

Growing Stronger Communities Grant Program

Presented by Chiesi USA

Promotional Overview

The Growing Stronger Communities Grant Program, presented by Chiesi USA, helps conference participants move from learning to action. Three \$10,000 grants will support practical, community-centered projects that strengthen agriculture, improve health, build trust, and expand resilient local food systems.

Grants need to fall within one of these three pillars:

- **Sustainable Solutions** – Initiatives that promote long-term environmental stewardship, resource efficiency, and resilience within communities and food systems.
- **Collaborative Efforts** – Partnerships that bring together diverse stakeholders to drive shared outcomes, foster innovation, and amplify community impact.
- **Scalable Impact** – Programs/approaches with the potential to grow, replicate, or expand to benefit broader populations and create lasting change.

The goal of the grants is to support initiatives that strengthen communities through agriculture, food systems, and environmental sustainability. Submissions may focus on expanding an existing program or launching an innovative new approach aligned with these priorities.

Grant Amount and Eligibility

Grant Amount	Eligibility
Each selected recipient will receive \$10,000. A total of three grants will be awarded and must fall within one of the three pillars: Sustainable Solutions, Collaborative Efforts or Scalable Impact.	Applicants must be registered for and in attendance at the Growing Stronger Communities Conference; actively working in agriculture, food access, nutrition security, community health, food systems, or community-based growing; able to use funds within 6–12 months; and willing to share a brief follow-up report, story, or update.

Selection Priorities

- Alignment with the selected grant opportunity and conference pillar
- Community impact
- Feasibility of using the funds within 6–12 months
- Commitment to community voice, equity, partnership, or culturally responsive approaches
- Potential for sustainability or growth beyond the grant period

Why This Matters

The Growing Stronger Communities Conference is designed to be more than a gathering. It is a space for learning, connection, and action. Through Chiesi USA's support, these grants help participants apply what they learn in real communities, farms, food banks, healthcare partnerships, and local food systems.

Grants will be awarded during the Growing Stronger Communities Conference.

Growing Stronger Communities Conference Implementation Grant Application

Presented by Chiesi USA

Thank you for your interest in the Growing Stronger Communities Conference Implementation Grant Program. Through the generous support of Chiesi USA, three \$10,000 implementation grants will be awarded to conference participants who are ready to move from learning to action. Applicants must be registered for and in attendance at the Growing Stronger Communities Conference to be eligible.

Section 1: Applicant Information

Applicant Name:

Organization/Farm/Program Name:

Title/Role:

Email Address:

Phone Number:

Mailing Address:

Website or Social Media, if applicable:

Are you registered to attend the Growing Stronger Communities Conference?

- ☐ Yes
☐ No
☐ Registration is in process

Will you be present at the conference?

- ☐ Yes
☐ No
☐ Unsure at this time

Section 2: Grant Selection

Which grant pillar are you applying for? Please select one.

- ☐ **Sustainable Solutions** – Initiatives that promote long-term environmental stewardship, resource efficiency, and resilience within communities and food systems.
- ☐ **Collaborative Efforts** – Partnerships that bring together diverse stakeholders to drive shared outcomes, foster innovation, and amplify community impact.
- ☐ **Scalable Impact** – Programs/approaches with the potential to grow, replicate, or expand to benefit broader populations and create lasting change.

Section 3: Project Description

1. Briefly describe your organization, farm, program, or community project. (Max 250 words)

2. What opportunity, challenge, or need are you trying to address? (Max 250 words)

3. Please describe the project or activity this grant would support. (Max 500 words)

4. How does your project align with the grant opportunity you selected and the related pillar? (Max 250 words)

Section 4: Use of Funds

5. How would you use the \$10,000 grant? Please provide a brief budget summary.

Expense Category	Estimated Amount	Brief Description

6. How soon would you be able to use the funds?

☐ Within 3 months

☐ Within 6 months

☐ Within 12 months

☐ Other: _____

Section 5: Community Impact

7. Who will benefit from this project? (Max 250 words)

8. How does this project reflect community voice, trust, culture, equity, or partnership? (Max 250 words)

9. What impact do you expect this grant to have within 6–12 months? Expected outcomes may include pounds of food grown or distributed, neighbors served, farmers supported, meals produced, clinical referrals, gardens expanded, partnerships developed, or infrastructure added. (Max 250 words)

Section 6: Sustainability

10. How will this project continue or grow after the grant funds are used? Suggested limit: (max 250 words)

11. Are there any partners involved in this project?

- ☐ Yes
- ☐ No
- ☐ Not yet, but we are developing partnerships

Please list partners, if applicable:

Section 7: Grant Agreement

By submitting this application, I understand that:

- I must be registered for and in attendance at the Growing Stronger Communities Conference to be eligible.
- Grant recipients will be recognized during the conference.
- Funds must be used for the purpose described in this application.
- Funds should be used within 6–12 months.
- Recipients will be asked to submit a brief follow-up report, story, or update describing how the funds were used and what impact was created.
- Submission of an application does not guarantee funding.

Applicant Signature / Typed Name:

Date:

In one sentence, what would this grant make possible for your community?
