



# 2017 Building Community

## *Annual Funding Opportunity*

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**Meyer invites inquiries that will further our vision that all Oregonians to achieve their full potential, have a voice in decisions that affect them, and engage in and help build vibrant communities.**

We will accept Inquiry Applications from March 15 to April 19, 2017 at 5pm.

This document outlines everything you need to know to get started. For more information, please visit the Applicant Resources pages on our website:

[www.mmt.org/apply/applicant-resources](http://www.mmt.org/apply/applicant-resources).

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## ABOUT THE PORTFOLIO

Meyer believes that Oregonians thrive most when they are part of vibrant and supportive communities — when they can see promising paths for themselves, when they can influence decisions that affect them, and when they have safe spaces to connect with others and express their shared humanity. We recognize that the promises of inclusive, engaged and creative communities have been systematically denied to some populations while being readily accessible to others. When disparities cease to exist, Oregon will become a place where everyone can live up to their full potential.

The Building Community portfolio focuses on supporting work that uproots social and economic inequities and provides access to opportunity for all. We invest in nonprofits and collaboratives that change systems and improve conditions for communities of color, people living in poverty, and other marginalized populations. We are especially interested in partnering with organizations that are committed to integrating diversity, equity and inclusion into their internal structures and operations.

## Equity Lens

Equity is a central tenet in all of Meyer’s grantmaking. All applicants — regardless of where they may be today — must demonstrate a commitment to ongoing growth through the integration of diversity, equity, and inclusion (DEI) principles into both their external programming or services and internal structures and operations.

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## FUNDING GOALS

Building Community seeks to achieve the following goals:

- Invest in strategies that dismantle inequities and create new opportunities to advance equity
- Support efforts to encourage and strengthen civic engagement and public participation in democratic processes
- Support arts and cultural initiatives that create inclusive communities

Meyer has identified several intended outcomes under each of these goals. Applicants will be asked to indicate which goal (only one) and which of its associated outcomes (up to two) that their proposed work best supports. Applications that do not make a strong and clear connection to at least one of Meyer’s intended outcomes will not be successful.

Read more about the Building Community funding goals, intended outcomes and examples of what we may fund in this round later in this document or visit [www.mmt.org/portfolio/community/goals-outcomes](http://www.mmt.org/portfolio/community/goals-outcomes).

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## AVAILABLE FUNDING

**Meyer anticipates awarding approximately \$4.8 million through this funding opportunity. We strive to support organizations and collaboratives across the state that engage and serve a diversity of people living within their service areas.**

The Building Community portfolio prioritizes funding for work that improves conditions for the following populations:

- People of color
- Immigrants and Refugees
- Oregonians living on low incomes
- Women and girls

- Crime/abuse survivors
- Indigenous peoples and Tribes
- Aging/elderly people
- People with disabilities
- LGBT people

Additionally, we seek to invest in rural, underserved communities. See [www.mmt.org/apply/applicant-resources/rural](http://www.mmt.org/apply/applicant-resources/rural) for more information.

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## WHAT DOESN'T FIT

The following are not strong fits for Building Community's annual funding opportunity:

- Efforts to advance equity through programming when the organization has not undertaken at least some tasks to incorporate diversity, equity, and inclusion principles into their internal structures and operations. (In such cases, a request to support internal DEI work may be a better fit.)
- Plans to launch or expand programming that were developed without meaningful engagement of the people being served.
- Direct services that are not tied to or informed by broader efforts to change the root causes and systemic conditions that make the services necessary.
- Organizational capacity building efforts that are not informed by an analysis of how diversity, equity and inclusion fit into the project.

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## GRANT TYPES + AMOUNTS

### **Project Support:**

- Project grants from the Building Community portfolio range from \$40,000 to \$175,000 over one, two or three years; the average in 2016 was \$70,000 per year.
- For large collaboratives, we will consider grants of \$250,000 for up to three years. To learn how Meyer defines a collaborative for this purpose, please visit [www.mmt.org/apply/applicant-resources/collaborative-proposals](http://www.mmt.org/apply/applicant-resources/collaborative-proposals).

### **Capacity Building Support:**

- Capacity building grants are typically made in the range of \$60,000 to \$150,000 over one, two or three years; the average in 2016 was \$60,000 per year. We will consider requests of up to \$175,000 over three years.
- For Technical Assistance and collaborative planning efforts, grants of up to \$35,000 will be considered.

### **Operating Support:**

- General operating support will be awarded only to organizations, collaboratives, and key intermediaries that address priorities of historically marginalized populations and demonstrate an internal DEI commitment, and stability and success in their core work.
- Typical awards are \$50,000 to \$75,000 per year and are sized in relation to the organization's annual operating budget such that Meyer's grant does not constitute more than approximately 10-20% of the total budget. We will consider requests of up to \$150,000 over two years for organizations with operating budgets over \$1 million.

### **Capital Construction Support:**

- Building Community awarded only two capital grants in 2016, both of which were less than \$100,000. This year we will consider a very limited number of capital requests of up to \$250,000 when a direct and compelling connection to improving conditions for priority populations is clear.

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## **WHO WE FUND**

*We seek to partner with organizations that:*

- Share our goals and vision for change
- Are committed to equity, diversity and inclusion in their organizations and partnerships
- Have a track record of effective work directly related to our funding priorities or have identified such work as a strategic and mission-aligned priority over the grant period
- Collaborate with other organizations in their community, within the same sector and/ or across sectors
- Recognize the intersection between their organization's work and broader policies and systems
- Have effective leadership that engages a base of community support

- Demonstrate the administrative capacity, financial plan and organizational commitment to implement their proposed project
- Are committed to understanding and evaluating the impact and effectiveness of their work

For more information, please visit [www.mmt.org/apply/who-we-fund](http://www.mmt.org/apply/who-we-fund). Organizations that received a multi-year grant through Meyer's 2016 Spring Funding Opportunity are not eligible to apply for a 2017 Funding Opportunity grant through the 2017 Annual Funding Opportunity except in specific cases. For more information, please see the Eligibility and Alignment section at [www.mmt.org/apply/applicant-resources](http://www.mmt.org/apply/applicant-resources).

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## APPLICATION PROCESS

Meyer uses a two-step application process for our annual funding opportunity.

Inquiry Applications are welcome from any eligible organization seeking to advance one of the portfolio's goals. A preview of the Inquiry Application questions appears below or available for download as a Word document at [www.mmt.org/sites/default/files/inline-files/Building\\_Community\\_InquiryApp\\_Word\\_2.docx](http://www.mmt.org/sites/default/files/inline-files/Building_Community_InquiryApp_Word_2.docx).

After reviewing Inquiry Applications, we will invite the most promising applicants to submit a full proposal. A preview of the full proposal questions is available for download as a Word document at [www.mmt.org/sites/default/files/inline-files/Building\\_Community\\_FullProposal\\_Word\\_0\\_0.docx](http://www.mmt.org/sites/default/files/inline-files/Building_Community_FullProposal_Word_0_0.docx).

Applicants should:

- Create or update their profile in GrantIS, Meyer's online application portal. The activation process can take several days, so please be sure to set up your account well in advance of the application deadline.
  - ◆ New GrantIS users, please visit: <https://grantis.mmt.org/questionnaire> to create an [account](#).
  - ◆ Applicants with existing GrantIS accounts, please visit <https://grantis.mmt.org/> and check that your organization's information (e.g., mailing address, Board members, etc.) is up to date.
- Submit their Inquiry Application no later than 5pm on Wednesday, April 19.

Meyer will notify organizations in mid-June whether or not they are invited to submit a full proposal. If invited, organizations will have three weeks to do so.

After reviewing proposals and following up either in person or over the phone, we anticipate making final award decisions by the end of 2017, with funding available to organizations in early 2018.

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## FUNDING GOALS + OUTCOMES

*Download a list of the awards granted for this portfolio's 2016 funding opportunity, arranged by goal, at*

[www.mmt.org/sites/default/files/inline-files/2016-Building-Community-Awards-by-Goal.pdf](http://www.mmt.org/sites/default/files/inline-files/2016-Building-Community-Awards-by-Goal.pdf)

The Building Community Portfolio supports organizations and collaboratives across the state that engage and serve a diversity of people through their programs and services. Applicants are asked to select one of following three goals that best relates to their proposed work, as well as up to two of its associated outcomes. In each of the goal areas, we are especially interested in partnering with organizations that are committed to integrating diversity, equity, and inclusion into their internal structures and operations.

### **GOAL 1: INVEST IN STRATEGIES THAT DISMANTLE INEQUITIES + CREATE NEW OPPORTUNITIES TO ADVANCE EQUITY**

Advancing equity will require organizations to work toward changing systems and policies to ensure that all people receive fair treatment and have access and opportunity to achieve their full potential. This means identifying and dismantling the barriers that create inequities and inhibit full participation of historically marginalized communities. Doing this work effectively also involves reviewing internal operations to ensure that systems, policies and a culture exist where all people can thrive.

#### Intended Outcomes

- **Equity Focus:** Increased commitment to equity among organizations and improved understanding of how to advance equity through their work. *Applicants are likely to be more competitive by including internal diversity, equity and inclusion strategies that further their mission.*
- **Organizational Capacity:** Strengthened long-term health and capacity of key organizations, intermediaries and collaborations that advance equitable outcomes. *Applicants are likely to be more competitive if ideas about diversity, equity and inclusion are considered when developing strategies to improve and sustain organizational health (e.g., operations, policies and procedures, finances, staffing).*
- **Innovation:** Identification and expanded use of innovative strategies and collaborative efforts that promote equity.
- **Policy + Systems Change:** Increased equitable opportunities and reduced disparities through changes in public policy, systems and institutional practices.
- **Equitable Outcomes:** Improved outcomes for populations experiencing disparities. *Applicants are likely to be more competitive by connecting programs and services to a broader context and*

*systems change.*

#### Examples of What We Might Fund

- Replicate a successful culturally-responsive program and engage priority populations in organizational leadership and governance
- Improve the effectiveness of services to a priority population by implementing a comprehensive diversity, equity, and inclusion plan.
- To launch an innovative program designed with input from impacted communities to close a service gap they experience.

*These are only examples to illustrate the types of projects we might fund. We invite other ideas that would further our goals and intended outcomes.*

## **GOAL 2: SUPPORT EFFORTS TO ENCOURAGE AND STRENGTHEN CIVIC ENGAGEMENT + PUBLIC PARTICIPATION IN DEMOCRATIC PROCESSES**

When the people most affected by disparity suffer, we all suffer. And when they benefit, we all benefit. When people have the ability and opportunity to engage with and improve their own communities, they develop a sense of belonging and gain some ownership over social problems and solutions. To achieve this goal, we aim to build the strength and capacity of organizations planning on or already promoting civic engagement in order to increase the representation and deepen the participation of diverse communities in decisions that impact them.

#### Intended Outcomes

- **Equity Focus:** Increased commitment to equity among organizations and improved understanding of how to advance equity through their work. **Applicants are likely to be more competitive by including internal diversity, equity and inclusion strategies that further their mission.**
- **Organizational Capacity:** Strengthened long-term health and capacity of key organizations, intermediaries and collaborations focused on democracy and civic engagement. *Applicants are likely to be more competitive if ideas about diversity, equity and inclusion are considered when developing strategies to improve and sustain organizational health (e.g., operations, policies and procedures, finances, staffing).*
- **Innovation:** Identification and expanded use of innovative strategies and collaborative efforts that strengthen civic engagement and democratic participation.

- **Policy + Systems Change:** Increased equitable opportunities and reduced disparities through

changes in public policy, systems and institutional practices.

- **Community Influence:** Increased engagement and support of diverse and committed community leaders operating in positions of influence who promote public decision-making that reflects community priorities.

#### Examples of What We Might Fund

- Supporting a collaborative of service providers to convene and amplify the voices of low income families to support the development of state level anti-poverty policies.
- Creating culturally-specific pathways to civic participation, including education about ways to influence government, mentorship and coaching.
- Building the capacity of organizations and communities to use data and research in the development of equitable policies.

*These are only examples to illustrate the types of projects we might fund. We invite other ideas that would further our goals and intended outcomes.*

### **GOAL 3: SUPPORT ARTS + CULTURAL INITIATIVES THAT CREATE INCLUSIVE COMMUNITIES**

Arts and culture have the potential to highlight Oregon's diversity, connect people to each other, build inclusive communities and create social change. With this goal, we aim to harness our state's creativity and artistic talents in order to foster engagement, promote equity and build appreciation for the differences that make us unique. Arts and culture organizations are encouraged to apply, but other types of organizations that are interested in utilizing an artistic or creative approach to their work are also eligible.

#### Intended Outcomes

- **Equity Focus:** Increased commitment to equity among arts and cultural organizations and improved understanding of how to advance equity through their work. *Applicants are likely to be more competitive by including internal diversity, equity and inclusion strategies that further their mission.*
- **Organizational Capacity:** Strengthened long-term health and capacity of key arts and cultural organizations, intermediaries and collaborations focused on inclusive community engagement. *Applicants are likely to be more competitive if ideas about diversity, equity and inclusion are considered when developing strategies to improve and sustain organizational health (e.g., operations, policies and procedures, finances, staffing).*
- **Programming + Audiences:** Increased culturally-specific and culturally relevant programming that results in greater diversification of audiences and participants



### Examples of What We Might Fund

- Developing an experiential and educational exhibit that sheds light on the historical experiences of a marginalized community.
- Supporting a mainstream arts organization that is committed to reducing barriers for multicultural artists and arts groups by providing performance and exhibit space.
- Increasing opportunities for low income youth and adults to engage in creative expression with direct support from professional artists.

*These are only examples to illustrate the types of projects we might fund. We invite other ideas that would further our goals and intended outcomes.*

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## INQUIRY APPLICATION PREVIEW

Completing Meyer's Inquiry Application involves answering questions that provide an overview of your organization and proposed project. **There is a 2,000-word limit for the total inquiry. (Allocation of word count among the answers is determined by the applicant.)**

The inquiry review process normally takes approximately 65 days following the inquiry deadline.

*The Building Community Inquiry Application will request the following information:*

### **The Request:**

With which of the Building Community portfolio goal does your request best align? (applicants must select one of the portfolio goals)

Which of the Building Community portfolio's outcome(s) are most relevant to your request? (applicants may select up to two outcomes associated with the goal they selected)

See the Building Community goals and outcomes at [www.mmt.org/portfolio/community/goals-outcomes](http://www.mmt.org/portfolio/community/goals-outcomes).

### **Proposal Summary + Type of Request:**

Short Description of Your Proposal (20-word limit): (your description should make clear what you seek to accomplish through this proposed grant and who will benefit/who you will serve)

Proposed Project Start Date:

What counties will your project serve and/or take place in?

Will your project take place in and/or serve any Tribal reservations?

Are you applying on behalf of an eligible Collaborative? (as defined by Meyer link to collab info)?  
check yes/no

If yes, show this question:

Are you applying for a planning grant for an emerging collaborative yes/no (If yes, skip the confirming statements below).

Please confirm that you meet all of the following Meyer eligibility components to apply for a Collaborative grant:

- Collaborative structure and priorities are inclusive and demonstrate equitable approach; yes/no
- Roles and responsibilities of collaborative partners are clearly defined and demonstrate an equitable approach yes/no; and
- Decision making processes demonstrate an equitable approach yes/no.

*If you did not respond "yes" to all of the above, please contact us before proceeding.*

What type of funding are you requesting? (Select one)

- Project Support
- Capacity Building Support
- Operating Support
- Capital Construction Support

**Demographic Data:**

*Meyer seeks to partner with organizations that are committed to diversity, equity and inclusion (DEI) in their work and partnerships, and your demographic data is one tool to help us learn about that commitment.*

The questions below are intended to summarize more detailed data that you collect within your organization. Please use your own data collection tools, **Meyer’s Demographic Data Worksheet** (available on our [Diversity, Equity + Inclusion Resources](#) page) or a similar type of tool to help inform your responses. If you are invited to submit a full proposal, we may request more detailed information.

We recognize that many organizations do not collect sufficient data to answer all of these questions. We ask you to share whatever data you do have and to let us know when you don't have sufficient data. We also encourage you to consider how you might collect additional demographic data to fill the gaps in your knowledge. You can find tools and ideas to help support this work on **Meyer’s Diversity, Equity and Inclusion Resources** page ([www.mmt.org/applicant-resources/diversity](http://www.mmt.org/applicant-resources/diversity)), including the definitions of terms in the questions that follow.

Please note that while we prioritize funding to organizations that share our DEI commitment, we are interested in supporting a wide range of organizations at various points in their DEI journey.

# About your request

Does this request include strategies designed to specifically serve or benefit one or more of the following populations?

	Yes
People of color	<input type="checkbox"/>
Low income people	<input type="checkbox"/>
Indigenous communities and tribes	<input type="checkbox"/>
Immigrants and refugees	<input type="checkbox"/>
Lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender or other sexual minorities	<input type="checkbox"/>
People with disabilities	<input type="checkbox"/>
Women or girls	<input type="checkbox"/>
Aging/ elderly	<input type="checkbox"/>
Crime/ abuse survivors	<input type="checkbox"/>

This request aims to benefit all communities generally, and does not include strategies to specifically benefit any of the above populations.

Are you requesting funding for work that will primarily take place in and/or serve any rural communities? (yes/no)

Please visit [www.mmt.org/apply/applicant-resources/rural](http://www.mmt.org/apply/applicant-resources/rural) for information about how Meyer thinks about rural.

## About your organization

Please describe the population(s) served by your organization overall, which may be broader or otherwise different from the population(s) that you indicated above will be targeted with this funding request. Include demographic information as well as other characteristics that are relevant to your work.

To what extent do the demographics of your staff, board and volunteers (if applicable) reflect the demographics of the population you serve and the demographics of the broader community in your service area?

### Demographics of your board and staff:

Indicate below what percentage of your board and staff are people of color. If it is helpful, you can use the **Race and Ethnicity** tab of **Meyer’s Demographic Data Worksheet** (available on our [Diversity, Equity + Inclusion Resources](#) page) to calculate this information.

% board that are people of color

Insufficient data available to answer this question

% staff that are people of color

Insufficient data available to answer this question

Provide information on the demographics of your board and staff for any other demographic categories that are important to your organization (optional). If it is helpful, see the Additional Demographic Data tab of **Meyer’s Demographic Data Worksheet** (available on our [Diversity, Equity + Inclusion Resources](#) page) for examples.

Demographic Category	% of board	% of staff


Use the checkboxes to provide more details about the data sources for your answers to the above questions. For more information on how we define “actual” vs. “estimated” data, see **Meyer’s Demographic Data Resources** page ([www.mmt.org/applicant-resources/diversity](http://www.mmt.org/applicant-resources/diversity)).

	Our responses are based on actual data (e.g. surveys, intake forms, self-reports, etc.)	Our responses are based on estimated data	We are not currently collecting this information
Data for board	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Data for staff	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Data for population served	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

**Organization Summary:**

Briefly summarize your organization’s purpose, major work/programs, and two examples of recent accomplishments.

**Diversity, Equity + Inclusion**

Please describe your organizational commitment to diversity, equity and inclusion and provide up to two examples of how it shapes or will shape your programmatic work and up to two examples of how it shapes or will shape your internal operations.

**Organization Budget:**

State your organization’s current annual operating budget amount: \$ \_\_\_\_\_

**Organization Surplus/Deficit:**

Please enter your current budget surplus or deficit for the CURRENT FISCAL YEAR. For deficits please use the minus sign before the amount.

\$ \_\_\_\_\_ as of \_\_\_\_\_

### Brief Financial History

Please provide total revenue and expenses for the prior three fiscal years, starting with the most recent year first.

Fiscal Year	Total Revenue	Total Expenses	Surplus/Deficit
	\$	\$	\$
	\$	\$	\$
	\$	\$	\$

If you have indicated an operating deficit in the table above and/or have had significant surpluses or changes in budget size, please explain.

## About your project:

*Depending on the type of funding you request, you will also be asked for the following information:*

### Collaborations:

Briefly describe the purpose of the collaboration and date the collaboration was formed.

List the organizations that would receive funds under this proposal and the amount of funds each would receive.

### Project Support:

Summarize the project for which funds are requested. Please include: 1) the nature of the problem/opportunity you aim to address in the community you serve; 2) your approach to addressing the problem/opportunity; 3) why you selected this approach; 4) how communities impacted by the problem/opportunity have been involved in shaping both your understanding of it and your proposed approach to addressing; 5) what results you are aiming for and how they advance the Building Community portfolio goal and outcomes you selected.

#### Budget:

- Total project costs
- Total amount requested from Meyer:

- Amount received or pledged thus far
- Please list the amount of funding you are requesting for each year of the project.
- Anticipated source(s) of remaining funds

Please upload the project budget that includes both expenses and revenue by category. You may use your own format or our template, which you can find at [www.mmt.org/apply/applicant-resources/budgets-financial-resources](http://www.mmt.org/apply/applicant-resources/budgets-financial-resources).

### **Capital Support:**

Summarize the project for which funds are requested. Please include: 1) the need for the project in the context of the community you intend to serve; 2) why the location you selected is desirable; 3) what you intend to accomplish and how this effort also advances the Building Community portfolio goal and outcome(s) you selected.

Do you have site control?

#### Budget:

- Total project cost:
- Total amount requested from Meyer:
- Amount received or pledged thus far:
- Please list the amount of funding you are requesting for each year of the project.
- Anticipated source(s) of remaining funds

Please upload the project budget that includes both expenses and revenue by category. You may use your own format or our budget template, which you can find at [www.mmt.org/apply/applicant-resources/budgets-financial-resources](http://www.mmt.org/apply/applicant-resources/budgets-financial-resources).

### **Capacity Building Support:**

Summarize the capacity building project for which funds are requested. Please include: 1) the problem/opportunity you are working to address; 2) what you intend to accomplish and what steps you plan to take to get there; 3) what planning you have done so far; and 4) how strengthening your organization advances the Building Community portfolio goal and outcome(s) you selected.

How does the experience of the community inform your capacity building request? How will you be accountable to the community throughout this process?

#### Budget:

- Total project cost:
- Total amount requested from Meyer:
- Amount received or pledged thus far:
- Please list the amount of funding you are requesting for each year of the project.
- Anticipated source(s) of remaining funds

Please upload the project budget that includes both expenses and revenue by category. You may use your own format or our budget template, which you can find at [www.mmt.org/apply/applicant-resources/budgets-financial-resources](http://www.mmt.org/apply/applicant-resources/budgets-financial-resources).

### **Operating Support:**

Summarize the key goals of your organization's strategic plan over the proposed grant period. Please include: 1) the need for your work in the community you serve; 2) what strategies you will use to advance your goals; 3) two to three high level results you are aiming for; 4) how these results advance the Building Community portfolio goal and outcome(s) you selected; and 5) how you ensure that your work is regularly informed by and accountable to the communities you serve?

*Budget:* (your operating budget times the number of years funds are requested for, with any adjustments for anticipated changes in future years)

- Total amount requested from Meyer:
- Please list the amount of funding you are requesting for each year.
- Do you anticipate any significant changes to your organization's operating budget over the grant period? If yes, please explain.

Please upload current operating budget that includes both revenues and expenses.



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## QUESTIONS?

- Read a list of frequently asked questions at [www.mmt.org/apply/applicant-resources/your-questions](http://www.mmt.org/apply/applicant-resources/your-questions)
- Participate in one of our community information sessions. Go to [www.mmt.org/events](http://www.mmt.org/events)
- Contact us at [questions@mmt.org](mailto:questions@mmt.org) or 503-228-5512 or contact a Building Community team member directly with questions about this funding opportunity
- Contact us at [grantsadmin@mmt.org](mailto:grantsadmin@mmt.org) with questions about GrantIS