



Enhancing Resilience, Innovation & Sustainable Transformation of the Regional Food System Grant Opportunity

Faith in Place is excited to invite Illinois, Indiana, and Wisconsin houses of worship and faith-based 501(c)(3) nonprofit organizations to apply for a \$7,000 grant to enhance resilience, innovation, and sustainable transformation of the regional food system.

Description of Grant Opportunity.

Faith in Place will award 25 grants of \$7,000 each to support houses of worship and faith-based 501(c)(3) nonprofit organizations implementing one-year projects to enhance resilience, innovation, and sustainable transformation of the regional food system. This grant opportunity is available for applicants working to increase sustainability at any point in the regional food system, including in food production, processing, distribution, and waste reduction. The intent is that applicants will build from their strengths and propose community-led projects that will have long-term impacts providing access to sustainable, local foods. In addition, the intent is that projects will help communities prepare and respond to unexpected events such as economic hardship, pandemics, and climate change.

The following are examples of projects that might be awarded a grant. This list is for example only; we encourage other innovative ideas.

- Starting a community food garden at a house of worship.
- Improvements to a house of worship food pantry that increases the delivery of sustainable, locally-grown food to homebound senior citizens and other community residents.
- Starting a faith-based Community-Supported Agriculture (CSA) farm.
- Offering a series of free community classes about nutrition, healthy eating, and community gardening.
- Working with urban and rural farmers to increase the distribution of sustainable, local food.
- Starting a food composting system at a house of worship.

The following are examples of projects that **are not** eligible for this grant opportunity.

- Buying non-sustainable, non-local food for distribution.
- One-time food distribution events.
- Projects that will not have a longer-term impact in enhancing the resilience, innovation, and sustainable transformation of the regional food system.

Eligible Applicants.

Houses of worship and faith-based 501(c)(3) nonprofit organizations that are located in **and** propose a project to take place in Illinois, Indiana, or Wisconsin **and** are located within a 200-mile radius of Chicago are eligible applicants.

The eligible counties in Illinois are:

Boone, Bureau, Carroll, Cass, Champaign, Christian, Clark, Coles, Cook, Crawford, Cumberland, DeKalb, DeWitt, Douglas, DuPage, Edgar, Effingham, Ford, Fulton, Grundy, Henderson, Henry, Iroquois, Jasper, Jo Daviess, Kane, Kankakee, Kendall, Knox, Lake, LaSalle, Lee, Livingston, Logan, McDonough, McHenry, McLean, Macon, Marshall, Mason, Menard, Mercer, Morgan, Moultrie, Ogle, Peoria, Piatt, Putnam, Rock Island, Sangamon, Schuyler, Shelby, Stark, Stephenson, Tazewell, Vermilion, Warren, Whiteside, Will, Winnebago, Woodford

The eligible counties in Indiana are:

Adams, Allen, Benton, Blackford, Boone, Brown, Carroll, Cass, Clay, Clinton, DeKalb, Delaware, Elkhart, Fountain, Fulton, Grant, Greene, Hamilton, Hancock, Hendricks, Henry, Howard, Huntington, Jasper, Jay, Johnson, Kosciusko, LaGrange, Lake, LaPorte, Madison, Marion, Marshall, Miami, Monroe, Montgomery, Morgan, Newton, Noble, Owen, Parke, Porter, Pulaski, Putnam, Randolph, Rush, St. Joseph, Shelby, Starke, Steuben, Sullivan, Tippecanoe, Tipton, Vermillion, Vigo, Wabash, Warren, Wells, White, Whitley

The eligible counties in Wisconsin are:

Adams, Brown, Calumet, Columbia, Crawford, Dane, Dodge, Fond du Lac, Grant, Green, Green Lake, Iowa, Jefferson, Juneau, Kenosha, Kewaunee, Lafayette, Manitowoc, Marquette, Milwaukee, Outagamie, Ozaukee, Racine, Richland, Rock, Sauk, Sheboygan, Vernon, Walworth, Washington, Waukesha, Waupaca, Waushara, Winnebago

Informational Webinars.

Faith in Place will present two webinars (one in Spanish, one in English) via Zoom to provide an overview of the application process and allow prospective applicants to learn more about the grant opportunity. Webinars are entirely optional, though attendance is encouraged. Applicants **are not required** to attend or watch a webinar to apply for a grant.

The English-language webinar will be presented on Thursday, January 6, 2022, at 6:00 PM Central Time / 7:00 PM Eastern Time. The Spanish-language webinar will be presented on Monday, January 10, 2022, at 6:00 PM Central Time / 7:00 PM Eastern Time. Webinar registration information is available online at www.faithinplace.org/upcoming-events.

Content will be identical for both webinars. Recordings will be posted at <https://www.faithinplace.org/food-grant-application>.

Application Submission & Deadline.

A complete application includes a Grant Application Form; the applicant's signed IRS Form W-9; and the applicant's IRS 501(c)(3) Letter of Determination (*only required for 501(c)(3) nonprofit organizations, not for houses of worship*). Please [submit](#) your complete application through our online form at <https://form.jotform.com/220124656194049>.

Please do not submit any other extra materials or attachments, such as letters of reference or support, annual reports, photos, etc. Extra materials will not be looked at by the Faith in Place committee members who will make grant decisions.

The application deadline is the end of the day (before midnight Central Time) Monday, February 7, 2022. Late or incomplete applications will not be reviewed and will not be eligible for a grant.

Application Review & Scoring.

Applications will be reviewed and scored by a Faith in Place committee. To make decisions about grants, the committee will consider:

- *Alignment:* How strongly does the applicant's proposed project align with the grant goals of enhancing resilience, innovation, and sustainable transformation of the regional food system?
- *Focus:* Does the application identify a well-defined problem and a planned solution?
- *Feasibility:* Does the applicant have the experience, expertise, and capacity to implement their proposed project? Has the applicant received a grant from Faith in Place in the past? If yes, did the applicant successfully complete their project and required reports in a timely manner?
- *Budget:* Is the applicant's proposed project budget realistic? Does the budget support the proposed project goals?
- *Impact:* How strongly will the community benefit from the proposed project? How will the project enhance resilience, innovation, and sustainable transformation of the regional food system?

Environmental Justice Community Prioritization.

Applicants located in and/or proposing projects that will be implemented in Environmental Justice Communities will be prioritized during the application scoring process. Faith in Place will use the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency's EJSCREEN: Environmental Justice Screening and Mapping Tool (www.epa.gov/ejscreen) to determine eligibility. Applicants are not asked or required to determine their Environmental Justice Community status. Rather, Faith in Place will determine an applicant's Environmental Justice Community status during the scoring process.

Grant Decisions.

Faith in Place anticipates making grant award decisions by late February to early March 2022. All applicants will be informed whether or not they receive a grant. Grant payments will be distributed to successful applicants no later than March 31, 2022.

Grant Reporting Requirements.

Grantees are required to attend one kickoff meeting (Zoom) in early April 2022; and three other check-in meetings during the grant period (April 1, 2022 – March 31, 2023). Grantees are required to submit a final grant report no later than March 31, 2023. The report format will be provided by Faith in Place.

Contact.

For any questions about this grant opportunity, please contact Faith in Place by email at grants@faithinplace.org.

<p>Informational Webinar (Zoom) in English.</p> <p>Explanation of the grant application process as well as time for your questions & our answers. Recording to be posted to Faith in Place’s YouTube page. This webinar is optional, though attendance is encouraged. You do not have to attend the webinar to apply for a grant.</p> <p>Webinar recording: www.faithinplace.org/food-grant-application</p>	<p>Thursday, January 6, 2022 6:00 PM Central Time 7:00 PM Eastern Time</p>
<p>Informational Webinar (Zoom) in Spanish.</p> <p>Explanation of the grant application process as well as time for your questions & our answers. Recording to be posted to Faith in Place’s YouTube page. This webinar is optional, though attendance is encouraged. You do not have to attend the webinar to apply for a grant.</p> <p>Webinar recording: www.faithinplace.org/food-grant-application</p>	<p>Monday, January 10, 2022 6:00 PM Central Time 7:00 PM Eastern Time</p>
<p>Application Deadline.</p> <p>Your full application must be emailed to grants@faithinplace.org by the deadline. Please do not forget to email a signed copy of your IRS Form W-9. Also, if your organization is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit, you must also email your IRS 501(c)(3) Letter of Determination. Houses of worship do not need to do this.</p>	<p>Monday, February 7, 2022 end of day (before midnight Central Time)</p>
<p>Grant Decisions.</p> <p>Notifications of grant awards and declines will be emailed from grants@faithinplace.org.</p>	<p>late February 2022 or early March 2022</p>
<p>Grant Period.</p> <p>Complete your project during this time. Also, you must attend 1 kickoff meeting and 3 other check-in meetings with Faith in Place during the grant period.</p>	<p>Friday, April 1, 2022 – Friday, March 31, 2023</p>
<p>Final Grant Report Due.</p> <p>Report format to be provided by Faith in Place.</p>	<p>Friday, March 31, 2022</p>