



United Way of Dane County Foundation Loaned Executives Grant 2017 Request for Proposals Criteria

United Way of Dane County Foundation requests proposals from Dane County not-for-profit agencies, faith-based and community organizations or groups to ensure that Dane County older adults are able to maintain their independence. A total of \$10,000 will be distributed. These one-time funds are made available through United Way of Dane County Foundation's interest earnings, and the grant decision process is a key component of our United Way Loaned Executives' professional development.

Note: Organizations submitting proposals are not required to have 501(c)3 status.

United Way's 2017 focus is to ensure that older adults and people with disabilities are able to live independently and stay in their homes. The goal of the Safe and Healthy Aging Initiative is to reduce the rate and number of adverse drug events (ADEs) (or negative reactions to medications) and falls among Dane County older adults by 20% by 2022. ADEs and falls are two acute yet preventable conditions that precipitate functional decline of older adults and cause them to be sent to institutional care or hospitals.

Why keeping older adults safe, healthy and independent matters:

- Dane County is experiencing a substantial demographic growth in the older adult population with over 64,000 residents age 65 and older representing 12.3% of the total population. This number has grown 29% since 2010 and is projected to double by 2040, the largest demographic shift in Dane County.
- As the population of older adults increases, we see chronic health conditions becoming more prevalent leading to an increase in medications consumed and ultimately an increased risk for negative drug reactions and/or potential falls.
- Falls are the leading cause of fatal and non-fatal injuries among older adults.
- Research has shown that aging in place and keeping older adults in their homes rather than an institution is more cost-efficient to both older adults and their families.
- Older adults are a critical part of the family system. We know that unsafe home conditions and chronically ill and at-risk older adults not only experience unhealthy outcomes, but can economically destabilize a family impacting the quality of life for that individual and often times their family.

To achieve our goal of reducing the rate and number of adverse drug events and falls and keeping older adults safe, healthy and independent, the United Way Board of Directors approved the following five key strategies in January 2017 as determined and recommended by the 2016 Delegation on Safe and Healthy Aging:

Strategy #1: Identify and assess: the risk of adverse drug events (ADEs) [negative drug reactions] and falls.

Strategy #2: Improve Connections: connect physicians and health care providers to resources for non-medical needs with community-based organizations and create opportunities for health care professionals to improve coordination of care for older adults.

Strategy #3: Provide access to resources: caregivers will have access to resources and tools that help older adults remain safe.

Strategy #4: Expand our reach: increase the reach to vulnerable older adults with limited access to resources by providing nutritional supports in targeted rural areas and in communities of color.

Strategy # 5: Engage the community: to highlight the importance of the contribution of older adults to our society which also helps them to feel a greater sense of purpose.

We invite community and/or senior centers, neighborhood-based agencies and other community organizations to submit proposals that align with at least two of our five recommended strategies above that will help keep our most seasoned adults safe, healthy and living in their own homes. We encourage programs to collaborate and will consider awarding additional dollars to programs that are collaborating to provide programming.

This year we are encouraging funding requests in the following fashion:

1. Individual funding request may be awarded up to \$2,000.
2. Collaborative funding requests may be awarded up to \$5,000.

We will also look at piloting a program if it is not currently in existence.

Funds available through this grant must be used for services provided in Dane County and should be spent by no later than October 31, 2018.

Areas considered when reviewing proposals:

- Target population
 - Number of older adults served
 - Strategy used to reach target population
- Expected outcomes from this grant
- Proposals submitted must demonstrate:
 - *If applicable:* A collaboration between two or more organizations, groups, etc.
 - How the program aligns with the above listed strategies to keep older adults safe, healthy and independent
 - How success will be identified

Application Deadline is Tuesday, August 1, 2017 by Noon. Applications will not be accepted after Noon.

Please Note: You must be available to present your application on Wednesday, August 9 between 11:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. We will call you to set up a time for your presentation at the Anderson United Way Center.

Questions may be submitted via email to foundation@uwdc.org

Thank you for helping older adults remain safe, healthy and independent.