I. BACKGROUND

The Max and Marian Farash Charitable Foundation is dedicated to the civic and religious communities of its founders, who believed in the importance of education in all its aspects and knew the power of entrepreneurial creativity. The Foundation places its highest priority on endeavors designed to transform the lives of individuals and the work of organizations. It strives to make long-term and meaningful contributions in Monroe and Ontario Counties with half of its grants supporting Jewish Life, and the other half supporting secular activities with a large emphasis on out-of-school-time education.

II. PURPOSE

The Foundation’s new Jewish Life strategy has four key pillars: Institutions, Innovation, Israel and Individuals. We know there are great ideas already in our community so we are open to receive proposals at any time. To get the ball rolling we have indicated three main areas that we hope to hear your ideas: Business Infrastructure Needs, Innovative Ideas, and Eliminating Anti-Semitism.

And if you have an idea that is outside the scope of these areas, reach out to us so we can discuss it further. We want to hear from you!

Business Infrastructure Needs

We are seeking applications for organizational business needs. Examples include, but are not limited to, finance, development, technology, marketing.

Your application should include information on how this support will help position the organization for long-term success. Additionally, this should be a new request and one that is not salary support for existing staff functions.

The request should indicate the cost for the investment, and if appropriate, estimates or bids from the desired contractor or consultant. For example, if the request is to implement a new development database, the application should describe why you are selecting this system, the installation costs,
the annual maintenance cost (if one exists), and if a contractor or consultant is helping to implement the project.

Innovative Ideas

The Foundation has open funding opportunities for innovative ideas to spark a reimagined Jewish Rochester. If you have an idea for a new approach for your organization, want to scale something you know is working, or want to bring a program here from another community, let us know.

We know where there is innovation there is the chance for catalytic change. Innovation also always comes with a bit of risk. Please indicate in your application some of the potential areas of risk and ways we can work together to mitigate barriers. And overall, what we may learn from taking these risks together.

Eliminating Anti-Semitism

We are looking for proactive ideas to eliminate Anti-Semitism and illuminate the vibrancy of our Jewish community. Please consider ideas that help spur education and understanding of Anti-Semitism and/or the gifts of our Jewish community. We welcome requests that also work to bridge cultural divides and spread understanding of each other so that all members of our community stand up against Anti-Semitism.

The request could be a new idea by an existing organization, or could bring in programs, speakers or events that have been popular in other communities.

Keys to Our Decision Making

• Project aligns with Farash Foundation mission and Jewish Life strategy.
• Lead organization has a strong leadership track record or evidence of leadership potential is presented.
• The request helps to position an organization or an idea for the future success of Jewish Rochester.

What Will Not Be Considered with This Application

• Capital projects, unless the capital need is related to a larger innovative or reimagining concept.
• General operations
• Business as usual
III. SUBMISSION AND DEADLINES

The foundation accepts and reviews grant requests on a rolling basis. There is no deadline to apply.

The application is accessed through the Foundation’s grant portal, Fluxx. A pdf of the proposal questions is available here.

The proposal should be reflective of the idea. Applications can be considered for one-time investments, a pilot program, or multi-year funding. There will be many excellent ideas that we will unfortunately not be able to fund.

Once we have received your proposal in our Fluxx Grant Portal, your program officer may contact you with follow-up questions.

You can expect to be notified of a decision within 30-90 days of submitting your request. Timing of notifications is dependent on when your application is received, requested funding amount, and our foundation approval process.

We welcome organizations to submit multiple proposals. We ask those additional proposals present different innovative project ideas. We will not review repeat proposals for the same project within a calendar year. We encourage collaborative proposals when appropriate.

IV. REPORTING REQUIREMENTS

In order to understand the impact of awarded funds, the Foundation will work with grantees to clarify and understand anticipated outcomes.

The foundation will ask grant recipients to participate in a final project discussion and/or to submit a post-grant report that includes a narrative description of how youth were impacted by the small grant and what was learned.

The foundation will also require an accounting of funds expended.

V. ADDITIONAL CONSIDERATIONS AND COMPLIANCE

Inquiries

Direct questions to Megan Bell, Chief Program Officer, at mbell@farashfoundation.org or 585-479-4462.
Guidelines

Applications are submitted via the Foundation’s Grants Management System. Please access the Fluxx web portal at: https://farash.fluxx.io/user_sessions/new

If you require assistance accessing or navigating Fluxx, please contact Pam Schlierf at pschlierf@farashfoundation.org or 585-479-7764.

Restrictions

Grant seekers must be based in Monroe or Ontario Counties and be tax exempt under Section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Service Code of 1986. They cannot be classified as private foundations or Type III supporting organizations under Section 509 of the Code.

Grants cannot be used for research, grants, or scholarships for individuals, or lobbying or attempts to influence legislation. Please note that incomplete proposals will not be considered.