

Talbot County Community Reinvestment and Repair Fund

NOTICE OF FUNDING OPPORTUNITY (NOFO)

Inaugural Funding Round

Release Date: 1/27/26

Issuing Entity:

Talbot Family Network, on behalf of the Talbot County Reinvestment and Repair Commission

Funding Source:

Maryland Community Reinvestment and Repair Fund

Pre-Application Meeting: 2/10/26 at 10am – virtual [SIGN UP here for a calendar invite.](#)

Join Zoom Meeting: <https://us06web.zoom.us/j/83177518891>
Meeting ID: 831 7751 8891

One tap mobile
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+19292056099, 83177518891# US (New York)

Notification of Intent:

Those intending to apply, please [complete this form](#) by 3/6/26.

Application Deadline:

3/27/26 by 11:59pm via this [submission link](#).

Anticipated Award Period:

5/1/26 – 6/30/27

Point of Contact:

Nancy Andrew, Executive Director Talbot Family Network
director@talbotfamilynetwork.org 410-200-5532

I. Purpose and Background

The Talbot County Community Reinvestment and Repair Fund (CRRF) is grounded in a **restorative justice approach** to public investment.

CRRF is intended to **repair harm and reinvest in community strength** by directing cannabis tax revenue into community-based initiatives that benefit **disproportionately impacted and/or low-income communities**. These impacts are often overlapping and compounding.

Through this funding, Talbot County aims to support programs and strategies that:

- Address harms associated with disparate application of cannabis-related laws and enforcement;
- Strengthen individual, family, and community well-being across the life span;
- Expand access to services, resources, and pathways to opportunity;
- Build community capacity, leadership, and trust; and
- Contribute to long-term, sustainable community change.

The challenges CRRF seeks to address are **systemic and complex**, reflecting conditions shaped over time and across generations. As such, the Fund emphasizes **community-led and collaborative approaches** that are informed by lived experience and positioned to produce meaningful and measurable outcomes.

The local Fund, established by **Talbot County Council Bill 1620**, is supported by revenue from the State of Maryland's Community Reinvestment and Repair Fund, with oversight and guidance from the **Maryland Office of Social Equity (OSE)** as established by Maryland's Cannabis TFN Board of Directors acting as the **Talbot County Reinvestment and Repair Commission**.

II. Communities and Populations of Focus

CRRF dollars are intended to benefit **disproportionately impacted and/or low-income communities**, as defined in Maryland statute and guidance from OSE.

While applicants may propose work that primarily addresses one of these characteristics, Talbot County may prioritize applications that demonstrate an intentional focus on both disproportionately impacted and low-income communities.

Based on OSE data, the **disproportionately impacted area in Talbot is Easton (ZIP code 21601)**.

Funding may be awarded to programs or strategies located elsewhere in Talbot County when applicants can demonstrate that the proposed work addresses similar harms and benefits communities experiencing these intersecting challenges.

Applicants should be able to clearly describe:

- The community or population served;
- How the proposed work benefits low-income communities; and/or
- How the proposed work uplifts disproportionately affected communities.

Proposals serving low-income communities only are eligible for funding. However, in the review process, greater priority may be given to projects that align with the Fund's restorative justice and repair purpose.

III. Funding Priorities (3)

➤ Community-Based Services and Supports

The Talbot CRRF may invest in community-based services that strengthen **stability, opportunity, and well-being across the life span**, including children, youth, single adults, seniors, and families.

This may include, but is not limited to:

- Early childhood education and quality childcare
- Afterschool, enrichment, mentoring, and youth development programs
- College and career readiness
- Behavioral health and community-based health services
- Family support, housing stability, and transportation access
- Community-based prevention and wellness initiatives

➤ Reentry, Legal, and Stabilization Supports

This priority supports programs and strategies that address the **long-term legal, economic, and social consequences** of marijuana criminalization, including:

- Reentry and wraparound supports for justice-impacted individuals
- Civil legal aid or legal navigation (e.g., expungement, housing, employment, benefits access)
- Employment readiness and stabilization services

➤ **Economic Opportunity and Workforce Development**

This priority supports programs that expand **economic opportunity** for impacted individuals and communities, including:

- Workforce development and job training
- Community-based economic initiatives
- Pathways to sustainable employment

Ineligible Use of Funds per Maryland Statute: CRRF funds may not be used for law enforcement agencies or activities. Additionally, CRRF funds must be supplemental and may not supplant funding that otherwise would be appropriated for pre-existing local government programs.

IV. Grant Pathways

Talbot County is offering two grant pathways in this round. These are intended to support a **range of strategies**, from more targeted or transactional efforts to more comprehensive and transformational approaches. Applicants should apply under **one pathway only**.

The Commission recognizes that meaningful community change often requires both transactional and transformational approaches. Smaller, targeted investments can meet urgent needs and inform future work, while larger, more comprehensive strategies can help address underlying conditions. Both pathways play an important role in advancing the CRRF goals.

Pathway 1: Small Community Grants

(\$10,000 or less; \$50,000 total available; Grant period 5/1/26 – 6/30/27)

Small Community Grants are intended to support **targeted, time-limited, or transactional efforts** that address immediate community needs or remove specific barriers experienced by disproportionately impacted and/or low-income communities.

These grants may support:

- Direct services or short-term interventions;
- Community engagement or planning activities; and/or
- Capacity-building efforts that strengthen community-based work.

This pathway is designed to reduce barriers to participation.

Pathway 2: Community Impact Grants

(Minimum award amount of \$25,000; \$150,000 total available; Grant period 5/1/26 – 6/30/27)

Community Impact Grants are intended to support **more comprehensive and potentially transformational strategies** that address root causes and contribute to sustained community change.

These grants may support:

- Multi-component or systems-oriented initiatives;
- Strategies that demonstrate strong collaboration with partners and shared accountability;
- Initiatives designed to shift conditions, practices, or access to opportunity over time; and/or
- Approaches with clearly articulated outcomes and a plan for learning and impact.

While transformational change often unfolds over multiple years, this inaugural round emphasizes **intentional design, readiness, and measurable progress**. Applicants under this pathway should show organizational capacity, partnership readiness, and a plan for impact.

V. Collaboration and Partnerships

Authentic, meaningful collaboration is an important strategy for community reinvestment and repair.

The systemic challenges CRRF seeks to address are generally **greater than any one organization can tackle alone**. Collaborative approaches allow organizations to align strengths, share responsibility, and respond more effectively to complex conditions.

Applicants are encouraged to partner with other nonprofit, for-profit, public, or community-based entities when collaboration strengthens program design, implementation, or outcomes. Collaborative proposals should demonstrate:

- Clearly defined and complementary roles and responsibilities;
- Shared commitment to the communities served;
- Structures for coordination, communication, and accountability; and
- Intentional inclusion of community voice and lived experience.

Where applicable, collaboration must be evidenced by a **Memorandum of Understanding (MOU)** or other basic written agreement describing partner roles and responsibilities.

VI. Outcomes, Learning, and Effectiveness

Talbot Family Network is committed to funding programs and strategies that can demonstrate impact. Applicants should be able to articulate the “why” of their proposed work.

In both the application and program administration phases, applicants will be asked to describe:

- Intended outcomes for participants or communities;
- How success will be measured; and
- How the organization will assess whether the strategy is working as intended.

TFN uses **Results-Based Accountability (RBA)** and will work with funded partners to identify performance measures that are appropriate to the size, scope, and nature of each award.

VII. Eligible Applicants

Consistent with Maryland statute, **both nonprofit and for-profit organizations** are eligible to apply, provided they:

- Use awarded funds to support projects that benefit Talbot County residents.
- Can demonstrate the ability to successfully carry out the proposed project within the grant period.

Funding will not be awarded to individuals. Individuals are encouraged to collaborate with an eligible organization.

VIII. Review Considerations

In addition to feasibility and alignment, proposals will be reviewed with consideration of:

- The extent to which the proposed work benefits **disproportionately impacted communities**, as defined by OSE;
- The extent to which the proposed work benefits **low-income communities**;
- The degree to which the proposal addresses the **intersection** of these community characteristics;
- Alignment with CRRF's restorative justice purpose;
- Responsiveness to community-identified needs and lived experience;
- Strength and authenticity of collaboration; and
- Clarity of intended outcomes and approach to evaluating effectiveness.

On the application, provide succinct, well-reasoned responses and include supporting materials (if any) selectively, when they directly support the proposed work.

A committee of the TFN Board will review applications in accordance with this NOFO. All reviewers will comply with TFN's conflict of interest and confidentiality standards.

TFN reserves the right to accept or reject any proposal, in whole or in part, and to conduct discussions with applicants. Funding decisions are final and not subject to appeal. Only complete applications, including a signed application and budget, received by the stated deadline will be considered. The CRRF NOFO scoring rubrics will be available for review by or before the Pre-Application meeting.

IX. Contracting

Funded applicants will be required to enter into a standard grant agreement with Talbot Family Network. Funded organizations will need to provide documents such as:

- A completed W-9
- Organization's most recent audit or IRS Form 990 (if applicable)
- Evidence of good standing with the State of Maryland
- Job descriptions for any positions supported in whole or in part with CRRF funds

- Invoice(s) to draw the grant funds (see budget form for the release of funds schedule)

Funded organizations must also affirm that they maintain standard practices such as:

- Background checks are completed for staff and volunteers working directly with children and youth
- Compliance with applicable state and federal laws and regulations
- Sound financial management and internal controls

X. Reporting and Data Requirements

Funded programs must comply with reporting and data collection requirements that are proportional to the size and scope of the award and aligned with the goals of the CRRF. Talbot Family Network will provide required grant reporting forms.

Reporting Requirements by Grant Pathway

➤ Small Community Grants

Grantees funded under Pathway 1 will be required to submit:

- A mid-year narrative and fiscal report; and
- A year-end narrative, fiscal, and performance measure report.

These reports are intended to support learning, accountability, and documentation of outcomes without creating undue administrative burden.

➤ Community Impact Grants

Grantees funded under Pathway 2 will be required to submit:

- Quarterly narrative, fiscal, and performance measure reports throughout the grant period.

These reports are intended to support ongoing monitoring, learning, and shared accountability for programs addressing more complex or transformational strategies.

Data Collection Expectations

Funded programs must commit to collecting **basic program data** sufficient to demonstrate that funded activities are reaching and benefiting the intended CRRF populations.

At a minimum, this includes:

- Participation or service data relevant to the program or strategy; and
- Demographic data disaggregated by race and ethnicity.

Effective data collection does not require specialized or expensive software. Data may be collected and managed using simple spreadsheets or basic office tools.

TFN will provide **technical assistance and support** to funded partners to help build or strengthen data collection and reporting capacity, as needed.