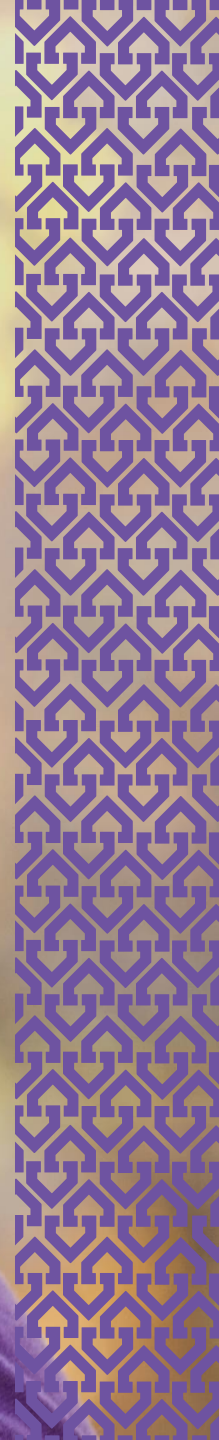




The Boston  
Foundation

**Safety Net Grants FY25 Special Round**

February 18, 2025



## **Candace Burton**

*Program Officer, Safety Net Grants*

The Boston Foundation

## **Quynh Nguyen**

*Associate, Safety Net Grants*

The Boston Foundation





**Safety Net Grants**

# What Makes This Round Special?

- **Accelerated timeline:** We are opening this round in February and distributing grants in April
- **More Flexible Funding:** Grants in this special round are expected be general operating one-year grants of \$25,000 to \$75,000
- **Shortened Application:** We will have a streamlined “request for support” replacing the traditional application
- **Expanded Eligibility:** Current Safety Net Grantees or folks who applied for the October 21st, 2024, deadline that **strongly align** with our stated priorities are eligible to apply this round. Please reach out to [safetynetgrants@tbf.org](mailto:safetynetgrants@tbf.org) and confirm your eligibility before applying.

# Baseline Eligibility

1. **Aligns with [the strategic vision](#) of The Boston Foundation**
2. **501(c)(3) tax-exempt nonprofit** or operates under a fiscal sponsorship of a tax-exempt nonprofit
3. **Primarily serves people in the foundation's catchment area** apart from regional, statewide, or national public policy efforts where there is a strong connection with and influence on the Greater Boston policy interests
4. **Responds to an essential need** by providing resources that promote health, wellness, safety, and belonging for individuals or families in crisis
5. Has been **operating for at least three years**
6. Engages in **year-round programming**

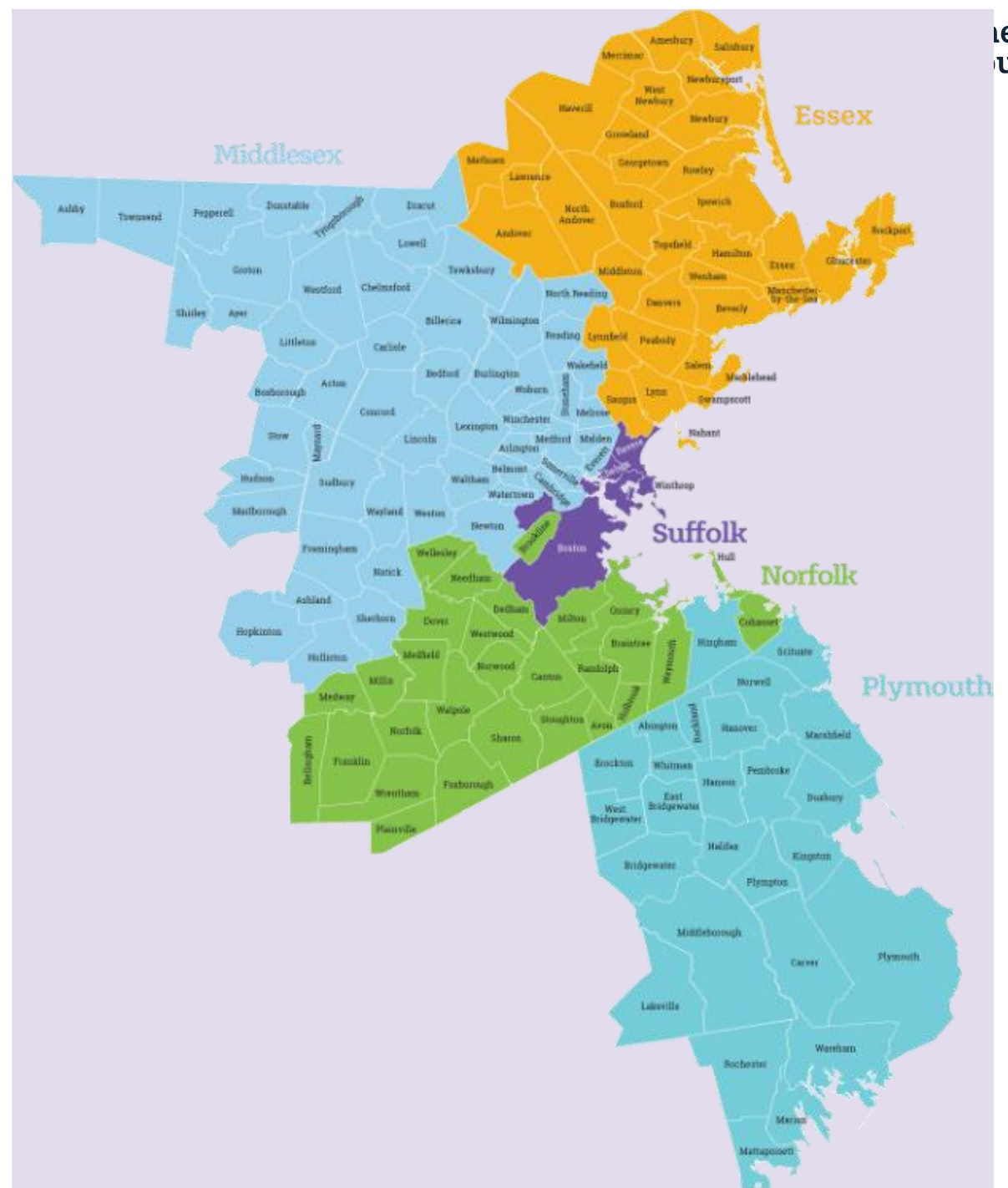
# Essential Needs



Essential needs are defined as resources that restore health, wellness, safety and belonging for individuals or families in crisis.

# Catchment Area

Eligible Organizations primarily serve communities historically excluded from institutional philanthropy in Essex, Middlesex, Norfolk, Plymouth and Suffolk counties with a focus on the communities of greatest need. We make exceptions for regional, statewide or national public policy efforts when there is a strong connection with and influence on Greater Boston policy interests.



# Grant Size & Support Type



**Support Type**  
**General Operating**  
**Support**



**Funding Level\***  
**\$25,000-\$75,000**



**Grant Period**  
**One-year funding**  
**commitment**

\*Please note, most grants will be in the \$25,000 range. Organizations that we determine are aligned with our field of interest funds supporting seniors and people with physical disabilities will be considered for grants up to \$75,000. If you receive a grant, you are not guaranteed a grant in the range you select.



# Funding Priorities

**We have identified several priority areas for this SNG Special Round:**

- Combating Hate and Discrimination
- Food, Fuel, and Shelter
- Legal Aid
- Poverty Alleviation

**Our focus will also include supporting specific populations, including Immigrants, LGBTQ+ individuals, People with Disabilities and Seniors.**

# Funding Considerations

## Organizational Strength

- **Aligns with** the strategic vision for The Boston Foundation
- **Clear mission and vision** that guide the organization
- Strong **staff and board leadership, that is diverse and representative** (demographic composition and lived experience) of the community they serve
- Deep **commitment to equity** (internally and externally)
- Strong emphasis on **incorporating learnings from a measurement/assessment plan**
- **Strong collaboration/partnerships** with community and community-based organizations

# Funding Considerations

## Proposal's Potential for Impact

- The grant size will **have a meaningful impact on the organization's effectiveness** and ability to meet its mission
- **Authentically serves populations and communities** historically excluded from institutions and/or systems

# Exclusions

## We do NOT make grants for:

- Capital construction costs
- Endowments
- Medical or academic research
- Scholarships
- Individual persons
- Sectarian or religious purposes
- To support candidates for political offices
- Private non-operating foundations, 501(c)(4) organizations, and Section 501(a)(3) Type III Non-functionally Integrated organizations
- Parent Teacher Associations and tuition-based schools (including K-12 and post-secondary schools and universities)
- CDCs certified under MGL Chapter 40H, small businesses, LLCs

# I'm eligible!

## How do I apply?



Login

Email

Password

Login

Forgot Password?

New to the System as a Grant Applicant?

**For Grant Applicants Only:** Please first try using the "Forgot password?" link to access your account. If you do not receive an email after 10 minutes and it is not in your spam folder, you may be new to our database. Please click the "Register" button below to set up an account. If you have any trouble, reach out to [grantsinfo@tbf.org](mailto:grantsinfo@tbf.org).

Register

Complete an **online application** (available on [the Boston Foundation Website](#))



### Registration Options

Please click on one of the buttons below to set up a **new** SmartSimple account **as a grant applicant**. These forms are for new grant applicant registrants only. If you already have a SmartSimple account, please go back to the main login page <https://bostonfoundation.smartsimple.com> and use the password reset link. For questions, please email [grantsinfo@tbf.org](mailto:grantsinfo@tbf.org).

I am applying for a grant:

On behalf of an Organization

As an Individual or as part of a Group of Individuals (only available for Live Arts Boston and Next Steps grant programs)

# Smart Simple Login Information

If this is your first time using the Boston Foundation's SmartSimple grants portal, please follow the steps below:

- Go to the SmartSimple [login page](#)
- Use the “Forgot Password?” link and input your email when prompted. If you already have an account in our system, you will receive an email at the address you provided with a link to reset your password. Please try the password reset link even if you have never used our SmartSimple system before. If you are already in our database, then you likely already have an account.
- Once you receive the password reset email, click on the link to create a new password and log into the SmartSimple system. You can access open funding opportunities under the icon “Funding Opportunities”.
- If you do not receive an email after 10 minutes, then you should create a new account.

# Creating a New Account in Smart Simple

- Click on the blue Register button underneath the login box.
- Click on the appropriate box to indicate that you are applying on behalf of an organization
- Register your organization. **Read the instruction box carefully.** You should first search the TBF database for your organization, then register yourself as a contact at that organization. If you cannot find your organization in TBF's database, you can use either the IRS search form or the open form to find and register your organization.
- Click the blue "Submit" button at the bottom of the page when finished. Once you have clicked the blue "Submit" button, you will be prompted to check your email to set up a new password for your account. Follow the instructions provided in the email to log into the system.

# I'm eligible!

## How do I apply?


### ( The Boston Foundation ) to the Boston Foundation Portal

Thank you for visiting our new grants portal! We thank you for your patience as we implement this new and improved platform. Please reach out to [grantsinfo@tbf.org](mailto:grantsinfo@tbf.org) with any feedback or questions.



When you first log in, you will be instructed to complete your profile and/or your organization's profile.

You will not be able to access the "Funding Opportunities" icon until you have done this. To complete the profiles, click on the "My Profile" icon and the "My Organization" icon (if needed) and click the blue "Complete Profile" button

Profile Image: 

**DETAILS** INTEGRATION SYSTEM

Status: Active

\* First Name:




Middle Name:

\* Last Name:

Initials:

Prefix:

\* Primary Email:

\* Organization:    



## Funding Opportunities

This page is regularly updated to share grant opportunities open for application at the Boston Foundation. If you do not see any open opportunities below, please be sure to check back at this page periodically, or, [subscribe to the Nonprofit Update e-newsletter at this link](#) to be informed of open opportunities as they arise.

Please note that grant programs will close on 11:59pm of the listed "Closed On" date. For example, if the Closed On date is listed as 2/20/23, then applications must be submitted by 11:59pm on 2/20/23.

### OPEN FUNDING OPPORTUNITIES (2)

	#	Name	Description	Closed On
<a href="#">Apply for Grant</a>	1	Safety Net Grants FY24 Round 1	The Safety Net grants program is designed to support social service organizations that respond to essential needs for marginalized communities in Greater Boston. Applications are due at 9/26 at 11:59pm.	09/26/2023
<a href="#">Apply for Grant</a>	2	Live Arts Boston Organizations	Live Arts Boston	05/01/2024

1-2 of 2 [<](#) [>](#)

# Request for Funding

When you navigate back to the home page, you should see the Funding Opportunities icon. Click apply for grant next to the opportunity named "SNG Special Round".

# General Tips

## **200-400 words**

Per open response

## **Log in a few days before deadline**

in case of technical difficulties

## **Mention current events**

and how they have impacted your organization

## **Ask questions**

please don't hesitate to reach out to the Safety Net Grants Team

## **Read aloud**

Having your narrative read aloud can help with editing responses

# **Upcoming Deadline**

**March 11, 2025 at 5:00pm**

# Office Hours

February 18 – March 11

[Office Hours](#)

# Thank you!

Safety Net Grants Team

Email: [safetynetgrants@tbf.org](mailto:safetynetgrants@tbf.org)