



## Early Success RFP Proposal Questions

### Initial Proposal

United Way of Olmsted County (UWOC) is issuing this Request for Proposals to establish partnerships and invest in programs that provide access to early childhood education or childcare for children from low-income households (generally those who live at or below 185% of the Federal poverty level) in Olmsted County.

Prospective partners are invited to submit a **Round 1 Proposal by October 3 at 5 p.m.** All proposals should be submitted through UWOC's online grants portal.

We recommend you aim for responses that fully answer the question as concisely as possible. We believe most questions can be answered in approximately one paragraph (3-7 sentences), unless otherwise indicated.

1. Briefly describe the goals and activities of your program. *(1-2 sentences)*
2. Describe how your program uses best practices to provide high-quality childcare or early childhood education. *(1-2 paragraphs)*
3. Our goal with this investment is to serve children from low-income families (generally those living at or below 185% of the federal poverty level). Please tell us about your participant population. Who uses your services? *(1-3 sentences)*
4. How many children did your program serve last year? If you anticipate that the number of children served will change significantly in the coming year, please explain. *(# of participants)*
5. Equity is one of United Way of Olmsted County's core values. We define equity as the fair participation of everyone in a society in which all people can participate, prosper, and reach their full potential. Equity occurs when barriers based on race, gender, sexual orientation, and other identities are dismantled. *Tell us how equity is embedded in your program and/or your organization. Some examples can be found on our [evaluation rubric](#).*

**Full Proposal Questions (by invitation only)**

United Way of Olmsted County (UWOC) is issuing this Request for Proposals to establish partnerships and invest in programs that provide early childhood education or childcare to children (birth-kindergarten) in Olmsted County.

Prospective partners must submit a **Round 2 Proposal (by invitation only) by December 1 at 5 p.m.** All proposals should be submitted through UWOC's online grants portal.

We recommend you aim for responses that fully answer the question as concisely as possible. We believe most questions can be answered in approximately one paragraph (3-7 sentences), unless otherwise indicated.

1. We recognize that racism shapes who has access to high-quality early childhood education and childcare. Please share participant demographics by race (*e.g. 30% of program participants self-reported as Asian American or Pacific Islander, etc*).
2. We invite you to share any other participant demographics that are relevant to your programming (such as age, gender, disability status, immigration status, home language) (*optional*)
3. How do your participant demographics shape the way you deliver your services?
4. How do you evaluate your program's effectiveness? Briefly describe your evaluation plans.
5. Please share recent participant outcome data to demonstrate how effectively your program supports access to high-quality early childhood education or childcare (*e.g. % of participants who reach age-appropriate developmental milestones*). If available, please disaggregate your outcome data by race, family income, or other key demographics relevant to your program (*eg. % of Black students who achieve the outcome, % of Asian participants who achieve the outcome, etc*)
6. Explain how your program gathers and uses feedback from participants to understand current community needs, anticipate new community needs, and adjust programming response accordingly.
7. We value learning mindsets, which include viewing challenges as an opportunity for growth. What is one program area you have identified for improvement and what steps are you

taking to improve it?

8. How much funding are you requesting annually? This is the amount of grant funding you hope to receive each year of the 3-year grant. (*\$ requested*)

9. Please attach the following:

- a. A complete program budget, with all income and expense details. (*We find that budgets help reviewers better understand program operations. Budgets may be submitted in your own preferred format; if you do not have a budget template of your own, a [sample](#) can be found on the [Budget Help Page](#) of our website.*)
- b. Your organization's budget
- c. Roster of your Board of Directors, including contact information
- d. Your IRS Determination Letter
- e. Your most recent IRS Form 990
- f. Financial documents