

## LEVEL UP & LAUNCH '25-'26

### Match Period: How Does It Work?

A staged matching model strengthens project sustainability, incentivizes fundraising efforts, and ensures that funded projects have the financial support needed for long-term success.

#### Initial Grant Disbursement

Upon the grant award, United Way of Lancaster County provides the full amount of the grant award upfront, giving the grantee immediate funding to launch their project.

#### Fundraising Phase (July 1, 2025 - November 14, 2025)

During the fundraising phase, grantees can raise funds up to the amount as their initial grant. This encourages them to engage community stakeholders, secure additional investors, and demonstrate broad-based support for their project.

#### Matching Funds Awarded

For every dollar raised (up to the grant amount), United Way of Lancaster County provides an additional dollar, effectively doubling the new funds secured.

#### 3:1 Total Impact

If the Level Up & Launch grantee successfully raises the full match amount, the project budget reaches three times the original grant: the initial grant award + funds raised by the recipient + matching funds from United Way of Lancaster County.

For example, with a \$20,000 grant, the recipient receives the full amount upfront. If they then raise \$20,000 in outside funding, the grant-maker matches that with another \$20,000, resulting in a total project budget of \$60,000 (3:1 impact).

#### Match Payment Distribution Schedule

Grant fellows must send documentation of funds raised no later than the dates outlined below to receive match funds. If a declaration form is received after the initial submission deadline of Friday, August 8, 2025, funds will be held until the final payout in November. **Please note that the fundraising period ends on Friday, November 14, 2025.** United Way of Lancaster County requires a two-week processing time after the receipt of documentation to distribute funds.

#### Distribution will total:

- Match for funds raised and received by the grant fellow as declared on the Match Declaration document
- Donations made through United Way of Lancaster County's Give Now online payment portal
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Grant Month	Submission Deadline
August	Submit by 8/8
November	Submit by 11/14