



UNITED WAY
Western Nebraska



Funding Guidelines

United Way of Western Nebraska unites people and resources to build a stronger, healthier & more compassionate community.

**July 1, 2025- June 30, 2026
& July 1, 2026-June 30, 2027**

United Way of Western Nebraska

Application for July 1, 2025 to June 30, 2027

Funding Guide

Thank you for your interest in applying for United Way of Western Nebraska (UWWN) funding and becoming a United Way partner agency. This document will help guide you through the application process. You can find additional information and submit your application online at uwwn.org/grant.

Community Impact

For more than 75 years, United Way has fundraised for and invested in the Western Nebraska community area. With more than 1490 donors and 250 local volunteers annually and over \$13 million dollars raised since inception, we continue to bring incredible people together to make positive community change. We fund health and human service programs that impact the areas of healthy community, youth opportunity, financial security and community resiliency. We use data to understand the biggest needs that exist in our community and the effectiveness of our funded programs to impact that need. Because we use data to guide our investment decision-making process, we require our funded partners to report on the outcomes of their programs annually. These reports, in addition to other community level data, inform the way we fund.

Priority Areas

UWWN focuses on identifying the issues impacting the community in the areas of healthy community, youth opportunity, financial security or community resiliency. The organization must be a not-for-profit 501 (c)3 organization:

- Be targeted toward an identifiable population and within the UWWN service area. The UWWN service area includes the following counties in the State of Nebraska: Banner County, Box Butte County, Dawes County, Cheyenne County, Deuel County, Garden County, Kimball County, Morrill County, Scotts Bluff County, Sheridan County, Sioux County and the following counties in the State of Wyoming: Goshen County and Platte County.
- Improve the wellbeing of individuals, groups or communities through the provision of services which are appropriate for UWWN support.
- United Way grant requests contributes to the operating expenses of an agency and not to its capital expenses (building or land)

Two- Year Funding Cycle

This funding cycle, United Way of Western Nebraska is shifting to a two-year funding cycle. Your agency application will be considered for two-consecutive years of funding, The application request is for budget information for one year. The second year of funding will be contingent on the amount raised during the United Way annual fundraising campaign. The more we raise, the more United Way is able to give back to the community!

FUNDING REQUEST (application page 7)

- Request the amount of funding for 1 year do NOT include the total for the two-year funding cycle. We will communicate with each agency by June 1, 2026 regarding year two funding amounts.
- Please reach out to our staff, if your organization is requesting only a one-time investment or funding.

ORGANIZATION BUDGET & SUPPORTING SCHEDULES (UWWN application page 8)

- Enter the budget items for each fiscal year as noted in the column
- lines 1 to 12 are automatically calculated on line #13
- Lines #15 to #26 are automatically calculated on line #27
- Itemized details from pages 9-10 should match the corresponding lines on page 8
- Any items that need additional details should be documented in the comments on page 10

LOGIC MODEL & AGENCY OUTCOMES/GOALS

See the 2025-2027 Funding Application References & Examples at www.uwwn.org/grant for definitions and examples.



IMPACT AREAS

HEALTHY COMMUNITY

Improving health and well-being for all

- Maternal & child health
- Nutrition & food security
- Mental health
- Substance misuse
- Disease prevention & awareness

FINANCIAL SECURITY

Building financial stability and strength

- Job readiness & workforce development
- Adult education & job training
- Financial education & coaching
- Homelessness prevention & affordable housing
- Small business support
- Public benefits access

YOUTH OPPORTUNITY

Helping young people realize their full potential

- Childcare & early childhood development
- In-school, after-school & summer learning
- Literacy development
- Family engagement
- STEM education
- College & career readiness

COMMUNITY RESILIENCY

Addressing urgent needs today and advancing a better tomorrow

- Disaster relief & recovery
- Emergency preparedness
- Crisis hotline & support
- Environmental stewardship & sustainability

Funding Requirements

United Way of Western Nebraska is seeking program applications for a **grant funding cycle** beginning **July 1, 2025 through June 30, 2027**.

Partners receiving an investment from UWWN must meet certain requirements and sign a Partner Agreement included in the application. Partners receiving UWWN investments are required to submit reports to monitor their grants progress.

Midyear report due: December 31, 2025

Year-End Report due: July 31, 2026

2nd Year Mid-Year report due: December 31, 2026

Final Grant Report due: July 31, 2027

Failure to file any reports may result in the suspension of future United Way funding.

Programs must meet the following requirements to be considered:

- Must provide health and human services in Banner County, Box Butte County, Cheyenne County, Dawes County, Deuel County, Garden County, Kimball County, Morrill County, Scotts Bluff County, Sheridan County, Sioux County in the State of Nebraska or Goshen County and/or Platte County in the State of Wyoming.
- Must be a current 501(c)(3) organizations.
- Must be an existing organization with an established Board of Directors or defined governing agency that meets at least 4 times per year.
- Must allow members of the United Way Board of Directors to review accounting records if requested.
- Must have a written mission, goals and objectives.
- Must be an agency currently in existence and currently providing services in our community in the area of at least one of the United Way impact areas (see next page for impact areas).
- United Way grant requests may contribute to the operating or program expenses of an agency and may not include capital expenses (building or land).
- Must be willing to sign the agency agreement (see pages 7-8).

If you meet the above criteria, we welcome you to complete the application for funding for the 2025-2027 fiscal years.

With the increased need for services by all agencies, we continue to look closely at our opportunities for community investment and the impact they have on our community and its residents. In the application, each agency must provide details on the Outcome and Impact of the program for which you are seeking funding. We must measure results of the invested dollars and provide optimum value of service delivery to our community.

Checklist of Required Documents for Application

The online grant application is available at www.uwwn.org. In order to apply, **you must receive a unique agency link to submit your application and supporting documents by emailing kbenzel@uwwn.org by no later than February 28, 2025.**

In order for an application to be eligible for review all of the following documents must be uploaded and submitted by Friday, March 7, 2025.

Applications that are not complete, do not have all the required documents, and/or do not meet the deadline will not be considered for funding. You will need to submit:

- Completed Signed Application
- Copy of 501 (c)(3)
- Audit OR 12 months of bank statements
- Financial Statement (Balance Sheet, Profit & Loss Statement, etc.)*

*Agency Financial Statements such as a fiscal year-end balance sheet or profit & loss statement are optional, but assist the funds distribution committee in reviewing your agency's United Way funding request

Please note **the Application for Funding is designed to be completed as a pdf and to be signed digitally** with no need to print it to collect signatures. Adobe Reader (a free program) or a higher version is required to electronically sign the document. Please call 308-635-2522 or email kbenzel@uwwn.org with any questions on completing the application for funding.

Application Timeline & Important Dates

Friday, March 7, 2025 - [Grant Funding Application Due](#)

Monday, March 17- Friday, April 11, 2025: Financial Committee Application Reviews

Wednesday, April 30 & Thursday, May 1, 2025- Funds Distribution Interviews @ United Way Office Scottsbluff

Monday, May 5, 2025 – Dawes County Funds Distribution Interviews @Platte Valley Bank Community Room

Tuesday, May 6, 2025 – Box Butte County Funds Distribution Interviews @FNBO Conference Room

Monday, May 19, 2025- Final Approval of Recommendations at United Way Board of Directors Meeting

End of May 2025- Agencies will be notified of Funding

June 18, 2025 - Deadline to Sign Agency Agreement (see pages 7-8 for reference)

Wednesday, December 31, 2025- [Mid-Year Report Due](#)

Friday, July 31, 2026- [Year 1 Grant Report Due](#)

Thursday- December 31, 2026- Mid-Year Report Due

Agency Agreement

2025-2027

United Way of Western Nebraska exists for the purpose of providing a single unified source of raising and dispersing contributions to assist in meeting the human service needs in Western Nebraska.

The undersigned participating Agency is qualified to receive deductible charitable contributions under Section 501(c) 3 of the Internal Revenue Code of 1954, as amended and, United Way of Western Nebraska and the Agency desire to enter into an agreement effective July 1, 2025 to June 30, 2027, setting forth the respective responsibilities of said entities as hereafter set forth.

Therefore, United Way of Western Nebraska ("United Way") and the Agency agree as follows:

1. Both parties hereby acknowledge that the Agency shall retain its distinct identity, administer its own affairs, and establish, maintain, and pursue its own internal policy, but shall at all times be in compliance with the uniform rules, regulations and standards which may from time to time be prescribed by the United Way Board of Directors.
2. Agency agrees to accept the apportionment of funds as approved by the United Way Board of Directors.
3. Agency agrees to maintain responsible management with a rotating membership of its Board of Directors of accountable and reputable residents, which shall meet at least four times yearly.
4. Agency agrees to cooperate with other agencies to prevent duplication of services and promote efficiency and economy of administration.
5. United Way will use its best efforts to conduct a comprehensive fundraising campaign on an annual basis. United Way agrees to, throughout the year, to collectively promote the interest and work of all participating agencies that derive financial support through the United Way campaign (the "Campaign").
6. Agency agrees to give its full and active support to the Campaign, including use of the Agency's volunteer members, board members and professional staff, when reasonably requested by the United Way. If the Agency has full or part-time employees, the Agency will make the United Way materials available and afford employees the opportunity to financially contribute to the Campaign.
7. Agency shall accurately and fully complete grant reports and submit the same to United Way as follows:
 - a. Midyear Grant report no later than December 31st of the respective year;
 - b. Final Grant no later than July 31st of the respective year.

Failure to file any reports may result in the suspension of future United Way funding.

8. Agency agrees to identify their participation as a United Way agency throughout the duration of this agreement, including but not limited to, utilizing United Way name and logo on agency communications, media releases and printed material (i.e. letterhead, brochures, etc.).
9. Agency is strongly encouraged to fundraise outside the period of October 1 through November 30th of each year. Agency funding may be impacted if Agency fails to adhere to this recommendation. All funds solicited during this period must be reported in United Way's funding application and will be taken into consideration at the time of funding.
10. This agreement shall be executed each year between participating agencies and United Way. The signed agreement must be completed prior to the receipt of any United Way funding.
11. United Way reserves the right, in its sole and ultimate discretion, to discontinue funding to any Agency at any time, request reimbursement of funds previously distributed, or prohibit the Agency from participation in future funding opportunities. Grounds for such recourse may include, but are not limited to: instances of misconduct by the Agency or its members, misuse of funds by the Agency or its members, failure to adhere to this agreement, failure to file necessary grant reports, and other actions not within the spirit of this agreement.

Agreement entered into this day of , 2025.

AGENCY

Agency Name:

Agency President Signature:

Agency Director Signature:

UNITED WAY OF WESTERN NEBRASKA

United Way President Signature:

United Way Executive Director Signature:

Agency Interviews



UWWN recognizes the value and importance in providing the space and opportunity for programs to share their story and positive impact to support investment decisions. UWWN applicants selected by our volunteer reviewers will be invited for an interview on the dates noted on the previous page. UWWN requests that agency lead staff, program staff, and a Board Member from the agency attend the interview.

Strong interviews will:

Show consistency with and expand on the application

Provide insight into the why you do what you do & motivation for serving community

Speak directly to how a UWWN investment would enhance/support services

Demonstrate agency support for United Way and the United Way fundraising campaign.



Contact Information

For more information or questions regarding United Way investments or grants, please contact:

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kbenzel@uwwn.org
308-635-2522