



2025
City of Barrie
Bright Future Barrie
Grant Guidelines

Grant Application Deadline: **Friday December 6, 2024 @ 4:00pm**



INTRODUCTION and PURPOSE

The Bright Futures Barrie Grant will provide annual grants to stakeholder organizations that provide **new and/or enhanced** community-based initiatives to support children, young adults, and youth at risk through prevention/intervention of the root causes which encourage violence involving weapons and participation in gangs through activities that strengthen community bonds and employment prospects, support success at school and promote pro-social activities such as sports, arts, culture and more.

Equity Statement

The City of Barrie is committed to equity and inclusion. We welcome and encourage applications from all qualified organizations. We continuously seek to improve access to our programs and ensure grant applications are received from diverse and under-represented Barrie communities. We recognize the diversity of the people of Barrie and encourage communities to provide feedback on how this grant program can better meet the needs of Barrie residents.

Land Acknowledgement

The City of Barrie acknowledges the traditional territory of the Anishinaabeg people, which include the Odawa, Ojibwe, and Pottawatomi Nations collectively known as the Three Fires Confederacy. We also acknowledge the Wendat Nation (Huron) who occupied these lands prior to the middle of the 17th century.

We are dedicated to honouring Indigenous history and culture and recognize the enduring presence of Indigenous peoples on this land. We are committed to moving forward in the spirit of reconciliation and respect with all First Nations, Métis, and Inuit People.

Purpose

To support organizations within the community of Barrie by providing funding support for programs, speakers, events, workshops, activities, and counselling that focus on preventing and intervening in the root causes of violence involving weapons and/or gang affiliation. This initiative targets children, young adults, and youth at risk aged 6-26 years of age, to foster a safer and more secure community.

The total amount of funding distributed through the Bright Futures Barrie Grant will vary from year to year based on the time-limited Federal Funding.

Guiding Principles in Administering Funds

The awarding of funding to successful applicants through the Bright Futures Barrie Grant is guided by four key principles:

1. Strengthen Community Bonds

As identified through the Community Safety and Well-Being Plan, those who participated in the plan described how the pace of growth and change in Barrie is straining the city's sense of connection and community. Through the Bright Futures Barrie Grant, we encourage organizations submitting grant applications to consider how their proposed initiatives will help strengthen community bonds. This can be achieved through improved access to essential resources such as safe housing, educational programs, mental health services, recreational activities and other efforts that foster a sense of unity and support within the community.



2. Targeted Audience

This principle aims to ensure that participating organizations identify their target area/age as it relates to the grant guidelines. For this grant, the target audience is children, youth and young adults at risk between the ages of 6-26.

3. Pro Social Activities

The goal through pro social activities is to see an increase in opportunities throughout the organizations that engage those that are 6-26 years of age in positive opportunities. This can range but is not limited to sports, arts and culture, training opportunities, resume support and more. Pro social activities will support skill building to improve opportunities for gainful employment, success at school and serve as an outlet for positive engagement in our community, including mentoring and counselling opportunities.

4. Sustainability

The goal of the Bright Futures Barrie Strategy is to support opportunities with sustainability beyond the time-limited grants support. Organizations will be required to provide KPI's and outcomes that are both qualitative and quantitative in nature and support the sustainability of their project beyond the timeline of grant funding.

FUNDING CATEGORIES

The Bright Futures Barrie Grant will fund stakeholder organizations that provide ***new and or enhanced*** community-based initiatives to support children, young adults, and youth at risk through prevention/intervention in the root causes which encourage violence including weapons and participation in gangs through activities that strengthen community bonds and employment prospects, support success at school and promote pro-social activities such as sports, arts, culture and more. Funding granted in any year should not be considered a guarantee of funding in the next or any subsequent year. This grant is not intended to be a source of ongoing funding as the goal is for the organizations to be able to sustain the opportunities moving forward. Multi-year funding would only be awarded in exceptional cases.

Funding will be granted to organizations that submit proposals which align with our four key principles: Strengthen Community Bonds, Target Audience, Pro-Social Activities and Sustainability. Examples include but are not limited to mentoring, counselling, skill development, recreational opportunities, life skills, and youth engagement.

Funding amount available: maximum funding available is \$50,000 per organization per year noting that higher amounts may be awarded, on an exceptional basis, to those organizations that have community partners as part of their program for funding.

Eligibility:

Funding is available to organizations that provide services within the City of Barrie boundaries and have a track record of positive impact. Proposed initiatives need to be new and/or enhanced and should be modeled after the four key principles as identified in the guidelines.

If requesting funding for an existing initiative the organization must describe enhancements that will be provided with the funding. For example: new population served, new delivery model, additional staff support to be able to engage additional participants and more.

If your request includes working in partnership with another organization (i.e., the school board) please provide a letter of intent from the partner organization. The adjudication panel will be looking to ensure that the program/initiative is able to be implemented as outlined.



If applying: ***Awarded Grant funding must be spent by March 31, 2026***

Eligible Expenses:

- Salaries, Wages and Benefits
- Recruitment and training costs associated with staff and volunteers.
- Conference rooms and meeting room rentals
- Travel, Accommodation, and related expenses ** Reasonable travel, accommodation and related expenses in accordance with the [National Joint Council Guidelines](#) as well as bus tickets, tokens, and other reasonable participant-related transportation reimbursements. **
- Office equipment, supplies and materials.
- Translation and Simultaneous Interpretation Costs
- Meal and/or Refreshments for participants **in activities and workshops directly related to the project, not to exceed the maximum [National Joint Committee Guideline](#) amount**
- Honoraria **defined as a time limited remuneration for a volunteer service or participation in project delivery that is consistent with and essential to the attainment of the project's objectives. This can include but is not limited to volunteer services and guest speakers, but cannot be provided to individuals whose participation in a project is already being compensated (e.g., by their employer) or is being accrued as part of an in-kind contribution**

Ineligible Expenses:

- To replace goods or services currently funded by a government source.
- Existing core activities or operational expenses. Proposed initiatives must be new initiatives or enhancements to existing programs. Funding is not intended to support an organization's core activities or to maintain pre-existing programs.
- Any costs already supported through existing police service agreements, including costs associated with police service salaries, incremental and general policing services. Police services and authorities are not eligible to receive funding through the Bright Futures Barrie grant.
- Costs required to sustain an organization that do not relate to direct service delivery under the proposed initiative with the Bright Futures Barrie opportunity.

EVALUATION CRITERIA and WEIGHTING

The following criteria recognize that all applications are examined in the context of the following criteria and weighting:

- 10% - Organization and Eligibility
- 35% - Outcomes, Evaluation and Sustainability
- 35% - Alignment with the Bright Futures Barrie guiding principles.
- 20% - Budget

Organization and Eligibility

How well does the funding request provide information about the organization and meeting the eligibility requirements?

- Does your mandate, mission, or purpose of the organization align with the Bright Futures Barrie priorities?
- Does the application provide a clear understanding of your organization's current activities/programs?
- Is there a track record for positive community impact from your description of current activities/programs?
- Does the proposal model one or more of the 4 key principles: Strengthen Community Bonds, Target Audience, Pro-Social Activities and Sustainability.



Alignment with the Bright Futures Barrie Guiding Principles

Does the funding request align with the Bright Futures Guiding Principles?

- Does the application strengthen community bonds through improved access to services that connect individuals with their community at large?
- Does the application identify a target audience that is between 6-26 years of age and or children/youth or young adults at risk?
- Does the application support pro-social activities that support skill building to improve employment opportunities, success at school and/or for positive social engagement in the community?
- Does the application provide clear insight into sustainability options (financial and non-financial) that will support program efforts to have a long-term positive impact on the community?

Budget

How well does the financial document align with the application?

- Does it support financial/non-financial incentives to those 6-26 years of age and or children, youth, or young adults at risk?
- Does the budget seem reasonable for the application and time frame to accomplish it in?
- Has the organization provided appropriate financial documents as per the guidelines document or, in lieu of current financials, supplemental documents that show a history of prudent accountability?
- Has the organization submitted financial details documents with sufficient information to describe and justify their planned spend?

Outcomes, Evaluation and Sustainability

Does the funding request identify evaluation tools and KPI's?

- Does the application indicate evaluation tools they will utilize for this proposal?
- Does the application include the KPI's that they will be utilizing?
- Is there a clear plan to evaluate success of outcomes (outcomes vs participation)?

Does the funding request adequately outline sustainability opportunities?

- Does the opportunity presented in the application have a sustainability plan?
- Does the application highlight areas for continued support – community partnerships, additional funding sources?

APPLICATION PROCESS

Application Forms

Will be available via the City of Barrie website – [Bright Futures Barrie](#). There are two mandatory forms: the application and the financial form.

When to Apply

For 2025-2026 applications, the grant application deadline is Friday December 6, 2024 @ 4:00pm. The anticipated timing for awarding grant funds is February 2025.

Financial Reporting Requirements

- For requests over \$50,000, audited financial statements are required for the applicant's previous two fiscal years.
- For requests between \$20,000 and \$50,000, financial statements are required for the applicant's previous two fiscal years consisting of, at a minimum, a review engagement report.



- For requests between \$10,000 and \$20,000, financial statements are required for the applicant's last fiscal year consisting of, at a minimum, a review engagement report.
- For requests under \$10,000, unaudited financial statements for the applicant's last fiscal year must be provided.
- All financial statements must be submitted with your application.

How to Submit Your Application

Applications and required forms and documents must be submitted via email to bright.futures@barrie.ca. It is the applicant's responsibility to send their application in on time and fully completed. We will accept applications **no later than 4:00 pm on Friday December 6, 2024. Incomplete or late applications will not be reviewed.**

Support Materials

It is **NOT** mandatory to submit additional support materials, however, they can enhance your application and provide insight to the adjudication panel. Support materials can include manuscripts, slides, audio and video, brochures, or posters.

Please attach support materials no larger than 10 MB total to the submission via email. You may also include a link to support materials in the application form.

Assistance with Forms

The City of Barrie's Recreation & Culture Services staff can support you if you are unclear with any part of your application. Please do not hesitate to call/email Jessica Gourlie, Bright Futures Barrie Project Lead 705-739-4220 ext. 5688, jessica.gourlie@barrie.ca

Application Information Use

All information will be kept confidential for the purpose of awarding grant funding. Successful applicants must agree that their organization's name, grant award amount, and what the grant is for may be made public once the grant awarding process concludes.

ASSESSMENT PROCESS

Adjudication Panel

Members of the City of Barrie's Community Safety Committee will adjudicate grant applications for the 2025-2026 funding year.

Role of Adjudicators

Prior to the meeting to assess the applications, adjudicators are required to read all applications and to make notes about each application and grade them accordingly. At the assessment meeting, in a group decision-making environment, the adjudication panel will review the support material together and discuss the applications. Using their knowledge and expertise, the adjudicators will identify funding priorities and make recommendations to City staff.

Confidentiality

Applicants should be aware that discussions at the Community Safety Committee meeting regarding application evaluation and the awarding of funding may occur in a public forum.



Conflict of Interest

The City of Barrie is particularly concerned with potential conflicts of interest. There are two dimensions of conflict of interest – direct and indirect. There are also two kinds of direct conflict of interest – financial and private.

An adjudicator is in direct conflict of interest with a particular application if they, or a member of the adjudicator's immediate family (spouse or equivalent, son or daughter, parent, sibling or members of the immediate household), have a financial interest in the success or failure of the application.

An adjudicator is in direct conflict of interest with a particular application if they have a private interest in the success or failure of the application. A private interest also includes affiliations or activities that compromise or unduly influence decision making.

Any reason that makes it difficult for an adjudicator to evaluate an application objectively may create an indirect conflict of interest. If a direct conflict of interest becomes apparent, the Committee will ask the adjudicator to stand down from the panel and may assign a replacement.

All adjudicators are asked to sign forms to identify conflicts of interest as a further means of documenting the integrity of the process. At the adjudication panel meeting, the City staff will answer questions and assist them with clarification of information on the applications being reviewed. Their role is to remain objective and facilitate decisions based on the adjudicators' impartiality.

ADJUDICATION OF APPLICATIONS

Decision Making Process

All applications are examined in the context of the guiding principles, the assessment criteria and program priorities. Applications will be evaluated using a scoring matrix.

Applications will be assessed by the adjudication panel based on the evaluation criteria. The evaluation criteria and the weighting of the criteria as it relates to the application's final score is detailed in the *Evaluation Criteria & Weighting* section for each funding category. The final application score will have a direct impact on Committee recommendations and funding outcomes.

Each member of the adjudication panel will score applications based on how well it meets the evaluation criteria. Scores from all adjudicators will be totalled to rank applications from highest score to lowest.

Funds will be allocated beginning with the top-ranked application and proceeding down the list until the allocated budget amount for the funding category is exhausted.

Expectations for Grant Recipients

Organizations who receive funding will be required to have a signed agreement with Bright Futures Barrie as well as expenditures completed by March 31, 2026. A post grant report will be due by April 30, 2026.

All applicants will be notified of funding results by the Recreation & Culture Services Department once all applications have been reviewed, evaluated, and allocation of grant funds has been completed.