

# 2026 Direct Services Grant Program

The John T. Gorman Foundation's 2026 Direct Services Grant Program (DSGP) is open to **programs and organizations that address or connect people in Maine experiencing poverty to food and shelter supports.**

Completed grant requests must be received via our online application portal by **5:00pm EST on Monday, June 22, 2026**. Applicants are encouraged to submit their completed applications well in advance to allow Foundation staff the opportunity to review the application for completion and clarity before the end of the application period. Applicants can expect to hear if they have been awarded a grant by **Wednesday, August 12, 2026**.

The Foundation will consider grant requests of up to \$30,000 from a broad spectrum of non-profit organizations providing services under existing programs over a 12-month period.

The DSGP awards both program/project funding and general operating support. The Foundation will consider programmatic requests that support the **provision of direct services for clients** and will not consider programmatic requests to address *organizational infrastructure needs* (e.g.: database creation, strategic planning, staff training, organizational evaluation, etc.). Applicant organizations applying for unrestricted general operating support must have a mission that centers on helping Maine residents who are experiencing poverty access food and shelter. They should also have a successful track record of providing services to address clients' immediate food and housing needs. Organizations who are **exclusively serving people in Maine who are experiencing poverty** are encouraged to apply for operating support to access the most flexible source of funding.

**Applicant organizations may submit only one request for funding under the Direct Services Grant Program per year.**

## Eligibility Criteria

To apply, organizations will need to meet the following criteria:

- Be a non-profit with 501(c)(3) status, have a fiscal sponsor with 501(c)(3) status, **or** be a public school, municipality, or tribal government. Applicants cannot be a private foundation under I.R.C. § 509-(a);
- Have a mission that includes helping people in Maine who are experiencing poverty to access food and housing;
- Be able to demonstrate, through data, that their proposed efforts are addressing an unmet need;
- Be able to demonstrate a track record of successfully meeting those needs; and
- For program/project funding requests, be able to identify the results sought for the populations in question, the plan for achieving those results, and how they will be evaluated.

The Foundation **will** support:

- Existing programs
- General operating support for organizations whose missions center on providing food and housing to Maine residents who are experiencing poverty
- Programmatic requests that support the *provision of direct services to clients*
- One-time only grants spent over a twelve-month period

The Foundation **will NOT** support:

- New programs or new positions unless there is guaranteed funding beyond 12 months
- Capital campaigns
- Annual fund appeals
- Endowments
- Projects requiring a multi-year commitment

\* \* \*

The John T. Gorman Foundation encourages applicants to contact our staff with any questions they may have as they apply for DSGP funding.

To ask questions about organization eligibility, to discuss your planned funding proposal (including if you should apply for programmatic or general operating support), or to ask technical questions about applying (including webform or application portal support), connect with James Patefield, Grants and Data Associate. [Set up a 15-minute call](#). [Send an email](#).

\* \* \*

## Instructions

**Please ensure you have printed these instructions (or have them open in a separate tab) for your reference before beginning the application.**

**1.** The 2026 Direct Services Grant Program will begin accepting applications on Monday, June 1, 2026. **Completed grant requests must be received via our [online application portal](#) by 5:00 pm EST on Monday, June 22, 2026.**

**2.** When you first enter the [Foundation application portal](#) you will be asked if you have an account. If you have previously applied for a John T. Gorman Foundation grant via our online portal, please use your organization's established email address and password. Otherwise, please sign in as a new applicant.

# blackbaud<sup>®</sup>

## Continue with email

 Remember my email

Continue

or



Continue with SSO



Continue with Google



Continue with Apple

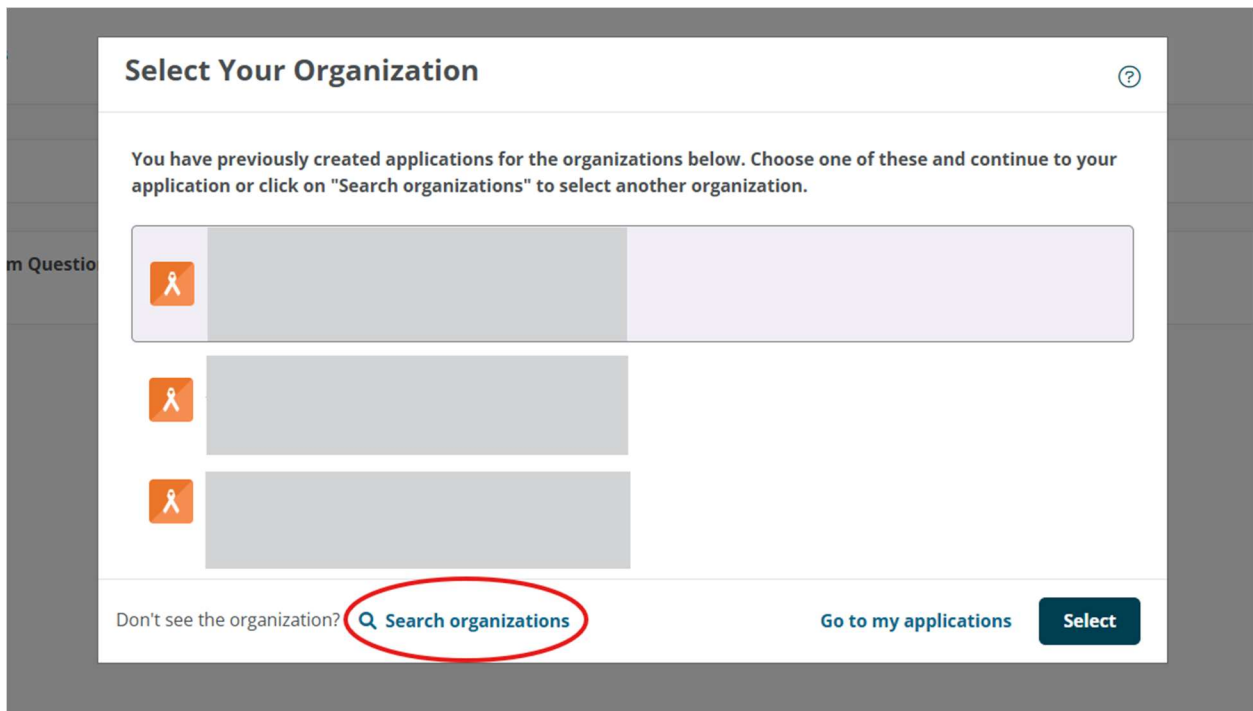
[More sign-in options](#) ▾

*By continuing, you are agreeing to the [Blackbaud Terms of Use](#) and [Privacy Policy](#).*

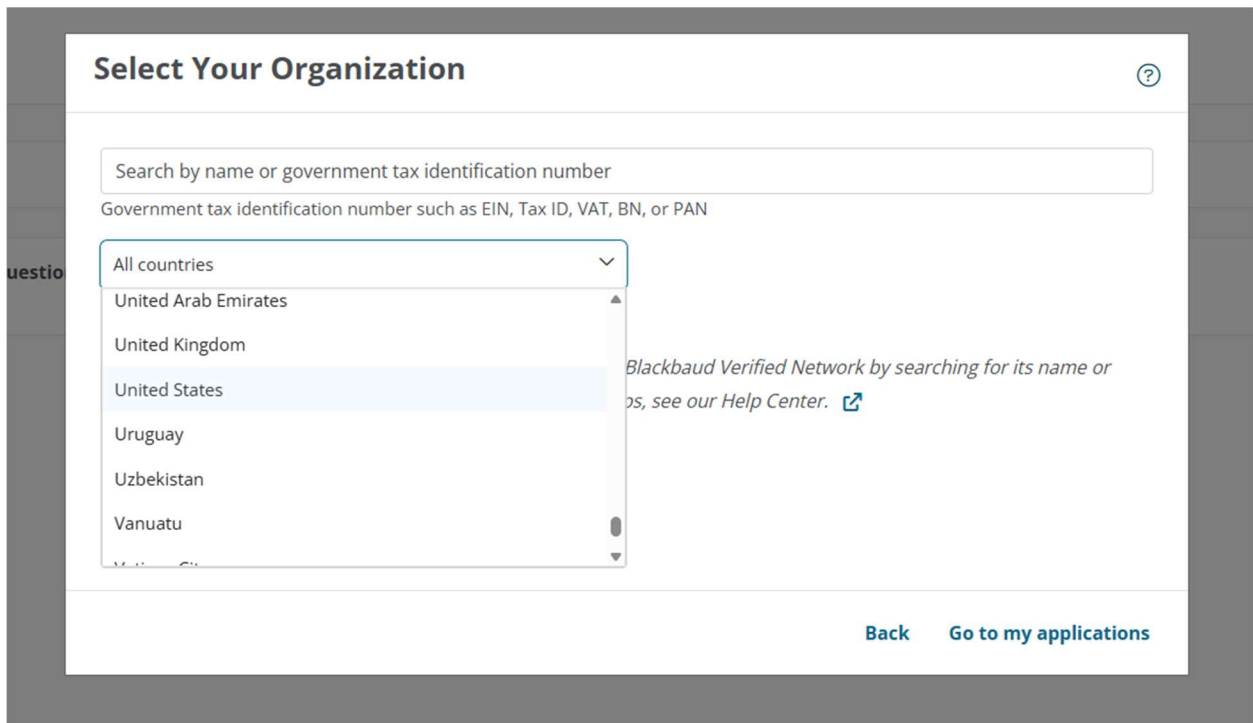
[Need help? Have questions?](#)

If you are a new applicant, you will then be prompted to enter your email address and to choose a password. **Your applicant account is where you can access your in-process and submitted applications and - should you be awarded a grant - required grant reporting forms. Please be sure to bookmark it for your future use.**

**3.** Once you have created an applicant account, you will be prompted to select your organization. If you have previously created an application in this new portal system, you should see it appear here. Otherwise, select "Search Organization" at the bottom of the box.



4. On the next screen, you can search for your organization by name or by tax identification number (such as you EIN). Searching will find nonprofits across Blackbaud's network, but you can narrow and speed up this process by selecting "United States" from the country dropdown.




**Please note: if you are an organization with a fiscal sponsor, or a school district, or governmental or tribal agency, you will not be able to find your organization by using this search function.** To continue, search for and select “Test Organization.” This will allow you into the application. Then, once you are in the application, you will select “Update organization,” and then select “Add Organization” at the bottom of the pop-up. Then, you can enter information related to your organization and proceed with the application as normal.

### Direct Services Grant Program - Application for General Operating Support


---

**Applicant Information** ^



TEST ORGANIZATION FOR INTL VETTING  
123 Main Street, Charleston, SC, 29492, US  
NPP-15054548

[Update organization](#)



Jamestest Patefieldtest  
jpatefield822@gmail.com

---

**Form Questions** Download

Complete the required fields below.  
Accepting applications until Jun 22, 2026 05:00 PM

**Before You Begin** | Organization Information | Contact Information | Your Request | Grant Budget | Documentation & Signature

**2026 Direct Services Grant Program: Application for Operating Support**

The John T. Gorman Foundation's 2026 Direct Services Grant Program (DSGP) is open to non-profit organizations who provide supports and services that address the **immediate food and housing needs of people in Maine who are experiencing the adverse effects of poverty**. While the work of the Foundation focuses on the well-being of children and families, the DSGP is open to organizations serving these needs of **all people in Maine** who are experiencing the adverse effects of poverty.

For the purposes of the 2026 DSGP, eligible programs and organizations are those that address or connect people in Maine experiencing poverty to food and housing needs supports.

Completed grant requests must be received via our online application portal by 5:00pm EST on Monday, June 22, 2026. Applicants are encouraged to submit their completed applications in advance to allow Foundation staff the opportunity to review the application for completion and clarity before the end of the application period. Applicants can expect to hear if they have been awarded a grant by Wednesday, August 12, 2026.


The Foundation will consider grant requests of up to \$30,000 from a diverse range of non-profit organizations that provide direct services through existing programs over a 12-month period.

### Select Your Organization ?


×

Government tax identification number such as EIN, Tax ID, VAT, BN, or PAN


▼




NEW JERSEY ORGAN AND TISSUE SHARING NETWORK INC  
691 Central Ave, New Providence, NJ, 07974, UNITED STATES  
22-2490603



NEWCASTLE TRAILS ORGANIZATION  
9131 122ND PL SE, NEWCASTLE, WA, 98056-2069, UNITED STATES  
82-0584599



New Jersey State Organization of Cystic Fibrosis  
137 UNION BLVD, TOTOWA, NJ, 07512-2767, UNITED STATES  
22-2167217



NEWTON NORTH HIGH SCHOOL PARENT TEACHER STUDENT ORGANIZATION  
47 Walnut Pl, Newtonville, MA, 02460, UNITED STATES  
01-0734139

<< < 1 2 3 4 5 > >>

Don't see the organization? [+ Add organization](#)BackCancelSelect

©2026 YourCause - GrantsC

5. You will then be taken to a page that asks if you are applying for general operating support or program/project support.

The screenshot shows a web form titled "Direct Services Grant Program Questionnaire". At the top left is the logo for the John T. Gorman Foundation, with the tagline "Building a better future for Maine children and their families". Below the logo is an "Instructions" section. The main content area is titled "Form Questions" and contains a question: "Are you applying for General Operating Support or Program/Project Support?\*" followed by a "PLEASE NOTE" paragraph. Below the text is a dropdown menu and a "Submit" button.

**JOHN T. GORMAN**  
FOUNDATION  
Building a better future for Maine children and their families.

**Direct Services Grant Program Questionnaire**  
This form will direct you to the correct DSGP application for your request.

**Form Questions**

Are you applying for General Operating Support or Program/Project Support?\*

**PLEASE NOTE:** It is important that you determine if you wish to apply for program/project support or for operating support BEFORE you begin your application - to change once you have begun to apply would require you to start from the beginning on an entirely new application form. Operating grant funding supports the work of the entire organization (and requires an organization's mission to center on serving Maine residents who are experiencing poverty) whereas program/project funding supports a specific program, project or initiative.

**Submit**

**PLEASE NOTE: It is important that you determine if you wish to apply for program/project support or for operating support before you begin your application - to change once you have begun to apply will require you to start from the beginning on an entirely different application form.** Operating funding supports the work of the entire organization (and requires an organization's mission to center on providing food and/or housing to Maine residents who are experiencing poverty) where program/project funding supports a specific program, project or initiative. James Patefield is happy to speak with you if you are not sure which type of request would be the best fit for your organization: [Set up a 15-minute call.](#) [Send an email.](#)

6. To complete the application in a timely manner, it is best to have the following information on hand before starting your application. If some information is not available, you will be able to save your data and come back later to complete your request.

- Audited (preferred) or un-audited financial statements from your most recently completed full fiscal year. Please note: Un-audited financial statements must include both **a balance sheet (otherwise known as a Statement of Financial Position) and a profit and loss statement (otherwise known as a Statement of Activity)**. Financials are only required for 501(c)3 applicant organizations.
- Most recent IRS Form 990 (only required for 501(c)3 organizations who do not have a recent audited financial statement.)
- Current Board List
- Current Operating Budget (for the fiscal year in which you are seeking funding)
- Program/Project Budget (program/project requests only, for the fiscal year in which you are seeking funding)
- Contact information for the Request Contact and Executive Director/President/CEO
- Information on the organization's Mission and Programs/Services
- Information specific to your request -- the purpose of the grant, the population served, results you are seeking, and the strategies and capacity for success
- Signed fiscal sponsor agreement, if applicable
- Letter from Superintendent or Government Official (public school, municipal, and tribal government applicants), if applicable

6. Both the DSGP Application for Operating Support and the DSGP Application for Program/Project Support request information using tabbed pages.

The **Before You Begin** page shares an overview of the program and links to these instructions.

The **Organization Information** page collects your applicant contact information and the following information regarding your organization:

- Your organization's mission statement
- Legal Name or DBA name, if applicable
- Tax ID Number (if applicable) and Nonprofit Status
- Contact info: Mailing and Physical Address, Telephone, Website URL
- Total Operating Budget (for the current fiscal year)
- Geographic Area Served by all your Organization's Programs and by those funded by this specific grant

Note: If you are applying with a fiscal sponsor, all organization information provided should relate to the fiscal sponsor. Please share your program's address in the physical address fields if you do not share a location with your fiscal sponsor.

The **Contact Information** page asks for the phone number and email of your (or your fiscal sponsor's) CEO/President/Executive Director and for the person the foundation should contact regarding your request.

The **Your Request** page asks for the following information:

- Request Title
- Brief Description of your Request
- Amount Requested
- Geographic Area Served by your Request
- If Requested Funds will be Used as a Match or to Leverage Funding
- Purpose of the Grant, Population Served, Results, Strategies, Capacity (narrative questions).

The **Financial Information** page will request an overview of Organization Finances from your most recently completed fiscal year. This information should come from your most recent audit (or unaudited financials if your organization does not have an audit) and/or IRS Form 990. **(Note: public schools, municipalities, and tribal governments do not need to complete this section.)**

On the DSGP Application for Program/Project Support, the **Program/Project Budget** page will also require you to upload a program/project budget and then fill in a few corresponding fields.

**Note: Please ensure only numbers are entered into currency fields (no dollar signs or commas).**

The **Documentation and Signature** page requires the following documents to be uploaded as attachments to your request:

- Audited (preferred) or un-audited financial statements from your most recently completed fiscal year. Please note: Un-audited financial statements must include both a balance sheet and a profit and loss statement. Financials are only required for 501(c)3 applicant organizations.

- Most recent IRS Form 990 (only required for 501(c)3 organizations who do not have a recent audited financial statement.)
- A Copy of your Current Board Listing
- Your Current Operating Budget (for Program/Project Requests only – Operating Requests will have already provided this on the Financial Information page)
- Signed Fiscal Sponsor Agreement (For Applicants with a Fiscal Sponsor)
- School Principal/Superintendent Letter of Agreement (For Applicants at Public Schools)
- Agency Head Letter (For Municipal/Tribal Government Applicants)

You will also be asked to sign your request, affirming that all information provided is true and correct to the best of your knowledge.

Finally, you will have the opportunity to review your application before clicking the “Sign and submit” button at the bottom right of the page. A copy of your request will be emailed to you along with a confirmation message letting you know your submission has been sent to the Foundation.

\* \* \*

#### **Helpful tips:**

- **Your work will save automatically--you should see a box with the text "saved" and a checkmark on the bottom left of your screen when you update information in the application.**
- **Web applications, however, CAN and DO time out after periods of non-use. We strongly encourage applicants to cut and paste their narrative responses from a word processing application (Word, Google Docs, etc.) to ensure work isn't lost should there be an internet connectivity glitch.**
- Limit your use of bullets and other formatting.
- Please ensure only numbers are entered into currency fields (no dollar signs or commas).
- Copy and paste as needed.
- Add noreply@yourcause.com to your safe senders list to ensure you receive all system communications.
- When attaching any required documents, please ensure you click on the "upload" button after you choose each file.

**Thank you for your interest in applying for a 2026 John T. Gorman Foundation Direct Services Grant.**