



September 22, 2023
North County Town Hall
Grant Writing Tips & Tricks



Overview

1. Tips and Tricks & Back to Basics
2. Working Through an Application Question
3. Grants – Where to Find Them
4. Free Resources



Top Tips and Tricks

- Reach out to the funder/program officer BEFORE you submit your application
- Don't assume that they know about the problem you are trying to solve
- Don't submit down to the wire
- Make sure your budget matches your narrative
- Learn how to read a 990



Back to Basics

Formality – complete sentences, act like they don't know you

Read the question three times, then have someone else read your work to make sure you answered the question

Know what you're asking for and what the need is **BEFORE** you start the application



Useful Tools!

Chat GPT, Bard, AI

Grammarly

Your Team! (and Olivia 😊)



Let's work through a question

Share what the grant funds will go towards; statement of needs/problems to be addressed; description of how community members will benefit; description of project goals, and objectives (measurable, if possible); timetable for implementation, if applicable

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FSD gives food to kids through our School Pantry program. We are seeing more families turn to our services and your funding would help increase the number of families we can serve. Over the grant period, we will provide an increased amount of food to families at our School Pantry sites. Our School Pantry program follows the school year, starting in August and ending in June.

Grant funding from the foundation will help provide 10,000 meals to children and their families through Feeding San Diego's School Pantry program.

With inflation at a 40-year high and grocery prices up 17 percent from 2021, many families are forced to choose between food and other basic necessities. Needing to stretch their budget, families turn to us, because no one wants to see their child go hungry. Under-nourished children are at greater risk for stunted development, hospitalization, illnesses such as anemia and asthma, and are more likely to miss classes, causing them to fall behind academically and socially.

Feeding San Diego combats child food insecurity through our School Pantry program, providing free, nutritious food directly to families with children through consistent distributions at convenient locations they already visit – their schools. The children served through the program experience improved health, well-being, food security, and school-readiness, while also alleviating stress and improving health for the parents — thereby benefiting the community as a whole.

Feeding San Diego expects to provide 1.8 million meals through its School Pantry program. We plan to provide 21 pounds of nutritious food, including up to 15 pounds of fresh produce, to each participating household with children at twice-monthly (majority), monthly, or weekly distributions, depending on site.

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Free Resources to Find Funders & Grant Opportunities

- Grants.gov
- The San Diego Foundation
- Catalyst
- Local Community Foundations
- Wells Fargo Private Foundations
- Other Organizations



Free Resources Learn More About Grant Writing/Networking

- Fundraising Fridays
- Grants Roundtable
- Grants Professional Association
- AFP Mentorship Program
- Leichtag Foundation Trainings



Reach out to us! We'd love to read your past proposals

Send one of your past proposals (feel free to include instructions, budgets, attachments, etc.) to Olivia Holabird at oholabird@feedingsandiego.org

Give us two weeks to respond with a review of your proposal.

We're here for you!

