



# Grant Readiness Support Services

Advanced planning and coordination are essential when pursuing funding opportunities. That's why Centralina's grant readiness support services for member governments ensure communities have the knowledge, internal systems and tools needed to pursue grants and manage them once awarded. We offer a three-phase approach to helping local governments get grant ready:

## PHASE I: SETTING THE STAGE

Our journey begins with identifying your community's unique challenges or opportunities, whether it's a long-standing issue, a council priority or a specific community request. We work with you to clearly define the project scope and community context, asking key questions to determine current progress and ensure we understand the full range of your goals.

Considerations at this stage may include defining the project geography, assessing public, stakeholder and partner support, outlining the project background and determining how the project meets community needs. From here, we help you take stock of your current available resources, including training modules, templates and other relevant materials from our member resource portal.

## RESOURCES

Members have access to the latest grants information through the [member portal](#).

- Grants Alert:** A list of available federal grants with deadlines and application details. Updated weekly.
- Annual Grants Forecast:** A forecast of upcoming federal funding opportunities to assist with advanced planning.
- State and Foundation Grants Directory:** Lists of available funding opportunities offered through state agencies and private funder.

## PHASE II: PROJECT PLANNING

Once we have a clear problem statement and background, we move into project planning. We help you draft a concise and effective project description or pitch that details the scope, location, background and expected value of the project – a required element for garnering project support.

This stage includes refining the project scale and scope, identifying supportive partners, gaining local support and ensuring that your project is backed by a local plan or action that demonstrates commitment to funders. In parallel, we work internally on a grant strategy roadmap customized for your project. This roadmap will outline the steps to secure funding and make sure each aspect of the project aligns with potential funders' requirements.

## PHASE III: FUNDING PATHWAYS

In the final phase, we guide you through the selection of funding pathways, using online tools to match your project with potential grants. Our team helps you develop a timeline, plan for required matches and coordinate letters of support from partners and agencies. We leverage connections with state and federal grant programs so you have access to recurring opportunities that may fit your needs.

With this three-phase approach, our grant team is your go-to partner in identifying, developing and securing funding to bring impactful projects to your community. Ready to make your project a reality? Let's chat about how we can streamline the process and maximize your chances for funding success.

## WHY WORK WITH US?



### **We're Local and Member Driven:**

This region is our home and we are deeply committed to supporting our members and neighboring communities.



### **We're Nimble:**

Our team is resourceful, flexible and forward thinking. We will find the optimal path forward to meet your needs



### **We Take The Long View:**

For over half a century, we've been dedicated to public service and will continue to help communities think about today's needs and tomorrow's opportunities.



### **We Collaborate:**

We build lasting partnerships and collaborate to gain insights, synergize activity and bring different viewpoints to the table.

## READY TO GET STARTED?

Reach out to Kelly Weston, Government Affairs & Member Engagement Administrator at (704) 348-2728 or [kweston@centralina.org](mailto:kweston@centralina.org) to discuss how we can help.