



MISSION UNITED

FY 25 GRANT APPLICATION GUIDELINES

MISSION UNITED Palm Beach County Initiative Background

Over 80,000 of the county's 1.5 million residents are veterans (Census Quick Facts for Palm Beach County, 2019). A study was conducted of those veterans to better understand the status of veteran health and social services (Background research is referred to as the MacKenzie Scott Grant Strategy Plan dated May 22, 2021, conducted and prepared by Christine Koehn, PhD).

According to the veterans-serving agencies and veterans, veterans frequently find it difficult to re-adapt to civilian life after years of serving in the military. Veterans shared that they struggle to secure the basics, to know who to trust, to know where to go for assistance, and to maintain a sense of connection with their fellow veterans. While health services are more readily available to meet the needs of veterans and their families through the Veterans Administration, social supports are not as readily available. As a result, veterans and their families typically seek assistance from local government and nonprofit agencies with accessing affordable housing, education, employment, behavioral health (suicide prevention) services, legal aid, and benefits; however, these agencies often struggle to have sufficient resources to meet the basic and emergent needs of veterans.

In the two years since MISSION UNITED began its grant program, there have been 29 applications requesting over \$1.5 million in funding. United Way of Palm Beach County has awarded \$500,000 to 20 approved applications from 13 agencies over the two years. These funds have and will impact thousands of residents of Palm Beach County.

Purpose for Capacity Building and Support Services

Within this context and in alignment with the United Way of Palm Beach County's ("UWPBC") 2019-2024 Strategic Plan and the MacKenzie Scott Grant Strategy Plan, it was recommended that MISSION UNITED be launched in Palm Beach County to create a more comprehensive and integrated system of health and social services supports for veterans. While Palm Beach County's MISSION UNITED initiative is informed by the experiences of other MISSION UNITED initiatives, it is developed to be unique and customized to the needs of Palm Beach County veterans.

With the goal of promoting the veterans' stability and long-term self-sufficiency, the strategies and tactics recommended were designed to increase the availability of services to Palm Beach County veterans. Specifically, MISSION UNITED seeks to aid local veterans-serving agencies in two broad categories: (1) Enhancing the nonprofit capacity to provide services; and (2) Promoting accessibility to services by connecting veterans to the array of services available and needed (i.e., education, employment, housing, etc.) to build their individual capacity and foster stability. MISSION UNITED aims to accomplish these ends, and others that may be recommended, by providing grant support to veterans-serving agencies that are aligned and well-situated to meet MISSION UNITED's targeted outcomes.

The **targeted outcomes** of providing grant support of MISSION UNITED initiative are to:

- Increase the availability of veterans' services
- Increase access to health and social services for veterans
- Increase veterans' financial stability
- Increase veterans' access to living-wage jobs
- Increase veterans' housing stability
- Increase veterans' access to behavioral health care
- Reduce veterans' suicide

Request Categories

Grow Nonprofit Capacity:

Examples of growing nonprofit capacity for veterans-serving nonprofits to comprehensively and effectively support veterans include but are not limited to¹:

- Establishing a capacity-building structure that supports your nonprofit with improving its governance, operations, fund development, program services delivery, etc.
- Considering and augmenting the delivery of capacity-building services through various mechanisms and platforms (e.g., in-person training, webinars, mentoring, one-on-one consulting, etc.).

Support Services:

Examples of support services related to your organization's mission and the services and programs being provided to veterans and their families to help meet their needs include but are not limited to:

- Increasing your organization's ability to provide services in the area of: (1) financial stability, (2) employment in fields with a living-wage, (3) adequate and stable housing, and (4) behavioral health and/or suicide prevention.

Eligibility and Submission Instructions

¹ MISSION UNITED recognizes the individual veterans-serving agencies are in the best position to determine how they can best grow their nonprofit capacity or support services. These examples are for reference only and MISSION UNITED will consider all other recommended actions included in an applicant's coversheet.

Applicants must meet the following criteria to be considered for a grant:

- Applications are to be submitted via the google form linked in the cover sheet.
- Applicants must be a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization that provides services to veterans residing in Palm Beach County.
- Applicants must be an active partner in good standing with 211 Palm Beach/Treasure Coast.
- Applicants must have the below scanned documents to attach to the application:
 - FY 25 Request for Information Grant Application Form (completed, signed, dated)
 - IRS 501(c)(3) Determination Letter
 - Proof of 211 Palm Beach/Treasure Coast partnership
 - Latest Copy of IRS 990 (If applicable)
 - Latest Copy of Financial Statements
- Applications must be received on later than March 14, 2025. Late or incomplete submissions will not be reviewed for consideration.
- Applications will be submitted via google form at : <https://forms.gle/gWegTGnH4Q7d3azi9> . Follow up email to ensure application is complete and all attachments are received is recommended to missionunited@unitedwaypbc.org.
- Should you have any questions, please email Jonathan Oakley at jonathanoakley@unitedwaypbc.org, or call at 561-375-6651.