

Albany County and City of Laramie Community Partner Organization Funding Request Application FY2027

ALL APPLICATIONS ARE DUE ON OR BEFORE 5:00 P.M. ON WEDNESDAY, MARCH 11TH 2026 AND WILL ONLY BE CONSIDERED IF ALL PREVIOUS FINAL REPORTS HAVE BEEN COMPLETED.

The City of Laramie and Albany County provide funding to local community partner organizations through their annual budget making processes. Organizations receiving these funds do not operate within the formal structure of city or county governments but may utilize support from these governments to achieve their missions or fund special projects. Community partner organizations generally have a strong presence within the community and provide vital services, products, or activities that serve to improve the community in a variety of ways. Only non-profit/not-for-profit entities are eligible to apply for funding. For-profit entities are ineligible.

Historically, organizations requesting funding fall within the following three categories:

Recreational/Arts and Culture: These organizations exist to promote, sustain, and develop recreational, cultural, and leisure activities within the community. These organizations may also sponsor educational and community events and celebrations designed to encourage a diverse cultural and active lifestyle while promoting a strong sense of community.

Social Services: The primary objective of these organizations is to support or engage in activities designed to enhance the wellbeing of individuals and families within the community. These organizations provide a variety of services that focus on basic human needs, access to programs and services designed to maintain human dignity and health, and the overall welfare of citizens.

Civic Organizations/Quasi-Governmental: These organizations have been established within our community to A) work for the overall improvement, advancement, and economic health through civic involvement, economic development initiatives, and fostering community spirit; or B) provide services, programs and other opportunities for the betterment of the community through the organization of Joint Powers Boards or other Quasi-Governmental Organizations that work collaboratively with the City of Laramie and/or Albany County on shared goals, concerns, and interests.

This Community Partner Funding is available from funds collected via Albany County's 5th Penny Tax and historically has funded approximately \$250,000 in County requests and \$235,000 in City requests. In their sole discretion, the City and County each reserve the right to waive any informality in any application and/or reject any application.

Organizations can submit a request to both the City and County. If an organization is awarded funding, the organization is solely responsible for its costs including, but not limited to, operations, personnel, taxes,

maintenance, and insurance coverage against public liability and property damage.

Priority of requests is as follows:

- Requests that improve the community.
- Requests that are not more than 20% of organization's general operating budget and do not exceed \$20,000 each from City or County.
- Requests to either City or County that are less than 20% of organization's general operating budget but in excess of \$20,000 are considered on a case by case basis and may affect the priority of the organization's request.
- Demonstration of multiple revenue sources for organization.
- The number of people served by organization.
- Clear identification of those who benefit from the organization's work.
- Demonstration of the organization's partnership with other organizations in the community.
- Requests that do not duplicate efforts already existing in the community.

For-profit entities are not eligible to apply. Only non-profit/not-for-profit entities are eligible to apply for funding.

Presentation dates are as follows:

City-Only and Joint City/County Applicants:

March 24th, 2026 beginning at 5:30pm.

City Hall-Council Chambers, 406 Iverson Ave.

County-Only Applications:

April 7th, 2026 beginning at 9:30 am

County Courthouse, County Commissioners Room, Room 105.

*****Send presentation materials to Nancy Oakland-Potter noaklandpotter@cityoflaramie.org by 5:00 p.m. on Friday, March 13th*****

Schedule for Decision Making Process and Availability of Funds:

City: Laramie City Council intends to make its preliminary funding decisions in early to mid-April 2026 and final funding decisions will be announced upon adoption of the City's FY2026/2027 Budget in June 2026. The City's award payments to successful organizations will be made on or around August 1, 2026, pending receipt of the fully executed agreement.

County: The Albany County Commissioners make their final funding decisions upon the adoption of the County's FY2026/2027 Budget in June 2026. Agreements will be sent to successful organizations in July 2026. Pending the County's receipt of the fully executed Agreement, the County's award payments to successful organizations will only be made on a reimbursement basis.

All information on this form and all requested documentation must be complete and submitted before the application will be considered. Applications that are incomplete or are missing required materials may be rejected. If there are additional questions from City Council or the Albany County Commissioners after review of the applications Nancy Oakland-Potter or Bailey Quick will reach out to the organization for additional information.

Contact the following for assistance:

City of Laramie: Nancy Oakland-Potter, noaklandpotter@cityoflaramie.org, 307-721-5226

Albany County: Bailey Quick, grants@albanycountywy.gov, 307-721-1803

Email *

Ralphfawaz@telehope.org

The organization has read, understands, and agrees to the above guidelines? *

Yes

No

Applicant Information

Please provide the following information about your organization:

Organization Name: *

Tele-Hope

Contact Name, Title: *

Ralph Fawaz - Executive Director

Mailing Address: *

1864 North 9th Street apt 3, Laramie, WY 82072

Contact Phone: *

(580) 678-6067

Contact E-Mail: *

RalphFawaz@telehope.org

Type of Organization: *

- Recreation/Arts and Culture
- Social Service
- Civic/Quasi-Governmental
- Non-Profit Agency (501(c)(3))
- Not-for-Profit Agency (501(c)(4) or 501(c)(7))
- Other: _____

Are you a first time applicant for Community Partner Funding? *

- Yes
- No

Requested Amount from the City of Laramie: *

Enter dollar amount only

10000

Requested Amount from Albany County: *

Enter dollar amount only

19000

Will this amount be used to leverage additional funds through grants or other means? *

- Yes
- No

If yes, indicate the dollar amount of additional funds that will be leveraged.

.....

Provide examples of grants the organization has received in the past 2 years. *

(Excluding prior City of Laramie and Albany County Community Partner Funds programs)

SparkTank, and a few private grants. No public grants have been awarded.

List organization board of director(s), indicating officers. *

Ralph Fawaz (President) Ian Fletcher (vice president) Will Pelissier (treasurer), Trent Kaufman, Micah Clinger, Sara Roberts, Molly Burchett, Taylor Stuemky, Mike McGee

Description of request:

Provide a detailed explanation of how the requested funds would be utilized by the organization. *

Include any additional funding sources and amounts received by the organization. Maximum character count is 2,500, including spaces.

Tele-Hope is requesting funding to expand our youth-focused workshops in Albany County, supporting mental health, connection, and suicide prevention for students ages 11-18. Funds will be used to cover curriculum materials, facilitator stipends, travel costs, and hiring additional staff to reach more schools and students across the county. Funding will allow us to deliver four interactive workshops per school, including activities that teach students to listen, build relationships, and support one another. This investment ensures every student can participate at no cost, reducing barriers to access.

Funding will also support training for community partners and research, helping to create a sustainable impact beyond the workshops. Stipends for facilitators and new team members ensure consistent, high-quality programming. A portion of funds will be used for data collection and assessment, allowing Tele-Hope to measure improvements in students' sense of belonging, confidence, and mental well-being.

Additional funding sources include private donations, corporate sponsorships, and small grants from local businesses, totaling approximately \$20,000 in the past year. These funds supplement county and city support, ensuring that workshops remain free for students while allowing Tele-Hope to reach more schools and continually improve program quality.

Describe the positive effects and benefits the requested funds would provide to the organization and the community, including goals the organization hopes to accomplish. *

Maximum character count is 2,500, including spaces.

Tele-Hope's goal is to ensure youth suicide and suicide among college students become a thing of the past in Albany County. We aim to bring our workshops to every school in the county and work closely with the University of Wyoming to support their suicide prevention efforts, building on the partnership we have already established. By engaging students aged 5 to 25, we focus on creating meaningful cultural change, teaching young people to listen, connect, and support one another. Our goal is to foster a community where every student feels seen, valued, and supported, reducing isolation and strengthening mental health across Albany County. You cannot measure this, but some of the funding will also go towards our research to ensure what we do works.

Describe your organization's partnerships with other organizations in the community and how your organization avoids duplication of efforts while carrying out impactful work in your service area. *

Maximum character count is 2,500, including spaces.

Currently, Tele-Hope has primarily partnered with suicide prevention nonprofits across Wyoming and worked directly with school districts, counselors, therapists, and the Albany County Sheriff's Department to support students. We coordinate closely with these organizations to complement, rather than duplicate, existing efforts, focusing on interactive workshops that build connection, resilience, and a sense of belonging among youth. By working with schools and the University of Wyoming, we fill gaps in mental health education and peer support, bringing resources directly to students in a hands-on, practical way. This approach allows us to have a measurable impact while strengthening the broader network of suicide prevention and youth development initiatives in the community.

Is this a new or existing project, or ongoing operations? *

- New Project
- Existing Project
- Ongoing Operations

Is this a one-time request or an ongoing expense? *

- One-time request
- Ongoing expense

Number of individuals your organization serves annually. *

20000

Populations served: *

Check all boxes that apply

- Children Ages 0-5
- Children Ages 6-10
- Children Ages 11-18
- Adults Ages 18-25
- Adults Ages 26-40
- Adult Ages 41-64
- Adults Ages 65+
- K-12 School/School District
- Veterans
- Low to Moderate Income
- LGBTQIA+
- Persons with Disabilities
- College/University
- Tribal Organizations
- Other: _____


Additional information in support of this application?


Maximum character count is 1,000, including spaces.

Tele-Hope’s overarching goal is to end suicide across Wyoming. By focusing on Albany County, we aim to create measurable change in students’ mental health and sense of belonging. Working closely with our partners, including schools and the University of Wyoming, we can track progress and evaluate the impact of our workshops. Our mission is to give students hope, showing them that it truly can get better and that no one has to face challenges alone. Every connection we foster and skill we teach brings us closer to a community where students feel supported, valued, and able to overcome struggles together.

Provide your organization's financial statements for the most recent fiscal year. *

File must be saved as a .pdf labeled by the organization requesting funding (ex. LaramieSoupKitchen2025FinancialStatment)


 Tele-Hope 2025F...


 Add file

Provide an itemized budget for this request and include other revenue sources as applicable. *

Budget Template available in the link below.

File must be saved as a .pdf labeled by the organization requesting funding (ex. LaramieSoupKitchenFY27Budget)

 Tele-Hope FY27B...

 Add file

Provide organization's most recent Form 990, 990-EZ, or 990-N, including all schedules. *

File must be saved as a .pdf labeled by the organization requesting funding (ex. LaramieSoupKitchen2025_990-N)

 Tax Exempt 990 ...

 Add file

FY2025 City Award Information

Please complete the following additional questions if you are applying for City funds. If you are only applying for County funds you may skip this section.

Amount of **City** funds awarded in FY2025?

3445

Has your organization spent all awarded FY2025 **City** Funds?

Yes

No

If organization has not spent all awarded FY2025 **City** funds, note the remaining amount and the date by which you intend to expend those funds.

Assurance and Signature

Please review all previous questions to ensure their completeness and accuracy, and make sure all files have been attached.

We, as the Grantee Organization, understand that we are responsible for signing an Agreement * with Albany County and/or the City of Laramie if funds are awarded:

Yes

No

We, as the Grantee Organization, understand that a final report **must** be submitted to the awarding agency as part of this funding: *

Yes

No

We, as the Grantee Organization, understand that a representative must present to the City Council and/or County Commission at the appointed date to be eligible for funding: *

Yes

No

We, as a Grantee Organization, have submitted all previous required final reporting to each funding agency. *

Yes

No

We, as the Grantee Organization, understand that all funding awarded through **Albany County** will be on a reimbursement basis: *

Yes

No

We, as the Grantee Organization, understand that submission of this application is not a guarantee of funding: *

Yes

No

Digital Signature, Title: *

Ralph Fawaz, Executive director

Date: *

MM DD YYYY

01 / 13 / 2026

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Google Forms

Category	Item	Amount (USD)
Revenue	Sales Revenue	\$12,515.40
	Other Revenue (Donations)	\$9,112.00
	Total Revenues	\$21,627.40
Expenses	Salaries and Wages	\$18,643.89
	Outside contractors	\$4,500.00
	Advertising	\$3,148.26
	Office Supplies / Payroll Taxes	\$2,333.82
	Donor Dinners/Meetings	\$1,587.97
	Utilities	\$1,562.04
	Travel	\$601.21
	Software	\$229.89
	Total Expenses	-\$32,607.08
	Net Income	Net Loss

Community Partner Funding Budget FY 2026-2027

Tele-Hope

Expense Category	Total Expense	County Total	City Total	Other Total	Brief Discription
Personnel:					
Salary:	\$ 36,000.00	\$ 36,000.00			
Fringe:	\$ 7,700.00	\$ 7,700.00			
TOTAL:	\$ 43,700.00	\$ 43,700.00	\$ -	\$ -	
Supplies/Equipment:					
Curriculum and Material	\$ 3,500.00	\$ 2,000.00	\$ 1,500.00		
Travel and Transportation	\$ 2,000.00	\$ 2,000.00			
Trainings for schools	\$ 2,500.00	\$ 1,500.00	\$ 1,000.00		
Data collection & research	\$ 5,500.00	\$ 3,000.00	\$ 2,500.00		
Contractual services	\$ 15,000.00	\$ 10,000.00	\$ 5,000.00		
Enter Supplies Here	\$ -				
TOTAL:	\$ 28,500.00	\$ 18,500.00	\$ 10,000.00	\$ -	
Utilities:					
Enter Utilites Here	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -		
TOTAL:	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	
Direct Client Services:					
Enter Service Here	\$ -				Other revenue sources
Enter Service Here	\$ -				Private Donations: \$12,000
Enter Service Here	\$ -				Corporate Sponsorships: \$7,000
Enter Service Here	\$ -				Small Grants from Local Businesses: \$17,000
Enter Service Here	\$ -				
Enter Service Here	\$ -				
TOTAL:	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	
Other Expenses:					
Enter Expense Here	\$ -				
Enter Expense Here	\$ -				
Enter Expense Here	\$ -				
Enter Expense Here	\$ -				
TOTAL:	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	
GRAND TOTAL:	\$ 72,200.00	\$ 62,200.00	\$ 10,000.00	\$ -	