Welcome!
Accessible Communities
Request for Proposal Workshop
We will begin in just a moment.
GREATER CINCINNATI FOUNDATION

Housekeeping Items

- Suggest using speaker view
- Please rename yourself to include organization in name
- Submit questions through the Zoom chat throughout the presentation
- There will be a Q&A session at the conclusion of the presentation
- Any outstanding questions will receive responses via email
- **Meeting is being recorded and will be posted on GCF's website**

Agenda

I. Introductions
II. GCF Highlights
III. GCF Grantmaking Overview
IV. Accessible Communities RFP Workshop
V. Next Steps
VI. Q&A

Introductions

Kristin Riepenhoff Zelinskas
Program Officer

Tara Behanan
Program Officer

Hannah Hilditch
Community Strategies Coordinator

What's happening at GCF?

GREATER CINCINNATI FDN.
60 years

Stay Connected!

https://www.gcfdn.org/stayconnected/

GCF Grantmaking Overview

year-around

Community Leadership

Economic Mobility

Affordable Housing

Racial Justice

Mini-Grants for Kids

biennial

Request for Proposals

Accessible Communities (Jan 2024)

Safety Net (July 2024)*

Environmental Beautification (July 2024)

Educational Success (Jan 2025)*

Arts & Culture (July 2025)

Giving Circles

*renewal opportunity during off-year

Alignment Guide

The Alignment Guide serves as a tool to help organizations find out which funding opportunity is aligned to their projects.

As your community foundation, Greater Cincinnati Foundation invests in a more vibrant and equitable region, in part by grantmaking to our community partners doing the work. GCF has a variety of funding opportunities available, from concentrated investments in our Community Leadership areas, Requests for Proposals, Private Foundations and Donor Advised Funds. To better understand how your specific project is aligned with these funding opportunities, we developed a streamlined way to connect you to the right opportunity. By answering the questions in the alignment guide below, you will find out which funding opportunities are a potential match for the work of your organization. Once you receive your results, you will be directed to learn more about those opportunities to determine if your project is a good fit to apply for funding. For best results, we recommend completing the guide with one project in mind.

Is your organization based in or does it benefit our eight-county service area: Hamilton, Warren, Butler and Clermont counties in Ohio, Campbell, Boone and Kenton counties in Kentucky and Dearborn County in Indiana?

- ○ Yes
- ○ No

Accessible Communities

Request For Proposal (RFP)

Info Session & Application Workshop

Photo Courtesy of MarathonFoto/TexasMonthly

Accessible Communities

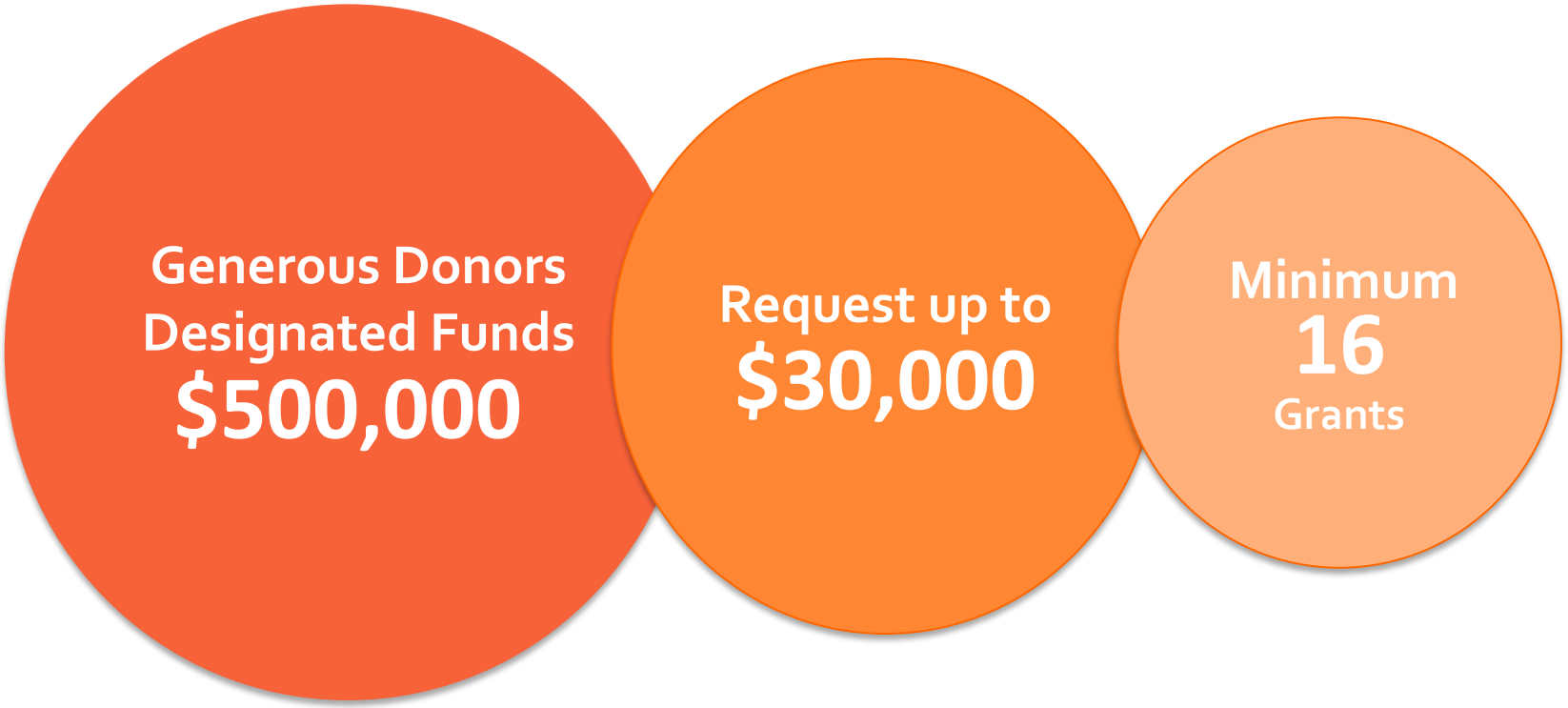
Inclusive Communities

Identify and Eliminate Disparities

Improved Storytelling Techniques

Drive Inclusion and Accessibility

Accessible Communities RFP Overview



The Timeline

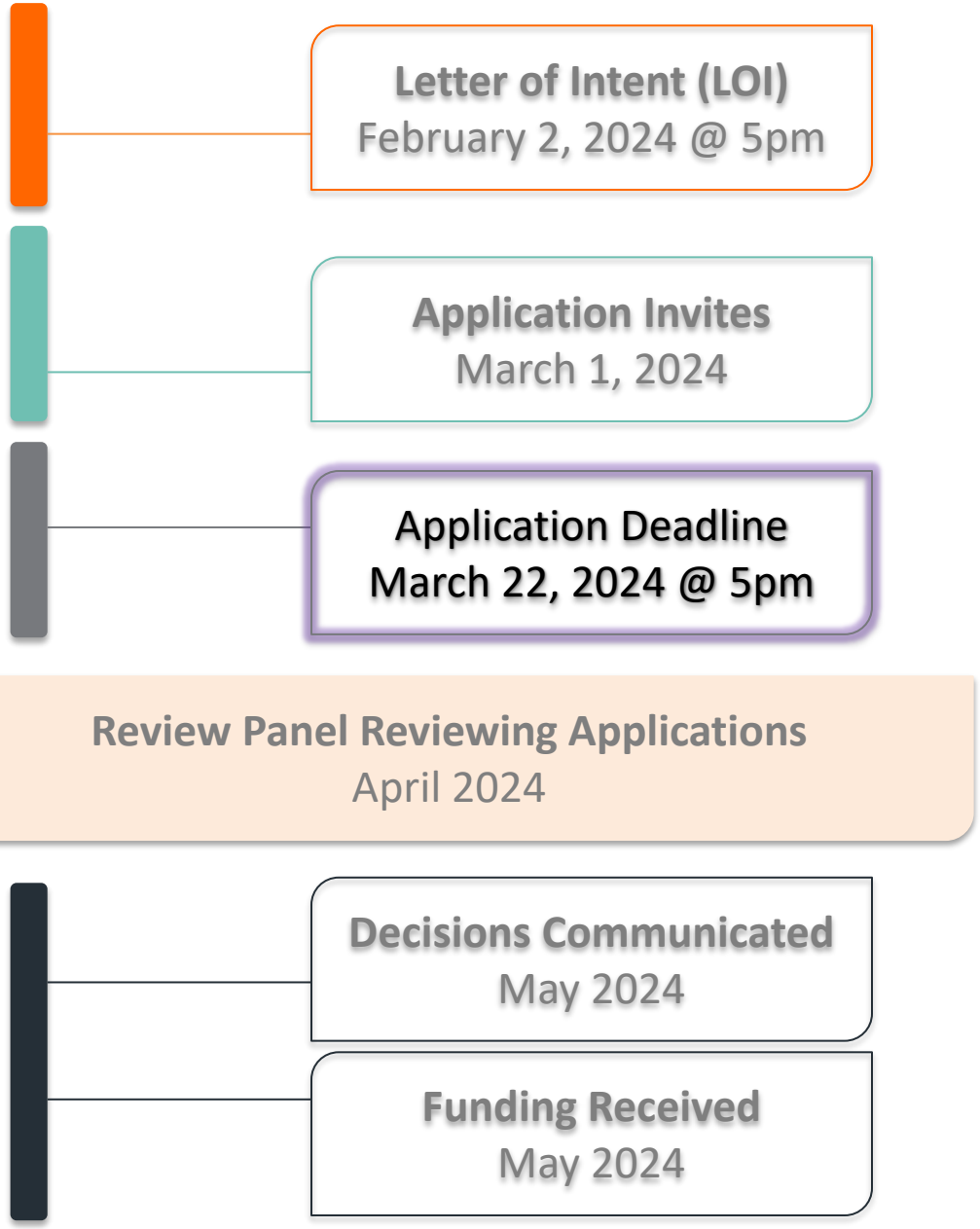
Letter of Intent (LOI)

Request Overview

How Request Aligns

Request Goals

The Timeline



Let's Dig In //

Funding Focus, Use of Funds & Criteria

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The Funding Focus

Purpose:

Organizations that drive the inclusion and accessibility of people living with physical and developmental disabilities in our region.

50% or more of those you serve are people living with physical and developmental disabilities.

*To drive the **inclusion** and **accessibility** of people living with physical and developmental disabilities in our region.*

What does it mean to drive inclusion and accessibility?

What outcomes would align with this funding focus?

Use of Funds

May Be Awarded For:

- Support, expand or strengthen existing programs
- Capital improvements
- Launch new program
- Build organizational capacity
- General operating support

May ***Not*** Be Awarded For:

- Campaigns
- Capital Campaigns
- Special Events (a variation of this was allowed)

Criteria

I. 501(c)(3) status or government agency*

II. Serves / Based in one the 8 Counties: *Hamilton, Butler, Warren, and Clermont in Ohio; Boone, Kenton and Campbell in Kentucky and Dearborn in Indiana*

III. Funding Preferences

***utilizing a fiscal agent is allowed**

Funding Preferences

- Organizations that provide direct services to people living with physical and developmental disabilities in our region.

- Organizations that include people living with physical and developmental disabilities on their professional staff and community voice.

- Proposals that are committed to identifying and eliminating barriers that have prevented the full accessibility of people living with a disability.

Funding Preferences

- Proposals with clear and measurable outcomes that address the goals of the funding focus.
- Organizations that have demonstrated partnerships, collaborations and/or alignment with community-wide efforts.
- Organizations that have demonstrated insights from their past results.
- Organizations using an asset-based approach to their work.

How does your organization involve the communities you serve?

- Does your organization involve community members in the organization's decision making or programming?
- Do you have community members with lived experience on your staff or board?
- Does your organization collect feedback from those that are served?

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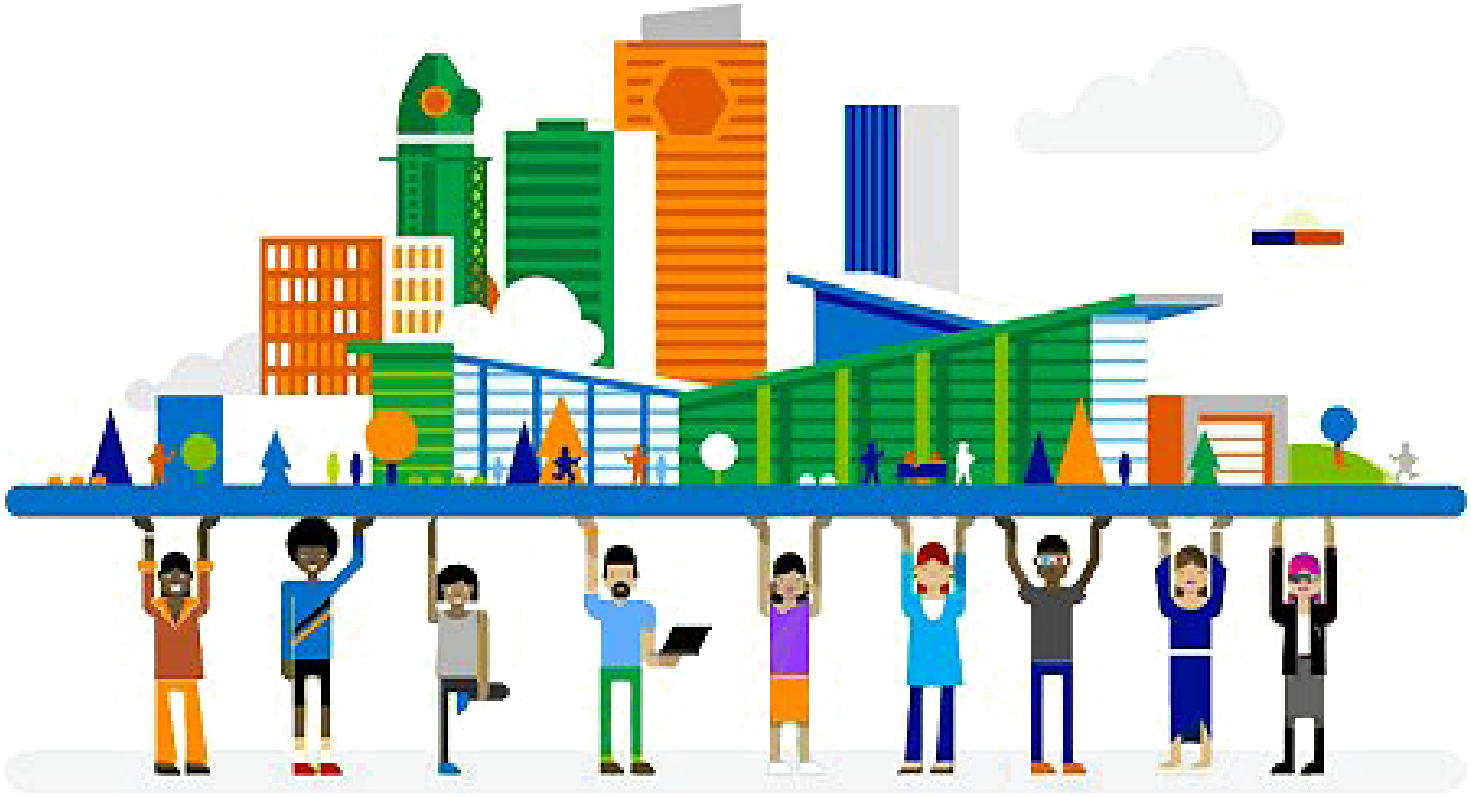
Asset-Based Approach

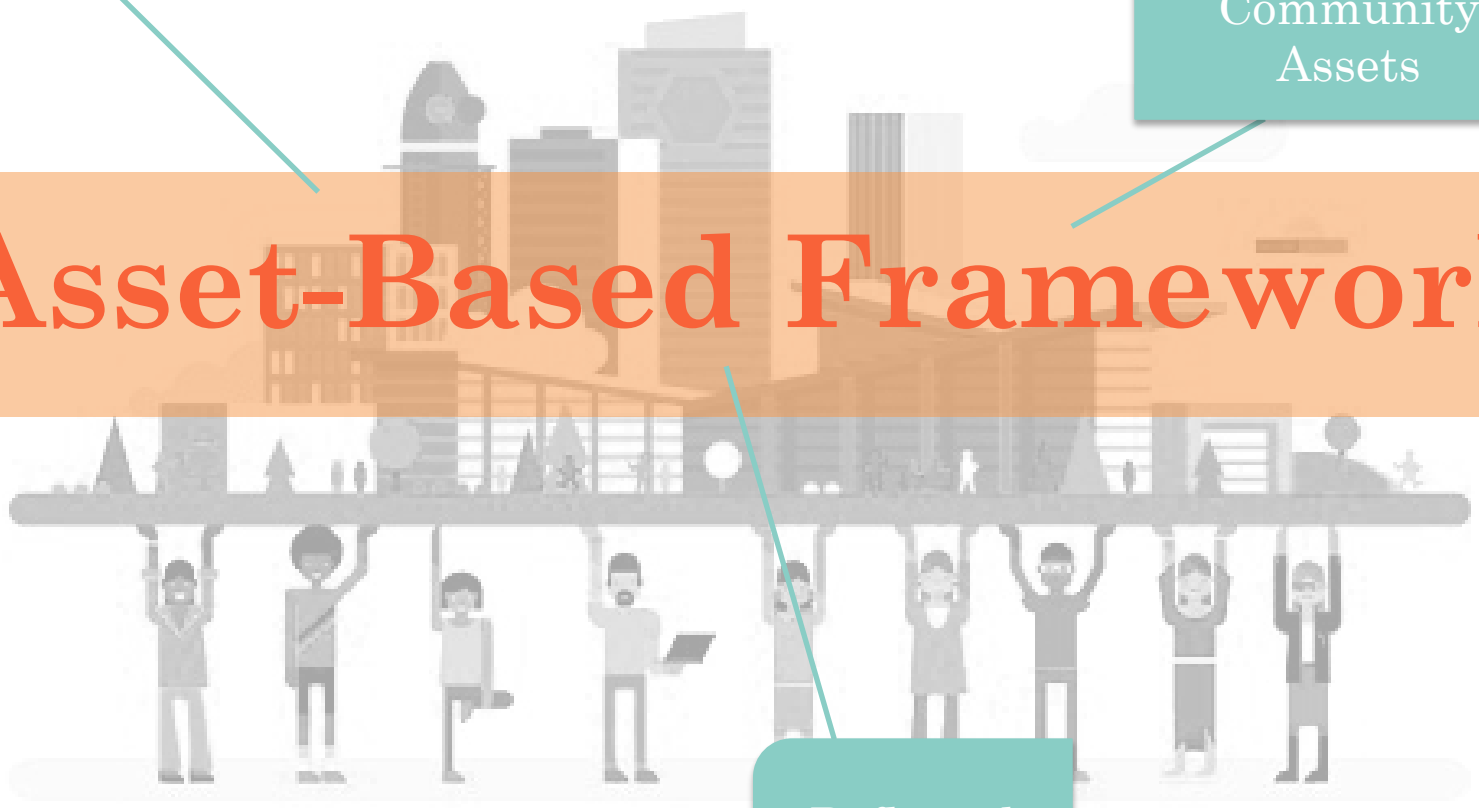


How does your organization perceive the communities you serve?

Strengths of the Community

Build on Community Assets

Asset-Based Framework



Reflected in Tone

Partnership & Collaboration // Community Voice & Engagement

SMART Outcomes

Goals // Performance Measures

S — **Specific** *What are you trying to achieve?*
- Inspirational
- Both shorter –and long-term goals

M — **Measurable** *What does success look like?*
- Concrete & measurable (include a target #/rate)
- Stronger if included outcomes (not just outputs)

A — **Achievable** *Is the goal obtainable?*
- Set realistic goals that are challenging but achievable

R — **Relevant** *How does this goal align with your program?*
- Ensure the goal serves a relevant purpose

T — **Time Bound** *What is the timeframe within each shorter- and long-term goals?*
- Outline the steps with a projected timeline/schedule

Outputs vs. Outcomes

The difference between an output and outcome is impact

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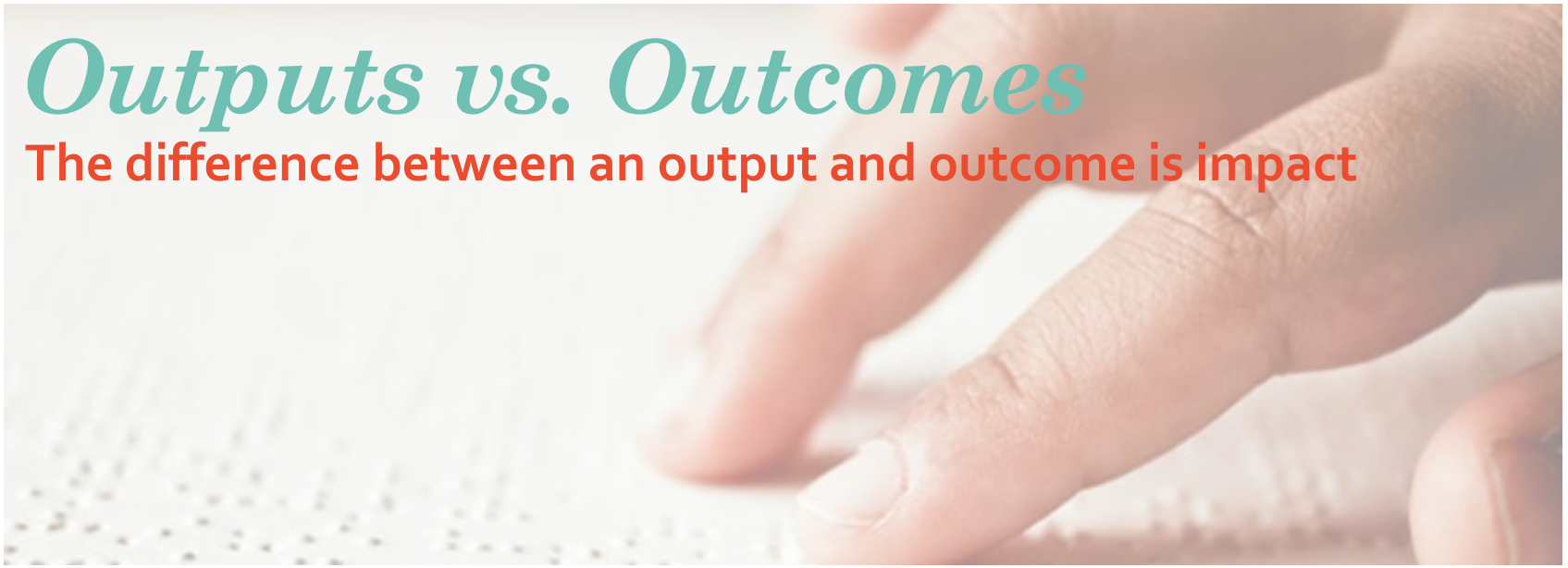
Example 1:

- **Program:** Expanding our Reach
- **Output:** Assist 300 individuals with Housing Choice Voucher Program (new and renewal certification).
- **Outcome:** 25% of individuals assisted with Housing Choice Voucher Program (new and renewal certification) will obtain permanent housing.

Outputs vs. Outcomes

The difference between an output and outcome is impact



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Example 2:

- **Program:** Autism Learning Center
- **50%** of participants will make progress toward goals set together with staff and caregivers upon enrollment.

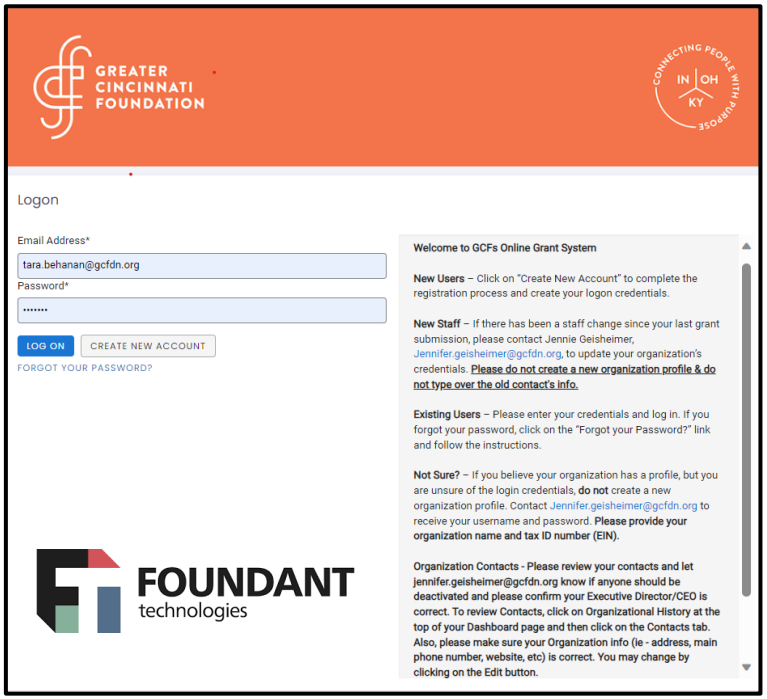
Output

- **50%** of participants will complete at least 2 basic language and learning skills goals to improve their communication and behavior with staff and caregivers upon enrollment.

Outcome

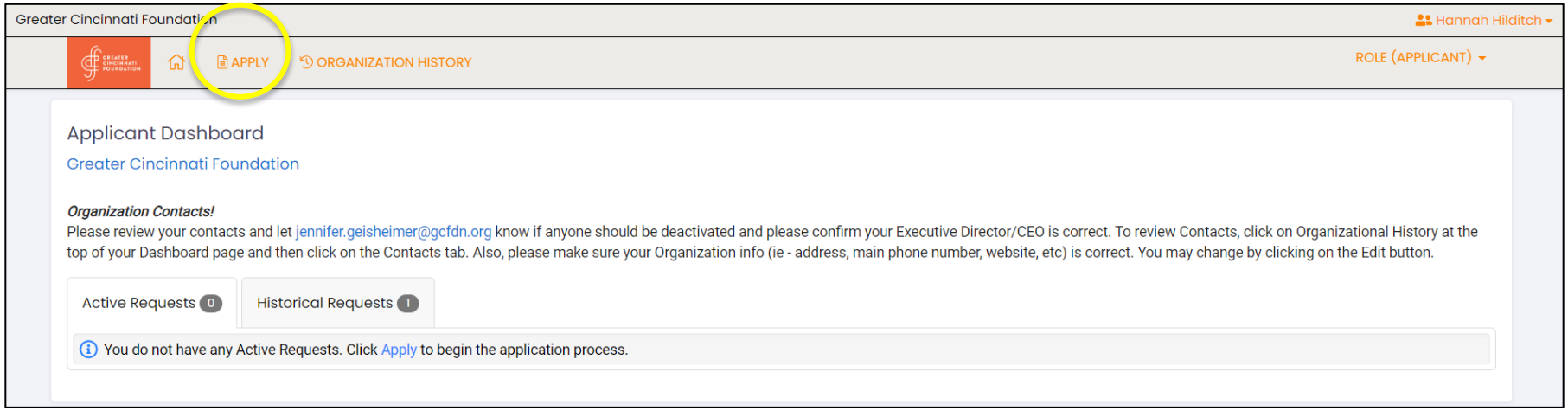
Submitting the Letter of Intent

Access applications through Foundant

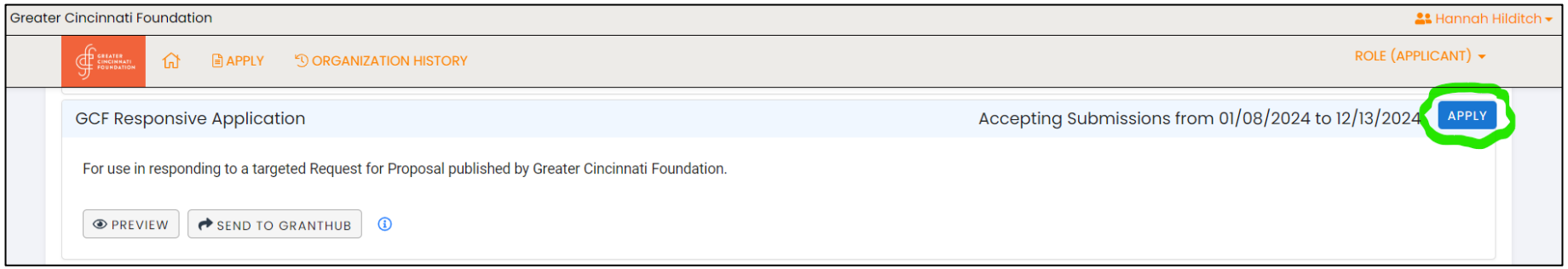


1. **New to Foundant?** Visit our website: www.gcfdn.org/rfp
2. **Select the Accessible Communities drop down menu**
   select the Request for Proposal
3. **Within the PDF, scroll to page 3 and click the hyperlinked text** GCF's online grantmaking system
4. **Login or create an account** in Foundant

LOI Deadline:
Friday, February 2, 2024 @ 5pm



4. **Login or create an account** in Foundant
5. **Select "Apply" for the GCF Responsive Application (top left)**



5. Select "Apply" for the GCF Responsive Application
6. For Request Category, be sure to choose "Accessible Communities RFP"

If selected to submit a full Application

Required Documents:

1. Most recent audit or 990
2. Income statement and balance sheet (two years of data as up-to-date as possible)
3. Project budget
4. Organizational demographics

Application Deadline:

Friday, March 22, 2024

@ 5pm

If Funded // Follow-Up Reporting

6 Month Check-In

November 2024

Final Follow Up

May 2025

- **Learnings (any changes/pivots?)**
- **Basic numbers**
  - Numbers served
  - Dollars leveraged
- **Project Specific Measures**
  - Project specific measures should be specific outcomes of the program.
- **Storytelling**

Tips & Tricks

- RFP and FAQs are your primary guide.
- Your application is the primary means of expressing your work to the review panel.
- Make sure to attach all required materials.
- After submission, changes to the application are challenging.
- GCF staff welcome invitations to regularly scheduled learning events throughout the year, such as open houses and community stakeholder meetings.
- GCF staff will do our best to respond in a timely manner throughout the process. Last minute calls are hard to address.

Q & A

Thank you for your important work.
We look forward to learning from you!

Contacts

Tara Behanan
Program Officer
Tara.Behanan@gcfdn.org

Hannah Hilditch
Community Strategies Coordinator
Hannah.Hilditch@gcfdn.org

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