



Rapid Response Grant Program Structure

The Mary E. Bivins Foundation began efforts to address food insecurity and hunger among old adults living in the Texas Panhandle in late 2015. Since that time, the Bivins Foundation has funded pilot projects to address senior hunger; completed the *Senior Hunger Study* to study the issue; granted over \$500,000 through the *Healthy Seniors Grant Program*; and completed additional surveys and activities to learn more about the issue. The Rapid Response Grant Program was launched in 2022 to continue to address hunger and food insecurity among older adults in the Panhandle.

Grants of up to \$2,500 will be provided to nonprofit organizations and other eligible organizations (such as churches or government instrumentalities) to help meet small and immediate needs to ensure the needs of food insecure older persons are met.

Rapid Response Grant Program Criteria

- Must be eligible organization (i.e. nonprofit)
- Must address food insecurity for older adults living in the Panhandle
- Amount equal to or less than \$2,500
- Only one Rapid Response grant per fiscal year per organization (Oct 1 – Sep 30)
- No large capital requests will be considered
- No salary and no general operating

Example categories considered for funding

- Improved accessibility (i.e. projects that make food or feeding program more accessible to seniors)
 - Examples: Ramp installation, grab bar installation, lowering of shelves, handled bags that hold less items instead of heavy boxes, etc.
- Improved or increased food storage or preparation
 - Examples: Freezers, refrigerators, hot water heater, rolling shelves for pantry, storage baskets for food, etc.
- Technology infrastructure
 - Examples: iPad for gathering client information, technology that assists clients choosing own food like Client Choice Technology pilot project, etc.

There is a final report requirement for all Rapid Response Grant Program grants.

Contact Jessica Tudyk, Program Officer, at jessica@bivinsfoundation.org or 806.379.9400 if you have a need that you think fits the program criteria.