



Allegany
Franciscan
Ministries

A Member of Trinity Health

Climate Justice & Care for Creation Initiative ***Protecting People & Our Common Home*** **2024 Cycle 1 Grant Overview & Instructions**

Low-income communities and communities of color are disproportionately at risk from the impacts of climate change due to existing social, economic, and health inequities. The people doing the least damage are closest to the problem and solutions yet furthest from resources and power. Allegany Franciscan Ministries has embarked on a new long-term strategic initiative to address the disproportionate impacts of climate change on communities of color and other marginalized communities.

Our ultimate goal is that everyone in our communities will have the resources, support, and opportunities necessary to thrive in the face of multiple risks, uncertainty, and threats caused by climate change.

We also recognize that we cannot “do it all”, and have identified initial, specific areas of focus. Our first open grant cycle will start small, addressing education and awareness throughout the state specifically related to the impact of extreme heat on outdoor workers or people who are otherwise exposed to extreme heat, and climate gentrification. We are also interested in building community voice – helping to develop or strengthen coalitions of people and organizations who care about and will take direct action on these issues.

In this first cycle of grant-making, Allegany anticipates awarding up to 20 grants ranging between \$10,000 and \$40,000. Decisions will be announced by May 2024 and grants will be awarded for a one-year period beginning June 2024.

The general purpose of these grants is to support activities throughout Florida that:

- Educate workers, employers, and the community about the effect of extreme heat on people who work outdoors;
- Educate people about climate gentrification and how it affects low-income communities and communities of color; or
- Develop coalitions that address the effect of extreme heat or climate gentrification.

This overview document describes the purpose, goals, eligibility, and application process for the inaugural grant cycle. To apply for a grant after reviewing this document, [click here](#).

Definitions

Climate Justice

A movement calling for solutions, accountability, and policies that address the root causes of climate crises and the disproportionate health and economic impacts these crises have on people of color, the poor, and the working class. We will have climate justice when social, economic, and health inequities no longer impact communities of color and other marginalized communities disproportionately.

Care for Creation

Our responsibility to care for and protect the earth and all people, who are part of creation. Promoting care for creation means resisting irresponsible consumerism and uniting to address, and work to reverse, the impacts of environmental degradation and global warming.

Extreme Heat

Occurs when summertime temperatures are much hotter and/or humid than average. Extreme heat forces the body to work harder to maintain a normal temperature and can lead to heat-related illnesses and death. *Outdoor workers specifically and other individuals living or working outside more generally are disproportionately at risk from the social, economic, and health impacts of extreme heat caused by climate change.*

Climate Gentrification

A phenomenon where the impacts of climate change, such as rising sea levels, increased flooding, or extreme heat, contribute to changes in the socioeconomic makeup of a neighborhood or community. The desirability of certain locations changes due to their relatively higher or lower exposure to climate risks. This leads to increased property values, redevelopment, and the subsequent *displacement of long-standing, often marginalized, communities*. These movements, intentional or otherwise, also have secondary effects as populations with economic and financial means migrate from at-risk areas, thereby leaving behind populations 'stranded' in areas especially exposed to risks from climate change.

Goals for the 2024 Cycle 1 Climate Justice & Care for Creation Grants

In this initial cycle, grants will be awarded to organizations or groups focused and actively working on one or more of the following issues:

Awareness and Access to Information Related to Extreme Heat: The goal of this work is to ensure that workers, employers, community organizations, and other stakeholders (government, foundations, institutions) are knowledgeable about the impacts of extreme heat on outdoor workers or marginalized individuals who spend significant time outdoors.

Awareness and Access to Information Related to Climate Gentrification: The goal of this work is to ensure that community residents, community organizations, and other stakeholders (government, foundations, institutions) are knowledgeable about the intersectional impact of climate gentrification, and about the need for safe, affordable, and stable living in light of climate gentrification.

Development and Support of Climate-focused Coalitions: The goal of this work is to support coalitions of residents, organizations, and advocates that exist locally, regionally, and/or statewide, to develop and implement common agendas with actions that address climate justice, especially extreme heat and climate gentrification. Priority will be given to organizations or coalitions serving more than one county.

Eligibility

Nonprofit organizations and county or city entities may apply for funding. Community groups that are not recognized as a nonprofit entity by the IRS are encouraged to work with a local nonprofit which can serve as a fiscal agent. Funding is not available for individuals, capital projects (buildings, van/automobiles, etc.), or endowments.

To be considered for funding, the following criteria must be met:

1. The organization has received a ruling from the Internal Revenue Service confirming its exemption from federal income tax under section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code OR be a city or county entity.
2. The organization serves residents of Florida; priority will be given to organizations based in Florida.
3. The organization is willing and able to comply with all requirements of the Allegany Franciscan Ministries Grant Agreement (see [sample agreement](#)).
4. At least 50% of the people or communities who are the target audience of the proposed project identify as BIPOC, LGBTQ+, or persons with a disability.
5. At least 25% of staff leadership (leadership team as defined by organization) includes individuals who identify as BIPOC, LGBTQ+, or persons with a disability.
6. The organization is willing to participate in an annual convening (TBD virtual or in person) of all partners funded through this grant program. Additional funding will be provided if travel is required.
7. The organization is willing to engage with our evaluators in a simple process so that we understand what you are doing and how you are doing it.

Application Process

This is a two-part online application process with a short Letter of Intent (two narrative questions plus contact and other basic info, total not more than 8,000 characters), followed by invitations to submit a simple application providing more detail.

Instructions begin on the next page.

2024 Cycle 1 Climate Justice & Care for Creation Grant Timeline	
Webinar	February 1, 10 am ET
LOI Deadline	February 22, 5 pm ET
Invitations to submit full application	March 7-8
Deadline to submit full application	April 4, 5 pm ET
Announce grants	May 1-2
Grant period begins	June 15

Climate Justice & Care for Creation Initiative
Protecting People & Our Common Home
2024 Cycle 1 Grant Application Letter of Intent Instructions

Thank you for your interest in submitting a Letter of Intent (LOI) for the first round (Cycle 1) of grants through Allegany Franciscan Ministries' Climate Justice & Care for Creation Initiative! We hope this LOI will take less than two hours to complete.

Please consider joining our Climate Justice & Care for Creation 2024 Cycle 1 Grant Information Session webinar on Thursday February 1, 2024 from 10 am – 11:30 am. You do not need to pre-register, [click this link to join the Zoom webinar](#). A recording of the webinar will be available afterwards.

How to Apply:

We recommend you use Google Chrome internet browser. Go to our online grant portal at www.afmfl.org and look for the login menu at the top of the home page or follow this direct link [to apply](#). Click on *Applicant/Grant Partner Login*. Log in to your account or, if you are a new user, create an account, completing all required fields. Please call our office for assistance if needed (contact Carla Batts, Grants Administration Manager; cbatts@afmfl.org or 727-507-9668).

Once you are logged in click on the "Apply" link at the top of the page. Find the *Climate Justice & Care for Creation Grant Application 2024 - Cycle 1* grant opportunity and click the blue Apply button to begin.

Complete the application, using the guidance below as you respond to the questions.

To print out the questions, click on the "Question List" button at the top of the application.

An asterisk (*) by the question means a response is required – all questions require responses! The questions are, we hope, self-explanatory. Please answer in simple and direct language.

For questions that offer both a narrative section and document upload, you may choose to complete either - you are *not* required to do both. If you have an existing document that provides the information requested, upload it in any format; if not, enter your responses in the narrative section.

For the budget and amount requested questions, please enter a dollar amount (for example, your organizational budget is "950,000", or the amount being requested is "30,000").

Save your work often by clicking on "Save Application" at the bottom of the page and before logging off. When you log on again, your saved application will appear on your *Application Dashboard* page as "Draft". Click the blue "Edit" link to the far right of the application name to resume your work.

Character counts are listed for each narrative question. You do not need to use all the space provided – answer the questions in sufficient detail, without adding or repeating information just to fill space. Characters include letters, punctuation marks, and spaces. We suggest that you first complete your responses in a separate document to track characters and then paste into the appropriate field in the form. Re-read the text you have pasted; sometimes funny things happen with formatting such as combining words or adding lines.

When your application is complete, click "Submit Application" at the bottom of the page. Successfully submitted applications will appear as "Submitted" on your *Application Status* page. An indication of "Submitted" does not necessarily mean your application is complete, only that it has been successfully transmitted.

Need Help?

Please attend the [webinar](#) (or watch the recording) on February 1 at 10 am. If you still have questions, please contact Eileen Coogan at ecoogan@afmfl.org regarding the grant opportunity, or Carla Batts at cbatts@afmfl.org for technical support with the online portal. You may leave a message on our office line, 727-507-9668.

Next steps:

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If you are invited to submit a full application, some of your answers in the LOI will carry-over so you will not need to re-enter information.

If you are awarded a grant, you will need to sign a grant agreement and report on expenditures. Details can be found in our [sample grant agreement](#). We value learning and will ask that you engage with our evaluators in a simple process so that we understand what you are doing and how you are doing it. Please be aware that if you are a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization we will review your organization's IRS Form 990 via Guidestar.

Feedback

We welcome any feedback or suggestions you may have about our grant application and award process. If you wish to provide an anonymous review of Allegany Franciscan Ministries, visit www.GrantAdvisor.org and click on "Write a Review".

Our mission: *We, Allegany Franciscan Ministries and Trinity Health, serve together in the spirit of the Gospel as a compassionate and transforming healing presence within our communities.*

Our Vision: *The communities we serve will become ever more just, equitable, and caring; everyone in our communities will be welcomed and have the resources to thrive.*