



Request for Proposals (RFP) for Strategic Planning Services

Summary

The [Community Foundation of the Mahoning Valley \(CFMV\)](#) seeks a consultant (or team) to lead the Board of Directors, President, staff, and key stakeholders in a strategic planning process.

The resulting work product will include a plan and recommendations that will guide the administrative and programmatic direction of the Foundation for the next five years. The consultant will work with the Strategic Planning Committee—made up of Board Members, President, and staff—to create and implement a planning process grounded in equity and focused on creating the greatest impact for the residents of Mahoning and Trumbull Counties.

Organizational Background

The Community Foundation of the Mahoning Valley is a leader and advocate for strategic philanthropy, partnering with donors to anchor a permanent and growing endowment and making investments in the Mahoning Valley that improve the quality of life for all residents.

The Foundation works for the benefit of the Mahoning Valley by continually encouraging collaborative community efforts. Foundation leadership and staff support a variety of initiatives that bring together residents, government leaders, anchor institutions as well as business and non-profit partners.

Goals

Over the past year and half, the Community Foundation has been engaged with [ThirdSpace Action Lab](#) to conduct an equity audit across the entirety of our organization. This process has given CFMV a roadmap to follow as we work to address community needs with racial equity and inclusion at top of mind.

The selected consultant (or team) will utilize the “*Equity Footprint*” produced by ThirdSpace as a guiding document during the strategic planning process. Additionally, the consultant (or team) should have experience with conducting qualitative research—including extensive community engagement with residents and partners—across settings. We are seeking a consultant that has success leading a process to gather diverse perspectives. This could include guidance in developing questions and approach to ensure stakeholders feel heard and valued.

Budget

The Board has approved a maximum budget of \$50,000 for this project.

Projected Schedule

- **October 15, 2021:** Proposals due to CFMV
- **Mid-November:** Selection of consultant/team
- **Following selection:** Contracting and internal project launch
- **December 13, 2021:** Full CFMV Board of Directors meeting to introduce selected consultant/team

Submission Instructions

Please email questions related to this RFP and Final Proposal Submissions to Shari Harrell, CFMV President, at sharrell@cfmv.org.