

# GREAT LAKES

## *Environmental Justice Thriving Communities Grantmaking Program*



The Great Lakes Thriving Communities Grantmaking (TCGM) Partnership will award environmental justice grants to organizations working in and for underserved communities throughout the Great Lakes region. The partnership includes the Midwest Environmental Justice Network, the Minneapolis Foundation, RE-AMP, and NDN Collective.

These grants are made possible by funding from the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA). \$40 million will be distributed to community-based nonprofits and other eligible organizations in Region 5 of the EPA. This area includes Indiana, Illinois, Michigan, Minnesota, Ohio, Wisconsin, and 36 federally recognized tribal nations. We expect to award 206 grants from Fall 2024-Fall 2026.

### GRANT OVERVIEW

Grants will be awarded to eligible entities in the following three tiers:

#### **Tier 1: Assessment and Engagement**

We will award one-year grants of up to \$150,000 for assessment and engagement efforts. Eligible activities include, but are not limited to: Developing curricula, community mapping, and research. Through a noncompetitive process, we will also award grants of up to \$75,000 to groups we identify as severely capacity-constrained.

#### **Tier 2: Community Education and Planning**

We will award one- to two-year grants of up to \$250,000 for community-focused efforts. Eligible activities include, but are not limited to: Developing communications and outreach plans; conducting workshops and trainings; and other community planning and visioning efforts.

#### **Tier 3: Project Development and Implementation**

We will award one- to two-year grants of up to \$350,000 to pilot or implement project plans. Eligible activities include, but are not limited to: Strengthening cumulative impact, public health, or environmental justice protections; developing community gardens; and creating community resilience hubs.



## ISSUE AREAS



Grants will support projects that focus on issues including, but not limited to:

- Environmental health
- Air, soil, and water quality
- Healthy homes
- Access to healthy food
- Stormwater and green infrastructure
- Emergency preparedness
- Disaster resilience
- Environmental job training

## ELIGIBILITY

All applicants must work on environmental justice, climate, or public health issues in the Great Lakes region. Eligible applicants include:

- Tribal governments and intertribal consortia
- Native American and Indigenous organizations
- Nonprofit organizations, including grassroots/community-based, philanthropic, and civic organizations
- Local governments
- Institutions of higher education



- Tribes and Indigenous groups and communities, including in rural, remote, and urban areas.
- Rural and remote communities (with populations under 50,000).
- Urban communities (with populations over 50,000).



### READY TO LEARN MORE?

Visit [greatlakestcgm.org](https://greatlakestcgm.org) for more details and to sign up for email notifications. For questions, email [greatlakestcgm@mplsfoundation.org](mailto:greatlakestcgm@mplsfoundation.org).

## GREAT LAKES TCGM PARTNERSHIP

