



United Way Basic Agency Standards

1. The organization must be incorporated as a nonprofit health or social welfare organization or chartered as a local unit of an organization so incorporated.
2. The organization must have written bylaws that clearly define its purpose, functions, structure, governing body, and officers' duties, authority, and responsibilities.
3. The organization should have a reasonable record of diversified financial support for its programs and services.
4. The organization must provide documentation from a neutral CPA that their accounting system follows "Generally Accepted Accounting Principles," published by The American Institute of Certified Public Accountants. Organizations with over \$500,000 in total annual receipts must provide an annual financial audit. Organizations with less than \$500,000 in total annual receipts must provide an annual financial review.
5. The organization must have an active, local, volunteer Board of Directors that acts according to the organization's bylaws and establishes and enforces policy.
6. The organization must be tax-exempt under Section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code and the regulations of the State. It must have clearance that gifts to the agency are deductible for income tax purposes under Sec. 170 [c] of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986. The organization must be in compliance with all Federal and State regulations and requirements.
7. The organization must comply with all Federal and State nondiscrimination and counterterrorism laws.
8. The organization must operate its accounting system in conformance with the "**Sarbanes-Oxley Act of 2002**".
9. The organization must demonstrate reasonable efficiency in program management and have data-driven, measurable outcomes for programs/services provided.
10. The organization has been operating (incorporated and 501(c)3 status) for at least three years.
11. The organization confers and collaborates with other organizations in the same or related fields.

12. The organization's program(s) and services must directly meet a **priority need** in one of the following **IMPACT AREAS**:
- a. **Education:** United Way of Smith County focuses on long-term solutions that address opportunity gaps from cradle to career and keep individuals on track to graduate high school prepared for post-secondary education and a career.
 - b. **Financial Stability:** United Way of Smith County focuses on financial solutions beyond charity. Financially stable people are more likely to have access to quality health care, provide a good education for their children, and contribute to their local economies.
 - c. **Health and Wellness:** United Way of Smith County focuses on good physical and mental health, essential ingredients for a person's success and a thriving community. Our commitment is to lasting solutions that build opportunities for all people, not short-term charity for a few.
 - d. **Crisis Intervention:** United Way of Smith County focuses on victims of abuse - children, adults, and elderly - ensuring they have access to a safe environment and receive transitional services such as affordable housing, medical care, financial and academic literacy, and job training and placement.

Agency Program Requirements

- A. Agency programs should directly serve citizens in Smith County. The program must directly meet a priority need in one of the following IMPACT AREAS:
- a. Education: United Way of Smith County focuses on long-term solutions that address opportunity gaps from cradle to career and keep individuals on track to graduate high school prepared for post-secondary education and a career.
 - b. Financial Stability: United Way of Smith County focuses on financial solutions beyond charity. Financially stable people are more likely to have access to quality health care, provide a good education for their children, and contribute to their local economies.
 - c. Health and Wellness: United Way of Smith County focuses on good physical and mental health, essential ingredients for a person's success and a thriving community. Our commitment is to lasting solutions that build opportunities for all people, not short-term charity for a few.
 - d. Crisis Intervention: United Way of Smith County focuses on victims of abuse - children, adults, and elderly - ensuring they have access to a safe environment and receive transitional services such as affordable housing, medical care, financial and academic literacy, and job training

and placement.

- B. Another UW Agency should not replicate proposed programs.
- C. Programs must have been active for one year with presentable outcome measurements for agencies with less than three years of UW partnership (year of acceptance and two completed funding cycles). Agencies with more than three years of UW partnership may present a program with trial results and measures.
- D. Capital expenses are not a part of funding requests unless they are an instrumental part of the regular operation of the program.
- E. Funding for individual programs should be diverse, allowing the program to continue functioning if one funder is lost.

Approved by United Way Board of Directors February 2024