

# Request for Funding Inquiries (RFI): Inland Southern California<sup>1</sup> Vital Conditions

The Rauch Family Foundation  
Release Date: July 1, 2026

## Overview & Vision

The Rauch Family Foundation is pleased to announce the opening of our 2026 funding cycle for Inland Southern California Vital Conditions. While our previous funding cycle focused directly on healthcare delivery, this cycle shifts our focus to our deep commitment of supporting the essential social conditions and foundational human security necessary for individuals, families, and communities to thrive. Our overarching regional vision is to ensure every resident in Inland Southern California has the vital foundations to flourish and experience high well-being. For more information and a description of the Vital Conditions and the IE Vital Conditions Network, please go to: [Inland Empire Vital Conditions Network | Thriving Together People and Places](#).

The framework for this RFI is specifically tailored to address critical Social Determinants of Health ([Social Determinants of Health | Public Health Gateway | CDC](#)) that include social, economic, and environmental factors that shape community health.

To streamline our application process, we utilize a two-stage process. All interested organizations must first submit a Request for Funding Inquiries (RFI). The foundation will review these inquiries to determine which organizations will be formally invited to submit a full Request for Proposal (RFP).

The Request for Funding Inquiries (RFI) application window will be open in Submittable beginning July 1, 2026 and will close on July 30, 2026. The RFI and full application timeline is:

- July 1 – July 30: RFI application window is open in Submittable.
- August 15: Applicants will be notified via email if they are selected to move forward to the RFP stage.
- August 15 – September 15: Full RFP submission window for invited organizations.
- By October 31, 2026: Final notification of grant awards.

**How to Apply:** Submissions must be completed online via our Submittable application portal. The application consists of basic routine organizational information followed by questions specific to the core program and alignment with the Rauch Family Foundation’s focus areas. The questions are detailed below. To begin an application in Submittable, go to: <https://therauchfamilyfoundation.wizehive.app/program/vital-conditions>

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<sup>1</sup>For the purposes of this RFI, Inland Southern California is defined as ALL of Riverside and San Bernardino Counties, and portions of far east LA County.

# RFI Focus Areas and Questions

## Section 1: Program Alignment

- Project / Program Title (Enter "General Operating Support" if requesting unrestricted funds):
- Duration of Funding: 1–3 years

### Program Focus Area Description:

This funding cycle is dedicated to investing in strategies that strengthen the vital conditions individuals and families need to thrive from birth to death. Eligible programs should focus on cultivating a community where residents have the practical foundations to flourish - including meaningful opportunities to learn and work, stable and humane living conditions, a sense of belonging, and seamless access to vital services.

We desire to invest in initiatives and interventions that produce a strong return on investment (ROI) through improved outcomes, reduced systems costs and healthier, more resilient communities. This return on investment could be addressing a critical gap needed to make a program whole to achieve success, or it could be investing in critical infrastructure or capital to address a broader regional or system problem. By either preventing problems before they become crises, and/or intervening quickly, these interventions produce a strong social return on investment through improved outcomes, reduced system costs, and healthier, more resilient communities.

### Funding Path Selection and Limits:

Please select the single path that best fits your funding request. Please note that Path A represents the foundation's primary funding pool where the majority of our grant awards will be distributed; however, if you have a special funding need please consider Path B or C. The three funding paths are:

- Path A: Multi-Year Support - For regular, ongoing funding to run your day-to-day programs or cover general operating expenses.  
**(Request range: \$25,000 – \$100,000 per year, for up to 3 years)**
- Path B: One-Time Strategic Funding Support - For a specific, one-time expense to improve how your organization operates, upgrade your systems, or solve a temporary financial bridge need. This funding is not for ongoing, year-over-year program costs.  
**(Maximum request: Up to \$750,000 to be spent within 12 months. We expect to award at most 1 grant in this category.)**
- Path C: Major Strategic - For large-scale projects aiming at permanently changing a major community system or regional problem, or for significant capital investments in buildings and physical facility improvements that directly expand capacity. This path is reserved for transformative projects.  
**(Maximum request: Up to \$1,000,000 total. We expect to award at most 1 grant in this category.)**

## Section 2: Narrative Questions

1. The Community Challenge (Maximum 250 words)  
What specific community need, structural gap, or population challenge in Inland Southern California, or your specific geographic area within Inland Southern California, is your program addressing?
2. The Program Model (Maximum 300 words)  
Briefly describe your core intervention. How does your organization deliver this service, and who is the primary target population? Please indicate where this service is/will be provided.
3. Projected Causal Impact (Maximum 200 words)  
What immediate and downstream outcomes does this program achieve? How does your program build a logical pathway from your daily work to improving a participant's overall stability, vital foundations, or quality of life?

## Section 3: Partnership & Evaluation Readiness

1. Learning Partnership Interest  
If you are invited to the full RFP stage, would your organization be interested in joining a funded project with us to track how your program impacts client well-being over the course of a year? The foundation will provide extra funding for your staff's time and resources, as well as the funding needed to directly compensate your participants for taking part in the surveys. (Note: Checking "No" will not disqualify your application.)
  - Yes
  - No
2. Your Current Experience (Maximum 150 words)  
Briefly tell us how your organization currently gathers feedback or stories from the people you serve. (Note: We use this purely to understand how we can best support our partners; it will not count against your score.)

## Future Cycles

- National and International Disaster Preparation and Relief: RFI Cycle opens October 1, 2026.
- IE Health RFI: February 2027
- IE Vital Conditions RFI: April 2027

*Other than the RFIs listed above, the Foundation does not expect to have any other Inland Empire RFI cycles in 2027.*

**Notes for all potential grantees:** All 501c3 organizations, including current grantees, are eligible to apply. If you are not awarded funding, please re-apply in April 2027. If your organization is awarded funding in 2026 for Path B or Path C, your organization can apply again in April 2027 for Path A.

**Questions:** please email us at [Grants@therauchfamilyfoundation.org](mailto:Grants@therauchfamilyfoundation.org).