

Harvard Business School Community Partners and New Country Porsche, Greenwich, “Turbo Award” Award Criteria and Application Instructions

The Turbo Award is a \$20,000 grant given to a high-performance nonprofit organization in Connecticut. New Country Porsche of Greenwich has generously partnered with HBS Community Partners to fund this grant every other year since this program’s inception. Frequently, smaller awards have been given to one or two additional applicants. Over \$100,000 has been awarded. The awards will be presented at a reception hosted by New Country Porsche at their Greenwich dealership in mid-June.

Award Criteria:

The Turbo award is meant to provide a funding catalyst for a significant program that takes the nonprofit organization forward in pursuit of its mission, i. e. Turbo-charge the program implementation and growth. It is not intended to provide general funding. Examples of past award winners include:

1. Commercializing a program for handicapped children that had performed successfully in a pilot phase.
2. Developing course materials and software to expand distribution and utility of curricula for an environmental education program.
3. Expand a summer program to year-round for after school arts participation for disadvantaged youth.
4. Develop a coordinated program and software to coordinate case management across several nonprofits that serve the same clients.

Evaluation Criteria – We will judge applications using specific criteria:

1. **Link to mission:** The award should clearly support the stated mission of the organization.
2. **Defined need:** The award should address a well-defined need, since a better-defined need should lead to a better chance of a positive outcome.
3. **Likelihood of success, and how you will measure success:** We want the Turbo award to fund somewhat “new” programs that need funds to launch or expand. We recognize there is some risk in implementation, but you should be able to describe how you will be able to succeed. Success also means sustainability into the future when the Turbo award funds have been spent. Also, in recognizing that many nonprofits’ work overlaps with others, we value when more than one nonprofit teams up to achieve their joint goals.
4. **Turbo award will be a key catalyst:** We want the Turbo award to make a real difference in the success of the program rather than a very minor part of an otherwise well-funded initiative. We understand that future funding sources may be needed to continue the program.

Application:

The application should consist of some basic facts about the nonprofit, and an essay not to exceed 750 words describing the program requesting Turbo funding.

Basic description of the nonprofit:

1. Mission statement and general description of programs and targeted community.
2. Date when the nonprofit was established. Website address.
3. Size in terms of annual budget. Financial stability in terms of annual surplus or reserve funds.
4. Number of full-time staff, part time and volunteers.
5. Sources of funding.

The Turbo request essay:

A description of the program/initiative to be funded. The description should address the criteria mentioned above: link to mission, defined need, likelihood and measures of success and sustainability, and how Turbo will be a key catalyst. This should also include the total funding needed if the Turbo award will be in addition to other funds.

For additional information about the Turbo Award, and to send your application, contact James Rulmyr, MBA 1978, at jrulmyr@gmail.com.

Award Process and Timeline:

We request all applications by May 6, 2022. We will select a few finalists for an interview which will be conducted via Zoom Video Conference. Our selection will be targeted by May 13, 2022. We will ask the organization to informally present to the Community Partners Board how the program is progressing during one of our regular Board meetings six or more months after the award.

The 2022 Turbo Award is open to all legally designated 501(c)(3) nonprofit organizations operating in the State of Connecticut that meet the following requirements:

The organization must have a full-time Executive Director (or equivalent), at least two additional full-time staff members, and a fully constituted and engaged Board of Directors. The organization must have been in existence at least three years. The organization may work in any field of endeavor (e.g., social services, health, arts, education, environment). Faith-based organizations should demonstrate that the clients they serve are not selected on the basis of religious affiliation, and that their clients are not subjected to proselytizing in order to receive services. Political organizations or those affiliated with political causes may not apply.

Past Turbo award winners include:

- *All Our Kin, New Haven*
- *Boys and Girls Club of Greenwich, Greenwich*
- *Connecticut Pre-engineering Program "CPEP", Middletown*
- *Family Re-Entry, Norwalk*
- *Greenwich Alliance for Education, Greenwich*
- *Building One Community, Stamford*
- *SoundWaters, Stamford*
- *The Klein Memorial Auditorium, Bridgeport*
- *The ARC of New London, New London.*

About the HBS Club of Connecticut Community Partners

The HBS Club of Connecticut unites more than 2,000 alumni who live and work in the state. The Club is committed to volunteerism and public service. Through Community Partners, HBS alumni have the opportunity to provide pro bono consulting and apply their wealth of functional, industry, and board expertise to the issues facing nonprofits. Community Partners also provides scholarships to the Strategic Perspectives in Nonprofit Management executive program at Harvard Business School.