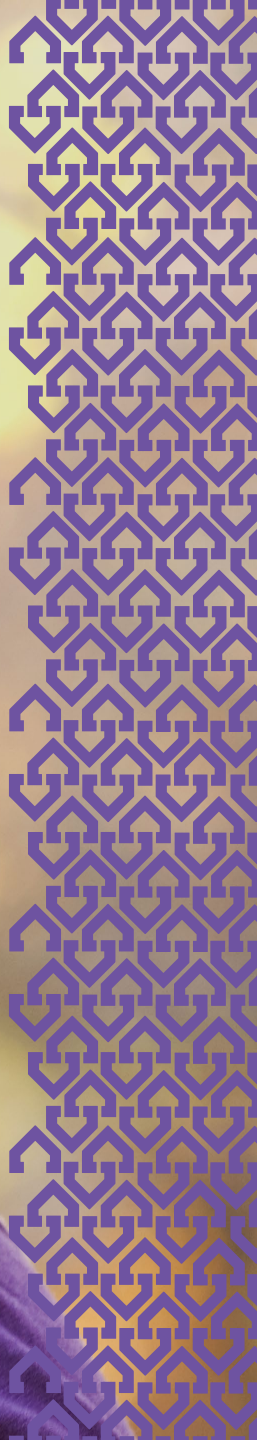




The Boston  
Foundation

# Safety Net Grants FY25 Information Session

September 30, 2024



# AGENDA



**Safety Net Grants Eligibility**



**Funding Considerations and Priorities**



**Application Process**



**Updates to the Application**



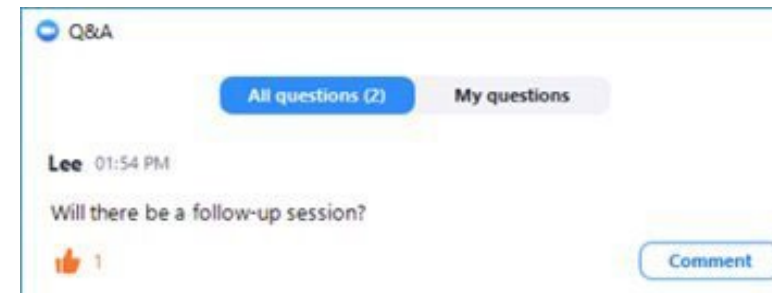
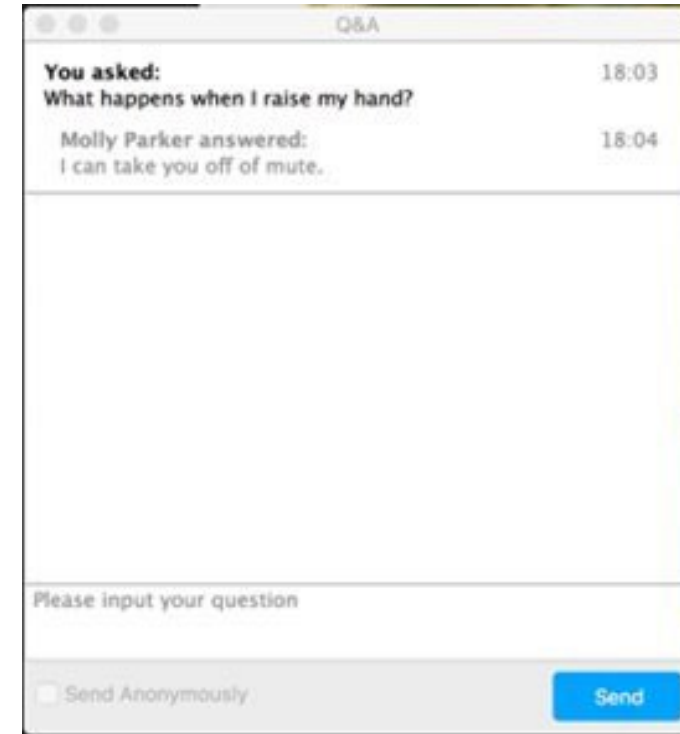
**Q&A**

Please submit questions throughout the session.

### To submit a question:

1. Click on "Q&A" on the panel at the bottom of the webinar screen.
2. Type your question into the "Q&A" box and click send.
3. "Upvote" questions that resonate with you by clicking on the "thumbs up" underneath each question.

If you have specific organization questions, please email us at [safetynetgrants@tbf.org](mailto:safetynetgrants@tbf.org)



## **Candace Burton**

*Program Officer, Safety Net Grants*

The Boston Foundation

## **Quynh Nguyen**

*Associate, Safety Net Grants*

The Boston Foundation



# Land Acknowledgement

The Boston Foundation respectfully acknowledges the sacred land on which we work and convene, belonging to the Massachusetts, Wampanoag, and Nipmuck peoples. As the original stewards of these grounds, they lived with great respect for the land and each other generations before the onslaught of colonization, assimilation, genocide, and forced removal. We honor the rich culture and vast influence of all Native peoples, which has endured and withstood centuries of attempted cultural erasure. We recognize the Indigenous people who inhabited this land before colonization, who live here today, and all future generations.

At TBF, where equity is at the center of our work, it is our commitment to recognize and celebrate the past, present, and future contributions of Native people and how we, as a foundation, can listen to and uplift Native voices and communities, educate others about the injustices that have harmed Indigenous peoples, learn the true history of Boston's Natives, embrace their culture, advance equity and restorative justice, and foster respect for all Native Americans in Boston and beyond.



**Safety Net Grants**

**SKATE**

# Baseline Eligibility

1. **Aligns with our new Pathway**
2. **501(c)(3) tax-exempt nonprofit** or operates under a fiscal sponsorship of a tax-exempt nonprofit
3. **Has not applied in the last 12 months**
4. **Primarily serves people in the foundation's catchment area** apart from regional, statewide, or national public policy efforts where there is a strong connection with and influence on the Greater Boston policy interests
5. **Responds to an essential need** by providing resources that promote health, wellness, safety, and belonging for individuals or families in crisis
6. Has been **operating for at least three years**
7. Engages in **year-round programming**

# Essential Needs

Essential needs are defined as resources that restore health, wellness, safety and belonging for individuals or families in crisis. They can include, but are not limited to:

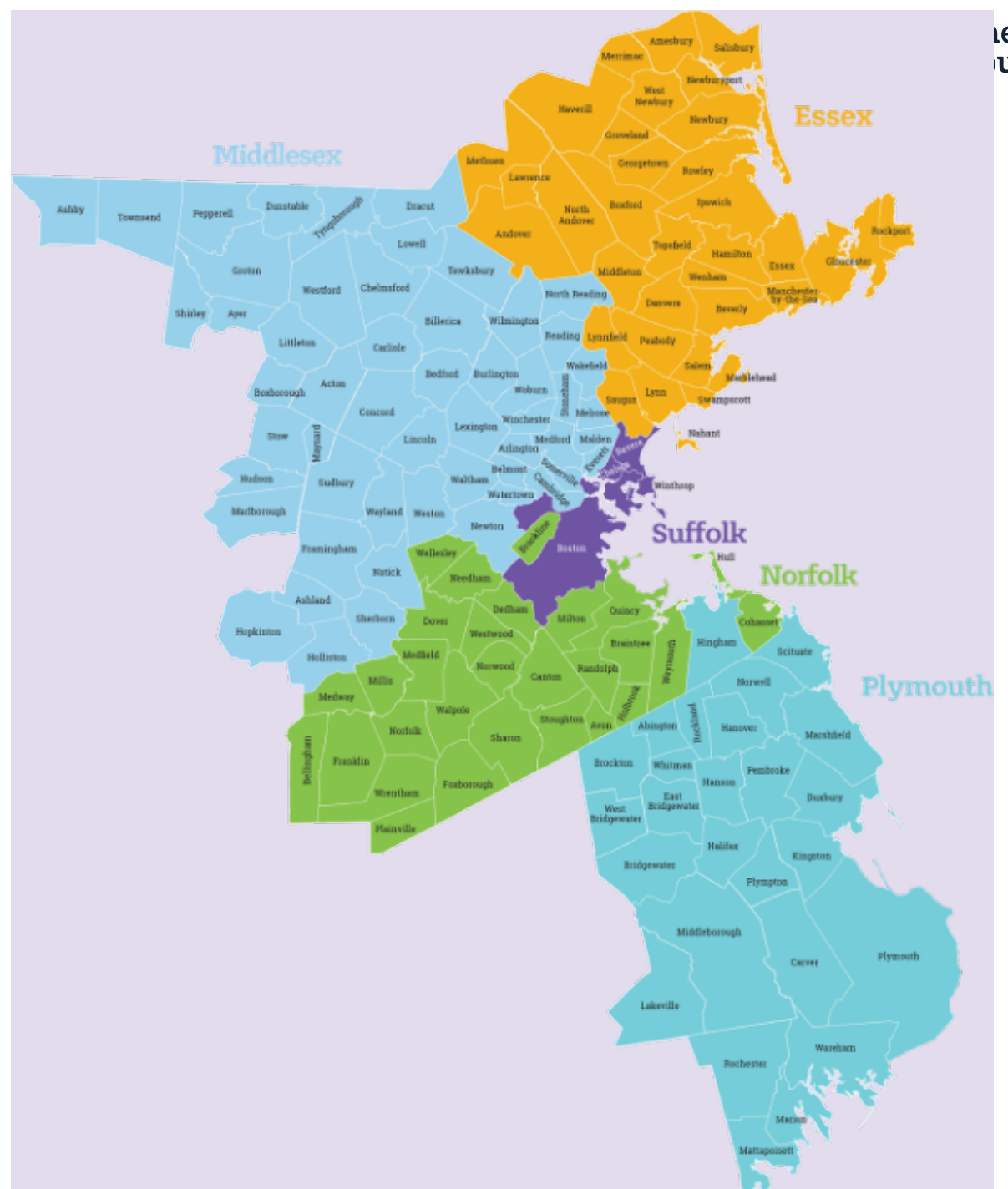
- Childcare assistance
- Direct cash assistance
- Disability assistance
- Food security
- Health care access
- Legal support
- Mental health support
- Rental and housing assistance
- Support for survivors of trauma





# Catchment Area

Apart from regional, statewide or national public policy efforts when there is a strong connection with and influence on Greater Boston policy interests.



# Grant Size & Support Type



**Support Type**  
**General Operating**  
**Support**



**Funding Level**  
**\$50,000 paid in two**  
**annual installments**  
**of \$25,000**



**Grant Period**  
**Two-year funding**  
**commitment**

# Funding Priorities

We are especially interested in organizations that are:

- **Smaller** and have been **historically excluded** from philanthropic support;
- **BIPOC-led** and/or whose leadership reflects the demographic composition and lived experiences of the communities they serve;
- Meeting the needs of **seniors and people with physical disabilities**;
- Providing **food, fuel and shelter** support

# BIPOC-Led Organizations

Organizations whose mission statement and/or programs aim to serve predominantly BIPOC communities and having one or more of the following:

- Executive Director or Senior Leadership (decision makers) identifies as BIPOC
- At least 51% of the board of directors identifies as BIPOC

# BIPOC-Staffed Organizations

Organizations whose mission statement and/or programs aim to serve predominantly BIPOC communities and having one or more of the following:

- At least 51% non-senior leadership staff and volunteers identifies as BIPOC

# Funding Considerations

## Organizational Strength

- **Aligns with Our New Pathway**, the strategic vision for The Boston Foundation
- **Clear mission and vision** that guide the organization
- Strong **staff and board leadership, that is diverse and representative** (demographic composition and lived experience) of the community they serve
- Deep **commitment to diversity, equity, and inclusion** (internally and externally)
- Strong emphasis on **incorporating learnings from a measurement/assessment plan**
- **Strong collaboration/partnerships** with community and community-based organizations

# Funding Considerations

## Proposal's Potential for Impact

- The grant size will **have a meaningful impact on the organization's effectiveness** and ability to meet its mission
- **Authentically serves populations and communities** historically excluded from institutions and/or systems
- **Clear correlation between annual goals and organization's ability** to address the defined challenge or opportunity unfolding in their community
- **Clear vision of success and a way to measure success** on a scale that is appropriate to its learning goals and relative to its resources

# Exclusions

## We do NOT make grants for:

- Capital construction costs
- Endowments
- Medical or academic research
- Scholarships
- Individual persons
- Sectarian or religious purposes
- To support candidates for political offices
- Private non-operating foundations, 501(c)(4) organizations, and Section 501(a)(3) Type III Non-functionally Integrated organizations
- Parent Teacher Associations and tuition-based schools (including K-12 and post-secondary schools and universities)
- CDCs certified under MGL Chapter 40H, small businesses, LLCs



# I'm eligible!

## How do I apply?



Login

Email

Password

Login

Forgot Password?

New to the System as a Grant Applicant?

**For Grant Applicants Only:** Please first try using the "Forgot password?" link to access your account. If you do not receive an email after 10 minutes and it is not in your spam folder, you may be new to our database. Please click the "Register" button below to set up an account. If you have any trouble, reach out to [grantsinfo@tbf.org](mailto:grantsinfo@tbf.org).

Register

Complete an **online application** (available at [tbf.org/nonprofits/grant-making-initiatives/safety-net-grants](https://tbf.org/nonprofits/grant-making-initiatives/safety-net-grants))



### Registration Options

Please click on one of the buttons below to set up a **new** SmartSimple account **as a grant applicant**. These forms are for new grant applicant registrants only. If you already have a SmartSimple account, please go back to the main login page <https://bostonfoundation.smartsimple.com> and use the password reset link. For questions, please email [grantsinfo@tbf.org](mailto:grantsinfo@tbf.org).

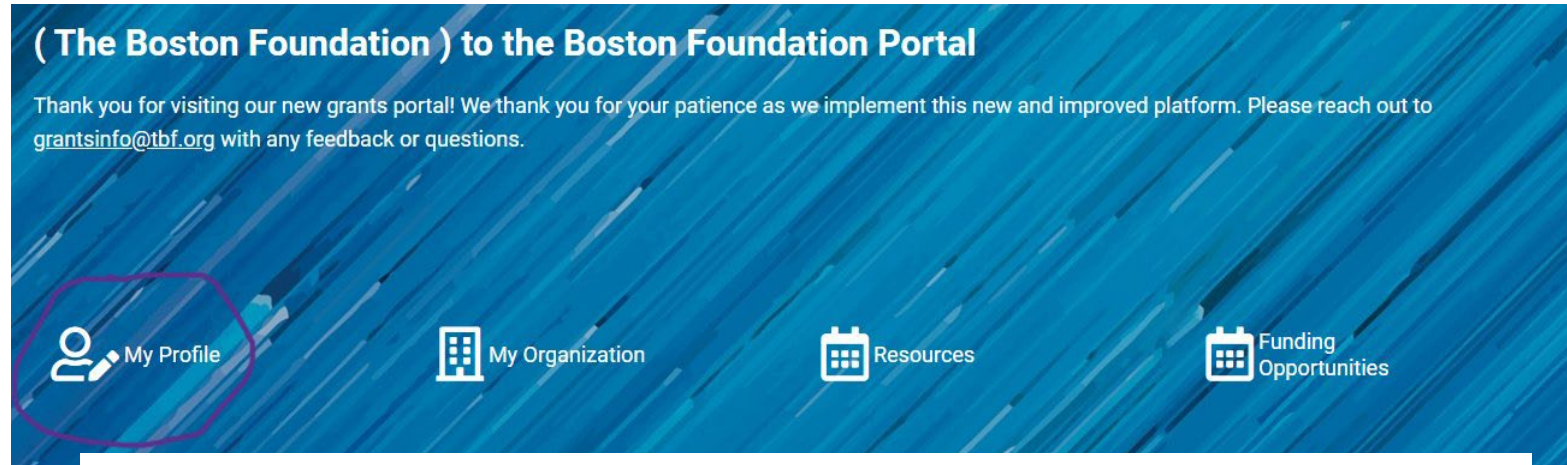
I am applying for a grant:


On behalf of an Organization

As an Individual or as part of a Group of Individuals (only available for Live Arts Boston and Next Steps grant programs)

# I'm eligible!

## How do I apply?



Profile Image: 

DETAILS INTEGRATION SYSTEM

Status: Active

\* First Name:




Middle Name:


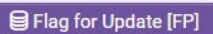

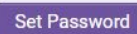
\* Last Name:

Initials:

Prefix:

\* Primary Email:

\* Organization:    

 Save Draft  Flag for Update [FP]  Send Password  Set Password

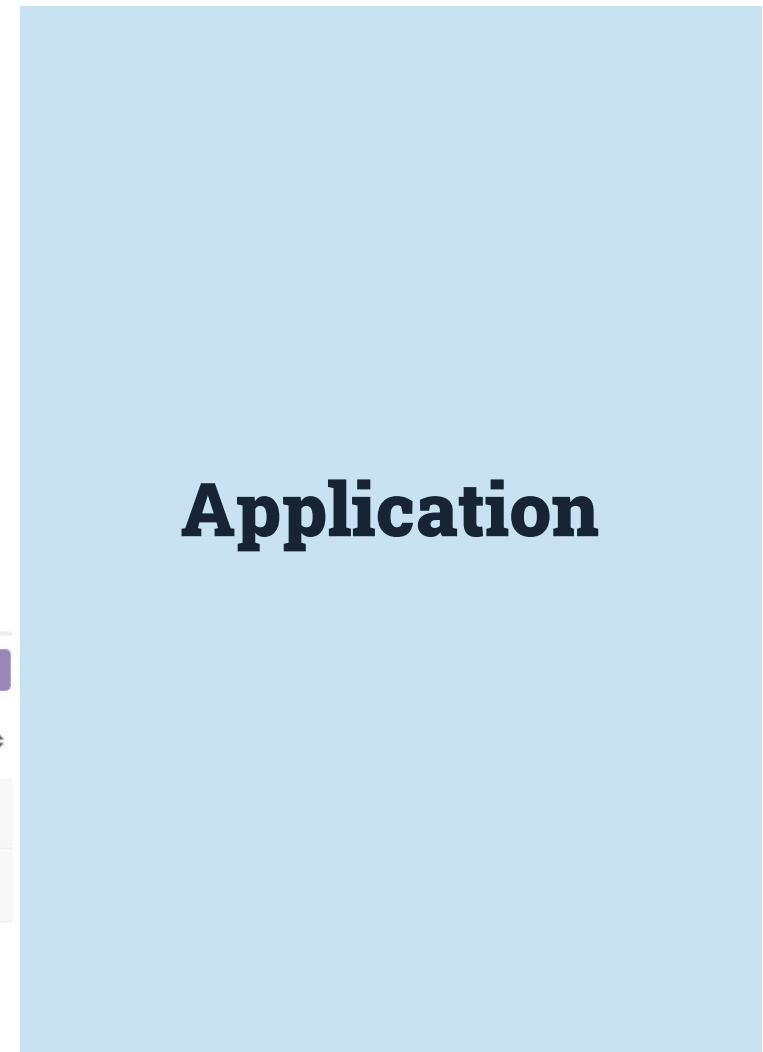
## Funding Opportunities


This page is regularly updated to share grant opportunities open for application at the Boston Foundation. If you do not see any open opportunities below, please be sure to check back at this page periodically, or, [subscribe to the Nonprofit Update e-newsletter at this link](#) to be informed of open opportunities as they arise.

Please note that grant programs will close on 11:59pm of the listed "Closed On" date. For example, if the Closed On date is listed as 2/20/23, then applications must be submitted by 11:59pm on 2/20/23.

### OPEN FUNDING OPPORTUNITIES (2)

#	Name	Description	Closed On
1	Safety Net Grants FY24 Round 1	The Safety Net grants program is designed to support social service organizations that respond to essential needs for marginalized communities in Greater Boston. Applications are due at 9/26 at 11:59pm.	09/26/2023
2	Live Arts Boston Organizations	Live Arts Boston	05/01/2024





# **Demographics Section Updates**

## Population Information

### \* Age Group

Please select the primary age group impacted by your work (select from the dropdown below).

-- Select One --

### \* Please describe the population your organization intends to reach

Please describe the demographic composition and lived experience of your population served (ex. race/ethnicity, income level, gender identity/expression, sexual orientation, disability status, age, etc.)

### \* Field of Interest: Are seniors and/or people with physical disabilities core to fulfilling your mission?

We are asking this question to see if you are eligible for field of interest funding for this round.

Yes

No

▼ Demographics

---

\* How many people work in your organization?

\* Do you regularly collect any of the following demographic data from staff (at least once per year)?

Select all that apply.

- Race and/or ethnicity
- Gender identity
- Sexual orientation
- Disability status
- None of the above

\* How does your Executive Director (or head of organization) personally identify for each of the following demographic categories?

Select all that apply.

- African/African American / Black/Afro Caribbean / Person of African Descent
- American Indian / Alaska Native / Indigenous / Native American
- Asian / Asian American / Southeast Asian / South Asian / Asian Descent
- European American/Eastern European/White
- Latinx / Latino/Latina / Hispanic
- Middle Eastern / Arab / North African
- Native Hawaiian / Pacific Islander
- Other
- Prefer not to answer
- We do not have the capacity to collect this information

**\* Is your organization BIPOC-led?**

A BIPOC-led organization has a mission statement and/or programs that aim to serve predominantly BIPOC communities and one or more of the following:

- Executive Director or Senior Leadership (decision makers) identifies as BIPOC
- At least 51% of the board of directors identifies as BIPOC

Yes

No

**\* Is your organization BIPOC-staffed?**

A BIPOC-staffed organization has a mission statement and/or programs that aim to serve predominantly BIPOC communities and, at least 51% of the non-senior-leadership staff and volunteers identify as BIPOC.

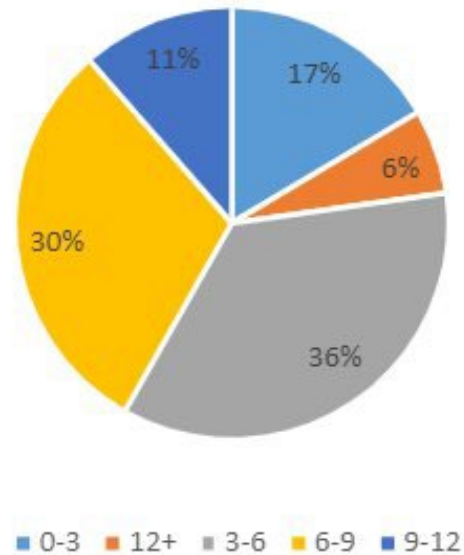
Yes

No

Prefer not to answer

We do not have the capacity to collect this information

Amount of Hours to Complete an Application



## Application Considerations

- Updated our eligibility criteria due to competitiveness of the program
- Updated our exclusions list
- Updated demographics section and removed demographics form
- Updated field of interest question focusing on disability work and work with seniors
- Made suggested word limits clearer



# General Application Tips

## **200-400 words**

per response

## **Bullet point responses**

can help with more concise wording

## **Short-term goals**

Next few weeks or months

## **Long-term goals**

Doesn't have to be within 2-year grant period

## **Read aloud**

Having your narrative read aloud can help with editing responses

## **Log in a few days before deadline**

in case of technical difficulties



# **Upcoming Deadline**

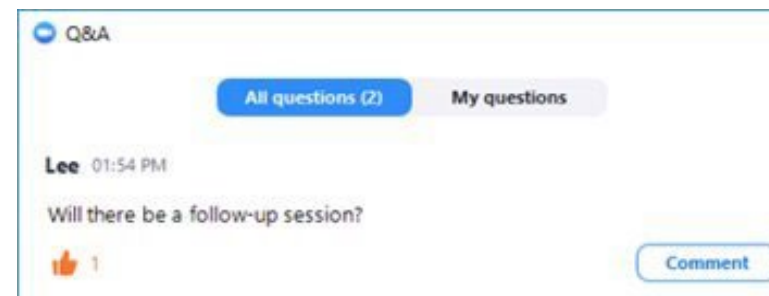
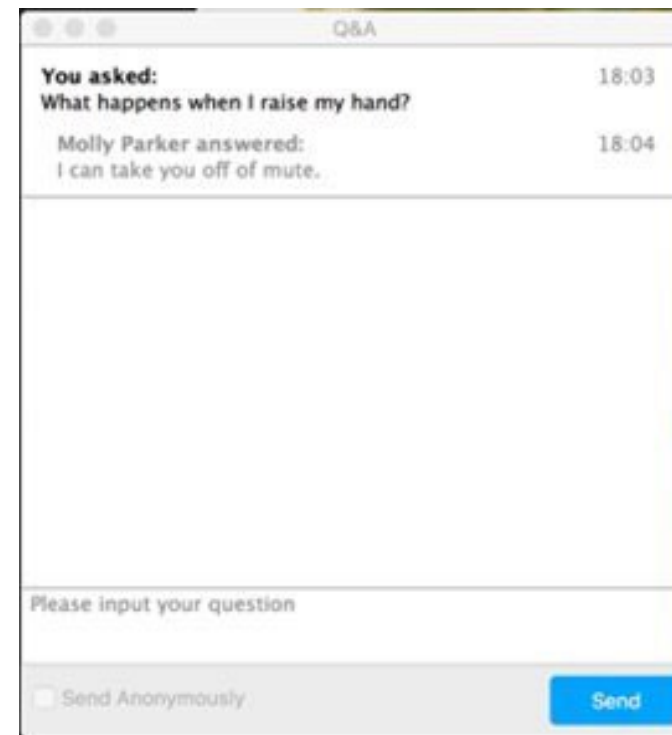
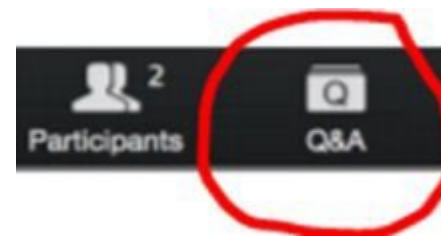
**October 21, 2024 at 5:00pm**

Please submit questions throughout the session.

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# Office Hours

October 1 – October 15

[Book time: Office hours](#)

# Thank you!

Safety Net Grants Team

Email: [safetynetgrants@tbf.org](mailto:safetynetgrants@tbf.org)