

Print

Community and Economic Development Grant Application FY2025-26 - Submission #2597

Date Submitted: 11/20/2025

Name of Applicant Organization*

The Homie house

Mailing Address*

412 NE Chambers ct

City*

Newport

State*

OR

Zip Code*

97391

Person Completing the Application

Name*

Tyler Watkins

Email Address*

thehomiehouseoffice@gmail.com

Phone Number*

5412706965

Name of Your Project*

The Homie House Youth Lawn Care Program

Total Project Budget*

50,000.00

This includes all anticipated sources of funding

Amount Requested from this Program*

50,000.00

(max \$15k for STANDARD, \$50k for IMPACT)

Location of Project Activities*

Toledo

Where in Lincoln County is your project happening?

Pool of Funds Applying to*

- STANDARD (\$15K Max)
- IMPACT (\$50K Max)

Project Description*

The Homie House Youth Lawn Care Program-

The Homie House is a free, comprehensive after school youth resource center in Toledo, OR serving teens ages 14-21. The Homie House offers tutoring two nights a week, structured mentorship, meals, access to stability support that helps youth succeed in school and life. As we continue to see young people struggle to find work experience and pathways into local employment, we are launching the Homie House Youth Lawn Care program. An initiative that will create paid youth jobs, provide hands-on training and deliver an essential service to community members who are unable to maintain their lawns. This project will use grant funds to purchase the equipment needed to start the program and will operate as a donation-based nonprofit service, ensuring that all funds cycle directly back into youth wages, skill development, and program sustainability. By combining youth employment, community service and skill building, this program strengthens the local economy, enhances neighborhood maintenance, and prepares young people for future career paths while meeting a real need in our rural community.

What the project is: The project will establish a small nonprofit lawn care business operated under The Homie House. Funding will support contracted service for professional program oversight, ensuring safe operations, supervision and management of the lawn care program, as well as tangible start up equipment including:

- Two commercial lawnmowers
- Utility trailer
- Leaf blowers
- Trimmers, safety gear, other essential tools

What the project will do for the Community & Economic Development:

This program will:

- Create youth jobs in Toledo by offering paid seasonal lawn care positions for teens enrolled in The Homie House program.
- Provide workforce training, including job readiness, time management, safety procedures, customer service, equipment operation and work ethic.
- Support community members, especially seniors, disabled residents, and low income households who may be unable to maintain their lawn.
- Improve neighborhood appearance, contributing to community pride and local livability.
- Recycle all donations back into youth employment, since the service will be donation based and operated by a 501(c)(3)

Tangible Deliverables

By the end of the first year, the program will deliver:

- Fully operational lawn care service equipped with mowers, trailers & tools.
- A minimum of 8-10 youth hired, depending on seasonal demand.
- An estimate of 50-75 lawn services provided to Toledo households.
- Documentation of youth completing workforce skills training modules.
- A reinvestment model where all donations directly support youth wages and program supplies.

How Success will be measured:

Success will be evaluated by:

- Number of youth employed or completing training.
- Number of lawns serviced for community members.
- Total donations reinvested back into youth wages and program materials.
- Feedback from youth and residents.
- Sustained or expanded program capacity.

Economic Impacts

This project strengthens the local economy by:

- Creating new youth jobs and paid internships in a rural community with limited employment opportunities for teens.
- Building a skilled future workforce.
- Reducing financial strain on vulnerable residents.
- Supporting a circular nonprofit model where all donations stay local and directly fund youth employment and program growth.

What is the project and what will it do for community and/or economic development? What tangible items or results will the project deliver? How will the success of this project be judged? IMPORTANT: This fund is not intended for staff or operations. Please describe the economic impact of the project and how it creates or retains jobs in the community.

Funding*

The Homie House has secured multiple sources of support for the development of its youth after school program. To date, we have been awarded: \$20,000.00-City of Toledo (Awarded) \$4,729.00- Siletz Tribal Charitable Contribution Fund (Awarded)

We also have several pending applications, \$5,500.00-Spirit Mountain Casino fund (pending) \$25,000-Samaritan (pending)

4,000.00-United Way (pending)

At this time we have not been denied on any funding applications. All submitted request are either awarded or still under review. We intend to continue seeking additional grants and community partnerships to support long term sustainability of the Homie House.

If applicable, please describe the status of other funding sources you have applied for or intend to apply for, and indicate whether those funds have been awarded. Also, list any other funds for which you have applied but were not funded - how much did you ask for, from whom, and why was the application not funded?

Collaboration*

The Homie House actively partners with local organizations and community stakeholders to strengthen youth support services and expand economic opportunity in Toledo. For this project, our primary collaboration includes:

-City of Toledo- Provides financial support and ongoing partnership to expand community based youth programs, assist with beautification efforts and strengthen local economic development.

-Siletz Tribal Charitable Contribution Fund- Supports youth development and community wellness through awarded funds that help build capacity for Homie House programming.

Local Residents and property owners- Engage with the lawn care program by receiving services, providing feedback, and supporting the donation based model that reinvests funds back into youth wages and program growth.

These collaborations expand our reach, strengthen wraparound support for youth, and ensure that the lawn care program is rooted in real community needs. Together, these partners help create a more stable, connected and economically vibrant Toledo.

If applicable, please list who you are collaborating with and why.

Viability*

The Goal is to launch the Homie House Youth Lawn Care Program by April 1st. Timeline as Follows:

March: Purchase all equipment (lawn mowers, weed eaters, trailer, blowers, trimmers, safety gear) and set up storage and scheduling systems. Recruit participating youth from the Homie House program, complete safety training, equipment operation training and job readiness workshops.

April 1- Official launch of the lawn care services in Toledo, OR

April-October: Provide lawn care services seasonally, track donations, wages and services completed: evaluate progress monthly.

Success Measures: The success of the Project will be measured by clear, traceable outcomes, including;

Youth Workforce Outcomes:

-Hiring 6-10 youth in the first session (April-October)

-At least 90% youth completing training in safety, equipment use, customer service and job readiness skills.

-Documented improvements in job readiness, confidence and work ethic through pre/post surveys and evaluation.

Community Impact-

-Providing 50-75 lawn care services in the first year to seniors, disabled residents, and community members in need.

-Gathering resident feedback showing at least 80% satisfaction with services.

-Visible improvement in property maintenance and neighborhood appearance in targeted areas.

Economic Impact

-Creating new paid youth jobs in a rural community with limited employment opportunities.

-Recycling 100% of donations back into youth wages, equipment up keeps and program sustainability.

-Establishing a youth workforce pipeline that prepares participants for employment in landscaping, trades and related fields.

This project is designed to be financially self sustaining. Because the lawn care service operates on a donation based model, all contributions from community members will go directly back into:

-Paying youth wages, Maintaining equipment, replacing tools and supplies, supporting program growth.

The startup equipment provided by this grant allows the program to launch without ongoing external funding. After the initial investments, donations will cover operating cost and no additional grants or contracted services will be required to keep the program running.

How will the success of this project be judged? State success measures and timeline. Will this project need ongoing funding?

How will this be secured?

Desired Start Date*

4/1/2026

Desired End Date*

4/1/2027

Budget Documents*

Homie_House_50k_Project_Budget.pdf

Please submit as a PDF file - project budget only (not organizational budget)

Letter(s) of Support

Mayor Rod Cross.pdf

At least one letter of support is required for an IMPACT application.

Name of Chief Executive*

Tyler Watkins

Title*

Executive Director

Chief Executive Email*

thehomiehouseoffice@gmail.com

Tax ID Number*

33-4961324

Type of Applicant Organization*

501(c)(3) Nonprofit

Homie House Youth Lawn Care Program

Proposed Project Budget – Total Request: \$50,000

Budget Category	Amount
Contracted Service (Program Oversight)	\$25,000
Equipment & Startup Supplies (mowers, trailer, tools, PPE, repairs)	\$22,500.00
Youth Training Certification Courses	\$1,500
Safety Training Manuals & Materials	\$1,000

Notes:

- This budget reflects a total project request of \$50,000.
- Contracted service (\$25,000) provides professional oversight for youth crews.
- Equipment & startup supplies (\$22,500) include lawnmowers, trailers, blowers, trimmers, PPE, maintenance supplies, and storage/security items.
- Youth training certification courses (\$1,500) support safety, equipment use, and job-readiness credentials.
- Safety training manuals (\$1,000) provide structured materials for ongoing youth development.

Mayor Rod Cross

206 N. Main Street
P.O. Box 220
Toledo, Oregon 97391
rod.cross@cityoftoledo.org

13 September 2025

To Whom it may Concern,

On behalf of the City Council of the City of Toledo Oregon, I am declaring our wholehearted support of The Homie House, a 501c3 charity located here on our Main Street in Toledo. This vitally necessary and life-changing endeavor for the benefit of our area youth is worthy of your support.

This council has provided 10,000 dollars with an opportunity of an equal match in the furtherance of their fundraising efforts. We believe that this effort in Toledo and the surrounding area will have a great impact on not just our at-risk youth but also our whole community as we come together to help provide mentorship, life-changing skills and a safe space for our youth.

Our county is in a crisis. In 2023, there were over 600 homeless students in a district of only 5100 students. These numbers do not capture all those students that are struggling for various other reasons including food insecurity, lack of life skills, mental health issues, and many others. These youth need our caring, compassion and support.

The success of The Homie House is not just for these youth, but for our entire community to be able to rally around these young folk and bring them into the vast world with skills and a sense of purpose and belonging.

Please support The Homie House in any way you can, large or small! All of these donations of items, money and volunteering of time and expertise will go towards enriching the lives of our youth and ultimately our community at large!

Thank you for your time,

Rod Cross

Mayor, City of Toledo