OUR VALUES CRITERIA

Nine values serve as the centerpiece of our grant-making, reflecting our strategic priorities and focusing our decision-making. Our values criteria is applied to the six fields of interest within which we work (found on the following pages)—health, the environment, arts and culture, education, human services, and community development.

Creating Opportunity

How does the grantee's work expand opportunities and support for low-income people? How does it improve the quality of life for low-income people and enable them to participate more fully in the economic mainstream?

Community Impact

How will the grantee and the proposed project benefit the larger community?

Institutional Transformation

Does the proposed project have the capacity to profoundly influence the overall organization and its operations?

Risk

Is the grantee using new and possibly untested approaches for addressing the needs or tensions of communities in flux?

Environmental Conservation

How does the project incorporate sustainable building practices, embody the principles of sound landuse planning, and promote environmental stewardship and/or historic preservation?

Innovation

How does the project advance best practices in a particular field?

Collaboration

Does the project bring multi-party, interdisciplinary approaches to problems that defy solution by a single sector?

Underserved Geography

How has the project addressed locations with high concentrations of need and low financial capacity, such as poor rural areas or cities with a minimal tax base?

Diversity

Does the staff and board reflect the racial, ethnic and gender composition of the population they serve?