



## **United Way of Greater Nashville Community Impact Award**

United Way of Greater Nashville Community Impact Award recognizes a collective group of organizations working together to alleviate poverty by impacting multiple dimensions of a system including policy, practices, power dynamics, and relationships. The work is collective by nature and requires the collaboration of many stakeholders representing service providers, nonprofits, government, community members, and those most impacted by the system.

An award of \$25,000 will go to the winning cross-sector initiative, showing demonstrable progress on systems change. An award of \$10,000 will go to one finalist cross-sector initiative. Funds will be awarded to a named backbone organization(s). The backbone will be responsible for distributing funds to its collective partners.

### **Requirements for the Community Impact Award:**

- The backbone organization(s) is the primary applicant and must be an organization that has been a 501(c)(3) for at least three years and is a member of CNM.
- Applicant must be a collective group of organizations with a named backbone focused on improving systems to alleviate root causes of poverty.
- Applicant's systems change projects must have been active for 12 months or more with documented evidence of progress.
- The application must include a list of collaborating partners.
- Local chapters of national organizations may apply, provided the chapters are locally managed and have financial information available on a local basis.
- Initiatives submitting proposals for The Healing Trust Catalyst for Change Award are not eligible for this award.

### **High quality applications will include:**

- Visual map showing the relationship between multiple parts of the system
- Logic model that demonstrates how various inputs will bring about desired change
- Evidence that stakeholders within the system have been convened to surface systemic issues and co-design solutions
- Strategic plan to define priorities and action steps
- Demonstrated work across multiple levels of systems change as described in Figure 1. /Table 1.

### **Previous Winners and Finalists:**

- Previous winners of this award are not eligible to reapply for one year. (For example, if the

initiative was a winner in 2019, the initiative is eligible to re-apply in 2021.)

- Previous finalist initiatives of this award may reapply.

### Questions:

1. What community outcomes are you trying to solve? (Limit response to 250 words.)
2. What system does your collaboration desire to impact? (Limit response to 250 words.)
3. Please provide visual map of key players and connections within the system or systems you desire to impact.
4. Based on the conditions described in Figure 1. and Table 1., what conditions are you addressing? (Limit response to 250 words.)
5. What progress and outcomes have you accomplished? (Limit response to 250 words.)
6. What conditions will you continue to work towards to ensure systems change for this project? (Limit response to 250 words.)

### For Reference: System Levels and Conditions

Borrowing from FSG’s *Six Conditions of systems change*, the award winner will have demonstrated work across multiple levels as described in Figure 1. below:

Figure 1.

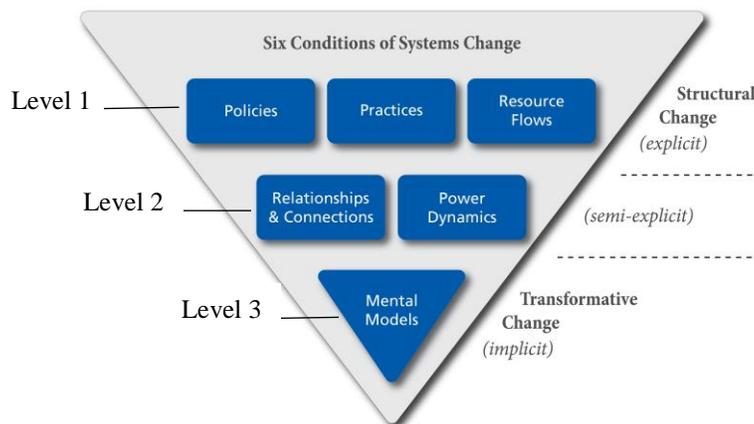


Table 1. Conditions Defined

| Condition                              | Definition  |
|--|---|
| <b>Policies</b>                        | Government, institutional and organizational rules, regulations and priorities that guide the entity’s own and others’ actions.   |
| <b>Practices</b>                       | Esposued activities of institutions, coalitions, networks and other entities targeted to improving social and environmental progress. Also, within the entity, the procedures, guideline, or informal shared habits that comprise their work. |
| <b>Resource Flows</b>                  | How money, people, knowledge, information and other assets such as infrastructure are allocated and distributed.  |
| <b>Relationships &amp; Connections</b> | Quality of connections and communication occurring among actors in the system, especially among those with differing histories and viewpoints.  |
| <b>Power Dynamics</b>                  | The distribution of decision-making power, authority, and both formal and informal influence among individuals and organizations.   |
| <b>Mental Models</b>                   | Habits of thought—deeply held beliefs and assumptions and taken-for-granted ways of operating that influence how we think, what we do, and how we talk.   |

