

Nonprofit Capacity Building Grant Program Consultant Office Hours

Consulting Office Hours Overview

To support equitable access to the St. Croix Valley Foundation's Nonprofit Capacity Building Grant Program, we are offering free consulting office hours for nonprofit organizations that may benefit from early-stage guidance as they develop ideas and prepare to apply.

The St. Croix Valley Foundation has engaged a small group of experienced consultants to provide light-touch, one-on-one or small-group support to help potential applicants think through organizational goals, capacity needs, and potential grant ideas. Participation is optional and intended solely as a support mechanism — not a required or evaluative component of the grant process.

Scope of Support

To ensure clarity and consistent expectations, please review the following outline of what the office hours **are** and **are not** intended to provide:

Office hours ARE

Consultant office hours are designed to offer **early-stage**, **thought-partner support** for nonprofit organizations exploring potential applications to the Nonprofit Capacity Building Grant Program. Consultants serve as **thought partners** and **coaches**, **asking questions** and **offering perspective** to help guide your early thinking. Sessions are informal and conversational in nature.

This may include:

- Strategic brainstorming and ideation
- Clarifying organizational needs or priorities
- Assessing readiness to apply
- Exploring potential capacity-building strategies
- Talking through multiple project ideas or approaches

Office hours ARE NOT

To maintain fairness and consistency for all applicants, consultant office hours will not include:

- Review or editing of written grant applications
- Feedback on drafts, budgets, or narratives
- Recommendations for specific language
- Evaluation of likelihood of funding

Availability Note

Consultant availability may be limited based on demand. Priority may be given to organizations with limited staffing or access to similar planning support (e.g., small or volunteer-led nonprofits), to ensure equitable access to this resource.