

Grant Guidelines

2026-2027 Safe & Stable Housing Fund Grant Cycle:
Youth



Grant Opportunity

The Safe & Stable Housing Fund at San Diego Foundation (Coastal Safe & Stable Housing Fund) seeks to fund organizations serving our community members at risk of becoming homeless, with the goal that they remain stable in a home of their own. This annual grant cycle is committed to the financial support of projects proposing to address urgent needs of youth ages 13-26 struggling to remain housed (through homelessness prevention and/or diversion efforts) and have a positive impact on the community by addressing unique housing and other related issues faced by youth.

Focus Area

The Coastal Safe & Stable Housing Fund will accept proposals for programs ensuring the well-being of youth living in North County San Diego. Requests can be between \$10,000 and up to \$40,000 for a 12-month grant cycle from date of grant award in December 2026. Programs should provide just-in-time “flex funding” to bridge a short-term gap in resources to avoid eviction or homelessness or provide funds to keep their clients out of crisis while focusing on long-term solutions (i.e., utilities, rent, medical bills, car repair, etc.). through homelessness prevention and/or diversion efforts.

Eligibility Criteria

Grants must be administered by a 501(c)3 public charity, or an organization fiscally sponsored by a 501(c)3, a school, or other government agency. The Coastal Safe & Stable Housing Fund does not make grants to supporting organizations or private, non-operating foundations. If an organization is using a fiscal sponsor, a cooperative relationship between the two must be clearly demonstrated.

Frequently Asked Questions

What is the Coastal Safe & Stable Housing Fund timeline?

- **September 2, 2026:** Cycle opens
- **October 2, 2026:** Full application due by 5:00 p.m.
- **November 2026:** Site visits conducted as needed
- **December 2026:** Final grants awarded

What is the grant period?

Grants are made for one year. This grant cycle runs from December 2026, through November 2027.

What reporting is required?

Coastal Safe & Stable Housing Fund will ask for an end of grant period report, the details of which will be specified in the grant award letter.

Applications are due at 5:00 p.m. on October 2, 2026.

Who can I contact if I have any questions?

For program or technical questions regarding the online application, please contact our team at philanthropy@sdfoundation.org.

Application Instructions

All applicants must apply through the [San Diego Foundation grant application portal](#) for the 2026-2027 grant cycle. If you do not already have an account, begin by creating your account, then click the “Apply” button to access the eligibility survey. For additional guidance regarding creating a new user account, please see [this tutorial](#). To apply, log on [here](#).

Note: SDF highly recommends updating all your organization’s contact information in Foundant including address and EIN as well as updating your profile in [Candid](#).

Applicant Information

- **Organization Name**
- **Organization Contact Name and Title**
- **Address, City, State, Zip, Telephone**
- **Email**
- **Website**

Organization Information

- **Type of Organization:** Which describes your organization?
 - A 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization
 - Fiscally sponsored by a 501(c)3 organization
- **DBA:** Please provide if the organization name you use is different from your legal name.
- **Mission Statement:** Describe the organization’s mission and goals.
- **Geographic Areas Served (list):** Please provide details how your project specifically serves residents living in North County San Diego.
- **Financial:** Please provide most current organization financial statements, and tax return (Form 990)
- **Does your organization have a fiscal sponsor?:** If so, please provide Fiscal Sponsor Information below.

Fiscal Sponsor Information - if applicable

- **Fiscal Sponsor Name**
- **Fiscal Sponsor EIN Number***: Please be sure to format it correctly (##-#####)
- **Fiscal Sponsor Agreement***: Please upload a letter demonstrating the agreement between your organization and your fiscal sponsor. A letter or MOU will suffice.
- **Mission Statement**: Describe the organization's mission and goals.
- **Geographic Areas Served (list)**: Please provide details how your project specifically serves residents living in North County San Diego.
- **Financial**: Please provide most current organization financial statements, and tax return (Form 990)

Application Questions

Project Information

- **Project/Program Name**: Please indicate the name of the project or program benefiting youth struggling to make ends meet and maintain their housing.
- **Funding Amount Requested**:
- **Project Description, Purpose & Alignment**: Describe the purpose of the project, how it aligns with the focus area, and how funding will deepen, sustain, and/or expand your impact supporting youth in North County San Diego to stay in home of their own.
- **Greatest Need**: What do you define as the greatest need to support your efforts to prevent vulnerable youth from experiencing homelessness?
- **Metrics**: What does success look like with this program or project? How will you measure your impact? Please be specific if you have data or experience, and/or if a pilot, what you are hoping to accomplish.
- **Mental Health Services**: What mental health services are available to youth in your program?
- **Impact Stories**: Share one or more stories of how your work has impacted youth.

Project Budget*

- **Annual Operating Budget***: Please enter your annual operating budget based on your last fiscal year.
- **Project Budget**: Please upload the project budget.
- **Funded Items**: List other sources of income and potential donations for this program or project (i.e., foundation grants, government funds, event income, private donors, etc.)