



Request for Proposals (RFP) for Economic Mobility:

Building Organizational Infrastructure and Advancing Systems to Increase Upward Economic Mobility and Reduce Intergenerational Poverty

RFP Release Date:

August 3, 2026

Proposal Due Date:

September 25, 2026 at 5:00 PM CST

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Purpose

The purpose of this Request for Proposals (RFP) is to select partners to implement new or strengthen community-centered programming, services, and infrastructure to support financial stability and upward economic mobility in alignment with Methodist Healthcare Ministries' (MHM's) strategy and a selected set of evidence-based approaches.

MHM is committed to disrupting cycles of intergenerational poverty through a long-term strategic focus on economic mobility. MHM's commitment includes, but is not limited to, the following:

*Identify, invest in, and support approaches that address root causes of poverty and financial outcomes for individuals and families living in poverty.
Financial Independence focuses on strengthening low-income people's financial inclusion, knowledge, behaviors and opportunities through financial information, education and coaching opportunities, along with capital and asset building to develop financial capability and security.*

MHM is specifically seeking tax-exempt partners within the following counties:

Brooks, Cameron, Dimmit, Edwards, Hidalgo, Jim Hogg, Kenedy, Kinney, La Salle, Maverick, Real, Starr, Uvalde, Val Verde, Webb, Willacy, Zapata, and Zavala.

The selected interventions were informed by listening sessions with community members and organizations, data on health and financial outcomes, and a multi-year economic mobility research study called San Antonio GOALS (Generating Opportunities for Achieving Lasting Success). San Antonio GOALS was designed to generate actional evidence regarding strategies that can improve financial stability, well-being, and opportunities for upward economic mobility.

MHM will invest in strategies to build long-term organizational capability to deliver high-quality economic mobility programming and services that align with its strategic approach and incorporate the following evidence-based approaches:

- Cash Assistance
- Mobility Mentoring®
- Ascend at the Aspen Institute's 2Gen Approach
- Any combination of the above approaches (e.g., Cash Assistance plus Mobility Mentoring)

MHM recognizes that organizations across South Texas vary in their stage of development, operational capacity, staffing structure, and prior experience implementing economic mobility initiatives. Consistent with MHM's commitment to strengthening the long-term capacity of organizations serving communities throughout the 18-county priority region, applicants are encouraged to propose projects that align with their current readiness while also demonstrating a vision for future growth and expansion.

Organizations are not expected to be fully prepared to implement multiple economic mobility approaches at the outset of the grant period. Applicants may propose implementation of a single evidence-based approach during the initial years of the grant

while outlining a thoughtful strategy for building the organizational infrastructure, staffing, partnerships, training, and systems necessary to expand their efforts over time. As organizations strengthen their capacity, MHM encourages consideration of how multiple economic mobility approaches may be aligned or integrated to better support participants and families.

MHM recognizes that effective implementation often occurs in phases. Applicants may therefore include plans within their five-year project design and budget to adopt additional approaches in later years of the grant period. This may include building toward models that combine direct financial supports with participant-centered coaching and other whole-family strategies. Such plans should clearly describe anticipated milestones, capacity-building activities, and associated budget investments during the grant period.

The funding is also specifically intended to address systemic change by strengthening organizational infrastructure, skills, systems, and partnerships to address the root causes of poverty. It is intended to enable future expansion, innovation, or realignment of economic mobility efforts, including the adoption of multiple approaches. Building organizational capacity to develop and sustain economic mobility efforts that in turn enhance community capacity for long-term economic mobility impact is also intended.

The selected organizations may build on and/or develop critical infrastructure for promoting financial stability and upward economic mobility among individuals, families, and the communities they are a part of. They will also implement community-informed efforts to reduce experiences of poverty while fostering health and well-being. Applicants are encouraged to explore new and innovative partnerships that layer approaches, leverage organizational strengths, address urgent needs and strengthen financial security, while positively impacting the broader community conditions and systems necessary for sustainable upward economic mobility. The selected organizations will collaborate with MHM, its partners, and program participants in measurement and evaluation of the efforts for ongoing learning and improvements.

MHM expects to fund up to a total of 20 community partners dedicated to reducing poverty within the specified counties. MHM anticipates funding of \$500,000 - \$1,250,000 total per funded proposal over a five-year period. Funding will support new programming, innovation and expansion of existing programs, or realignment of current efforts, rather than sustaining existing programs or direct service initiatives. Proposals that demonstrate strong collaboration with and established trust among members of the population they propose to serve as well as integrated approaches to cross-sector partnership development will be favored. While selected organizations must deliver programs and services within the specified counties, collaborations may include statewide and national partners.

Proposal and Response Timeline

- RFP Informational Webinar: June 16, 2026
- **RFP Release: August 3, 2026**

- Q&A Virtual Office Hours: August 3rd – September 25th and based on specific assistance requested
- **Proposal Due Date: September 25, 2026, 5:00 PM CST**
- Proposal and Budget Clarification Meetings for Qualifying Applicants: September 27, 2026 – October 16, 2026
- Five-Year Grant Period: November 1, 2026–October 31, 2031

Methodist Healthcare Ministries of South Texas

Methodist Healthcare Ministries (MHM) of South Texas, Inc. is a private, faith-based, not-for-profit organization serving 74 counties across Central and South Texas. Established in 1995, MHM advances its mission through clinical care for the under and un-insured, community-based health and wellness programs, grant-making, policy and advocacy efforts, and strategic partnerships.

MHM believes that to improve the wellness of the least served and fully live out its mission of "Serving Humanity to Honor God," it must recognize the inequities inherent in its communities that contribute to poor health outcomes. **Health Equity is both the process and goal by which MHM seeks to carry out that purpose. Health Equity is a framework of thought and action that strives to reduce racial and socio-economic disparities and create fair and just opportunities for every person to reach their full potential for health and life and contribute to that of others.**

As a part of its commitment to advancing health equity, MHM has identified a set of guiding principles to inform the ways in which MHM carries out its mission, including partnering with people with lived experiences and supporting place-based efforts. A full list of MHM's 8 Guiding Principles is located on our website: <https://www.mhm.org/our-purpose/overview/>.

MHM's Economic Mobility Research: San Antonio GOALS:

Upon adoption of its health equity strategy and identification of economic mobility as a priority for impacting systemic change within its strategic plan, MHM began investing in learning and evaluation to better understand how approaches most effectively support long-term economic mobility for individuals and families experiencing poverty. As part of this commitment, MHM partnered with researchers and community organizations to implement and evaluate the San Antonio GOALS study, a multi-year randomized controlled trial examining the impacts of direct cash assistance, Mobility Mentoring®, and a combination of both approaches among community members living in San Antonio ZIP codes with high rates of poverty.

Among the approaches studied, **the combination of direct cash assistance and Mobility Mentoring®, often referred to as a "Cash Plus" model, produced the strongest overall results for research participants across measures of economic mobility and participant well-being.** The findings suggest that pairing flexible financial resources with participant-centered coaching may help families address immediate financial pressures while

simultaneously building the skills, confidence, and long-term planning capacity necessary to sustain progress over time. **These lessons have informed MHM's economic mobility strategy and underscore the potential value of integrated approaches that combine financial support with long-term economic mobility coaching.**

Findings from the San Antonio GOALS study also demonstrated that each of the approaches alone produced meaningful positive outcomes for participants. Individuals who received direct cash assistance experienced improvements in financial stability, reductions in material hardship, and positive changes related to health and well-being. Participants engaged in Mobility Mentoring® demonstrated gains in financial capability, goal attainment, savings behavior, and overall well-being. **These findings reinforced MHM's belief that multiple evidence-based pathways can contribute to improved economic outcomes and support families in advancing their goals.**

Respondent Eligibility Requirements

Organizations of varying sizes and capacity levels are welcome to apply if they meet the following criteria:

- Located within one or more of the following counties as evidenced by an office/headquarters' street address physically located in or evidence that the organization's primary programming and services occur within one or more of the following 18 counties.

Brooks County	Kenedy County	Uvalde County
Cameron County	Kinney County	Val Verde County
Dimmit County	La Salle County	Webb County
Edwards County	Maverick County	Willacy County
Hidalgo County	Real County	Zapata Count
Jim Hogg County	Starr County	Zavala County

Note: Please refer to the attached map for a visual representation of the region. If your service area extends into counties outside of these 18, please note this in your proposal.

- Registered tax-exempt organizations as evidenced by IRS form W9.
- Organization fulfills and complies with all local, state, and federal legal, tax and regulatory requirements.
- Demonstrated administrative and operational integrity. All administrative duties and responsibilities are managed with a high degree of integrity and accountability.
- The board of directors governs ethically, is fully supportive of the proposal, and does not have conflicts of interest in their service or in carrying out project responsibilities.
- Capacity for internal data support and outcomes tracking; uses or is willing to acquire and use an outcomes database or participant tracking system that can be adapted to house additional data.
- A demonstrated commitment to advancing equity as evidenced by organizational programs, practices, and procedures.

- Organizational culture, mission, and capabilities that are aligned with the proposed project and the [MHM Guiding Principles](#).
- Agreement and ability to maintain strict confidentiality around proprietary materials and participant data.

Although not requirements, it will be helpful to the organization if it also has:

- Established related programing.
- Experience collaborating with external evaluators and other entities to support integrated programs and data sharing across multiple organizations, including working with national partners and coordinating with other local service providers.
- People with relevant lived experience in governance and/or other formal leadership roles.

Economic Mobility RFP Scope & Project Requirements

As part of its commitment to health equity, MHM supports approaches that disrupt cycles of intergenerational poverty and provide opportunities for all people to reach their full potential for health and life. MHM recognizes socioeconomic factors, including income, account for approximately 40% of health outcomes, and significantly impact where people live, the quality of resources and services people can access, and even the timeliness of healthcare.

MHM has made a commitment to identify, invest in, and support approaches that address root causes of poverty and financial outcomes for individuals and families living in poverty. These include three evidence-based approaches: cash assistance, Mobility Mentoring®, and Ascend at the Aspen Institute's two-generation (2Gen) approach. Through previous research and evaluation efforts, MHM has observed positive outcomes associated with each of these approaches. Findings from MHM's San Antonio GOALS study suggest that combining direct cash assistance and Mobility Mentoring® may provide particularly strong opportunities to improve economic mobility and overall well-being. Applicants are encouraged to consider how approaches may complement one another within their proposed project design.

These approaches are critical tools for promoting economic mobility by addressing specific needs and interests of individuals and families. MHM's focus on financial independence includes strengthening financial inclusion and opportunities through financial information, education and coaching, along with capital and asset building to develop financial capability and security across our service area.

In line with MHM's long-term goal to reduce the number of people living in poverty, MHM invites your organization to propose how it can commit to further economic opportunities and financial stability in your community. We especially encourage initiatives that focus on implementing these approaches and strengthening your organization's capacity to contribute to increased opportunities for upward economic mobility within your community.

Planning and Implementation of Evidence-Based Approaches

Below are three evidence-based approaches that align with areas of need and interest identified through analysis of regional listening sessions and a review of research on economic mobility approaches. **Proposals must seek support for one or a combination of these three approaches.**

1. Cash Assistance: Unconditional direct cash assistance, sometimes called a “cash transfer,” is provided to individuals or families on a consistent, reliable basis, such as monthly. The cash is provided without the requirement of specific actions. It is intended to increase financial stability by supplementing existing resources and offering recipients flexibility to utilize the money in the way they deem best for their own circumstances. The recommended national best practice is to provide at least \$500 monthly for a designated period of time. National research indicates that most participants utilize the money to cover basic needs such as food, utilities, housing, healthcare, and emergency expenses. The money must not be subject to any restrictions, and participants must be able to utilize it in the manner of their choosing. Additionally, the money must be fully independent of any program participation or activity requirements. MHM recommends that applicants interested in pursuing cash assistance review internal policies and hold internal conversations to ensure their leadership, including board and staff, understands that this component provides unconditional cash directly to participants. Additionally, applicants are encouraged to carefully consider the administrative logistics of cash assistance and distribution methods (i.e. pre-paid debit cards) and strategies to mitigate recipients’ potential loss of eligibility for government assistance and other benefits programs.

- **Who it serves:** Individuals/families experiencing poverty, residing within the specified counties.
- **What is fundable:** Direct, unconditional cash assistance provided on a reliable basis over a set period of time to participants; administration/disbursement costs, both direct staffing and subcontractors; outreach and enrollment; eligibility verification; benefits and government assistance program preservation counseling; organizational infrastructure support; optional participant engagement activities; and required reporting.
- **What success looks like:** Reduced financial strain; improved ability to meet basic needs; enhanced ability to cover emergency expenses; and reduction of financial barriers to participation in education, job training, and family and social activities.
- **Support included:** Cash assistance implementation toolkit, introduction to potential distribution and technical assistance partners, and connection to practitioner supported peer learning community.
- **Additional guidance:** Please see the corresponding attachment [HERE](#).

2. Mobility Mentoring®: A science-based holistic economic coaching model developed by Economic Mobility Pathways (EMPath) to help low-income populations reach economic independence. Mobility Mentoring is participant-directed and includes

partnership with participants to support achievement of self-identified goals across five pillars: Family Stability, Well-being, Financial Management, Education & Training, and Employment & Career.

- **Who it serves:** Individuals/families who want structured holistic coaching toward their goals leading to economic stability and mobility.
- **What is fundable:** Mentoring capacity (staffing), training for model implementation, participant support, direct participant incentives (financial recognition for goal achievement), and data/reporting capacity.
- **What success looks like:** Participant-directed goal attainment in five essential areas: family stability, well-being, education and training, financial management, employment and career management.
- **Support included:** Standardized training/tools, implementation of technical assistance /office hours, and cohort learning for grantees.
- **Additional guidance:** Please see the corresponding attachment [HERE](#).

3. Two-Generation (2Gen) Approach: The 2Gen approach builds whole family well-being and creates a legacy of educational success and economic prosperity that passes from one generation to the next. The approach includes intentionally and simultaneously working with children and adults in their lives together. The 2Gen approach, as defined by Ascend at The Aspen Institute, is built around five core principles and six components of well-being to guide community-informed implementation of the approach. In the 2Gen approach, families are viewed as experts and are meaningfully engaged in designing policies and programs that affect them in order to develop holistic, integrated, and equity-focused solutions. This family-centered lens helps to immediately identify whole families' needs and goals to inform how best to serve them.

- **Who it serves:** Families with children facing intergenerational barriers to education, employment, and financial stability.
- **What is fundable:** Aligned support across child and adult outcomes, integrated service models, partnership coordination, family-centered coaching/navigation, and organizational leadership development
- **What success looks like:** A "2 outcomes lens" focused on child outcomes (e.g., school readiness/attendance, etc.) and adult outcomes (e.g., employment/earnings, stability).
- **Support included:** 2Gen Implementation Toolkit, technical assistance, peer learning opportunities, optional attendance at Ascend Network Conference.
- **Additional guidance:** Please see the corresponding attachment [HERE](#).

Building on the results of the San Antonio GOALS study, applicants are encouraged to consider integration across multiple approaches in their proposal (e.g., Mobility Mentoring and cash assistance). **Successful applicants will propose projects that align with their current readiness while also demonstrating a vision for future growth and expansion.** Therefore, organizations are not required to directly implement multiple approaches during the grant period, and **applicants may propose implementation of a single evidence-based approach while outlining a thoughtful strategy for building the organizational**

infrastructure, relationships, and systems necessary to expand their efforts and/or partnerships over time.

Additionally, MHM recognizes that effective implementation often occurs in phases and applicants may therefore include plans within their five-year project design and budget to adopt additional approaches in later years of the grant period. Organizations proposing this phased implementation approach should clearly describe anticipated milestones, capacity-building activities, and associated budget investments during the grant period.

For each selected approach, organizations will be responsible for:

- Implementation of Proposed Projects: Integrating and delivering the proposed initiatives, which must meet the requirements of the selected evidence-based approach(es) and RFP.
- Partnership Building: Willingness to collaborate with external evaluators, national partners, and other local entities. This includes coordinating with other grantees providing similar services and programs.
- Participant Recruitment: Developing and executing a recruitment strategy to engage the proposed number of eligible individuals.

Capacity Building and Community-Informed Design

MHM views capacity building as an important outcome of this funding opportunity and seeks to support organizations as they deepen and strengthen their economic mobility work over time. Through technical assistance, peer learning opportunities, and strategic partnerships, MHM aims to help organizations expand their ability to deliver integrated evidence-based approaches that promote long-term financial stability and upward economic mobility.

In addition to implementation of the proposed approaches, competitive proposals will also clearly articulate how these strategies will be leveraged to build organizational capacity and advance systems change. This may take the form of coordinating, co-developing, and completing capacity building activities to include but not limited to staff training, professional development, certification, data and evaluation capacity development, program design, aligned strategic planning, partnership development, and consultant support. Capacity-building activities may also include preparation for implementing additional economic mobility approaches during the grant period, particularly where organizations seek to expand from a single-approach model to an integrated approach supporting long-term economic mobility.

Successful proposals will also **engage individuals with relevant lived experience** throughout the grant period, as appropriate and feasible (e.g., in needs assessment, program co-design and implementation, governance or advisory roles, evaluation, and continuous improvement). Engagement practices will be respectful, compensated when appropriate, and designed to inform systems change, capacity-building, and program decisions.

The aim is to enhance not only organizational capacity but also long-term community capacity to serve individuals and families and equip people with the tools needed to achieve long-term financial health and independence.

Evaluation and Data Collection

Applicants should demonstrate a willingness to partner with external evaluators and contribute to shared evaluation of the funding initiative as a whole. Applicants anticipating additional technical assistance needed for collection of program data are encouraged to include evaluation support and database costs in proposed budgets.

Grantees will track participant and program data as required by their chosen interventions (see attachments). This will include administrative data on individuals' participation in each approach, as well as the collection of recruitment and other survey data from participants.

Grantees will also have an opportunity to participate in a collaborative design process with MHM's evaluation partners during the planning year to identify a set of outcomes that are meaningful to their programs and communities. These metrics may include indicators pertaining to education, income, employment, psychological well-being, relationship quality, and/or household income and will be collectively shared across the cohort of grant recipients to assess impact at the individual, family, and organizational level. The process will include an annual survey across grantees as well as interviews and focus groups with program leadership and program participants, or a related process, conducted by MHM's external evaluation partners. Grantees must also propose between two to three additional outcome-focused metrics that reflect their specific proposed design and population to be served in the application. These metrics may be adjusted during the planning year as technical assistance will be available for refining these metrics.

Project Timeline and Reporting

The selected organizations will assume full project management of their proposal inclusive of designing, implementing, monitoring, and adjusting activities and resources as needed to best serve participants and meet project goals over a five-year period. **Organizations must commit to the full five years beginning November 2026 and continuing through October 2031.**

Proposals must be inclusive of a planning year prior to the implementation of selected approaches. The planning year may be used to strengthen organizational readiness, establish partnerships, develop implementation infrastructure, and prepare for the adoption of additional economic mobility approaches. Applicants proposing phased implementation should identify how planning-year activities will support future integration of additional approaches.

The program must also be inclusive of sustainability planning, which will include planning for maintaining positive outcomes and integrating successful aspects of their work beyond the five-year funding period.

The grant funding will be a significant undertaking for each organization and their team, as well as the individuals and families to be served by selected grantees. To facilitate shared-

learning, ongoing support, and collaboration, grantees will have opportunities to engage with other grantees and MHM around experiences, questions, and learnings. Some opportunities and activities may be adjusted following the planning year:

- **Kick-off Meeting** (year 1): Grantees attend with other selected organizations, MHM, and key partners.
- **Grantee Workshops** (year 1): Grantees attend technical assistance and capacity-building workshops and orientation for staff.
- **Evaluation Workshops** (year 1): Grantees attend two evaluation workshops to co-design with external evaluators and fellow grantees focused on identifying shared measures at the individual, family, and community levels and data collection guidance.
- **Quarterly Progress Meetings** (year 1): Grantees attend with key partners to monitor early-phase challenges and successes.
- **Written Progress Reports** (required years 1-5): Grantees submit narrative and financial reports to demonstrate annual progress on: timeline of activities; budget variances and explanations, key successes and challenges along with strategies for future enhancement or mitigation; and details of activities for each strategy to address challenges. Reports also incorporate program and participant data, including: the type of services and activities offered; duration and frequency of each, as well as number of participants enrolled; number of active participants; and number of participants who dropped out after specific service activities. ***A mid-year and annual report following this format will be required during year 1 of the grant. In years 2-5, these written progress reports will only be required annually.***
- **Annual Progress Sharing Convenings** (tentatively planned for years 2, 3, and 4): Grantees would be able to showcase progress to date, including key successes and challenges, and discuss and share strategies, meeting in small groups to serve as peer “consultants” to other grantees.
- **Final Report** (required year 5): Grantees will submit a final comprehensive report at the end of the grant term to demonstrate five-year progress on all grant activities to date, report key successes and challenges, including how challenges were addressed, recommendations and advice to future grantees, as well as other milestones as reported each year (see annual progress report above) and cumulative across the five years.
- **Celebration of Progress** (year 5): Grantees and key partners will all share and celebrate successes, especially on key outcomes measures, including organizational and community capacity, such as new partnerships and resources; education, employment, and income; and poverty reduction by community.

Funding Availability

MHM anticipates awarding up to 20 proposals, with a range of **approximately \$100,000 to \$250,000 per award per year for a total of \$500,000 - \$1,250,000 per proposal over the five-year grant period**, although higher or lower proposals will be considered with justification particularly for collaborative proposals and/or integration of multiple approaches. The organizations accepting funding agree to complete the entire five-year project.

Payment Structure

MHM will work with selected respondents to finalize a mutually beneficial payment structure based on the award amount, as illustrated in the table of payment options below.

Frequency	Requests of \$100,000 and Over	Requests Under \$100,000
Annual	N/A	At time of executed grant agreement: full award amount
Biannual	N/A	At time of executed agreement: 50% of award amount March: Up to 50% of the award based on mid-year spending review
Quarterly	At time of executed grant agreement: 25% of award amount February: 25% of award amount May: 25% of award amount August: 25% of award amount	
Monthly	November - October: Even monthly payments based on the award amount	

Budget Guidance

MHM requests that applicants **submit an estimated annual budget for each of the grant period's five-years beginning November 2026**. While applicants should present their best estimate of costs over the five-year period, MHM recognizes budget expenses may fluctuate (including increasing). Grantees may request budget amendments throughout the grant period. In addition, year-end discussions will provide an opportunity to review and adjust budgets and goals prior to the start of the subsequent grant year.

Please include dedicated funding for data tracking, evaluation, and analysis inclusive of participant incentives. Required costs associated with each of the selected interventions must also be included. Please see intervention specific attachments for the required costs and sample budget items. Additionally, MHM's team is available for virtual office hours should questions arise.

Examples of allowable expenses include but are not limited to staffing, technology, participant needs and incentives, and community outreach and engagement materials. For additional guidance, please see the corresponding [attachments](#).

MHM recognizes that there are indirect costs associated with the administration of funding agreements including staff time for accounting, reporting, and administration. MHM's policy allows applications to include **up to 15% for indirect costs** to be included on the applicant's budget request.

Joint Proposals

Collaborative proposals will be accepted and encouraged. For collaborative proposals, a designated lead organization or fiscal agent will be required. Outreach activities can be coordinated through a partnership or network of partners. If selected, all partners must provide a letter of commitment affirming board/leadership support prior to final award. If awarded, all funding will be made available to the lead organization/fiscal agent, which will assume responsibility for the development and execution of equitable and mutually agreed upon subcontracts with partner organizations.

Selection Criteria

In selecting grantee recipients, the MHM team, in consultation with selected partners, will evaluate many factors. In addition to the requirements listed above, criteria will include:

- 1. Organizational Alignment**
 - a. Applicant's mission/vision is aligned to the project
 - b. Approach to work is consistent with MHM's Guiding Principles
- 2. Commitment to Advancing Economic Upward Mobility and Systems Change**
 - a. Clear rationale for pursuing this RFP and alignment with long-term goals
 - b. Increased organizational capacity to influence conditions for community-level economic mobility
 - c. Demonstrates thoughtful consideration of how selected evidence-based approaches may complement one another over time
- 3. Population Served**
 - a. Ability to engage and co-design with the proposed population to be served
 - b. Ability to recruit from and establish trust with proposed population
- 4. Evaluation and Data**
 - a. Understanding of and ability to utilize data to support participant, implementation, and evaluation metrics
- 5. Feasibility of proposed plan**
 - a. Proposed activities are realistic and reflect an ability to execute the grant requirements within the 5-year period
 - b. Proposed staffing plan is aligned with RFP purpose, proposed activities, and sufficient to carry out grant requirements
- 6. Commitment to Collaboration**
 - a. Willingness to collaborate with external evaluators, national partners, and other local entities
- 7. Budget**
 - a. The budget is reasonable for proposed project and scope of activities
 - b. Required costs are included, and a clear rationale is provided for line items
 - c. Applicants proposing phased implementation of an additional economic mobility approach during the grant period should include projected implementation and capacity building costs within the submitted 5-year budget

Proposal Instructions and Required Attachments

All proposals must include an estimated total project budget, including all costs and descriptions, and a written response to each item listed on the application. Interested organizations are encouraged to prepare a comprehensive, thoughtful, and realistic application that answers each question and outlines proposed activities at a high level to facilitate proposal evaluation utilizing the selection criteria. However, because the first year is intended as a planning year, we do not expect detailed implementation plans or fully developed activity schedules at the application stage.

Proposal Format and Submission Instructions

MHM uses the Fluxx online grants portal for application submissions. To access the online application form, please follow the instructions below based on your user status. For best functionality, use Chrome, Firefox, or Safari.

Current Users

If you already have an MHM Fluxx account, log in at <https://mhm.fluxx.io> using your credentials. Applications are available in the "Grant Opportunities" section.

If you forgot your password or are unsure whether you have an account, select "Forgot Password" on the sign-in page. Fluxx will email you instructions to reset your password. If you do not receive an email, you likely do not have a user profile yet and should follow the instructions for New Users below.

New Users

To create an account, first complete the eligibility quiz for the grant opportunity:

Economic Mobility link: <https://mhm.fluxx.io/apply/economicmobility>

If eligible, you will be directed to a registration form. Submit the form for review by MHM staff; allow up to three business days for processing. Once approved, you will receive an email with instructions to create your password.

After setting your password, log in to the MHM Fluxx Grants Portal at <https://mhm.fluxx.io>. Applications are available in the "Grant Opportunities" section.

For technical assistance with FLUXX (grants management system), contact CommInvestments@mhm.org.

Only applications submitted through MHM's online application portal will be accepted. Submission of an application does not indicate a commitment to funding. Late applications will not be reviewed. **Deadline to apply is September 25, 2026 at 5:00 PM CST.**

Additionally, we request that respondents provide the following:

- Completed MHM Project Budget Template (5-year budget)
- Completed W9 form
- Most recent board approved organization budget
- Financial reports for past 12 months or copy of last audit report
- Written data management policies and procedures - *Examples include organizational procedures and policies for the protection of confidential data, data systems employed and reasons for selecting them, and staff training in data use and storage.*
- Signed Acknowledgement Letter

Contact Information

The team at MHM is available to answer questions and can provide additional information as needed. Please reach out via email to the following team member with any questions or concerns: Alfred Chavira, Senior Program Officer, at comminvestments@mhmm.org.

Virtual Office Hours:

Office hours are available to address applicant questions and provide clarification. Each applicant desiring additional information on this RFP, the application process, or specific approaches may request **one** 20-minute meeting.

Office hours for general RFP and application questions will be available: August 3rd - September 25th. Office hours for applicants requesting approach-specific clarification will be scheduled on an individual basis.

To schedule general RFP and/or approach specific office hours please contact achavira@mhmm.org.