



Climate Resilience Fund provides up to \$40,000 to Dayton non-profits

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The City of Dayton Office of Sustainability and the University of Dayton announce the Climate Resilience Fund, a sustainability grant program aimed at supporting non-profit and non-governmental organizations in the city of Dayton.

This initiative is designed to foster community-driven projects addressing climate-related challenges or environmental justice issues within the city of Dayton and provides up to \$40,000 per year in funding. The program supports the guiding principles and focus areas of the City of Dayton Sustainability Strategy and the University of Dayton's ongoing commitment to sustainability. Organizations with aligned goals are encouraged to apply.

The Climate Resilience Fund is intended to support projects that address crucial community needs and environmental injustices, such as food access, energy efficiency, waste reduction or diversion, and environmental education. Eligible projects will demonstrate a potential to fill a gap not currently met by existing services or programs. Unlike other funding programs that primarily focus on new project-specific grants, this grant can also support the operation of an existing organization or assist with the startup of new organizations, ensuring their sustainability and long-term impact.

"Strategic investment in community-led efforts that support residents, address climate challenges, and foster resilient, healthy, safe, and just neighborhoods strengthens the city as a whole. Grant opportunities like these provide the foundation grassroots organizations need to carry forward vital work for Dayton's long-term success," said Meg Maloney, City of Dayton sustainability manager.

"The City of Dayton is committed to demonstrating leadership in sustainability and facilitating action at a grassroots level within the community" adds City Manager Shelley Dickstein. "This partnership with the University of Dayton demonstrates how we can work collaboratively to amplify our collective efforts and foster opportunity for community organizations to thrive."

Don Pair, executive director of the Hanley Sustainability Institute, indicates UD is grateful for the opportunity to be a part of this new collaborative program with the City of Dayton.

"UD is committed to maintaining and, wherever possible, improving the environment for people who live and work at the University and the wider community. Part of that commitment involves engaging off-campus organizations — including local

governments, businesses, citizen groups, agencies and schools — in cooperative efforts to adopt, wherever practical, methods of living and working that reduce our impact on the environment. The Climate Resilience Fund builds on longstanding partnerships to do just that."

Proposals for the 2026 Climate Resilience Fund will be accepted through April 30. Applicants can find more information and a link to the grant application at daytonohio.gov/sustainability. An optional grant meeting will be hosted virtually on Microsoft Teams at 5:30 pm on Monday, March 3, with a recording available by request.

For more information, contact Tim Pritchard of the City of Dayton Office of Sustainability.

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