Coffee Chat Notes

We had some great questions come through our coffee chats. Here is a summary of what was brought up:

Application Questions

- **Can organizations apply for funding in multiple fields of interest?**
  At this time, organizations will need to select only one field of interest that best defines the overall general operating mission of the organization. Please note that organizations can only apply in one field of interest per calendar year.

- **Our organization could fit into possibly two or more fields of interest, how do I know which field of interest to apply for?**
  The Foundation's Annual Grant Cycle provides funding for general operating support, so we advise that you write about your overall mission and a few key programs that are critical to serving the mission of your organization. Please note that community foundation staff do not participate in the decision making process, and that Foundation staff can provide general advice on what we have seen in the past and information about the fields of interest, but the decision is ultimately that of the organization.

- **One of the questions on the application states, "Does your organization identify as led-by-serving (led by the same community of the population that you serve)?" What does "Led by/Serving" mean?**
  Led-by-serving refers to the leadership of the organization and whether they are representative of the community they are serving.
  For example: You are running an organization that is designated to support the LGBTQ+ community and your leadership identifies as being part of the LGBTQ+ community.

- **One of the questions on the application states "How does your organization measure impact? What mechanisms do you have in place to measure impact?" Can you please clarify?**
  This question is intended to provide the panel with an understanding of what methods the organization has in place to quantify impact. This question can also help panelists understand how the organization supports changing needs in the community and ensure the organization is meeting those needs.

- **When inviting someone to "collaborate" on an application, does the second person create their own profile/password?**
  Yes, please note in order to provide proper permissions for the person you are adding as a collaborator, you will need to also select the permissions this person will have i.e. can view, can edit, can submit etc. An applicant tutorial on collaboration can be accessed here.

General Grant Questions

- **Where can I find more information about the Foundation's grants programs?**
  Information about ACF Grant programs can be found at https://abqcf.org/grants/.

- **I am having technical trouble with the grant portal. Where can I get help?**
  For technical issues please email grants@abqcf.org.

- **My organization is based in one of the four county areas, however we do offer statewide programs for counties outside of the four-county region requirement. Does my organization qualify to apply for the Annual Grant Cycle?**
  Yes, and we recommend that you make it very clear in your application that you provide services in the four-county region and highlight how your organization impacts communities within Bernalillo, Sandoval, Torrance, and Valencia.

- **When submitting reporting for the grant, is there a need to report all counties being served by our organization?**
  Although not required, if you are able, it would be beneficial to track this type of information as it will help quantify your organizational impact.

- **Is there someone available I can work with for help/feedback on my grant application?**
  Unfortunately, Foundation staff cannot offer feedback on the actual application itself prior to the review panel accessing them and meeting to discuss. We can offer feedback to specific questions prior and can offer feedback to the content of the application following the decision process. If you have questions regarding your application, please contact us via email at grants@abqcf.org.

- **Regarding funding, is my organization competing with other fields of interest for funding or does each field of interest have its own funding?**
  Each field-of-interest has its own funding available. Typically, we have between $55,000 - $85,000 available depending on the field-of-interest.

- **If we get funding, is it ok to partner with other entities?**
  Yes, funding is unrestricted and you can partner with other entities at your discretion.

- **Can nonprofits serve on panels in areas they are not applying to?**
  Yes, If you would like to be on a grant panel you can sign up here or please contact us at grants@abqcf.org.

- **Can I view application questions/rubric prior to applying?**
  Yes. You can view Annual Grant questions and the rubric here at Grant Questions and Rubric.