

Robison Foundation for Jewish Elders Kulanu Grants - 2026

Oregon Jewish Community Foundation - Grants

Instructions



KULANU GRANTS

Robison Foundation for Jewish Elders (RFJE) supports community organizations and initiatives by funding programs that enhance the lives of elders in the Jewish community of greater Portland and Southwest Washington by supporting their social, spiritual and physical well-being. To achieve its mission, RFJE offers funding through three grant track opportunities:

1. **ChikChok** ("fast-track") grants are designed to support time-sensitive opportunities that benefit elders. These grants are intended to respond to emerging needs or unexpected opportunities, fund short-term programs, events, or pilot activities; and provide quick-turnaround support with minimal administrative burden. ChikChok applications are accepted on a rolling basis, with decisions made quarterly.
2. **Nitzan** (blossom) grants are designed to support early-stage ideas and modest program expansions. These grants are intended to pilot new concepts with room to grow, expand existing programs in a limited but meaningful way; and bridge the gap between small, rapid-response funding and larger investments.
3. **Kadimah** (move forward) grants are designed to support growth, innovation and capacity-building to better serve elders. These grants are intended to launch new programs or expand existing ones, address identified community needs or service gaps; and invest in strategic planning, infrastructure and organizational capacity. There are two Kadimah grant cycles per year.
4. **Kulanu** (all of us) grants are designed to support cross-organizational collaboration and create lasting, system-level impact. Kulanu grants support significant program growth, innovation and capacity-building. These grants are intended to fund collaborative, multi-organization initiatives, address systemic challenges and service gaps; and focus on sustainable, communitywide solutions.

This Request for Proposal relates to Kulanu grants.

The Purpose of the Kulanu Grants

Grant awards for this Kulanu cycle will be \$50,000+ per year, with multiyear commitments possible. There will be two grant cycles per year. We strongly encourage organizations to self evaluate how they can effectively use grant funds-given existing organizational constraints-ask for funding accordingly.

At this time, we are especially interested in supporting cross-organizational collaboration to create lasting, system-level impact through supporting significant program growth, innovation and capacity-building. These grants are designed for these purposes:

- Fund collaborative, multi-organization initiatives
- Address systemic challenges and service gaps
- Focus on sustainable, communitywide solutions

Letter of Inquiry

A letter of inquiry (LOI) is required for Kulanu grants. Please keep your LOI concise (no more than 2 pages), and clearly demonstrate alignment with our funding priorities. Include a brief introduction to your organization, outlining you mission and relevant experience, and describe the need or opportunity your work addresses with supporting data where possible. Summarize your proposed project, including goals, target population and key activities, and articulate the expected impact along with how you will measure success. Provide a rough estimate of expenses, including the amount requested and how funds will be used (a detailed budget will be requested if invited to apply), and briefly address how the work will be sustained beyond our support.

Grant Size and Timeframe Parameters

RFJE will consider funding proposals for up to three years and encourages applicants seeking multi-year support to request reduced funding amounts in the second and third years (“step-down funding”). For approved multi-year grants, RFJE will commit to funding for the full proposed term, contingent on annual reporting requirements and on agreed-upon criteria and conditions established by RFJE and the applicant to assess the program’s progress.

May 13, 2026: The grant cycle will open.

May 28, 2026: We will be hosting an applicant info session virtually.

July 1, 2026: We will close the cycle.

By July 30, 2026: We will notify applicants of next steps if they are invited to continue the application process

If you have additional questions, please contact info@rfje.org.

ELIGIBILITY QUIZ

Eligibility

- Applicants must be qualified charitable nonprofit 501[c][3] organization or tax-exempt religious organization as determined by IRS regulations. If you are a fiscally-sponsored organization, please contact us before you begin an application process.
- Synagogues may apply for grant funds for projects to serve older adults, but proposals must demonstrate intentional, non-traditional engagement that exceeds routine services.
- Organizations may submit only one stand-alone grant application and may submit up to three additional grant applications in collaboration with other organizations in Greater Portland and SW Washington.
- Applicant organizations or collaborators need not be Jewish or Jewish-affiliated, but programs or services must prioritize or directly serve Jewish seniors.
- Programs may serve both Jewish and non-Jewish seniors, provided Jewish participation is documented at 75% or higher.
- Grant funds must be expended within 12 months or less of award allocation, or longer with permission. Upon project completion or up to 12 months from notification of award, grantees must submit a Final Report. To apply for additional funds within one-year of a grant award, a progress report will be requested.
- Collaboration with other aligned non-profit organizations in a joint grant application is encouraged. Funds will be awarded to the lead applicant who will also be responsible for measured outcomes reporting.

Ineligible for Funding:

- Applications will not be accepted from individuals.
- Unrestricted general operations and not eligible for funding in this cycle.
- Projects which are for political purposes, capital campaigns, or for-profit ventures will not be funded.
- Projects seeking funds for costs usually covered by insurance, Medicare, or Medicaid are highly unlikely to be funded.

Is your organization a public charity, or religious organization or sponsored by a public charity?*

Choices

yes
no

Does your organization have a 501(c)(3) tax exempt status?*

Choices

yes
no

Is your organization based in and primarily serves the Portland metro area or SW Washington?*

Choices

yes
no

INELIGIBLE

Thank you for your interest in applying for a grant from the Robison Foundation for Jewish Elders. Because your answer to one or more of the questions was "no", your organization is not eligible for a grant without a conversation with our team. If you are a fiscally sponsored organization or not based locally, however serve our local community, please reach out to info@rfje.org.

ORGANIZATION INFORMATION

Organization Name*

Character Limit: 250

Is your contact information correct?*

Review the contact information associated with your organization's account.

Choices

yes
no

Other organizations addressing similar issues*

Are you aware of other organizations, locally or nationally, that are addressing the same issues you are? If so, which ones and where? How does your organization complement or compare to these organizations?

Character Limit: 3500

Annual Budget*

Please upload your organization's annual budget for the current year.

File Size Limit: 25 MB

PROJECT INFORMATION

Program Type*

Please check all that apply.

Choices

Address identified community needs or service gaps

Invest in strategic planning, infrastructure and organizational capacity

Launch new programs or expand existing ones

Other

Other explanation:

If you chose "other," please explain in one or two sentences

Character Limit: 250

Concise Program Description*

Please tell us in one sentence how your program serves elders in the Jewish community in the Portland metro area and Southwest Washington.

Character Limit: 250

Complete Program Description*

Tell us about your organization's planned activities, goals, number of people served, and funding needs for the program. Include information about collaboration with other organizations. Refer to our applicant guide for further guidance.

Character Limit: 10000

Letter of Inquiry*

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Character Limit: 10000

Description

Character Limit: 250

SIGNATURE

Affirmations:

By signing below you affirm:

- The organization is in good standing under the laws of the jurisdiction of its organization and holds a valid 501(c)(3) tax-exempt status under the Internal Revenue Code of 1986, as amended.
- The person signing below is authorized by the organization to submit this proposal on its behalf.
- The organization grants RFJE, its employees, officers, directors, agents, partners, licensees, and assigns, the absolute, irrevocable, and unrestricted right to use, reproduce, publish, and distribute the Grantee's name, brand, logos, and mission statement, as well as any photographs, video recordings, audio recordings, testimonials, and other media supplied by or created in connection with the Grantee's funded project.
- The information in this proposal is true, complete and accurate.

Signature*

Sign by entering your full name, job title and today's date. (e.g. Ploni Almoni, Executive Director, 01/25/2025).

Character Limit: 100

Organization Address*

Character Limit: 250

Contact Phone Number

Character Limit: 250

Contact Email Address*

Character Limit: 254

Disclaimer: *Nothing in this application shall be construed as an endorsement by OJCF of any view, opinion, position, action, or information of the Robison Foundation for Jewish Elders. OJCF makes no representation, warranty, or guaranty regarding the Robison Foundation for Jewish Elders, the program, or the application.*