



# Tenant Outreach Fund

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## *Overview, Requirements and Instructions*

### TABLE OF CONTENTS

About Seeding Justice.....	3
About the Oregon Housing Alliance.....	3
About the Tenant Outreach Fund.....	3
Funding Opportunity Overview.....	4
Approach and Eligibility.....	4
Grant Reporting.....	5
Expectations of Confidentiality.....	5
Key Dates.....	5
Ready to Apply?.....	6
Application Support.....	6

## About Seeding Justice

[Seeding Justice](#) is a nonprofit that supports and resources local, Oregon-based groups that empower those most affected by injustice.

Besides their own grants, they manage "[Community Funds](#)"—pools of money from various sources—to shift resources and power to communities facing specific issues.

Examples of past Community Funds include those for childcare capacity, reproductive justice, river restoration, and Tribal support.

In managing community funds, Seeding Justice serves as the convener and facilitator, while a community-led steering committee shapes the fund's direction and decides which community groups receive funding.

## About the Oregon Housing Alliance

Convened by [Neighborhood Partnerships](#), the [Oregon Housing Alliance](#) brings together advocates, local governments, housing authorities, community development corporations, environmentalists, service providers, business interests and others concerned about the lack of affordable housing and the devastating impact of the shortage on Oregon families and individuals.

Housing Alliance members may have different interests and approaches, but they all agree that the time has come to act boldly and creatively to meet the full range of housing needs in Oregon communities.

## About the Tenant Outreach Fund

In the 2024 legislative session, Oregon elected officials passed a housing package that sought to ease the state's housing crisis and build more homes for low- and middle-income Oregonians.

In the package were two measures ([Senate Bills 1537](#) and [1530](#)) that passed both chambers with bipartisan support. Along with House Bill 4134, those bills sent a total of \$376 million to Oregon Housing and Community Services toward boosting housing production, funding infrastructure like roads and land acquisition, and supporting renters.

Thanks to the advocacy of the [Oregon Housing Alliance](#), Seeding Justice received a \$1M grant from the legislature through Oregon Housing and Community Services Department to support tenant education and to provide support for residents whose housing may be withdrawn from publicly supported housing or is within a manufactured dwelling park being sold or closed.

In partnership with Oregon Housing Alliance members, Seeding Justice set up the Tenant Outreach Fund to distribute the allocated dollars in a way that builds the power of tenants and the communities most impacted by our state's housing crisis.

Learn more about the Tenant Outreach Fund, and the steering committee members, [on our website](#).

## **Funding Opportunity Overview**

The Fund has \$840,000 in grantmaking dollars available to distribute. The steering committee anticipates making a range of small, medium and large grants for two purposes: Urgent Needs and Longer-Term Solutions.

**Urgent Needs grants** are grants for short-term projects that seek to educate tenants and offer practical supports (such as back rent) to tenants. Urgent Needs grants will range from \$10,000 to \$50,000.

**Longer-Term Solutions grants** are for work that focuses on systemic solutions, power building, leadership development, and policy advocacy for communities at risk of eviction. Longer-Term Solutions projects can apply for up to \$100,000 in funding.

A group may choose to tackle both urgent and longer-term work. In that case, their total request cannot exceed \$125,000.

## **Approach and Eligibility**

Per the language of the legislative bill that allocated the funds, the goal of the Tenant Outreach Fund is to provide resources and support to tenants who are at risk of eviction from publicly-supported housing and manufactured dwelling parks at risk of being sold or closed.

The steering committee is looking to fund organizations that can help the Fund accomplish its goal above through the following strategies:

1. Community education and outreach
2. Practical supports for tenants
3. Community- and self-advocacy
4. Community power building and leadership development
5. Sector infrastructure development and capacity building

We will also be looking for projects that can achieve the following outcomes:

1. Tenants know their rights
2. Tenants' urgent needs are met and their housing stabilized
3. Tenants are able to advocate for themselves and their communities to prevent evictions
4. Tenants build power through leadership development and organizing
5. Tenants and the organizations that serve them build and are able to access community wealth

6. Tenants and the organizations that serve them stand up longer term systems to prevent evictions

## **Eligibility**

To be eligible for a grant, applicants must:

- Be a 501(c)(3)-exempt organization;
- Be a fiscally sponsored project;
- Be a Tribal government or entity

AND

- The project for which applicants are seeking support must be located and/or serve the people in Oregon; AND
- All projects must provide resources and support to tenants who are at risk of eviction from publicly-supported housing and manufactured dwelling parks at risk of being sold or closed.

We encourage proposals from small, grassroots, and volunteer-based groups, and first-time grant seekers. We are particularly interested in hearing from organizations serving folks in languages other than English, and/or in rural communities.

## **Grant Reporting**

Seeding Justice is required to submit reports to the State of Oregon, so we will ask our grantees to submit financial reports every six months and narrative reports once a year.

## **Expectations of Confidentiality**

Seeding Justice will not ask for or collect personally identifiable information from grantees or their beneficiaries and will only report aggregated data to the state.

Because these are public funds, however, all materials you submit to Seeding Justice—including your applications and grant reports—may be open to Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) requests, subpoenas, and disclosure requests from state and federal agencies.

## **Key Dates**

- Grant Application Opens                      Monday, June 16, 2025
- Virtual Information Sessions                June 24 and June 26, 2025
- Grant Applications Due                        **UPDATED:** Friday, August 1 at 5:00 p.m.
- Funding Decisions                             Mid September 2025
- Grant agreements signed  
and funds disbursed                            By late September 2025

## Ready to Apply?

We will start accepting applications online beginning Monday, June 16, 2025.

We are currently asking everyone to apply using [our online platform](#), but If submitting a proposal online presents a barrier, [please let us know](#) and we can work together on finding a solution.

[Click here to access  
the online application!](#)

## Application Support

Here are some resources to help organizations with the application process.

- Application questions – *these are for your reference only, please complete the application online.*
  - [Google Doc Version](#)
  - [PDF Version](#)
- Information Sessions
  - [Register for June 24 at 11:00 a.m. PDT](#)
  - [Register for June 26 at 3:00 p.m. PDT](#)

If you can't attend the sessions, please [check the website](#) to see the recordings and download the slides.

- [Frequently Asked Questions](#) (PDF)
- [Glossary](#) (PDF)
- [Strategies and Outcomes Map](#) (PDF) – *this is a helpful guide in aligning your chosen strategies with your activities and metrics.*
- [Scoring Rubric](#) (PDF) – *this is the rubric the steering committee will be using to score your application.*

If you still have questions after reviewing the materials and/or attending or watching the information sessions, or you would like some additional guidance that's specific to your situation, please [schedule an appointment](#) with the Seeding Justice team.

