



Philadelphia Funding Intelligence Brief

Inaugural Issue September 2026 (V1)

Current as of September 17 2026 | Private and philanthropic funding for Philadelphia nonprofits

From Our Founder: Why this brief exists

Philadelphia nonprofits often receive grant news grouped by funder. **This brief starts with what a group needs to pay for.** That may be daily operations, staff, administration, growth, or an urgent response. Each summary explains what the money may cover and who can apply. It also explains the award, the steps to apply, and the main reasons a group may not qualify.

Start with your funding goal. Then compare the funder's rules with your mission and service area. Check your tax status, budget size, records, and timeline too. A large award is not always the best grant. The time to apply, allowed uses, and chance of success all matter.

My sincerest hope for all of you is a season of growth, opportunity, advancement, and ultimate success! Please reach out to cmichael@troubadoursolutions.com if you would like to set up a time to discuss grant writing services or operational support for your organization.

In Service, Solidarity & Support,



IMPORTANT: *Deadlines and portal status can change. Recheck the official funder page when you begin an application and again before you submit it.*

Find the section that matches your goal

Funding goal	Use this section	Typical costs
Keep the organization stable	Operations and stability	Rent, utilities, insurance, routine payroll, and other core costs
Strengthen staff or systems	Staff administration and systems	Training, hiring, technology, planning, evaluation, and board development
Launch or expand work	Expansion and special projects	New programs, added services, equipment, and project staff
Respond to an urgent event	Rapid response	Safety, mutual aid, legal support, urgent organizing, and short-term pivots
Prepare for a future cycle	Watch and verify	Readiness work for promising grants that are closed or unclear

Deadline Radar (UPCOMING)

Deadline	Opportunity	Primary use	Action now
October 1 at 3 PM ET	Alston Beech Foundation	Small restricted project or capacity request	Apply only if the audit and required records are ready
October 6 at 5 PM PT	Third Wave Mobilize Power Fund	Unexpected gender justice response	Request a portal account several business days early
October 15	H Chase Lenfest Philanthropy	General operations or expansion in Hunting Park East Tioga	Confirm the service area before drafting
October 15	Edna G Kynett Memorial Foundation	Cardiovascular health work	Use the updated form and include an evaluation plan
October 15 for fall review	Albert M Greenfield Foundation	Innovative special project	Prepare the program and organization budgets
November 1 to December 1	Claneil Community Fund	Three year general operating support for environmental groups	Draft the letter of intent before the portal opens
November 2 to November 25	Impact100 Philadelphia	Operating support for the core mission	Confirm three years of audited or reviewed financials
Rolling monthly	BLBB Charitable	Operating project or capacity support	Submit a letter of inquiry if all baseline rules are met
Rolling monthly	TD Nonprofit Training Resource Fund	Staff or board training	Training must begin at least 30 days after submission

Key terms

Funders may use the same words in different ways. Always follow the definition in the current guidelines. These plain-language definitions will help you read the summaries in this issue.

Term	What it means
General operating support	Money for the organization's overall mission and daily work. It may cover costs such as payroll, rent, insurance, or administration, subject to the grant agreement.
Unrestricted funding	Money the organization may use where it is most needed, within the funder's rules and the organization's charitable purpose.
Restricted funding	Money that must be used for the approved program, project, activity, or cost.
Capacity building	Support that helps an organization work better. Examples include planning, technology, staff development, financial systems, evaluation, and board development.
Infrastructure	The people, tools, systems, equipment, and administrative processes that allow programs to operate.

Term	What it means
Fiscal sponsor	A qualified nonprofit that accepts and manages grant funds for a project or group that does not have its own eligible tax status.
Letter of inquiry	A short first-stage request. The funder reviews it before deciding whether to invite a full proposal.
Rolling deadline	Applications may be submitted throughout the year. Rolling does not mean unlimited money, so earlier can be better.
Invitation only	A full proposal may be submitted only after the funder asks for one. A public letter of inquiry may still be allowed.
Application burden	Our estimate of the time and records needed. Low usually means a short request. High may include audits, several stages, a site visit, or detailed reporting.
Service area	The exact location where an organization must be based or where the funded work must take place.

Readiness Checklist (Complete BEFORE Application)

Check the items below before staff begin the work. One missing rule can make a strong request fail.

- ☐ The group and its proposed work **fit** the funder's mission and service area.
- ☐ The group has the required **tax status** or **fiscal sponsor agreement**. If not, another **allowed legal structure** must apply.
- ☐ The annual budget is **within** any stated minimum or maximum for the grant opportunity.
- ☐ The group has each required audit, reviewed statement, Form 990 filing, board list, budget, and insurance record.
- ☐ The request pays for an allowed cost. Do not assume that a project grant can cover routine payroll or an operating deficit.
- ☐ The application portal account is active before the deadline.

Operations & Stability Grants

These grants may support the group's core mission or routine costs. Some are fully unrestricted. Others allow general operating support only in certain cases.

H Chase Lenfest Philanthropy

Status	Open	Deadline	
Award	\$5,000 to \$50,000 for general operations \$25,000 to \$250,000 for project acceleration	Best use	October 15 2026 Operations or expansion in Hunting Park East Tioga

What it supports General Operating Support is flexible and unrestricted. Project Accelerator Support may launch, improve, or expand a defined program with a long-term purpose.

Who may apply Several legal structures can apply. They include 501(c)(3) public charities, fiscally sponsored groups or programs, supporting organizations, and certain other 501(c) groups. Registered Community Organizations and religious groups serving the area may also apply. The work must directly serve Hunting Park-East Tioga. A group entering the area must work with a local partner.

Service area The priority area runs from Sedgley Avenue to Hunting Park and from Broad Street to 9th Street in North Philadelphia.

Priority work Healthy and safe communities. A better environment and neighborhood. Fair growth and more power for young people.

Process and burden The funder accepts proposals through its grant system twice each year. It may conduct an interview or site visit. Fall decisions are scheduled for December 15.

Watch outs The funder does not support individuals, private foundations, or endowments. It does not support political campaigns. Groups with lobbying as a major purpose are also out. The grant cannot pay for benefits, fundraising events, memberships, or similar purchases.

Intelligence note This is one of the strongest current opportunities in the issue, but geography controls the fit. Confirm that most services reach the named neighborhood before investing time.

Source [Official guidelines](#)

Impact100 Philadelphia

Status	Prepare now	Deadline	
Award	Request is for a \$100,000 operating grant Final amounts depend on annual membership	Best use	Application opens November 2 and closes November 25 2026 Staff salaries infrastructure programs and core mission costs

What it supports The grant may pay for needed infrastructure, staff salaries, and main programs or services. It may also pay other costs tied to the group's core mission. Funds must be used within 24 months. The grant cannot cover debt, operating deficits, bridge funding, or endowment. It also bars political or religious activity, fundraising events, and a general capital campaign.

Who may apply The applicant must be a 501(c)(3) group. A group with a written link to an eligible fiscal sponsor or parent may also apply. The group must be based in and serve Bucks, Chester, Delaware, Montgomery, or Philadelphia County. A fiscal sponsor must also be in those five counties.

Financial readiness Applicants need three full years of independently audited or reviewed statements. Compiled statements do not qualify. A sponsored group must include its written fiscal sponsor agreement. The applicant must also control its funds locally, usually through a local bank account.

Budget and mission Priority goes to annual budgets above \$300,000 and below \$3 million. Applications above \$3.5 million will not be reviewed. The mission must fit arts and culture, education, environment, family, or health and wellness.

Process and burden The process has several steps. They include the first form, a member review, and a financial review. Follow-up questions and a site visit are possible. Finalists then face a member vote. An information session is set for November 4. This is a high-burden request.

Intelligence note The money is very flexible, but the records rule removes many young or small groups. Confirm the three-year audit or review rule before writing the story.

Source [Official guidelines](#)

Claneil Foundation Community Fund

Status	Prepare now	Deadline	Letter of inquiry window November 1 to December 1 2026 at 5 PM ET
Award	\$99,000 over three years plus \$11,000 for professional development or wellness	Best use	Multi-year general operating support for environmental organizations

What it supports The grant gives \$33,000 in general operating support each year for three years. Each grantee also gets up to \$11,000 for professional growth or wellness. That extra money is for the executive director or the group.

Who may apply The 2026 window is only for environmental groups. They must work in or serve Bucks, Chester, Delaware, Montgomery, or Philadelphia County. The funder favors groups with deep community roots and budgets of \$1 million or less. The public page does not say if fiscally sponsored groups qualify. Ask before applying.

Process and burden The first step is a letter of inquiry. Decisions on those letters are due January 31. Invited full proposals are due March 1. Awards are due by June 30. The funder usually chooses about ten new Community Fund grantees each year.

Intelligence note This is a strong fit for a small group. It joins three years of operating support with help for leaders. The main limit is the rotating topic schedule. Education, health and human services, and food systems have later cycles.

Source [Official guidelines](#)

BLBB Charitable

Status	Rolling letter of inquiry	Deadline	Reviewed monthly November 6 2026 is the next invited deadline for requests above \$15,000 or over multiple years
Award	Amount varies	Best use	Operating support project support or capacity building

What it supports BLBB considers operating support, project support, and capacity building. Capacity funds may pay for a strategic plan or program growth. They may also cover leadership growth, staff growth, or staff training.

Who may apply The applicant must be a current 501(c)(3) group. It needs at least two Form 990 filings in a row. The group must serve Greater Philadelphia. BLBB gives special focus to Montgomery and Bucks Counties. Supporting organizations, individuals, and private foundations cannot apply. Groups with a mainly political or religious mission also cannot apply.

Priority work BLBB funds college access and other paths after high school. It also funds economic self-sufficiency, youth growth, K-12 work, and local environmental education. Public and charter schools are not supported under the K-12 program.

Process and burden Submit a letter of inquiry through the online system. BLBB reviews new letters monthly and invites selected organizations to submit a full proposal. Do not send extra materials unless requested.

Intelligence note The eligible uses are a strong match for operations and capacity. Access is the constraint. BLBB warns that multi-year commitments leave room for only a limited number of new grantees.

Source [Official guidelines](#)

Edna G Kynett Memorial Foundation

Status	Open	Deadline	October 15 2026
Award	Generally up to \$50,000 for one year	Best use	Cardiovascular health programs with limited general operating support

What it supports Kynett funds community health, training for health workers, and research. All work must focus on heart and blood-vessel health. It pays direct program costs. It may also pay some general operating costs.

Who may apply Applicants must be public entities or tax-exempt under Section 501(c)(3). The work must take place in an approved county. In Pennsylvania, those counties are Philadelphia, Bucks, Delaware, Chester, Montgomery, Berks, and Lehigh. Camden County in New Jersey and New Castle County in Delaware also qualify.

What the application needs The proposal must include an evaluation plan and, when appropriate, a plan for sharing results. Use the application form updated for the Fall 2025 cycle and upload every required attachment.

Watch outs Funds cannot support a capital campaign or endowment. They also cannot pay for building work, repairs, or routine operating deficits. In-house staff honoraria are barred. So are costs that a third party should repay. A group may submit one proposal for a given program each year.

Intelligence note This is a special-purpose grant. General operating support is possible. **Even so, the request must clearly fit heart and blood-vessel health.** Do not frame it as unrestricted money for unrelated work.

Source [Official guidelines](#)

Staff Administration & Systems Support Grants

This section is for staff growth, hiring, planning, technology, evaluation, and other internal systems. Impact100, Claneil, and BLBB may also pay these costs when a group meets their broader rules.

TD Nonprofit Training Resource Fund

Status	Open on a rolling basis	Deadline	Reviewed monthly
Award	Up to \$1,000	Best use	Training or certification for staff or board members

What it supports A stand-alone course or certification that is relevant to an employee's or board member's role. The training cannot be finished before the application, and it must begin at least 30 days after submission.

Who may apply A 501(c)(3) group, public school, or certain state or local agency may apply. The applicant must be in a TD Bank market. It must serve people or areas with low to moderate incomes. It must also follow TD's anti-discrimination policy.

What to prepare The form needs the executive's approval for the training. It also needs a one-page course description, a board list, and the latest audit or accepted tax filing. Add the IRS determination letter or allowed government record. TD does not accept the 990-N postcard as the money record.

Process and burden TD usually gives notice within two to six weeks. A group may apply more than once. Still, TD gives it only one training grant per fiscal year. That year runs from November 1 through October 31.

Intelligence note The award is small compared with the document list. This is most useful when the records are already organized and the training has a clear, near-term benefit.

Source [Official guidelines](#)

Expansion & Special Projects Grants & Funding

*These grants support a defined project, new service, or expansion. They **should not** be treated as unrestricted operating money unless the funder says so. H. Chase Lenfest also offers Project Accelerator Support for eligible work in Hunting Park-East Tioga.*

Albert M Greenfield Foundation

Status	Open for fall review	Deadline	Submit between September 1 and October 15 2026
Award	Amount not stated in the current guidelines	Best use	An innovative special project with long-term value

What it supports The foundation prefers special projects and new programs. The work should solve a major problem in a new way. Other groups should be able to copy it. The foundation usually does not give operating support.

Who should consider it A Philadelphia-area group should have a strong record and a board-approved strategic plan. Its staff and volunteer leaders should have solid experience. The project needs clear goals and a named group of people to serve. It also needs a plan to measure results.

What to prepare The form needs two separate budgets: one for the group and one for the program. It also needs the IRS determination letter, three references, and the latest annual report or audited statement. Add any other support materials and an authorized signature.

Process and burden Forms are accepted all year, but decisions come in spring and fall. The fall review window is September 1 through October 15. This request has a high burden. The project must be well developed, and many records are required.

Intelligence note Apply only when the project can stand on its own and the group has a strategic plan. Do not use this grant in place of general operating support.

Source [Official guidelines](#)

Alston Beech Foundation

Status	Open	Deadline	October 1 2026 at 3 PM ET
Award	Up to \$2,000	Best use	A small restricted request in North Central Philadelphia

What it supports The linked rules list several uses. They include strategic planning, new or larger programs, capacity building, school or job training, arts and culture, and safety work. Programs for older adults, youth, and families also fit. The money is restricted to the approved use. It cannot pay staff salaries.

Who may apply The applicant must be an incorporated 501(c)(3) public charity. It cannot apply through a conduit group. It must be at least two years old. It must be based in or serve North Central Philadelphia. The current site gives four borders: Lehigh Avenue north, Spring Garden Street south, Broad Street east, and 33rd Street west.

Other requirements The group must be current on federal and local taxes. It must carry the required insurance and provide a current audited statement. A group may apply only once in any twelve-month period. Churches cannot apply. A tax-exempt church community development corporation may qualify for nonreligious community work.

Source caution The linked PDF is from 2012. It names Fairmount Avenue as the south border. The current website names Spring Garden instead. A group near that edge should ask the foundation if it can apply.

Intelligence note The form asks for many records for a \$2,000 top award. The work makes sense only if the records are ready and the request is very local and specific.

Source [Official guidelines](#)

Rapid Response Grants & Funding

Rapid-response funds are designed for an unexpected event or change. They are usually a poor fit for routine programs, a planned campaign, or a general budget gap.

Third Wave Fund Mobilize Power Fund

Status	Open	Deadline	October 6 2026 at 5 PM Pacific Time
Award	Up to \$10,000 Up to \$20,000 for a partnership or coalition	Best use	An unexpected gender justice threat or opportunity

What it supports The fund pays for a fast shift after an incident or change in the past six months. Uses may include urgent organizing, mutual aid, healing justice, and community accountability. Safety, legal or bail costs, direct action, and leadership training may also fit. Each cost must tie to the response.

Who may apply The group must work in the United States or a U.S. territory. Its budget must be below \$500,000. It must be rooted in communities harmed by gender oppression. Third Wave gives priority to leaders who are young women of color, trans, queer, intersex, or gender-nonconforming. Other people of color under age 35 are also a focus. A 501(c)(3) or fiscal sponsor is not required.

What is not a fit The fund will not fill a routine budget gap. It will not fund an ongoing program, planned event, start-up cost, or fundraising request. A campaign lasting more than six months is also out. The form must show a real pivot from the group's regular work.

Application options The story may be written, sent by video, or given by phone or Zoom. A written story can be no longer than one page. A video can be no longer than ten minutes. A phone interview must be set and finished at least one week before the deadline.

Timing and portal New applicants should ask for a portal account at least three business days before the deadline. Decisions usually take four to six weeks. Payment usually takes five to eight weeks.

Intelligence note This grant is flexible and fairly easy to seek, but only after a real, recent change. A strong request names the incident and explains the pivot. It also shows how the response will build community power.

Source [Official guidelines](#)

Watch & Verify The Following Funding Opportunities

*These grants look promising, but the public details do not prove they are open. Use this section to **get ready and check with the funder.***

TD Capacity Building Grant

Status	Closed for the current published cycle	Deadline	Last published 2026 deadline was May 15
Award	\$25,000 to \$150,000	Best use	Tactics talent and tools

Why it matters The fund can pay for strategic and succession plans. It may also pay for hiring, staff growth, board leadership, technology, evaluation tools, supplies, and other capital items. A group must usually have yearly revenue of \$2 million or less. It must serve low- to moderate-income areas in a TD market.

What to do now Organize the board list, audit or accepted tax filing, IRS letter, current operating budget, project budget, outcomes, and partner information. Watch for the next twice-yearly cycle. Do not submit through the rolling training portal if the request is for a larger capacity project.

Source [Official program page and 2026 guidelines](#)

Arch Community Fund

Status	Verify before acting	Deadline	The public page lists a February 26 2026 deadline
Award	\$15,000 to \$25,000 in general operating support	Best use	Grassroots transformative organizing

Why it matters Arch is for U.S.-based grassroots groups with budgets of \$1 million or less. A group must have 501(c)(3) status or a fiscal sponsor. Transformative organizing for system change must be central to its mission. The posted rules bar networks, coalitions, and alliances.

Status conflict The page says Arch is currently accepting proposals, but its timeline gives a February 26, 2026 deadline and June 2026 award schedule. Those statements do not match as of September 17, 2026.

What to do now Do not describe this opportunity as open until Arch confirms a new deadline. An aligned organization may prepare a JustFund profile and contact the fund directly for current status.

Source [Official guidelines](#)

How to Choose Where to Spend Your Time

A good funding decision begins with fit, not award size. Rank each opportunity against the five questions below before assigning staff time.

Question	Good sign	Reason to pause
Can the grant pay for the real need?	The guidelines name the cost or provide unrestricted support	The request depends on an unstated exception
Is the organization eligible?	Mission geography status budget and records all match	One required rule is unclear or missing
Is the award worth the work?	The likely benefit is reasonable for the application burden	A small award requires a new audit or major staff effort
Is the organization ready?	Budgets financials board records and portal access are current	Documents must be created close to the deadline
Is the timing realistic?	There is time for review and approval before submission	The deadline forces rushed numbers or unsupported claims

Editorial Method

The brief gives priority to private, family, corporate, and community-foundation funding. It also covers grants run by giving networks. Government grants are usually left out. Grants are grouped by allowed use, not award size. Public funder pages were checked on September 17, 2026. If two official statements clash, the brief flags the conflict. It does not call the grant open.

About Troubadour Solutions

Troubadour Solutions helps nonprofits with governance, strategy, and practical systems. This work helps mission-driven groups make sound choices. The Philadelphia Funding Intelligence Brief aims to cut wasted effort and make each funder's rules easier to use.

