



2024 Food Security Grants

Background

More and more individuals and families are facing hunger and experiencing food insecurity. Food insecurity has been defined as a condition where households have inadequate or insecure access to food due to financial constraints. According to a recent University of Toronto study¹, “the prevalence of household food insecurity in Canada matters because food insecurity is such a potent social determinant of health.”

Food insecurity is becoming a significant problem in Ontario. It has and will continue to negatively impact individuals' and families' physical, mental, and social health. To alleviate this problem, ShareLife and Catholic Charities are collaborating to fund food relief initiatives within the Archdiocese of Toronto.

Funding Objectives

These grants will support food relief initiatives and help groups build the capacity to address food insecurity in the communities they serve.

Specifically, the funding is aimed at:

1. Assisting groups to purchase food, distribute food, and increase accessibility to nutritious and healthy food for individuals and families struggling to afford food and essential living expenses, such as people with disabilities, young parents with complex needs, isolated and marginalized seniors, and individuals or families who are precariously housed or employed.
2. Helping groups develop food and nutritional skills, including growing and cooking, that can advance food security, health, and well-being of individuals and families.
3. Supporting groups to increase organizational capacity to implement creative ideas or develop new approaches that can contribute to alleviating food insecurity or facilitating the food security of individuals and families they serve.

Conditions for Funding

The organization must:

- Be an incorporated non-profit agency or a registered charity by the Canada Revenue Agency;
- Be operating within the Archdiocese of Toronto; and
- Have been offering food services/programming for more than one year.

The proposal must:

- Respond to an identified target group's existing or emerging food insecurity issues.

¹ Tarasuk V, Li T, Fafard St-Germain AA. (2022) Household food insecurity in Canada, 2021. Toronto: Research to identify policy options to reduce food insecurity (PROOF). Retrieved from <https://proof.utoronto.ca/>

- Articulate expected concrete benefits to the target groups.
- Describe a plan to assess how the project will determine that the project objectives have been achieved.
- Explain a process to track outcomes and the impact on target clients and partner agencies, if there are any.
- Outline a sustainability strategy or plan.

Funding should not be used for the following:

- Capital expenses to acquire or rent appliances and equipment
- Salaries
- Stipend/honorarium
- Volunteer incentives
- Gasoline expenses
- Transportation fees

Outline of the Funding Request

The application will consist of the following three sections:

Section 1: Organizational Information

This should contain essential information about the organization, including partners, their roles in the food security activity, and expected contributions from each agency.

Section 2: Program/Project Details

This should contain the following information:

1. Rationale and Description
 - Provide a context for the current environment and the target population, the problem the program/project will address, and how the program/project will respond to the target population's perceived needs.
2. Desired Results
 - Discuss what the program/project intends to achieve (i.e., overall goal, the expected activities, and outcomes).
3. Implementation Plan
 - Outline the key milestones and timelines.
4. Evaluation and Sustainability Plan
 - Provide details of the evaluation and sustainability plan

Section 3: Program/Project Budget

This should contain an itemized budget with details of estimated revenue and expenses. Please indicate other funding sources under revenue and identify expenses to be covered by CCAT funding.

Review and Approval

Funding requests will be reviewed and approved based on set criteria which include, but are not limited to, the following:

- Alignment with Catholic Charities funding objectives (previously stated on page 2).
- Relevance of the project to the identified target group's needs.
- Impact on the target vulnerable and marginalized group (based on expected outcomes).
- Project cost being realistic based on key activities; and

- Sustainability of activities

Deadline for Submission

Proposals should be submitted by email to allocations@ccat.ca by Monday, September 30, 2024 with the subject line: *2024 Food Security Grants*.

If your organization received a grant last year and is considering applying for a 2024 grant, please submit the 2023 grant report earlier before October 11, 2024.

Please contact Rosario Pascua at rpascua@ccat.ca for any questions.