



Strengthening Youth Program in Indiana: Program Sustainability and Capacity Building Grants

Proposal Guidelines

Submission Deadline: June 2, 2026, at 12:00 p.m. EDT

Indiana Youth Institute (IYI) is pleased to announce a new grant opportunity for organizations that received funding through Lilly Endowment's Strengthening Youth Programs in Indiana initiative (SYPI). SYPI Program Sustainability and Capacity Building Grants are designed to help organizations extend and sustain the progress made through the first round of SYPI. This final round focuses on reinforcing successful efforts, enhancing organizational resiliency, and helping to ensure that impactful work for Indiana youth continues into the future. Applicants are invited to submit applications for up to **50% of their organization's original SYPI award** for activities carried out over a grant term of up to **three years**.

Background

In 2023, through SYPI, the Endowment awarded funding to 187 youth-serving organizations across Indiana to strengthen programs, build organizational capacity, and improve facilities. During that funding cycle, IYI served as a technical assistance provider for organizations that participated in SYPI, offering webinars, convenings, consulting, and training to support grantees throughout implementation of SYPI-funded programs and projects.

The Endowment has approved a new and final round of funding as part of SYPI focused on program sustainability and capacity building. For this final round of funding, the Endowment has approved a grant to IYI to both award and administer grants and provide technical assistance to grantees. As a statewide intermediary organization, leading the next phase of SYPI is consistent with the mission of IYI. Through this new round of funding, IYI will have a continued role in guiding organizations as they build on the momentum of their initial SYPI programs and projects. This opportunity aims to help organizations sustain effective programs launched or expanded through their first SYPI grant and strengthen internal capacities critical to long-term impact.

Eligibility

Organizations eligible to apply must have received a SYPI grant from the Endowment in 2023 and must continue to operate as youth-serving **501(c)(3)** public charities described under sections 509(a)(1), (2), or (3) of the Internal Revenue Code, excluding Type III supporting organizations under §4942(g)(4)(A)(i) or (ii). Questions about eligibility may be directed to sypi@iyi.org.

Funding Priorities

SYPI Program Sustainability and Capacity Building Grants will support proposals for one or both of the following purposes:



Program Sustainability funds to continue and/or enhance programs that were initiated or expanded through the first SYPI grant. Sustainability efforts should focus on refining and fortifying existing SYPI-supported programs and on raising funds from other sources so these programs can continue delivering impact.

Capacity Building funds to strengthen organizational capacities, such as evaluation, fundraising, marketing, technology, or staff and board development, to help enable organizations to implement their programs more effectively and efficiently. Capacity-building proposals may aim to specifically strengthen organization's capacities to implement SYPI-funded programs or address broader organizational needs essential to sustaining impact.

SYPI Program Sustainability and Capacity Building Grants will **not** support the creation of new programs or new program locations, nor will they support **capital projects**. These are notable differences from allowable uses of funds under the first round of SYPI.

Award Size and Grant Term

Applicants may request up to **50% of their original SYPI award** to support program sustainability and capacity building activities over a period of up to **three years**. IYI anticipates that budgets may be evenly distributed across years but encourages applicants to allocate funds according to the needs of their proposed work.

Required Components of the Proposal

Applicants will submit **one PDF** containing all required items described below, along with a **separate Excel budget** using the required template.

Proposal Narrative (maximum 8 pages)

The narrative provides an opportunity for applicants to reflect on their progress and make a compelling case for continued investment. Narratives should include:

- A concise overview of the organization's grant funded activities supported through the first round of SYPI funding and progress toward achieving the desired outcomes of those activities.
- A discussion of opportunities identified for improvement(s) to programs and/or organizational capacities since the first SYPI grant was awarded.
- A detailed description of proposed program sustainability and/or capacity building activities to be supported by a new grant.
- Funding from other sources that will support proposed efforts, particularly for sustained programming.
- Anticipated outcomes and performance indicators for activities to be funded by the new grant.
- A timeline that links activities to anticipated outcomes.



- A plan for how the organization will maintain key efforts, if applicable, after this final round of SYPI funding concludes.

Proposal Budget and Budget Narrative

Organizations must submit an Excel budget ([budget template link](#)) that outlines projected revenues and expenses associated with the proposed activities. An accompanying budget narrative should clearly explain line items and calculations. Administrative costs should not exceed 15% of the total grant request.

Organizational Documentation

The PDF application should also include:

- The organization's **IRS determination letter**; ([sample](#))
- The required **IYI tax form**; ([form](#))
- **Current board-approved financial statements or most recent audit.**

Applicants may include up to **10 pages of optional appendices**, which might feature logic models, strategic plans, evaluation summaries, or other materials that strengthen the proposal.

Submission Process

All applications are due by **June 2, 2026, at 12:00 p.m. EDT** and must be submitted through IYI's online application portal, available on the [SYPI webpage](#). Late or incomplete applications may not be reviewed. The application must include one consolidated PDF and a separate Excel file for the budget.

For questions about the application or technical assistance, organizations are encouraged to contact sypi@iyi.org.