



VERNON COMMUNITY FUND
NOTICE OF FUND AVAILABILITY (NOFA) AND
RECENT CHANGES TO FUND POLICY

The Vernon CommUNITY Fund (VCF) is pleased to announce the availability of funds for the current fiscal year that began on July 1, 2023 and ends on June 30, 2024. Potential applicants are encouraged to reach out to the VCF management team at vernoncommunityfund@cityofvernon.org for instructions on how to apply. The following information appears on the web site at www.vernoncommunityfund.org along with more details about the history of the fund, eligibility requirements, and other specifics regarding the application process.

Background:

Founded in 1905 as the first exclusively industrial city in the Southwestern United States, the City of Vernon is an industrial city of 5.2 square miles located several miles to the southeast of Downtown Los Angeles in Southern California. Vernon currently houses more than 1,800 businesses that employ approximately 50,000 people, serving as a vital economic engine in the region. Vernon maintains strong philanthropic ties with the neighboring communities where much of its workforce lives, providing significant financial support for public services including health care and education.

The Vernon CommUNITY Fund (VCF) contributes to the health, well-being and quality of life in surrounding communities. The Fund is administered by a diverse group of appointed volunteers serving as the Grant Committee which reviews and approves applications from community and faith-based organizations as well as local governments.

VCF Mission:

The Vernon CommUNITY Fund provides charitable contributions to community-based organizations and governmental agencies in support of efforts to improve the quality of life, strengthen families and affirm Vernon's ties with neighboring communities in pursuit of bright futures.

Goals:

- To strengthen and support non-profit organizations that benefit residents and neighborhoods;
- To encourage and inspire positive social development in Vernon and neighboring communities;
- To support and assist organizations that expand opportunities for training and development of residents for potential employment in businesses located in Vernon and surrounding communities;
- To promote positive social development of children, youth, families and senior residents in Vernon and surrounding areas;
- To promote effective and responsible leadership at every level of society

Values:

- Shared responsibility for the well-being of our neighbors now and into the future;
- Integrity and accountability for fair decisions using high ethical standards;

- Unity of purpose and commitment to succeed at fulfilling our mission

Funding guidelines:

VCF will provide general operating funding to organizations to help support programs which promote community development through youth development, education, workforce training, housing assistance, and other community service projects.

Eligibility and application process:

General grants are provided to organizations located in the area served by the VCF, or whose services directly benefit residents in the area. Please review full eligibility requirements at www.vernoncommunityfund.org before applying to the VCF.

VCF applications for fiscal year 2023 – 2024 will be accepted until Friday, December 15, 2023.

Applicants who meet the requirements will be notified by a grants manager for further review of the application.

Grants will be approved by the grant committee on February 21, 2024

Timeline:

2023

Monday, October 2	Release of Notice of Fund Availability
Wednesday, October 18	Grant Application Workshop
Friday, December 15	Deadline to submit grant application

2024

Wednesday, February 21	Grant Committee meeting
Wednesday, March 28	Grant agreement letters received by this date

For additional information, please contact vernoncommunityfund@cityofvernon.org or call (323) 293-7074.