

Strategic Partnership Grant Committee
FY2023 Grant Process Review
Follow-up from June 13, 2022 Planning Session

Application Phase

- Decision to establish a “soft cap” to encourage applications at \$80,000 or less
- Potential improvements to grant guidelines:
 - Add innovation as value – county grants funding new approaches/endeavors
- Potential improvements to application form:
 - Add narrower categories for applicants to select from within focus areas
 - Add geography question to capture the primary location of the project
 - Add a question for who will be served for applicants to describe the population(s) to be impacted, including the geography served
 - Add a question for renewal applications actual results (e.g. describe your actual project results achieved as of Dec 31 according to your quarterly report)
 - Proposed Results question: add language asking for track record of past successes in the project area
 - Emphasize the requirement for completing the budget form in template format with all components included
 - Shorten character limits for each response from 2,000 characters (with spaces) to 1,500 (with spaces)

Review/Recommendations Phase

- Potential improvements:
 - Remove the “do you recommend this project for funding” question from the initial scoring tool
 - Add a scoring question for budget, separate from organizational capacity
 - Define Equity for the purpose of the scoring tool which currently states, “organization has a demonstrated commitment to equity and is reflected in their proposed project.” (NOTE: Definition will be based on Buncombe County’s Racial Equity Action Plan definition of equity, operationalized for this grant process)
 - For initial scenarios, only use ones that provide balanced budget or surplus
 - Fund projects of \$10K or less at 100% if they are above cutoff in scenario