



## 2024 Competitive Grant Program Guidelines

The Southborough Community Fund (SCF) promotes a spirit of philanthropic giving to support organizations that are working to create solutions for current needs and that are implementing new ideas that will improve Southborough for the future. We encourage grant applications that bring innovative thinking to big issues and small ones. As a fund of the Community Foundation for MetroWest, the SCF is a source of funding to support community needs and opportunities in the areas of Human Services, Arts and Culture, Education\*, Environment, and Community Building.

The 2024 SCF Community Grant Program will provide one-time grants from \$500 to \$10,000 to organizations in the areas of Human Services, Arts & Culture, Environment, and Community Building. Grants of more than \$10,000 may be considered on a case-by-case basis for projects of exceptional merit.

*\*Please note that SCF provides separate processes to fund initiatives in the area of Education. To learn more about these opportunities, please visit our website.*

### Grant process

SCF, with the leadership, expertise, and support of the Foundation, will provide a source of funding exclusively for the town of Southborough. SCF's Community Board is responsible for evaluating and allocating grant awards. The 2024 SCF Community Grant Program grant process includes an online application and possible follow up communication, and is based on the following timeline:

- August 19, 9:00 AM.....Application opens online: [www.bit.ly/ffmw\\_foundant](http://www.bit.ly/ffmw_foundant)
- September 20, 5:00 PM..... Application deadline
- Late September – mid-October.....Community Board review (*potential follow-up communication\*\**)
- Mid-November.....Applicants notified of decision

*\*\*Please note that there is limited capacity to follow up with applicants. If you don't receive any follow-up communication from the SCF Board, it does not mean there is a lack of interest in considering or funding your application.*

### Eligibility

SCF will consider applications from organizations that meet the following:

- Wholly or significantly serves Southborough residents
- Has 501(c)(3) tax status as a registered nonprofit organization **OR** have an eligible fiscal sponsor **OR** be a Town of Southborough department, board, or commission
- Does not limit service based on an individual's race, color, creed, religion, national origin, sex, sexual orientation, marital status, age, or disability.

At this time, SCF will **not** accept applications from:

3 Eliot Street, Natick MA 01760 • 508.647.2260 • [www.foundationformetrowest.org](http://www.foundationformetrowest.org) Southborough  
Community Fund: a Fund of the Foundation for MetroWest



- Southborough schools
- Applications for [Southborough Community Fund Education Grants](#) (formerly provided through Southborough Education Foundation) will be available in January.
- [Education Mini-Grants](#) of \$1000 or under are rolling.
- Organized youth sports programs

### **What SCF will fund**

As a fund of the Community Foundation for MetroWest, the SCF is a source of funding to support community needs and opportunities in the areas of Education, Health and Human Services, Arts and Culture, and Environment, and provides ways for residents to make an immediate impact in their community. The fund supports programs that increase volunteerism and community involvement, strengthen civic engagement, and emphasize collaborations that enhance community initiatives.

### **Focus areas**

- **Human Services**

To support families, youth, seniors, and underserved populations in creating pathways that improve overall quality of life.

- **Arts & Culture**

To support the cultural vitality of the Southborough community, including the visual arts, the performing arts, and historic preservation.

- **Environment**

To preserve Southborough's natural resources and to increase environmental awareness, education, and engagement.

- **Community Building**

To support increased volunteerism and community involvement, to strengthen civic engagement, and to emphasize collaborations that enhance community initiatives.