

Organizational Capacity Building: *Improving management, governance, and sustainability in Illinois nonprofits that serve older people*

The Organizational Capacity Building (OCB) Program is designed to provide support for improvements in key management and governance functions within Illinois nonprofits that serve older people. OCB grants and other resources help to ensure that organizations are well-positioned to deliver quality services to older people for many years to come.

These grants may be used to support capacity building activities that include, but are not limited to:

- Strategic planning
- Financial management, including cash flow, budget development, financial controls
- Program evaluation planning
- Communications and marketing, including Website development, public relations, use of social media
- Resource development and fundraising
- Human resources, including succession planning, staffing structure, assessment, and retention
- Information systems management, including technology enhancements
- Board development including assessment, recruitment, training, and structuring
- Restructuring and building strategic collaborations with other nonprofit organizations to strengthen service delivery, reduce costs, share resources, etc.

Standard OCB Grants

RRF provides Standard OCB Grants to help nonprofits make long-term improvements in their management, governance, or organizational capacity. Standard OCB funds generally support consulting, training fees, information technology, staffing, and other costs directly related to capacity building activities. Applications for Standard OCB Grants are accepted in conjunction with the Foundation's standard grantmaking cycles.

OCB Flexible Fund

RRF provides OCB Flexible Fund Grants to respond to immediate capacity building needs for Illinois nonprofits. OCB Flexible Funds are available to help organizations identify their capacity building priorities or receive short-term technical assistance:

- **Readiness Assessments** – Funds may be used to engage a consultant who will work directly with your organization to identify and prioritize capacity building opportunities, and the steps needed for organizational improvement or growth.
- **Targeted Consultations** – Funds may be used to engage an expert in nonprofit management to provide short-term, focused technical assistance on an emerging issue related to legal, fiscal, human resources, or other areas.

Applications for OCB Flexible Fund Grants are accepted on a rolling basis throughout the year. Funding requests must be \$5,000 or less. Decisions on OCB Flexible Fund Grants are generally made within four to six weeks.