



2016 Bridging the Gap Awards

The **All Ways Up Foundation's** *Bridging the Gap Awards* provides one-time grants to small, but effective, community nonprofits dedicated to empowering the lives of promising youth and families. The 2016 *Bridging the Gap Grants* cycle is:

- **Applications Open:** Monday, October 10, 2016
- **Applications Close:** Friday, November 4, 2016
- **Grant Awardees and Match Participants Announced:** November 2016
- **(If Applicable) Match Donation Period Opens:** Monday, November 28 - Saturday, December 31, 2016
- **Matching Grant Award:** Determined on a case-by-case basis (Minus CrowdRise Fees)

About *Bridging the Gap Grants*- *This grant is NOT available to individuals*

The *Bridging the Gap Awards* is a grant program that assists smaller sized charitable organizations that exemplify **All Ways Up's** mission to help first-generation and low-income youth get to AND through college. By providing scholarships, support for other non-profit organizations and an annual leadership summit, we are working to bridge the gap between ambition and opportunity to break the generational cycle of poverty. Grantees will receive a one-time donation grant to further their mission. *In addition, All Ways Up* will provide matching funds to a select group of grantees. These organizations will receive funds in direct proportion to their own fundraising efforts, with a cap to be determined by the Foundation.

To qualify for the *Bridging the Gap* grant award, organizations must:

- Be a charitable organization that is working to better the lives of those living in low-income communities

- Be a charitable organization which is exempt under Section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code
- Have a program model that can be implemented by other organizations
- Have a data tracking component that measures the success of the organization's program(s)
- Have a budget of no less than \$25,000 and no greater than \$1,000,000 per fiscal year

Applicants must operate in a state where GHC Housing Partners and All Ways Up has a presence:

Alabama, Arizona, California, Colorado, Connecticut, Florida, Georgia, Idaho, Indiana, Kansas, Kentucky, Maryland, Michigan, Missouri, Nevada, New Jersey, New York, North Carolina, Ohio, Pennsylvania, Rhode Island, South Carolina, Tennessee, Texas, Utah and Virginia.

APPLICATION PROCESS

Organizations may apply for the *Bridging the Gap* Award grant between **October 10, 2016** and **November 4, 2016**.

To Apply for a BGA Grant:

1. Beginning Monday, October 10, 2016, log-in and create an online application at:
<https://allwaysupgrants.communityforce.com>
2. Submit your application on or before Friday, November 4, 2016

If your application is approved, you will then be considered for the matching donation phase.

Q & A

What Type of Organizations ARE Eligible?

- College preparation organizations that focus on disadvantaged communities
- Mentoring organizations
- Youth leadership organizations

What Type of Organizations Are NOT Eligible?

- Animal rights organizations
- Community activism organizations
- Food banks

- Organizations that do not have a **PRIMARY** mission of helping low-income communities
- Community housing corporations
- Adult homeless shelters
- Health and wellness research organizations (such as diabetes research)
- One-time programs or events that do not work continuously with the same families or individuals
- Programs that do not work directly with participants (advocacy programs)
- Programs in existence less than 1 year
- Existing scholarship, internship or fellowship organizations
- Fraternities and sororities*
- Public or private educational institutions (smaller programs within educational institutions may be eligible) *
- For-profit organizations
- Politically focused, political campaigns and legislative lobbying organizations
- Projects that exclusively serve a religious purpose
- Endowments
- Local, state and national government agencies
- Film, video or exhibitions projects*
- Academic research
- Sport clubs*
- Funding or re-granting organizations
- Organizations related to the All Ways Up Foundation, or individuals within the organization, who have a personal or business relationship with the Foundation or any of its officers or directors

*Will be considered on a case by case basis

Q. How do you define low-income communities?

A. Communities where a high percentage of its residents live at least 200% below the federal poverty guidelines.

Q. What is your definition of “primary mission must support low-income communities”?

A. Please use the 80/20 rule. At least 80% of all your programs should focus on building up communities that are low-income. Your program cannot just happen to help some low-income individuals, it must be an integral part of your organization’s mission and structure. For example, a daycare center that gives scholarships to lower income parents would not be eligible, unless it’s primary focus is to provide child care support to low-income families.

Q. My organization focuses on animal rights and abuse. Are we eligible?

A. Unfortunately, not at this time. We currently only support organizations that are working to improve the lives of individuals living in low-income communities.

Q. Ours is a religious organization, can we apply for this grant?

A. You may apply if your organization's program is not religious-based; it reaches out to low-income individuals from your surrounding community; at least 50% of these individuals are not members of your institution; and, attending religious services is not required. In addition to the above qualifications, the program budget should be stand-alone and exceed \$25,000 per year.

Q. My organization focuses on a very specific target group such as veterans, can we apply?

A. You may apply IF your organization meets the 80/20 rule. Your program must specifically focus on improving the lives of that target population that is living in low-income communities.

Q. My organization is located in an eligible state, but provides services in another country. Are we eligible?

A. Unfortunately, not at this time. You must actually help low-income communities where GHC Housing Partners and/or All Ways Up has a presence.

Q. It is past the deadline. Can I still apply?

A. Unfortunately NO. The next BGA cycle will be in 2017.