



## **OST Summer Fun and Learning Grants 2026**

### REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS

**Release Date: November 17, 2025**

**Due Date: Applications due January 19, 2026**

#### **About us and this opportunity**

The Max and Marian Farash Charitable Foundation works to illuminate the potential of the communities we live in through meaningful grantmaking. In the spirit of our founders, Max and Marian Farash, the foundation focuses on partnering with big thinkers and visionary organizations of all sizes to provide resources and to take risks on bold new initiatives. As a private charitable foundation, we provide grants to organizations within Monroe and Ontario counties, as well as Jewish organizations and initiatives both locally and globally.

In the spring of 2023, the Farash Foundation launched a new out-of-school time education strategy, The Other 87%, referring to the percentage of time children spend not in school. We believe that through focusing on this time, we have an opportunity to meet the varying needs of the youth of today. We want to challenge our partners to think big and creatively so that we can create more OST programs for youth to learn new skills, connect deeper with peers and mentors, and have fun! The foundation believes that supporting the creation of more safe and enriching experiences in out-of-school time will help ensure kids feel ready to learn and flourish.

The Farash Foundation will partner with community-based organizations across Monroe and Ontario counties to invest in summer programs that meet these needs through a broad range of fun and engaging programs.

#### **What we are looking for**

The Farash Foundation is seeking to partner with organizations who support young people through summer programs that:

1. Provide a minimum of 4 continuous weeks of summer programming, 4 days per week, for at least 3 hours per day in safe environments with meals and/or snacks.
2. Provide summer programming for a minimum of 30 youth.
3. Offer summer programming to a single cohort of youth for the entire program duration.
4. Focus on children ages 3-18 years of age.
5. Offer a broad range of enrichment opportunities that spark learning, curiosity, and promote academic skill development, creativity, critical thinking, communication, and global citizenry.

6. Have a solid plan to incorporate activities that address and help youth develop social awareness, responsible decision-making, prioritizing social, emotional, and mental well-being.
7. Propose clear youth program goals and a way to measure them.
8. Incorporate intentional youth and caregiver voice and participation in the design and development of the summer program model and proposed activities.
9. Provide staff with positive youth development training and professional development opportunities.

### **Who Can Apply**

This request is open to nonprofit organizations, community-based organizations, tribes and tribal organizations, and schools serving communities in Monroe and Ontario Counties that are tax-exempt under Section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Service.

Small nonprofits, community-based organizations, and youth-led organizations are highly encouraged to submit proposals.

Drop-in programs and overnight camps will not be considered under this funding opportunity.

Grants will not be made to individuals, partisan political organizations or to support lobbying efforts and attempts to influence legislation, research grants, or scholarships to individuals.

### **Funding Available**

The foundation has approximately \$750,000 available through this funding opportunity for the grant period of July 1, 2026 – August 31, 2026. The number and size of awards will depend on responses to this request. Previous Farash Foundation summer funding awards average \$73,000. This is not a suggested request amount. The foundation encourages perspective grantees to seek the amount of funding required to offer quality summer programming.

The foundation will also consider proposals that seek multi-year summer funding for up to 3 years (2026, 2027, and 2028). Every application will be considered for funding for any grant duration. If you apply for a multi-year grant and we are unable to commit to that duration, we will consider your request for a one-year grant.

### **Completing and submitting your application**

The application is accessed through the Foundation's grant portal, Fluxx. Visit the Farash Foundation grant portal [Here](#) to get you and/or your organization registered and to access your Fluxx account.

A pdf of the proposal questions is available [Here](#).

Applications will not be reviewed if submitted in a format other than the online Fluxx application.

The foundation will gladly accept and review grants submitted by the deadline date of 11:59 pm on January 19, 2026. Applications received after this date and time will not be considered.

Incomplete proposals will not be considered.

### **How we will review applications**

- Program meets RFP criteria listed above.
- Proposed project aligns with Farash Foundation mission and OST strategy.
- Clarity of passion for working with youth.
- The program model and location provide equitable opportunities for those youth who could benefit the most.
- Budget and budget narrative are clear and appropriate based on program model, duration, and number of youth served.

### **Learning and Reporting**

The foundation asks our partners to help us learn how the awarded funds invested with your organization impacted your anticipated outcomes. This is accomplished through check-in conversations during the grant period where we can celebrate your successes and be a thought partner in tackling any emerging challenges to your success. At the conclusion of your grant, the foundation will ask for a post-grant report that includes a narrative description of how youth were impacted by the grant and what you learned. We will also require a final budget report that details how funds were expended.

### **Need more Information?**

We encourage anyone interested in applying to join our information sessions to learn more:

#### **All About the RFP Webinar Information Session**

**Tuesday, December 9, 2025**

**10am to 11am**

Via ZOOM

To register click [Here](#)

#### **In-person Application Technical Assistance Workshop**

**Tuesday, January 6, 2026**

**10:30am to 12:00pm**

Farash Foundation Office

255 East Ave, 4<sup>th</sup> Floor

Rochester, NY 14604

To register click [Here](#)

<b>Farash Summer Funding Application 2026 Key Dates</b>	
RFP Issued –Proposal Period Open	November 17, 2025
All About the RFP Webinar Information Session	December 9, 2025
In-Person RFP Technical Assistance Workshop	January 6, 2026
<b>Proposals Due in FLUXX</b>	<b>January 19, 2026</b>
Responses Reviewed	January/February 2026
Funding Decisions	March 2026

#### **Would you like additional support?**

Application support is available for organizations interested in applying for this summer program funding opportunity.

Assistance is available to help determine appropriate fit between your work and this funding opportunity, providing guidance on how best to answer application questions, supporting your application development, and helping you explain your qualifications in the clearest and most concise way.

**Schedule 1:1 Summer RFP/Application Technical Assistance Link: [OST-RFP-Technical Assistance](#)**

#### **Additional Questions may be addressed to:**

Todd Michel Waite  
 Program Officer  
[twaite@farashfoundation.org](mailto:twaite@farashfoundation.org)  
 (O) 585-479-4469

#### **A note on Artificial Intelligence**

The foundation does not use artificial intelligence (AI) to review grant applications or to inform decisions made by our grants committee. We do use AI tools to help us analyze data over time—for example, to chart the number of youths served each year—or to summarize publicly available information, such as 990s and audit statements. When we use AI for these purposes, it is done on a closed, secure platform, meaning that the data remains private and accessible only to us. We do not upload any confidential or personally identifying information to any AI system.

If you have any questions or concerns about how we use AI, please don't hesitate to reach out.