FAQ: Community Innovation Grants

What is the HFA Foundation Community Innovation Grant?

The grant is awarded to HFA member facilities that demonstrate innovative approaches to connecting their facilities with community initiatives which increase physical activity and improve community health.

Who is eligible to apply?

Current HFA member facilities are eligible to apply.

What are the selection criteria?

Applications will be evaluated based on:

- **Innovation** - The creativity and originality of the approach used to connect the facility with the community initiative.
- **Community Impact** - Targeted improvement in community health and physical activity levels as a result of the initiative.
- **Collaboration** - The extent of engagement with local community organizations, such as schools, healthcare, government, businesses, and/or nonprofits.
- **Sustainability -** The potential for the initiative to continue and create lasting benefits beyond the initial implementation.
- **Measurable Outcomes** - Use of data or metrics to evaluate success and demonstrate positive results for participants and the broader community.

How much is the grant?

The grant is $10,000.

How many grants will be awarded?

Two grants will be awarded in the 2026-2027 application cycle.

Who selects the grant winners?

The Selection Committee is the current HFA Foundation Board of Directors: Greta Wagner, Mike Leveque, Joe Cirulli and Lisa Kuecker.

Does the community initiative have to be a new initiative?

No, it can be a new or existing initiative.

How can applicants access the application?

The application is available here.

When will applications open?

Applications will open November 9, 2026.

What is the deadline for applications?

The deadline for applications is January 8, 2027.

When will winners be notified?

Winners will be notified by January 31, 2027.

When and where will the winners be announced?

The winners will be announced at The HFA Show 2027.

Will grant recipients receive travel expense reimbursement to the HFA Show?

No. Grant recipients will not be reimbursed for travel expenses to the HFA Show.