



Community Foundation
for Greater Buffalo

MAKE THE MOST OF YOUR GENEROSITY.

Community Foundation for Greater Buffalo DANIEL C. AND BEATRICE M. FISHER FUND

2026 Schedule and General Information

Applicants seeking a Daniel C. and Beatrice M. Fisher Fund competitive grant at the Community Foundation for Greater Buffalo should refer to:

- Schedule and General Information
- Fisher Fund Grant Guidelines
- Fisher Fund Grant Application Questions

Applications will be accepted online beginning **August 21, 2026**

Application deadline is **September 21, 2026 at 4 PM**

Funding decisions will be announced by **Late November 2026**

Applications must be submitted electronically online through the Community Foundation's Foundant Grant Lifecycle Manager. Only applications submitted through Foundant will be accepted. Visit <https://www.cfgb.org/nonprofits/grants/daniel-c-and-beatrice-m-fisher-fund/> to submit your application.

Please see below for the fund guidelines and an outline of the questions you will be required to address when completing your electronic application.

Amount Available: Approximately \$99,000.

Questions: Grant seekers are encouraged to call Director, Community Impact Darren Penoyer at 716-852-2857 ext. 206 with any questions related to this application.

Community Foundation for Greater Buffalo 2026 Daniel C. and Beatrice M. Fisher Fund Grant Guidelines

Background/Criteria

Daniel C. Fisher, MD, and Beatrice M. Fisher were longtime residents of Clarence Center, NY. The two were married the summer of 1925 and had one son, George Byron, the following year.

Dr. Fisher established his practice in Clarence Center in January 1925 and was very involved in the community during his lifetime. Of his many achievements, most notable are:

- He was key in the decision to locate a branch of Millard Fillmore Hospital in Amherst.
- He was the first president of the Erie County Board of Health when the organization was established in 1947 and served in that role for 12 terms.
- He was also president of the New York State Association of School Physicians and the Medical History Society of Western New York.
- He was on the staff of Sisters, Millard Fillmore, St. Francis, and Lockport Memorial hospitals at various times before retiring in 1971.

The Fishers both had a history of contributing time and resources to the social, professional, and civic non-profits of Western New York with a particular focus on their town of residence. By establishing this fund in their names at the Community Foundation for Greater Buffalo, they ensured they'll continue their life-long commitment to the betterment of the Town of Clarence in perpetuity.

Dr. and Mrs. Fisher's wills state that this fund annually support *public educational, charitable, recreational, conservation, cultural, or benevolent uses and purposes as may benefit persons living in the Town of Clarence of the County of Erie.*

Eligibility

- Organizations located in or providing services to the Town of Clarence, New York.
- Organizations with Section 501(c)(3) status as determined by the Internal Revenue Service.
- This is a competitive process. Requests that cannot show maximum impact on the residents of the Town of Clarence, in view of the competition, will not be considered.

While the Foundation is open to all funding requests, based on the donors' instructions and a Town of Clarence needs assessment commissioned by the Community Foundation, preference will be given to requests that:

- Address the needs of the senior citizen population
- Improve the academic outcomes for special needs students
- Improve the natural environment, including matters of conservation and recreation

Electronic Application Required

Fisher Fund Competitive grant requests will only be considered if they have been submitted electronically through the Community Foundation's Foundant Grant Lifecycle Manager application system. Applications submitted in any other manner will not be processed.

The Foundation will not consider funding for:

- Higher education scholarships (separate application, deadlines, and process)
- Endowments
- Religious purposes. Funding cannot be used to support religious activities such as worship or proselytizing. Secular programs or services must be available to eligible participants without regard to religious belief or willingness to participate in religious activities.

- Projects outside the specified geographic location as set forth by the donors
- Schools not registered with the New York State Education Department
- Field trips unless they are part of a long-term program or curriculum
- Attendance at or sponsorship of fundraising events for organizations
- Annual events or festivals
- Any partisan political activity. Funds from the Foundation cannot be used to support or oppose a candidate for political office.
- The Foundation will not award grants for the carrying on of any propaganda or otherwise attempting to influence legislation (lobbying).
- Projects and activities that have occurred. The Foundation will not, except in extraordinary cases, provide payment or reimbursement for expenses incurred prior to the Foundation's funding decision being communicated to the applicant.

Other Matters

- Eligible applicants may apply for a Fisher Fund Grant and may also apply for any other Foundation grant for which they are otherwise eligible.
- The Foundation reserves the right to pay grants in a single installment or in draws at its sole discretion.
- The Foundation will consider multiyear requests on a limited basis. Please call the Foundation before submitting to discuss.
- Applicants may apply for Fisher Fund grants in successive years with the exception of multiyear awards.
- The Foundation requires that all grants be closed out within one year of the receipt of funds, with the exception of multiyear awards.
- The Foundation requires that all successful applicants obtain three bids for any equipment purchase over \$10,000.
- The Foundation will consider allowing up to 10% of the grant amount for indirect costs.
- Grant funds must be used only for purposes approved by the Foundation.

2026 Daniel C. and Beatrice M. Fisher Fund

Grant Application Questions

The following questions are provided for your reference when completing the online application:

- Program/project name (100 characters; character counts include spaces)
- Amount requested
- Organization's mission statement (250 characters)
- Concise one sentence summary of grant purpose (300 characters)
- Date grant funding required
- Acknowledgement that this request will primarily impact the residents of the Town of Clarence in Erie County, NY. (yes/no)
- Financial background of organization including:
 - Annual operating expenses
 - Last fiscal year surplus/deficit
 - Accumulated surplus/deficit

PROJECT DESCRIPTION

1. Define need - why should this be done? (3,000 characters)

- What specific community need in the Town of Clarence does the proposal address?
- Does this request align with one of the Fisher Fund identified preferences? If so, please elaborate.

- Who and how many will benefit (must be quantified when applicable)?
- 2. **What will be done?** (3,000 characters)
 - What actions/activities are proposed to meet this need?
 - What are the distinctive features of your approach/program?
 - What is the timetable?
 - Will this be ongoing or is this a one-time program?
- 3. **Who will be involved?** (2,000 characters)
 - What are the qualifications of people proposed to lead the program/project?
- 4. **What are your intended impacts/outcomes (quantifiable changes preferred)?** (2,000 characters)

PROJECT BUDGET

- Provide a very specific complete budget breakdown, identifying costs of the individual items that constitute your funding request to the Foundation. (Upload 4 MB)
- Budget narrative (optional) (Upload 4 MB)
- What investment is your organization making in this project? (1,000 characters)
- Please list other funding sources (such as other foundations, organizations, and governmental agencies) from whom funds have been requested and the status of these requests. (1,000 characters)
- If the Foundation were only able to partially fund your request, what would you prioritize in the application and/or the budget? Please detail. (1,000 characters)

CERTIFICATION OF GRANT ELIGIBILITY

Board Endorsement

- Certification that the executive director and a board officer have approved submission of the grant request and that all information provided is accurate. (yes/no)
- List of all board members. (Upload 4 MB)

ATTACHMENTS

- Memoranda of Understanding or letters in support of your project/program from collaborators, other funders or community members – strongly advised (Two upload areas, one 5 MB, the other 4 MB)
- Recent evaluations of your programs – optional (Two upload areas, one 5 MB, the other 4 MB)