



## Meeting the Challenges

"We've really appreciated the opportunity to work with professionals who provided guidance and expertise when our organization went through some difficult transitions. We are now excited about creating a brighter future for our organization."

**Louise Maywald** Board Chair, Elderday Center; Readiness Assessment and Standard OCB Grantee

"The process has been rewarding and we learned so much. We needed help around financial management and managing our cash flow, especially during this difficult economic time. The tailored technical assistance we received helped us develop systems and approaches to begin to get back on track."

**Linette Kinchen** Executive Director, GrandFamilies Program of Chicago; OCB grantee, Targeted Consultation

"Our experience with our organizational coach was overwhelmingly positive. She helped us organize our thoughts, think strategically, and take action. Capacity-building work is really hard, so it was so helpful to work with her, especially when we hit some bumps in the road."

**Ann Lagory** Executive Director, Friedman Place; Standard OCB Grantee

"The OCB grant gave us the tools we needed to develop into a well-respected, well-funded, and healthy organization focused on our mission."

**Cathy Lazuka** Director of Development, Northwest Side Housing Center; Standard OCB Grantee

**For additional information** about any of these OCB opportunities, please contact Mary O'Donnell at 773.714.8080, or [info@rrf.org](mailto:info@rrf.org). Visit [www.rrf.org](http://www.rrf.org).

THE  
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Organizational  
Capacity  
Building Program

The Retirement  
Research Foundation



Enhancing  
Capacity.  
Changing  
Lives.

## OUR MISSION

The Retirement Research Foundation's mission is to improve the quality of life of the nation's elders.

RRF is among the nation's first private foundations dedicated exclusively to issues of aging and retirement.

Each year, RRF awards grants to nonprofits for programs, research, advocacy, and training that support the health and well-being of older Americans.



## The Organizational Capacity Building Program

The Organizational Capacity Building (OCB) program is designed to provide support for improvements in key management and governance functions within nonprofit organizations that serve older persons.

OCB grants and other resources help to ensure that organizations are well-positioned to deliver quality services to elders for many years to come.

### Standard OCB Grants

**A standard grant may be the ideal resource for:**

- Board development – recruitment, assessment, training
- Strategic and business planning
- Evaluation – outcome measures, progress benchmarks
- Communications – public relations, marketing, social media
- Resource development and fundraising
- Human resources – succession plans, talent retention
- Fiscal management – cash flow, budget, financial controls
- Information management

Standard OCB grants typically support costs of training, information technology, or staff directly related to capacity building activities.

**To be eligible, an organization must be:**

- A nonprofit, but not a unit of government
- Located in Cook, DuPage, Kane, Kendall, Lake or McHenry counties in Illinois
- Dedicated to making the elderly a high priority

## Additional OCB Features

To complement the OCB grants, RRF offers organizational coaching and technical assistance support services.

### ■ Organizational Coaches

Organizational coaches with broad management experience are available to grantees for the life of an OCB grant to provide guidance, support, and an objective point of view on the project undertaken.

### ■ Technical Assistance Support

Additional funding to grantees is available for technical assistance support for seminars, workshops, short-term courses, publications or other training related to organizational capacity building.

## OCB Flexible Fund

Additionally, RRF has a pool of funds and a streamlined application process for nonprofits meeting challenges of the economic downturn.

Funding is available for two forms of tailored consultation for eligible nonprofits:

### ■ OCB Readiness Assessments

An organizational consultant will work directly with agencies to identify and prioritize capacity building opportunities, and the steps needed for organizational improvement or growth.

### ■ Targeted Consultations

An expert in nonprofit management will provide focused technical assistance to agencies dealing with an emerging issue, such as legal, fiscal or human resource challenges, or an unanticipated change.

Limited funds also are available to assist nonprofits with unexpected funding cuts or one-time emergency needs. Additional eligibility criteria apply.