**Greater Twin Cities United Way’s 80x3: Resilient from the Start**

**Early Childhood Sector Community of Practice & Leadership Residency Application**

**IMPORTANT**: Greater Twin Cities United Way has recently changed its funding portal to the software system Andar. To access this funding opportunity (and subsequent GTCUW funding opportunities), you will first need to register for a Grants Portal account linked to GTCUW, which you can do by following this [link](https://community.gtcuw.org/Volunteer/AgencyRegistration.jsp) to the portal registration form. Once you have submitted this registration form, you will receive an email within three business days directing you to log in to your new Grants Portal account, where you will complete the full application. If you have already submitted this form and completed your account registration, you can follow this [link](https://community.gtcuw.org/crm/Start.jsp) to access your account and the full application. Please refer to [this one-pager](https://www.gtcuw.org/wp-content/uploads/2024/03/Andar-One-Pager-FINAL-1.3.2024.pdf) for further details on how to register for your Andar account and navigate the portal.

*A Word version of the application is being provided so you can work outside our online system. Note: you must fill out and submit the online application by Friday, March 21 at 4pm for review.* Before starting your application, please review the [80x3 RFP Guidelines](https://www.gtcuw.org/stories-and-news/80x3-resilient-from-the-start-funding-opportunity/). Thank you, and we look forward to reviewing your application.

**Eligibility Criteria**

**Application Eligibility**

To be eligible to receive funding under this RFP, organizations must meet the following criteria. Please check the boxes to certify that your organization meets the following:

* Your organization is a 501c3 nonprofit organization or has a fiscal sponsor who is a 501c3.
* Your organization is focused on higher education, training and technical assistance for Minnesota’s early childhood sector and/or your organization designs and provides direct services specifically for early childhood education and care organizations, educators, and leaders.
* Your organization’s budget for the current fiscal year is $250,000 or higher.
* Your organization has not previously received 80x3 funding.

**Important Note on Financial Review:** Your organization must meet the financial standards for Greater Twin Cities United Way funded partners based on a review of financial documents such as your most recent financial statements, form 990, and audit (if your organization is required by law to complete an audit) in order to receive funding.

**Organizations required to complete an audit MUST have a “clean” (unqualified) audit opinion to be eligible for funding under this RFP**. You will be asked to upload financial documents as part of the application. Please note that organizations are only eligible to receive a maximum grant size of up to 20% of their overall organizational budget.

For any special considerations related to these criteria, please contact us at [rfp@gtcuw.org](mailto:rfp@gtcuw.org) to determine your eligibility.

**Funding Priorities**

*These criteria are not required, but your application will be scored based on how well it meets these criteria. Organizations that score highest will be most competitive for funding.*

* Assess progress and adjust to enhance equity and inclusion.
* Ensure leaders actively promote trauma-sensitive and anti-racist practices.
* Develop solutions for trauma-sensitive, culturally responsive early childhood services.
* Expand trauma-sensitive and culturally responsive services.
* Ready to send three leadership staff to an 18-month change cohort, committed to assessing and improving culture, practices, and policies.
* Set goals and take action for system-level change, participate in coalitions and advocacy.
* Use information to understand impact, learn, and make internal changes; collaborate with peers and stakeholders for systemic change.

**Basic Organization(s) Information**

**Organization Information**

* Organization Name
* (Optional) Fiscal Sponsor Name
* EIN
* Administrative Address
* Website

**Executive Director Information**

* Executive Director Name
* Executive Director Title
* Executive Director’s Phone
* Executive Director’s Email

**Organization Primary Contact** (If different from Executive Director; this will be the central point of contact responsible for conveying updates about the process to the rest of their organization)

* Primary Contact Name
* Primary Contact Title
* Primary Contact Phone
* Primary Contact Email

**Please tell us where your organization provides services. *Check all that apply****.*

* Anoka
* Carver
* Chisago
* Dakota
* Hennepin
* Isanti
* Ramsey
* Scott
* Western Washington
* Statewide
* Other

**Part One Written Response**

**Planned Leadership Residency participants**

* If selected, indicate which three staff members in your organization (Name, Title) will participate in this cohort. Please note, at least two staff members must include those who lead or engage in such business activities as setting organizational goals, building strategic plans, and making organizational decisions.
* Tell us how these staff members' roles empower them to make recommendations, set goals and drive change within the organization.

**Narrative questions**

* Briefly describe your organization's mission and current work, including your organization's vision for increasing trauma-informed and culturally responsive childcare.
* Please describe any public or internal commitments your organization has made to developing solutions for trauma-sensitive, culturally responsive services in the early childhood landscape. Include an overview of who was involved in developing those commitments. If your organization has not made a public or internal commitment, please describe how your organization intends to use the Leadership Residency to create a formal commitment.
* How does your organization currently engage in policy and systems change efforts within the early childhood education sector? If you do not currently engage in policy and systems change efforts, please describe other work with coalitions, advocacy or other systems change your organization engages in to advance early childhood education and care.
* How does your organization use data to understand its impact, learn and make changes to its services, policies, or practices?

**Part Two Invitation to Interview**

*Virtual Conversation*: Applicants with the highest scoring applications will be invited to join an interview with 80x3 and Embracing Equity staff. Prior to these calls, detailed agendas, discussion points, and insights into the selection process will be provided to ensure transparency and facilitate productive discussions. Both the written application and virtual conversation will be scored against an evaluation rubric. Questions will be asked in each of the categories below and weighted as indicated.

**Outcome Measurements**  
If funded, organizations will be asked to provide data on the following outcome measures. Organizations will report on these measures at the end of the grant term. This information will be used to help us understand your organization’s work, to help us celebrate and communicate your impact and to inform the broader early childhood education field.

*Required Outcome Measures*

Please provide your best projected numbers for the grant period (June 2025-December 2026)

* Number of organization staff \_\_\_\_\_

Childcare providers

* Number of children 0-5 served \_\_\_\_\_\_
* Number of families with children 0-5 served \_\_\_\_\_\_

Workforce providers

* Number of ECE professionals supported \_\_\_\_\_\_
* Number of ECE organizations supported \_\_\_\_\_\_

In the final report for this grant, we will ask for individual-level outcome measurements broken down by race/ethnicity and geography. Greater Twin Cities United Way recognizes that collecting data around dimensions of identity is inherently sensitive and complex, and we take this responsibility seriously.

Is your organization able to disaggregate individual-level outcome data by race/ethnicity and geography? **Yes/No**

If not, what support might you need to report data in this way?