

United Way of Lane County Community Investment Steering Committee Charter

I. PURPOSE

Administering donor funds and developing equitable and strategic grantmaking processes to support nonprofits in advancing UWLC's vision is a centrally important responsibility for our organization. The Community Investment Steering Committee (CISC) is entrusted with significant influence on how our investments are structured.

The purpose of the CISC is to:

1. Recommend strategies to board for funds distribution.
2. Carry out board goals for funds distribution.
3. Assure we are following UWLC guidelines and principles.
4. Create an equitable, efficient, and effective procedure for soliciting and evaluating requests for funding.
5. Evaluate the success of current funding to reflect on how effectively we are advancing UWLC's vision through our investments.
6. Where possible, remove barriers for applicants to participate in UWLC investment processes.
7. Assure that fund recipients are meeting UWLC guidelines and are organizationally stable

II. COMPOSITION

The composition of the CISC should represent an inclusive, strategic and diverse group of individuals that contribute both **professional experience** and insights as well as **lived experience** and identities that reflect our priorities. We recognize the important of inviting intersectional perspectives that allow us to make credible and holistically representative decisions in how we allocate financial resources to community organizations.

Professional / sector representation. The CISC will include members representing diverse professional sectors that reflect the breadth of our organizational priorities. We also seek to recruit members who are engaging with UWLC priority populations through their work, and are committed to equity and inclusion in their work and as a volunteer for UWLC.

Sector representation may include, but is not limited to:

1. Early Learning
2. K-12
3. Higher Education
4. Public Sector / Local government
5. Private Sector / Local business
6. Nonprofit Human Service Sector
7. Health Care

Representation of lived experience & aspects of identity. We acknowledge that lived experience contributes equal and significant value to the perspective of CISC members as professional experience, and that these two elements often blend and intersect. CISC will seek to recruit individuals that bring lived experience that reflects our organizational priorities, including but not limited to:

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1. People with lived experience navigating poverty, and / or accessing services provided by grantee partners
2. People of color
3. People representing diverse gender and sexual identity or affiliation
4. People representing diverse language and nativity
5. People representing a diverse age range
6. People living in rural areas of Lane County
7. People living with disabilities

Membership. The CISC will maintain a membership of between 10 and 16 individuals, with two members serving as co-chairs. In order to refresh leadership and perspectives on the committee, the CISC will add between 2-4 members each year.

CISC members will serve a term of three years, with no limit on the number of times they may renew. Renewal of membership will be contingent on interest from the CISC member in renewing and upon a vote by the UWLC board. The board will approve the slate of CISC members each year. The CISC will also include representatives from the United Way board and the Racial Justice Advisory Committee to ensure effective communication and exchange of information.

III. MEETINGS

In years when UWLC is conducting a funding application process, the CISC will generally meet monthly, with a month off in the winter and the summer (i.e. 10 meetings/year). In years when there is no funding cycle open, the CISC will generally meet bi-monthly, i.e. 5-6 meetings/years.

Meetings will last approximately 1.5 hours, and are scheduled based on availability of current CISC members.

CISC members are expected to attend at least half of the meetings per year. If CISC members are not able to attend a meeting, they are expected to engage with decisions and strategy by reviewing materials and sharing written comments with staff prior to the meeting to ensure their perspective is actively represented.

In general, meetings will be hybrid; held in-person at United Way's office in Springfield, and virtually on Zoom. In-person attendance at bi-annual retreats is encouraged.