



Grant Awards

Policies & Procedures

Adopted February 11, 2021

HCAR Cares is a 501(c)3 nonprofit founded in 2019 that was born from the Howard County Association of REALTORS® Community Outreach Committee.

Mission Statement: To provide our **C**ommunity with opportunities to raise **A**wareness and to **R**each, **E**nrich and **S**upport those in need.

Vision Statement: To improve quality of life for members of our community in Howard County and beyond.

Funding Parameters

In addition to community service projects, HCAR Cares fundraises and awards grants to organizations and groups who address food, shelter, health, safety, and cultural needs, among others. HCAR Cares does not provide grant funding to individuals, unless HCAR Cares is conducting a special program to meet needs tied to a specific event, i.e., a natural disaster, a pandemic, etc. HCAR Cares does not provide grant funding for professional/industry-related business expenses. However, assistance is ultimately not limited. Discretion to make funding commensurate with need is given to the HCAR Cares Board of Directors, depending on availability and impact of funds. Although HCAR Cares does not provide funding to individuals, the organization will help individuals connect with community partners via an Individual Assistance form available on www.hcarcares.org.

Application & Review Process

An organization or community group who seeks funding from HCAR Cares should complete the HCAR Cares Funding Request Application, which may be accessed on www.hcarcares.org. Applications are reviewed once per month, on the second Thursday of the month. Applicants must meet the above referenced Funding Parameters for consideration of grant funding. Applications will be rated based on completeness and quality of application, the request's alignment with the HCAR Cares Mission and Vision Statements, use of funds, and impact of funds. Applicants will be notified of the decision of the organization by HCAR staff.

Disbursement of Funds

Successful applicants may receive funding as a check, credit card payment, or gift card donation. HCAR Cares must be provided with a confirmation of donation in writing via a formal letter or email. These payments will be processed by HCAR staff.