

Meyer Foundation Funding Categories

The Meyer Foundation funds in the following categories:

1. Arts, heritage, and culture
2. Children, youth, and families
3. Civic engagement
4. Education
5. Employment and skills training
6. Health and mental health
7. Homelessness and hunger
8. Housing and community development
9. Immigrant communities
10. Law and justice

Please refer to the more detailed descriptions below.

Arts, heritage, and culture

Meyer funds organizations that

- produce or present visual or performing arts (especially theatre or dance),
- promote cultural and heritage tourism,
- provide access to the arts for low-income or for racially or ethnically diverse people,
- use the arts to revitalize neighborhoods, or
- work in collaboration with other organizations to coordinate and expand cultural activities throughout the region; develop policies and programs that support and strengthen the arts in our region; or advocate on behalf of the arts and artists.

Meyer generally *does not* fund

- choral, chamber, or symphonic music,
- historic preservation projects,
- literary and spoken word projects,
- special events, festivals, exhibitions, or one-time performances,
- production of books, films, radio programs, or television shows,
- individuals, either through scholarships or other forms of financial assistance,
- scientific or medical research,
- programs that promote religious doctrine, or
- endowments.

Children, youth, and families

Meyer's grantmaking includes, but is not limited to, organizations working in **youth development, early childhood development, parenting skills, and child welfare.**

In the area of **youth development**, Meyer's grantmaking focuses on organizations whose primary mission is serving youth, and that provide quality in-school or out-of-school-time programs for young people. Meyer has a special interest in supporting organizations that serve older youth (ages 11 to 21). Meyer funds organizations that

- provide services that address the educational, emotional, physical, and developmental needs of children and youth,
- work in underserved neighborhoods,
- engage parents,
- provide opportunities for young people to develop meaningful relationships with adults,
- advocate for improvements in the health and well-being of children and youth, or
- help young people find jobs or go to college.

In the area of **early childhood development**, Meyer's grantmaking focuses on professional development for staff and program accreditation for early childhood development organizations.

In the area of **parenting skills development**, Meyer's grantmaking focuses on promoting literacy for parents and young children, and promoting improved parental involvement in children's growth and development.

In the area of **child welfare**, Meyer's grantmaking focuses on organizations that

- focus on child abuse prevention, the placement of abused children in safe homes, or the recruitment and training of foster and adoptive parents, or
- advocate for improvements in the child welfare system.

Meyer generally does not fund

- short-term or seasonal programs for children and youth,
- general operating support for early childhood development organizations,
- individuals, either through scholarships or other forms of financial assistance,
- scientific or medical research,
- programs that promote religious doctrine,
- special events or conferences, or
- endowments.

Civic engagement

Meyer's funding in civic engagement focuses on community organizing, research, leadership development, and advocacy on a broad range of issues that affect the low-income people and communities of Greater Washington.

Meyer generally does not fund

- individuals, either through scholarships or other forms of financial assistance,

- scientific or medical research,
- programs that promote religious doctrine,
- special events or conferences, or
- endowments.

Education

Meyer funds organizations that

- provide training for teachers
- advocate to improve the public school system through parent education, youth engagement, and community organizing.

Meyer generally *does not* fund

- PTAs,
- individual public schools, public charter schools, or private schools,
- individuals, either through scholarships or other forms of financial assistance,
- scientific or medical research,
- programs that promote religious doctrine,
- special events or conferences, or
- endowments.

Employment and skills training

Meyer funds professionally staffed organizations that

- offer recognized certifications or credentials,
- provide comprehensive language and literacy classes for adults,
- provide job training and placement, especially in careers that pay a living wage and have potential for growth and advancement, or
- teach the basic skills required for finding and keeping good jobs.

Meyer generally *does not* fund

- entrepreneurship or microenterprise/small business projects,
- individuals, either through scholarships or other forms of financial assistance,
- scientific or medical research,
- programs that promote religious doctrine,
- special events or conferences, or
- endowments.

Health and mental health

Meyer funds organizations that

- advocate for an integrated health care system for uninsured and underserved people
- help people access culturally and linguistically appropriate primary health care services
- educate people about ways to improve their health

- Provide an integrated continuum of care—including primary care, mental health services, chronic disease management, and substance abuse treatment—for uninsured and underserved people.

Meyer generally *does not* fund

- hospital-run programs,
- nursing homes or assisted living facilities,
- organizations requesting funds for work that focuses on a specific disease, condition, or disability,
- residential treatment facilities,
- individuals, either through scholarships or other forms of financial assistance,
- scientific or medical research,
- programs that promote religious doctrine,
- special events or conferences, or
- endowments.

Please note that the Meyer Foundation refers all HIV/AIDS-related requests to the Washington AIDS Partnership, of which the Foundation is a funding partner.

Homelessness and hunger

Meyer funds organizations that

- advocate for and provide services and programs to prevent and end homelessness,
- provide services that help homeless people address challenges that contribute to their homelessness,
- help homeless people gain skills they need to become self-sufficient, or
- work to eliminate hunger and the risk of hunger.

Meyer generally *does not* fund

- individuals, either through scholarships or other forms of financial assistance,
- scientific or medical research,
- programs that promote religious doctrine,
- special events or conferences, or
- endowments.

Housing and community development

Meyer funds organizations that

- advocate for affordable housing for low-income people,
- preserve and develop affordable rental and for-sale housing,
- engage low-income people in the improvement of their communities,
- help low-income people save money to buy homes or go to college, or
- improve the quality of life for people in low-income communities.

Meyer generally *does not* fund

- capital for construction or development of housing,
- entrepreneurship, microenterprise/small business development projects,
- start-up housing developers,
- individuals, either through scholarships or other forms of financial assistance,
- scientific or medical research,
- programs that promote religious doctrine,
- special events or conferences,
- endowments, or
- community development corporations and nonprofit housing developers working in the District of Columbia. Please note that the Meyer Foundation refers all requests from community development corporations and nonprofit housing developers working in the District of Columbia to the Community Development Support Collaborative, of which the Foundation is a funding partner.

Immigrant communities

Meyer funds organizations that

- advocate on behalf of immigrants and refugees,
- help immigrants and refugees obtain legal status and US citizenship,
- provide services that are culturally and linguistically appropriate,
- provide quality language education,
- provide job training, or
- provide professional legal services.

Meyer generally *does not* fund

- individuals, either through scholarships or other forms of financial assistance,
- scientific or medical research,
- programs that promote religious doctrine,
- special events or conferences, or
- endowments.

Law and justice

Meyer funds organizations that

- provide legal services to vulnerable and underserved communities,
- increase access to justice,
- strengthen collaboration and build advocacy capacity among nonprofit legal service providers, or
- advocate for a fairer system of justice.

Meyer generally *does not* fund

- individuals, either through scholarships or other forms of financial assistance,
- scientific or medical research,
- programs that promote religious doctrine,

- special events or conferences, or
- endowments.