



STABLE GROUND

Building Organizational Power for Housing Justice

About the program

Stable Ground is an organizational capacity-building program with the goal of strengthening the ecosystem of BIPOC-led and centered organizing throughout the Twin Cities region.

This inaugural Stable Ground cohort is a pilot targeting organizations seeking both capacity-building and financial support to strengthen their **housing stability** organizing.

Through this program, we will support **organizing** and advocacy aimed at pursuing **systems changes** that increase housing **stability** and prevent homelessness for people across the seven-county Twin Cities region.

Timeline

- **Call for applications:** October 1
- **Proposals due:** 11:59 pm CST on November 2, 2025
- **Funding decisions:** Week of December 1
- **Cohort participants notified:** Week of December 7
- **Funding is received by grantees:** January 2026
- **Cohort kickoff:** February 2026
- **Activities last through:** December 2026

Who we fund

- organizations that are rooted in **communities most impacted** by the legacy and current reality of housing inequity
- organizations with people who have lived experience with homelessness and/or housing insecurity.

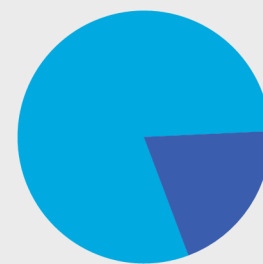
Eligibility

Applicants must be a registered 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization or have a fiscal agent who is 501(c)(3).

Eligible organizations include:

- neighborhood-based organizations
- cultural organizations
- service organizations that are representative of and/or led by people with lived experience of housing instability and/or homelessness, low-income communities, BIPOC, new immigrant communities, people with disabilities, or other cultural communities.

Funds available



\$250,000 total

up to \$50,000
per organization

Program funding comes from the Pohlad Family Foundation.

Apply today

thealliancetc.org/stableground

Requirements

Policy requirements

Proposals must demonstrate targeted implementation of one or more of these policy initiatives:



Examples

Organizing and advocacy for:

- access strategies that reduce cross-county barriers to services,
- expanding housing voucher acceptance,
- expanding investments in rental assistance and/or section 8,
- changing the rules around public assistance programs



Examples

Organizing and advocacy for:

- addressing predatory and discriminatory rental practices,
- reforming tenant screening processes,
- **organizing** tenants into a tenant union,
- preventing evictions,
- implementing renter protections.



Examples

Organizing and advocacy for:

- rent control,
- eviction prevention,
- extending Section 8,
- securing deeply affordable housing development,
- policies securing first right of purchase for tenants when rental buildings are sold

Applicant requirements

- ✓ serve a community in the seven-county Twin Cities region
- ✓ **organize** around one or more specific **policy and systems change** opportunities
- ✓ engage and involve **underrepresented communities** in their work
- ✓ support long-term involvement of **underrepresented communities** in decision-making structures



Learning cohort requirement

Participants are expected to participate in a learning cohort offering opportunities to share the organization's work, capture best practices, share lessons learned, and, where possible, align strategic narratives and worldviews on housing organizing and advocacy across participating organizations.

Collectively, the cohort will expand their **organizing** skills and strategies, landscape knowledge, and peer networks. The cohort will share evaluations and input, capture lessons and best practices.



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Questions? Contact grants@thealliancetc.org

Additional information

Program goals

The Stable Ground program goal is to support organizations led by BIPOC (Black, Indigenous, or people of color), people with disabilities, people with lived experience of housing instability/homelessness, and low-wealth communities to eliminate barriers to housing stability with community-defined solutions and move system changes.

This funding supports grantees' ability to engage impacted communities, build community leadership, and influence key decision-makers and institutions, while identifying strategic opportunities to leverage their power for better community outcomes.

The program also supports grantee organizations in the development of their skills and capacity around organizing and advocacy in their housing stability work. This will take place through grantee participation in co-learning sessions facilitated by Alliance staff, with support from housing advocacy leaders and partners in our network. We anticipate 6 cohort learning sessions, which will be tailored to meet the needs of the cohort partners.

Background

Stable Ground grows out of our individual and collective regional work to center the voices and experiences of those most impacted by housing instability and/or homelessness in advancing the solutions needed.

Stable Ground builds upon the previous work of the Alliance for Metropolitan Stability, with Stable Housing Is the Priority (SHIP) and other organizational partners, who shaped the Housing Stability Grants, a fund that passed through foundation dollars to organizations with a history of organizing and advocacy in housing and tenant issues.

Application review process

Applications will be reviewed by a committee of peers who have a history of working towards housing stability in our region, the majority of whom will be BIPOC and/or have personal experience with housing instability or homelessness.



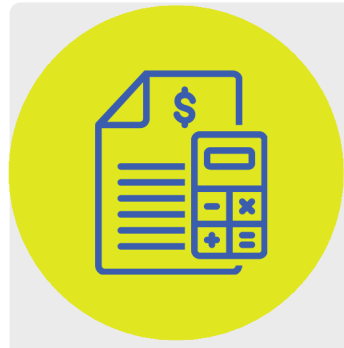
About The Alliance

The Alliance for Metropolitan Stability is a coalition of community-based organizations and advocacy groups with a mission to build power across the intersections of geography, race, culture, and issues in the Twin Cities region to eliminate systems of oppression and advance our collective liberation. *Learn more at thealliancetc.org*



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How to apply

All documents and links are available online at thealliancetc.org/stableground

1. Review grant requirements (you're looking at them!)

2. Prepare documents

You will need to complete three documents before starting your application:

- Organizational budget
- Project budget
- Demographic form: tinyurl.com/demoform26

Note: you can create your own organizational and project budget forms; for the demographic form, please use the template provided above.

3. Review application questions

Look at the application and review the questions. We recommend you prepare your answers in a separate document, and copy and paste your responses into the application form once they are ready.

4. Submit application

Fill out the application: tinyurl.com/solidground2026

Note: While Google Forms allows applications to be edited after they are submitted, we recommend submitting the application only once you have finalized it.

Questions? Contact grants@thealliancetc.org

Allowable expenses

A successful application's plan and budget would include project-specific expenditures that engage underrepresented constituencies to advance community-based housing stability goals.



Eligible expenses

Examples include:

- Personnel
- Subgrants to partner organizations whose work is detailed in the grant application
- Meeting costs (space, childcare, food, transport, rental of communication equipment)
- Communication tools, including translation services
- Local travel expenses (bus, bicycle, gas)
- Community organizing, education, and training



Ineligible expenses

Examples include:

- Capital purchases
- Support for electoral campaigns, partisan voter engagement, lobbying
- Projects that do not directly connect to the eligible list of policy initiatives



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Glossary

BIPOC

Black, Indigenous, and People of Color

Underrepresented Communities

BIPOC communities and/or individuals with lived experience of housing instability,

Impacted Constituencies

BIPOC communities, individuals with lived experience of housing instability, and/or people at greatest risk of experiencing homelessness.

Systems Change

Systems that currently create harm or fail to serve people and communities are changed to better serve and support impacted communities. We believe this happens by shifting connections within systems and altering power relationships between systems and impacted people and communities.

Policy Change

Organizations and coalitions are working to pass policies that work to better protect, serve, and/or reduce harm that current and past policies have done to underrepresented communities and impacted constituencies.

Housing Instability

This includes experiencing homelessness and also encompasses a number of related challenges such as: having trouble paying rent, overcrowding, moving frequently, living in unsafe housing due to lack of alternatives, and/or spending the bulk of household income on housing.

Organizing

A process of engaging and empowering people and communities directly impacted by racial injustice and/or housing instability to develop solutions to the injustices and issues they face or have faced. It means building leadership of impacted people and communities and advocating for systems change.

Base Building

A community organizing strategy focused on recruiting and empowering ordinary people who are directly affected by a problem to build a collective power that can create lasting social change. It involves fostering deep community connections, developing grassroots leaders, cultivating a shared identity and understanding of root causes, and engaging people in strategic action to win campaigns for justice.



Stable Housing includes:

- Affordable rent within a household's budget;
- Housing with enough space to comfortably accommodate our families;
- Housing that is well-maintained and in good condition that supports our health;
- Housing we can stay in as long as needed;
- Housing in a community that uplifts us and is connected to other vital resources such as transportation, education, jobs, and services;
- Housing in which we feel secure and where our privacy is respected
- Housing in which landlords and/or property managers respect tenants' rights



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