

EMERGENCY
RESPONSE FUND OF
KANKAKEE & IROQUOIS COUNTIES



2026 EMERGENCY RESPONSE FUND
GRANT PROCEDURE

Grants from the fund will be prioritized for qualifying organizations providing vital basic needs, services, and long-term rebuild efforts to disproportionately impacted individuals, families, and vulnerable populations affected in Kankakee County due to the recent disaster.

Amount Available

In this unprecedented situation, we must all be flexible to respond as needed within the resources we have to offer. We will set no maximum grant amount. Grant applications will be accepted for both short-term immediate relief and long-term rebuilding efforts. To make consistent comparisons with short term requests, applicants must frame their amount requested within a timeframe of what is needed over the next eight weeks from the date of their application. Long-term requests will be evaluated on a timeline of 6 months and 12 months reporting period.

Timeline

Applications will be evaluated, and decisions issued on a rolling basis, as quickly as possible. Please allow 7-14 days for consideration of your grant request.

Eligibility Requirements

- Grants may be made to organizations with charitable 501(c)(3) classifications by the Internal Revenue Service, or to quasi-governmental agencies, e.g., school districts, libraries, park districts, etc. located in or significantly serving the impacted areas of Kankakee County.
- Organization must demonstrate a need for funding to provide services to the community due to the recent disaster or the impact following.
- Organization must provide required documentation to confirm eligibility which include”
 - Letter of Determination (if applicable)
 - W9 (if applicable)
 - Year to date Balance Sheet
 - Most recent audit or audit summary (if applicable)
 - Governing Board
 - Most recent 990

Priorities (in this order)

1. Organizations providing basic vital needs services to those affected that were already vulnerable before the disaster, or that are disproportionately affected by the disaster.
2. Organizations providing services to such vulnerable or disproportionately affected populations as described above including long-term rebuilding efforts.

Evaluation Criteria

- **Priority** - Organization's ranking in the priorities outlined above
- **Reach** - Organization provides services to the general affected area of Kankakee County or provides intensive or specialized services to a smaller population within the county.
- **Need** - These funds will fill a gap not able to be filled by other resources.

Process

- Eligible organizations will apply in the CFKRV Grants Portal using the online application.
- Applications will be evaluated, and decisions issued on a rolling basis, as quickly as possible. For the fastest turnaround, grant decisions will be made jointly by The Community Foundation and United Way Executive Directors.
- Flexibility is key in a disaster scenario. To remain flexible in our grant funding, we ask that applicants describe the need and their planned response to the need to the best of their ability.
- Organizations seeking short-term requests must submit a report within 3 months on the outcome of their response to this situation. Organizations seeking long-term requests must submit a 6 month (interim report if necessary) and complete their final evaluation within 12 months of the grant award.

No person in the United States shall, on the basis of actual or perceived race, color, religion, national origin, sex, gender identity (as defined in paragraph 249(c)(4) of title 18, United States Code), sexual orientation, marital or parental status, political affiliation, military service, physical or mental ability, or any other improper criterion be excluded from participation in, be denied the benefits of, or be subjected to discrimination under any program or activity funded in whole or in part with funds made available by the Community Foundation, and any other program or activity funded in whole or in part with funds appropriated for grants, cooperative agreements, and other assistance administered by the Community Foundation.

How Does An Organization Apply?

Carefully read and adhere to the grant application instructions. It is important that all requested information is provided. If you have questions, you may contact the Community Foundation Office at 815-939-1611 or email mia@cfkrv.org.

Grant applications can be submitted to the COMMUNITY FOUNDATION through the Community Foundation website at www.CFKRV.org and click on the Grants tab.