

**Youth Development & Wellness Grant  
Opportunity**

BGCF365 Charitable Fund at Blue Grass Community Foundation is offering a funding opportunity for the creation of new and/or the continuation of existing projects/programs that support positive youth development, health, and wellness.

BGCF365 recognizes the critical need to support children and youth in Fayette County who face various challenges, including the impacts of the pandemic, poverty, food insecurity, homelessness, community violence, trauma, Adverse Childhood Experiences, discrimination, and systemic racism. With funding from members of BGCF365, Blue Grass Community Foundation seeks to support initiatives that foster the **resiliency, safety, connectedness, physical health, mental health, and overall wellbeing** of children and youth (birth to age 22) in Fayette County. Priority will be given to proposals that specifically address the disparities of resources for and conditions of youth in Fayette County due to socioeconomic level and/or race and ethnicity. Proposals with project budgets of at least \$15,000 will be considered.

This is a competitive grantmaking process. Grant applications will be reviewed by the BGCF365 Steering Committee and narrowed to three finalists. Representatives from the top three grant applicants will be required to present a short (maximum 12 minutes) presentation to the members of BGCF365 at their annual meeting in April 2023. Grants in the amount of **\$15,000, \$7,500, and \$2,500** will be awarded based on membership votes.

**Eligibility:**

- Applicant organizations must be located in and serving youth in Fayette County.
- Funding must be used to promote programming focused on building resiliency for youth (birth to age 22) in Fayette County.
- Applicant organizations must be classified as a nonprofit public charitable organizations under section 501(c)(3) of the IRS code or have a fiscal sponsor with a 501(c)(3) designation; or other public institutions or entities that have a designated charitable purpose, such as a school or unit of government.
- Applicant organizations must have a GuideStar Seal of Transparency at the **Gold level** or higher. [GuideStar.org](https://www.guidestar.org) a national database of nonprofits recognized by the IRS. Organizations have free access to their profile on the site and can provide added information to increase the level of Transparency. [Click here](#) to learn more about earning your seal of transparency. Please note if your organization is a school or government, your organization is not eligible to have a GuideStar profile and this requirement is waived.
- Applicant organizations must not discriminate in their hiring, volunteer participation, or provision of client services. Exceptions may be made for hiring practices for religious organizations that can demonstrate bona fide occupational qualifications based on religious beliefs for employment.
- Applicant organizations with religious affiliations will be considered for funding only if the project for which they seek support attempts to address the needs of the wider community without regard to religious beliefs.
- Organizations that do not have final grant reports that are past due to Blue Grass Community Foundation.
- Organizations must be able to present to the BGCF365 membership at the annual meeting in April 2023.

Types of grant projects include, **but are not limited to:**

- Mentoring
- Service learning and team building opportunities
- Mental health/counseling programs

- Suicide prevention
- Access to food and other basic needs
- After-school programs
- Enrichment programs such as art, music, dance, and athletics
- Mindfulness activities
- Adverse Childhood Experience intervention programs
- Grief support
- Conflict resolution
- Violence prevention

**Deadline to apply:** March 10, 2023 by 11:59 pm

**Finalist Presentations:** April 20, 2023

**Grant Period:** April 2023 – March 2024

**How To Apply:**

Visit the Blue Grass Community Foundation's Grant portal to access the online application:

<https://www.grantinterface.com/Home/Logon?urlkey=bgcf>

**Questions?**

Contact:

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