

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 *

colby@arkrs.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: *

Ark Regional Services

Contact Name, Title: *

Bob Sell, CEO

Mailing Address: *

1150 N 3rd St, Laramie, WY 82072

Contact Phone: *

307-742-6641

Contact E-Mail: *

bob@arkrs.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

10000

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)

Daniels Fund - Community Living Services (CLS)
Department of Homeland Security (Electronic locks)
Guthrie Family Foundation (Creative Arts Program)
Home & Community Based Services (HCBS Technology Grant)
United Way of Albany County
Wyoming Arts Council (Creative Arts Program)
Wyoming Breast Cancer Initiative (Ark's monthly breast clinic)

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

Asa Hutchinson, Chair
Margaret Holland, Vice-chair
Dustin Richards, Treasurer
Emily Clark, Secretary
Rita Basom
Emory Spiegelberg

Bob Sell, CEO

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.

Ark Regional Services is seeking ongoing funding to sustain wage increases for Direct Support Professionals (DSPs) in response to inflation and the continued gap between Medicaid reimbursement rates and the true cost of providing services. DSPs are the backbone of Ark's workforce, delivering approximately 20,000 hours of direct care each month to individuals with intellectual and developmental disabilities. Their responsibilities include residential support, assistance with hygiene and daily living skills, medication assistance, transportation, and advocacy.

The primary funding source for Ark's services comes from Medicaid which does not provide adequate funding for the services Ark provides. This has led Ark to find additional funding sources. In November 2021, Ark implemented a \$2 per hour wage increase, raising the starting wage for DSPs to \$14 per hour. To continue addressing inflation and retention challenges, Ark added an additional \$1 increase in 2023 and another \$1 increase in 2025, bringing the current starting wage to \$16 per hour.

These increases reflect Ark's commitment to fairly compensating DSPs and strengthening workforce stability. Sustaining this wage level is critical to attracting and retaining qualified staff, reducing turnover, and maintaining high-quality services. By supporting competitive wages for DSPs, grant funding will help enhance quality of life for those served, and reinforce a stable, skilled workforce that benefits the community.

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.

Benefits from the requested funding include improved employee retention, reduced recruitment and training costs, stronger staff morale, and greater operational stability. A consistent workforce leads to stronger relationships between DSPs and the individuals they support, which in turn improves service outcomes and overall quality of care.

For the community, the benefits are significant. Individuals with disabilities will experience greater continuity of care, enhanced safety, and improved quality of life. Families will have increased confidence that their loved ones are supported by trained, reliable professionals. Additionally, investing in DSP wages promotes local economic resilience by supporting essential workers with fair compensation, allowing them to remain in the workforce and contribute to the local economy.

Ark's primary goals are to maintain a stable and skilled DSP workforce, reduce turnover, ensure uninterrupted high-quality services, and continue strengthening community-based supports for individuals with disabilities. Sustaining competitive wages is a critical step toward achieving these goals and reinforcing a healthier, more inclusive community.

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.

Ark Regional Services values strong partnerships throughout the community to ensure individuals with intellectual and developmental disabilities receive the highest quality supports possible. Ark works closely with the Wyoming Department of Health and the Wyoming Life Resource Center to help individuals transition from institutional settings into community-based services. In addition, Ark also works closely with the Wyoming Division of Vocational Rehabilitation (DVR), along with local healthcare providers, mental health professionals, the Albany County School District, and employers in the community. To avoid duplicating services, Ark stays in regular communication with other providers and community partners to understand what supports already exist and where the greatest needs remain.

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. *

97

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.

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)


 ArkRegionalServi...


 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)


 ArkRegionalServi...

 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)

 ArkRegionalServi...

 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?

7306

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: *

Colby Chisholm, Development & Compliance Manager

Date: *

MM DD YYYY

03 / 03 / 2026

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Google Forms

ARK REGIONAL SERVICES, INC.
Statements of Financial Position
As of June 30, 2025 and 2024

ASSETS

	June 30, 2025	June 30, 2024
CURRENT ASSETS		
CASH ON HAND	\$ 1,050.00	\$ 1,050.00
CASH - AMERIPRISE MM	1,179,655.76	0.00
CASH - AMERIPRISE MUTUAL FUNDS	1,424,104.64	0.00
CASH-HEALTH SAVINGS ACCOUNT	437.29	62,039.90
CASH-BANK OF THE WEST #2	665,986.99	73,796.95
CASH-BW PAYROLL #2	47,425.02	88,623.54
CASH-STAGEPOINT FCU	70,243.88	70,208.77
ADVANCE	1,057.42	933.57
CASH-STAGEPOINT FCU	16,601.98	29,329.85
ACCOUNTS RECEIVABLE	625,239.61	593,642.05
PREPAID EXPENSES	97,722.06	60,024.69
PREPAID INSURANCE	79,318.87	68,965.87
INVENTORY-JANITORIAL	7,607.33	22,592.60
INVENTORY-ARENA FEED	1,379.75	2,780.25
TOTAL CURRENT ASSETS	4,217,830.60	1,073,988.04
CASH-INVESTMENT		
CASH - UNIWYO	\$ 22.15	\$ 22.15
MM - ACPE FCU	111,130.72	5,322.33
CASH-ACPE FCU	23.55	23.55
SAVINGS-UNIWYO FCU	114,438.29	5,031.31
TOTAL CASH-INVESTMENTS	225,614.71	10,399.34
FIXED ASSETS		
FURN/FIXTURES/EQUIPMENT	1,647,367.90	1,647,367.90
BUILDINGS	4,906,340.92	4,906,340.92
LAND	317,544.16	317,544.16
TOTAL FIXED ASSETS	6,871,252.98	6,871,252.98
LESS: ACCUMULATED DEPRECIATION	(4,284,508.71)	(4,284,508.71)
NET FIXED ASSETS	2,586,744.27	2,586,744.27
OTHER ASSETS		
ARK MEMORIAL FOUNDATION	(222,293.65)	0.00
TOTAL OTHER ASSETS	(222,293.65)	0.00
TOTAL ASSETS	\$ 6,807,895.93	\$ 3,671,131.65

ARK REGIONAL SERVICES, INC.
Statements of Financial Position
As of June 30, 2025 and 2024

LIABILITIES AND NET ASSETS

	June 30, 2025	June 30, 2024
CURRENT LIABILITIES		
HEALTH INSUR CLAIMS	\$ 44,386.63	\$ 44,386.63
ACCOUNTS PAYABLE	67,809.72	39,357.45
ACCRUED SOCIAL SECURITY	0.00	5,200.00
ACCRUED WORKER'S COMPEN.	11,979.79	5,774.92
ACCRUED VACATION	197,751.56	197,751.56
ACCRUED UNITED WAY	<u>(135.00)</u>	<u>(180.00)</u>
TOTAL CURRENT LIABILITIES	<u>321,792.70</u>	<u>292,290.56</u>
LONG-TERM LIABILITIES		
NOTE PAYABLE-ARK MEMORIAL FOUNDATION	299,999.48	299,999.48
NOTE PAYABLE-ARK MEMORIAL FOUNDATION	490,000.00	490,000.00
NOTE PAYABLE-2019 DODGE CARAVAN	2,137.48	2,137.48
NOTE PAYABLE-2019 SENTRA	4,439.49	4,439.49
NOTE PAYABLE-NISSAN SENTRA	1,620.48	1,620.48
NOTE PAYABLE-DODGE CARAVAN	5,546.00	5,546.00
NOTE PAYABLE-2020 NISSAN SENTRA	6,500.00	6,500.00
NOTE PAYABLE-2021 TOYOTA COROLLA	<u>10,780.00</u>	<u>10,780.00</u>
TOTAL LONG-TERM LIABILITIES	<u>821,022.93</u>	<u>821,022.93</u>
TOTAL LIABILITIES	<u>1,142,815.63</u>	<u>1,113,313.49</u>
NET ASSETS		
UNRESTRICTED-UNDESIGNATED	2,788,837.39	84,358.05
UNRESTRICTED-DESIGNATED BY BOARD	2,312,000.00	2,312,000.00
RESTRICTED-DESIGNATED BY BOARD-HSA	4,045.00	4,045.00
INCREASE (DECREASE) IN NET ASSETS	<u>560,197.91</u>	<u>157,415.11</u>
TOTAL NET ASSETS	<u>5,665,080.30</u>	<u>2,557,818.16</u>
TOTAL LIABILITIES AND NET ASSETS	<u>\$ 6,807,895.93</u>	<u>\$ 3,671,131.65</u>

No assurance is provided on these financial statements

ARK REGIONAL SERVICES
BUDGET SUMMARY
FISCAL YEAR 2026

MEANS OF FINANCING

Contributions/Grants/Investments	438,392.00
Fees for Service/State/Federal	6,732,000.00
Client Fees/Tuition/Etc.	555,000.00
Business Enterprises	21,280.00
Outreach	53,700.00
Miscellaneous	1,200.00
GRAND TOTAL INCOME	7,801,572.00

EXPENDITURES

Personnel Full Time	3,820,620.00
Personnel Part Time	1,323,676.00
Personnel Overtime	288,000.00
Employer Paid Benefits	1,470,000.00
Bldg. Equip. Repair/Maintenance	138,120.00
Utilities	150,300.00
Communications	88,260.00
Travel/In-Service Training	33,960.00
Dues/Licenses	26,100.00
Consumable Supplies/Materials	369,802.00
Equipment and Furnishings	61,580.00
Rent/Lease/Insurance	153,193.00
Miscellaneous	5,040.00
Capital Expenditures	0.00
Public Relations/Marketing	58,900.00
Professional/Contractual Services	162,021.00
GRAND TOTAL EXPENSES	8,149,572.00

Budget Note: \$348,000 deficit will be covered with Board Approved Ark account reserves.