Committee during the Semifinalist and Finalist stages of the grant cycle when discussing applications.

The Guiding Principles document will be used to align grant decision making with the values, mission, and beliefs of the Women's Fund. As a data-driven program, the Women's Fund will conduct as-needed updates to all supportive resources that help outline the grantmaking process including this Guiding Principles document.

## Guiding Principles

Each of the below principles will be considered regardless of an organization's operational history or tenure. When faced with multiple applications of strong strategic alignment, the Women's Fund will prioritize:

- / **Historical Funding:** Organizations that have historically never received funding from the Women's Fund, in order to use this support to elevate their work within our community.
- / **Budget Size:** Applicants for which a gift of this size would have an appreciable impact on the organization's ability to meet its mission as outlined in the proposal.
- / **Community Voice:** The voices of those who have lived experience and contributed their perspective to the scoring of applications in the grant cycle process.
- / **Women-Serving:** Organizations and/or programs whose services impact majority women, specifically women of color.
- / **Geographic Reach:** Services that primarily make an impact on people living within the five Central Texas counties we serve, with acknowledgement that those who's focus is to engage in advocacy and other systems-level work must often extend beyond this area to local, state, and federal levels.
- / **BIPOC-Led and BIPOC-Serving:** Organizations serving women of color and those whose organizational leadership reflects the communities they serve.
- / **High-Quality:** Organizations that are pursuing or have received distinction for meeting industry standards for quality or utilization of best practices in their area of work.