

Social Innovation Fund



What is the Social Innovation Fund (SIF)?

The Social Innovation Fund (SIF), a program of the Corporation for National and Community Service (CNCS), combines public and private resources to grow the impact of innovative, community-based solutions that have compelling evidence of improving the lives of people in low-income communities throughout the United States. The SIF invests in three priority areas: economic opportunity, healthy futures, and youth development.

The Social Innovation Fund makes grants to experienced grantmaking institutions that are well-positioned within communities to identify the most promising programs and guide them towards greater impact and stronger evidence of success. These grants range from \$1-\$10 million annually for five years. The recipients then match the federal funds dollar-for-dollar and hold open competitions to identify high-performing nonprofit organizations working in low-income communities that have innovative solutions with evidence of compelling results. Once selected, these nonprofits must also match the funds they receive, and participate in rigorous evaluations of the impact of their programs. The nonprofits share data, lessons learned and results – helping to build the capacity of the social sector and lift-up solutions that can transform lives and communities.

In addition to funding, Social Innovation Fund recipients receive significant technical assistance to support implementation of their innovative programs. Participation in SIF gives recipients greater visibility and plugs them into a national network of funders and nonprofits that are committed to fostering social innovation to improve lives in low-income communities throughout the U.S.

In just five years, the Social Innovation Fund and its private-sector partners have invested more than a half a billion dollars in compelling community solutions. The Social Innovation Fund portfolio represents \$241 million in federal grants and more than \$516 million in non-federal match commitments. To date, the SIF has awarded 35 grantmaking institutions and 189 nonprofits working in 37 states and the District of Columbia.

The Corporation for National and Community Service is a federal agency that engages more than five million Americans in service and champions community solutions through its AmeriCorps, Senior Corps, Social Innovation Fund, and Volunteer Generation Fund programs, and leads the President's national call to service initiative, United We Serve. For more information, visit NationalService.gov.