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 remove barriers to the resources that Fayette County adults and families need to thrive.

In partnership with Blue Grass Community Foundation, the members of BGCF365 seek to address the challenges that prevent some individuals and families in our community from connecting to critical resources and participating in opportunities to fully flourish. BGCF365 aims to support initiatives that break down barriers to employment, transportation, childcare, safe housing, and other opportunities to create a prosperous and promising future. Priority will be given to proposals that specifically address the disparity of resources for Fayette County adults and families due to socioeconomic level, race and ethnicity, and/or recovery or re-entry status. 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 May 2024. Grants in the amount of $15,000, $10,000, and $5,000 will be awarded based on membership votes.

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

- Workforce development / Adult education and training
- Transportation, Childcare, and/or Housing
- Financial growth tools/opportunities
- Mental health / Counseling programs
- Conflict resolution or Community involvement
- Legal counseling and other resources
- Re-entry / Second chance hiring
- Access to food and other basic needs

Eligibility:

- Applicant organizations must be located in and serve the Fayette County community.
- Funding must be used to promote programming that connects community members of Fayette County to resources that help them thrive.
- Applicant organizations must be classified as a nonprofit public charitable organization 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 Candid (formerly GuideStar) Seal of Transparency at the Gold Level or higher. Candid.org is 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 Candid 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 must be current on any grant reports due to Blue Grass Community Foundation.
- Organizations must be able to present to the BGCF365 membership at the annual meeting in May 2024.

**Deadline to apply:** February 23, 2024 by 11:59 pm

**Finalist Presentations:** May 2024

**Grant Period:** May 2024 – April 2025

**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](https://www.grantinterface.com/Home/Logon?urlkey=bgcf)

**Questions?**
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