

# Network Support Funds

## Guidelines for Granting FY 2019-20



Oregon Food Bank offers several types of Network Support Fund (NSF) grants, to be supplemented with occasional specialty grants. These grants are all considered Operating Support Grants (as outlined in the policy approved by the Board of Directors). Partner Agencies (PAs) may apply for the following grants:

### **Small Equipment Grants**

One piece of large equipment (e.g. commercial refrigerator or freezer) – **up to \$5,000**

OR Any combination of equipment (refrigerators, freezers, shelving, carts) – **up to \$2,000.**

This grant will require a short application on the part of the Partner Agency (PA), with a brief narrative of support from the Regional Network Developer. Minimal reporting requirements. Applications are reviewed on a rolling basis.

### **Shopping Style Conversion Grants – \$3,000 (set amount)**

This grant is available only to Partner Agency food pantries. This grant will require a short application on the part of the PA, with a brief narrative of support from the Regional Network Developer. Funds can be used to purchase new shelving, carts, new paint, produce display containers, reach-in refrigeration, and other equipment as needed. Minimal reporting requirements. Applications are reviewed on a rolling basis.

### **Capacity Building Grants – up \$10,000**

These grants should align with current OFB strategic goals. They involve a more comprehensive application form, along with a grant agreement. Priority for agency awards will be given to pantries that have shopping-style distribution (or are converting). Reporting will include metrics agreed upon by the Grantee and OFB. Applications are reviewed on a quarterly basis. Applications are due to OFB by August 7, November 7, February 7, and May 7.

**Network Support Funds may not be used to purchase food and are not to reimburse agencies for items they have already purchased.**

For Fiscal Year 2019-20, we are looking for requests that align with OFB strategic goals. Listed are our areas of particular interest, along with examples of specific requests that might arise. If you have a request that does not seem to align with these goals, please call us and let us talk it through with you. PAs should contact their Regional Network Developer with questions before beginning the application process.

#### **Last mile strategies for perishable produce**

- Small equipment (refrigerators, freezers, shelving, produce display stands)
- Trucks
- Staffing

#### **Organizational excellence**

- Equity training
- Peer-to-peer consultation
- Program sustainability and development
- Training and conferences
- Projects tied to top-tier Best Practices

#### **Reaching underserved populations – demographic (e.g. communities of color, immigrants, single parents, & people who are transgender or gender nonconforming) and geographic**

- Cultural competency training
- New food assistance site
- Mobile pantry distribution
- Adding weekend or evening distribution hours
- Small equipment
- Translation
- Staffing

#### **Nutrition-enhancing projects**

- Shopping style conversion
- Healthy Pantry upgrade

For all grants, partners must be in good standing with reporting and fiscal accounts. A 10% match (at minimum) is required for all requests and can be met through a combination of monetary funds from PAs or other outside donors. PAs should only expect to be considered for one award per fiscal year.