**Nonprofit Community Grants and Grants Management Reform Survey**

**Instructions:** The Office of Grants Management (OGM) is seeking feedback from the County's nonprofit community to help reshape the Community Grants program and other grants management practices.  The goal of this survey is to collect feedback from the County's nonprofit community to impact OGM’s development of regulations, policies, processes, and support resources related to the County's Community Grants and other grants management reforms. This survey is open to all nonprofits currently operating in Montgomery County, Maryland or who are aspiring to operate in the County. Organizations do not need to be a current recipient of County funding to participate as we value feedback from both current and potential partners. OGM requests one response per organization so please coordinate feedback within your organization and then submit a response. Feel free to use this document to draft feedback before submitting online. **The survey will close Thursday February 16, 2023 at 9:00 AM.**

**The survey can be found at** [**https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/2MFCC29**](https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/2MFCC29)**or by clicking** [**here.**](https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/2MFCC29)

If you have any questions on the survey please contact the Office of Grants Management Director, Rafael Pumarejo Murphy, at [Rafael.murphy@montgomerycountymd.gov](mailto:Rafael.murphy@montgomerycountymd.gov) or 240-777-2775.

**Organization Information**

1. Name of your organization (legal or a doing-business-as title are both acceptable).
2. Organization's website (optional).
3. Name of organizational Point-of-Contact for follow up questions (optional).
4. Phone number of organizational Point-of-Contact for follow up questions (optional).
5. Email of organizational Point-of-Contact for follow up questions (optional).
6. Zip code of headquarters in County (if a national or regional organization, please put in the zip code for your main office/service location within the County)
7. Estimated number of Full-Time Staff serving the County
8. Estimated number of Part-Time and/or Seasonal Staff serving the County
9. Estimated number of Volunteers in a given year serving the County
10. Organization's estimated annual budget for your current fiscal year
11. Did you receive a Community Grant or Capital Cost Sharing Grant in FY23?
12. Did you receive other County funding (outside of Community Grants) in FY23?
13. In 300 characters or less, please describe your service area or areas (i.e. arts, education, disabled or elderly services, medical services, youth programming, etc...)?
14. In 300 characters or less, please describe the primary target populations that you serve (i.e. youth, specific racial or ethnic group(s), disabled persons, elderly citizens, immigrants, etc...)?

**Reform Questions**

**Question #1: From your perspective, what would an ideal Community Grants process look like?**

Context: Community Grants have traditionally been the County’s largest, and at times only, competitive grant program for nonprofit organizations and programs. These programs were traditionally open to any kind of activity and split into County Executive and Council grants with a different process for each. Following a 2019 Office of Legislative Oversight report, the County engaged a series of grants related reform efforts in partnership with the nonprofit community that resulted in the consolidation of these programs. However, the pandemic struck before the County could consider further reforms to the Community Grants process.

Optional Guiding Questions: How should the traditional process be changed? Are there other jurisdictions or foundations that the County should be emulating? Should there be separate competitions for smaller organizations versus larger organizations? Separate competitions for each sector? Separate competitions based on one-year versus multi-year programs? Please be specific with your feedback.

**Question #2: What characteristics should other County nonprofit competitive grant programs have?**

Context: During the pandemic the County launched a range of competitive grant programs outside of Community Grants. Through this experience, the County Executive, Council, and departments have begun to competitive grants programs as an alternative means of supporting innovative, grass-roots informed programs. The FY23 Approved budget including a dozen small, targeted competitive grants programs for nonprofits while historically the County has only had Community Grants.

Optional Guiding Questions: How should these programs be advertised? How can nonprofits be supported as they seek to apply? Trainings? Information sessions? What needs to be consistent across programs? Where would you like to see some flexibility? How long should program application periods be open? Are there other jurisdictions or foundations we should be emulating? Are there others we should avoid copying? Please be specific with your feedback.

**Question #3: What characteristics should County grant agreements have?**

Context: While they have been called grants, the County has traditionally used procurement contracts as its main means of distributing funds to nonprofit partners. In other jurisdictions grants and procurement contracts are separate legal funding mechanisms and function very differently. A main goal in creating the Office of Grants Management is to establish a grant agreement funding mechanism more similar to other jurisdictions. This new tool is intended to be more suitable for nonprofit partners and programming with a greater focus on flexibility and outcomes reporting while still maintaining accountability.

Optional Guiding Questions: Are there other jurisdictions or foundations whose grant agreements the County should be emulating? Are there practices in other jurisdictions or foundations that should be avoided? What additional training or support resources will be needed as some awards start to transition to grant agreements? Please be specific with your feedback.

**Question #4: How should the County support nonprofits as they apply for and win grant agreements?**

Context: Changes to Community Grants, the expansion of competitive grant programs, and the wide-scale use of grant agreements in the County will result in some transitional challenges for both County and nonprofit stakeholders. The County Council and Executive created the Office of Grants Management to mitigate these challenges and provide on-going support to all stakeholders. Understanding how the County can support the nonprofit community will result in better outcomes for all stakeholders.

Optional guiding Questions: How can these changes be made more transparent and understandable? Would kind of additional trainings, workshops, or other support materials guiding you through the new processes would be ideal? What kind of materials should be made available? What is the best way to communicate with nonprofits from your perspective? Is there other kinds of support, resources, or policies that nonprofits need to effectively implement County grant programs? Again, are there other jurisdictions or foundations that we should be emulating? Or some of their practices we should be avoiding? Please be specific with your feedback.

**Organizational Leadership Race and Ethnic Information**

In line with County's Racial Equity & Social Justice goals, this survey will collect the racial and ethnic information on the leadership of nonprofit organizations. The structure of this portion of the survey is based on federal standards for collecting racial data. Given the County's significant diversity, this survey is also collecting ethnic data. Note that the information entered should be based on how the person identifies themselves.

1. Does the Executive Director (or equivalent position) of your organization identify as Hispanic, Latino, Latina, or Latinx?
   * No, the person does not identify as Hispanic, Latino, Latina, or Latinx.
   * Yes, the person identifies as Hispanic, Latino, Latina, or Latinx.
2. What race (or races) does the Executive Director (or equivalent position) of your organization identify as? Feel free to select multiple races.
   * American Indian or Alaskan Native
   * Asian
   * Black or African-American
   * Native Hawaiian or Pacific Islander
   * White
3. What ethnicity (or ethnicities) does this board member of your organization identify as? Enter up to 10 ethnicities for this individual.
4. What is the title of this person's position?

**Board Member Race and Ethnic Information**

Please complete for each Board Member, up to a total of 15. In line with County's Racial Equity & Social Justice goals, this survey will collect the racial and ethnic information on the board leadership of nonprofit organizations. The structure of this portion of the survey is based on federal standards for collecting racial data. Given the County's significant diversity, this survey is also collecting ethnic data. Note that the information entered should be based on how the person identifies themselves.

1. Does this board member of your organization identify as Hispanic, Latino, Latina, or Latinx?
   * No, the person does not identify as Hispanic, Latino, Latina, or Latinx.
   * Yes, the person identifies as Hispanic, Latino, Latina, or Latinx.
2. What race (or races) does this board member of your organization identify as? Feel free to select multiple races.
   * American Indian or Alaskan Native
   * Asian
   * Black or African-American
   * Native Hawaiian or Pacific Islander
   * White
3. What ethnicity (or ethnicities) does this board member of your organization identify as? Enter up to 10 ethnicities for this individual.
4. If applicable, what is the title of this person's board position?