

**Request for Proposal: Basic Health & Safety Needs for Youth  
Buhl Regional Health Foundation  
Release Date: January 6, 2026**

**OVERVIEW**

The Buhl Regional Health Foundation (BRHF) invites proposals from nonprofit organizations serving Mercer County to support initiatives that strengthen the Basic Health and Safety Needs of children, youth, and their families. As one of the seven Vital Conditions for a Thriving Community, Basic Health & Safety Needs serve as a foundational requirement for children to grow, learn, and reach their full potential.

In Mercer County, many young people face barriers to reliable access to essential supports such as nutrition, physical safety, hygiene, and environmental wellbeing. This RFP seeks projects that address gaps in these fundamental needs and /conditions that directly influence a child's physical, mental, and emotional health.

BRHF aims to support programs that provide preventive services, reduce harm, promote safe environments, and ensure that youth have the essential resources needed to thrive.

**FUNDING PRIORITIES**

Proposals should clearly address one or more of the following priority areas:

**1. Nutrition & Physical Wellbeing**

- Programs that increase access to healthy food for children and youth
- Efforts to reduce food insecurity at home, school, or community sites
- Initiatives that promote physical activity and healthy lifestyle behaviors

**2. Safety & Environmental Health**

- Projects addressing unsafe or hazardous living environments (lead, pests, unsafe heat/cooling, poor ventilation)
- Interventions that reduce exposure to violence or unsafe community environments
- Programs that provide safe spaces, supervision, or structured youth activities

**3. Hygiene, Basic Care & Wellness Supports**

- Supporting programmatic costs associated with access to hygiene supplies, clothing essentials, or basic care items for youth providing items – ie. improve infrastructure, staff, etc.
  - Programs supporting healthy routines and self-care for children and teens
  - Services that connect families to ongoing health and safety resources
- 4. Navigation, Prevention & Supportive Services**
- Case management or care coordination that addresses health or safety barriers
  - Preventive health/well-being education for youth and families
  - Programs that reduce risk factors contributing to unsafe or unhealthy conditions

#### **ELIGIBILITY**

- 501(c)(3) nonprofit organizations
- Public or community-based organizations partnering with nonprofits
- All applicants must serve children, youth and/or their families in Mercer County

#### **PROPOSAL REQUIREMENTS**

Applicants must submit:

1. Description of the project and youth population serviced
2. The specific health or safety needs to be addressed
3. Expected outcomes and how youth will benefit
4. Project budget and timeline
5. Partnerships and existing support, if applicable

#### **FUNDING DETAILS**

- Grant amounts will vary based on scope and anticipated impact
- Projects may be new or expansions of existing programs
- Funding period begins June 2026

#### **EVALUATION CRITERIA**

BRHF will prioritize proposals that demonstrate:

- Clear and direct benefit to youth
- Measurable outcomes and strong community impact
- Collaboration with local systems and partners
- Sustainability beyond BRHF funding

## **UNALLOWABLE EXPENSES**

**Funding may not be used for the following:**

- **Direct financial assistance to individuals or families (e.g., vouchers, stipends, utility assistance)**
- **Emergency or crisis payments for medical bills, prescriptions, or other individual health expenses**
- **Capital construction or major facility renovations (new buildings, structural remodeling, large-scale upgrades)**
- **Purchase of land or property**
- **Routine operational or facility maintenance not directly tied to the program's youth health or safety objectives (e.g., custodial services, landscaping)**
- **Personal items for individual families (clothing, furniture, appliances, hygiene kits) unless part of a pre-approved programmatic intervention**
- **Purchase of vehicles for transporting clients or staff**
- **Lobbying, political activity, or fundraising events**
- **Staff bonuses, gift cards, or incentives unrelated to program participation**
- **Clinical or medical services outside the scope of the project**
- **Costs incurred before the official grant award date**
- **Activities that do not directly support youth-focused health or safety outcomes in Mercer County**
- **Additional expenses may be disallowed at BRHF's discretion**

## **APPLICATION PROCESS**

**All submissions must be made through the BRHF Grant Portal.**

**Step 1: Submit Letter of Interest (LOI) - Only one RFP LOI submission per organization will be accepted.**

**Step 2: BRHF reviews LOIs and issues invitations for full proposals**

**Step 3: Invited applicants submit detailed proposals including:**

- **Most recent IRS Form 990**
- **Project budget and funding plan**
- **Description of initiative, timeline, and expected outcomes**
- **Optional attachments (not scored)**

## **REVIEW CRITERIA**

**Proposals will be evaluated on:**

- **Creativity and innovation**
- **Strength of impact on housing-related well-being**
- **Collaboration across systems and partners**
- **Clear, actionable implementation steps**
- **Measurable outcomes and sustainability**

## **REPORTING REQUIREMENTS**

**Awarded organizations must submit interim and final reports according to the schedule set by the BRHF Director of Grantmaking.**

## **RFP TIMELINE**

<b>RFP Cycle Opens</b>	<b>January 6, 2026</b>
<b>LOI Deadline</b>	<b>February 13, 2026</b>
<b>Invitations for Detailed Proposals</b>	<b>April 24, 2026</b>
<b>Detailed Proposal Deadline</b>	<b>April 24, 2026</b>
<b>Award Announcements</b>	<b>June 3, 2026</b>
<b>Funds Released</b>	<b>June 15, 2026</b>

## **QUESTIONS**

**BRHF staff are available to assist applicants throughout the process.**

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