

We Now Accept Online Letters Of Interest.

How to Apply for a Grant on CalWellness.org

The California Wellness Foundation now accepts online submissions of letters of interest (LOIs) through the Cal Wellness Grants Portal. Follow our three-step process to request a grant from the Foundation.

STEP 1 Visit CalWellness.org and click on "How To Apply."

Review the instructions for completing the online LOI.

STEP 2 Click the "Start a New LOI" button to complete and submit your LOI. If you have an existing account, log in using the same email address and password as when you created it. If you are new to the Cal Wellness Grants Portal, click on "Create a New Account" on the Grants Portal log-in page.

Eligibility Criteria:
To further the goal of advancing the wellness of all Californians, Cal Wellness makes grants to nonprofit organizations, public agencies, religious organizations and tribal governments. To apply for funding, applicant organizations must generally have valid tax-exempt status under Section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code and be classified as a public charity, not as a "private foundation," under Section 509(a). In addition, the Foundation does not fund Section 509(a)(3) Type III non-functionally integrated supporting organizations.

Cal Wellness will not consider organizations that discriminate by race, color, creed, gender, sexual orientation, gender identity or national origin, nor consider activities that exclusively benefit the members of sectarian or religious organizations. Grants are not generally awarded for annual fund drives, building campaigns, major equipment or biomedical research. Cal Wellness does not provide international funding or fund organizations located outside the United States.

Have a question?

Please visit our website, CalWellness.org, or call (818) 702-1900 and ask for Grants Management.



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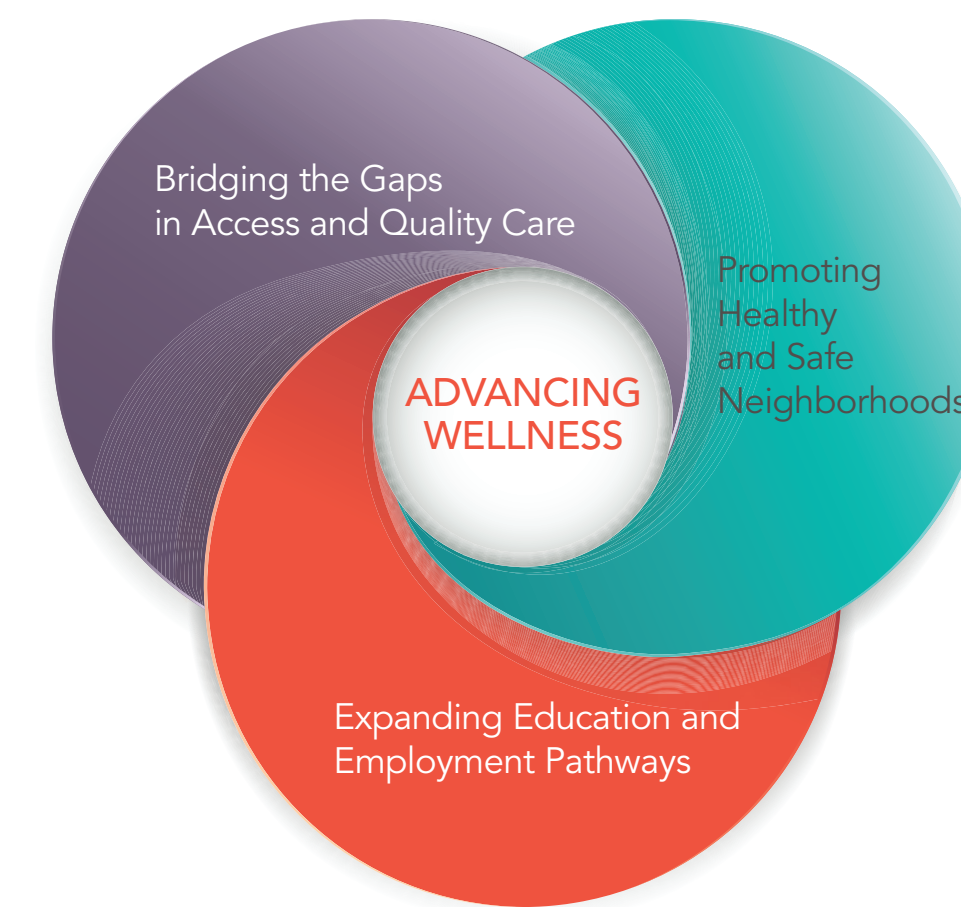
The California Wellness Foundation is a private, independent foundation created in 1992. To learn more about the Foundation, visit our website at CalWellness.org. The people photographed represent the diverse populations served by our grantees.



How To Apply ADVANCING WELLNESS GRANTS PROGRAM



Building upon our past, we remain committed to the **Wellness Approach**: responsive, statewide grantmaking; core operating support; funding of direct services, public policy and capacity building; and prioritizing the health of underserved populations.



Advancing Wellness is grounded in research on the **social determinants of health** — where people live and work, their race or ethnicity, and their income can impact their health and wellness. Our desire is to help level the playing field so that everyone has access to good-paying jobs, safe neighborhoods and quality health care services. To work toward health equity, we focus on three interconnected portfolios and include an **Opportunity Fund** to encourage innovation in the nonprofit and philanthropic sector.

Advancing Wellness

The following is a general overview of our grants program. Complete grantmaking guidelines, including key strategies and target populations for each of the portfolios and their corresponding issue areas, can be found on CalWellness.org.

Bridging the Gaps in Access and Quality Care

Why This Is Important

All Californians, particularly those living in the state's most vulnerable communities, should have access to quality health care services. In order to achieve this, our health care systems and organizations must be strong, equitable and effective.

What We Support

Advancing Health Care Reform and the Affordable Care Act

The Affordable Care Act presents great opportunities for equitable health coverage, but more needs to be done. Our funding works to ensure access to health coverage and health care for low-income Californians. Funding also supports efforts to cover the remaining uninsured, including those who are undocumented.

Strengthening Community Clinics and Safety-Net Partners

Community clinics and safety-net partners operate on the front lines of health care for vulnerable populations. Cal Wellness aims to both sustain and improve the quality and breadth of services at community clinics and other safety-net providers that serve vulnerable populations, and increase the number of underrepresented minorities employed at community clinics.



Initiative Opportunity

Through an initiative, Cal Wellness will proactively support the provision of tailored prevention, primary care, health education and outreach to women of color at risk for, or living with, HIV, AIDS and other sexually transmitted infections. Cal Wellness is in the planning stages for this initiative, for which we anticipate involving many stakeholders. Anyone interested in providing input should send an email to initiatives@calwellness.org.

Improving Oral Health Care for Low-Income Adults and Seniors

Cal Wellness seeks to address the well-documented gaps in access to, coverage for, and quality of, oral health care for low-income adults and seniors.

Increasing Diversity in the Health Professions

A workforce that mirrors the diverse population of California increases access to care and improves quality of care. Cal Wellness seeks to strengthen and develop new pathways to health care sector jobs for underrepresented minorities in the health professions.



Our Mission and Goals

The mission of The California Wellness Foundation is to improve the health of the people of California by making grants for health promotion, wellness education and disease prevention. Guided by our mission, we continue to pursue the following goals through our grantmaking:

- to address the particular health needs of traditionally underserved populations, including low-income individuals, people of color, youth and residents of rural areas;
- to support and strengthen nonprofit organizations that seek to improve the health of underserved populations;
- to recognize and encourage leaders who are working to increase health and wellness within their communities; and
- to inform policymakers and opinion leaders about important wellness and health care issues.

Promoting Healthy and Safe Neighborhoods

Why This Is Important

Wellness is promoted when neighborhoods are economically and environmentally vital, socially connected, civically engaged and safe. When any of these factors is missing in a community, it can compromise health outcomes and increase incidences of violence.

What We Support

Fostering Healthy Environments

A healthy environment includes clean air, water and healthy food, as well as access to safe open spaces and recreational activities. Cal Wellness seeks to ensure that effective systems, infrastructures and resources are in place to support healthy living in underserved, low-income communities.

Promoting Violence Prevention

Like many health issues that face neighborhoods across the state, the causes of violence — gun violence in particular — are complex. Cal Wellness seeks to understand and prevent community violence by taking a comprehensive, multidisciplinary approach to build resilience in communities and to fortify them to be safe and healthy for all of their residents.



Expanding Education and Employment Pathways

Why This Is Important

Education and employment are strong predictors of good health. Research indicates that a person's health improves as his or her income level rises. Education is a pathway to better jobs, living wages and greater opportunities for individuals to provide for the health and wellness of their families.

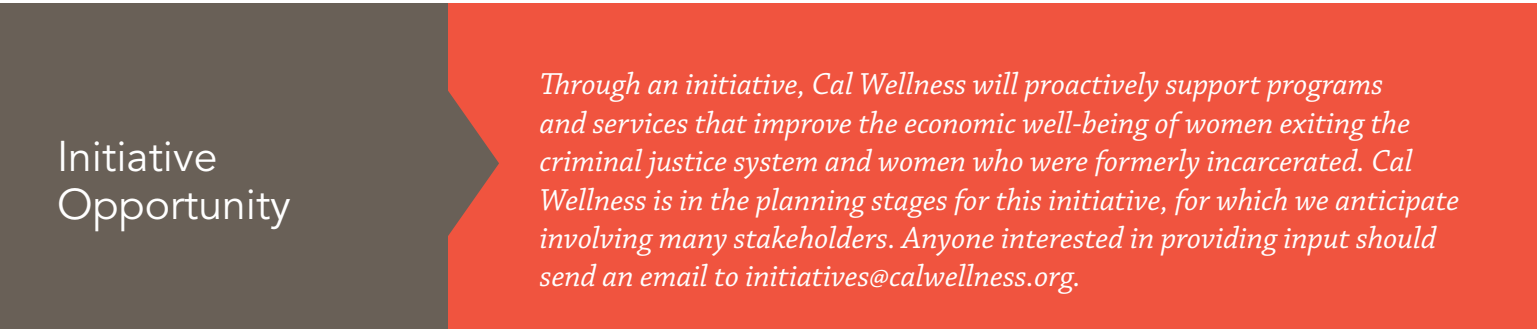
What We Support

Increasing Educational Opportunities for Resilient Youth

Because the completion of a post-secondary education greatly improves health outcomes, Cal Wellness is committed to paths that increase access to resources, opportunities and support toward this end for adolescents and young adults we define as resilient youth. These are young people, ages 14 to 26, who are in, or have exited, the juvenile or adult criminal justice systems; are currently or were formerly in foster care; are homeless; or are experiencing these circumstances while pregnant and/or parenting.

Promoting Employment and Asset-Building Opportunities

Health is supported by access to sufficient income through fair employment and appropriate government benefits, as well as the building and protection of financial assets. Our funding seeks to improve health outcomes by strengthening pathways to obtaining and retaining employment, and improving financial security. In addition to our commitment to resilient youth, we seek to strengthen opportunities for military veterans, formerly incarcerated adults, and women and girls.



Initiative Opportunity

Through an initiative, Cal Wellness will proactively support programs and services that improve the economic well-being of women exiting the criminal justice system and women who were formerly incarcerated. Cal Wellness is in the planning stages for this initiative, for which we anticipate involving many stakeholders. Anyone interested in providing input should send an email to initiatives@calwellness.org.



Opportunity Fund

Why This Is Important

Cal Wellness recognizes that the health and wellness of Californians is improved when the state's nonprofit organizations are strategic, stable and managed by strong, knowledgeable leaders. The Foundation is committed to making the philanthropic field more responsive to the communities we serve and to funding efforts that increase philanthropic resources from new and emerging donors in California.

What We Support

Strengthening the Nonprofit and Philanthropic Sector

Cal Wellness recognizes that strengthening nonprofit and philanthropic leaders and their organizations increases the effectiveness and impact of the sector as a whole. Grantmaking in this area supports groups that assist nonprofit and philanthropic organizations to strengthen their management, staffing, structure and operations to help them fulfill their missions.

Please note: Nonprofit organizations seeking funding for capacity-building efforts, strategic planning and executive management training for their own organizations are encouraged to submit requests for core operating support through the portfolio that best fits the work they are doing: Bridging the Gaps in Access and Quality Care; Promoting Healthy and Safe Neighborhoods; or Expanding Education and Employment Pathways.

Advancing Public Policy

Grantmaking in this area will complement Cal Wellness' efforts to address issues from a systemic perspective. Cal Wellness seeks to support efforts focused on improving policies or conditions for underserved Californians using public policy activities such as education, advocacy, civic engagement and analysis.

Promoting Innovation

Promising pilot projects and innovative approaches have the potential to significantly improve the health of those most in need in California. Cal Wellness seeks to respond to emerging health needs and learn about trends and issues in California that influence health. Most grants in this area are short term (one year in duration) and are earmarked for projects that fall outside Cal Wellness' funding priorities. We will support activities that address health and wellness in underserved communities using unique approaches and tools such as the arts, technology, data, multimedia communications and partnerships.