The Safety Net program area builds on a longstanding Grove commitment to fund organizations that support individuals and families with resources, respect, a sense of belonging, and the opportunity to live and contribute fully in their communities. Although located within Silicon Valley’s great wealth and innovation, we recognize that areas of income inequality, high unemployment, and poverty also surround the region. The Grove’s Safety Net program funds local organizations in San Mateo County, focusing on the communities of East Palo Alto, Belle Haven, Redwood City, Daly City, and the San Mateo County Coast.

**WE BELIEVE**
- In supporting organizations that are helping people not only to survive but also to thrive. These organizations ensure that basic human needs are met, provide opportunities for communities and individuals to improve their prospects, and have access to full participation in or lead communities in civic engagement.
- People most impacted by oppression and injustice – those living at the intersection of racism, sexism, transphobia, disability, xenophobia and classism, to name a few – should be resourced so that they can design, implement, and sustain solutions.
- In a world where all people have the resources, respect and sense of belonging to live and contribute fully as themselves, safely, and with joy.

**OUR APPROACH**
- Food/Emergency Assistance and Public Health – Meeting high-priority public health needs that are underserved in San Mateo County.
- Youth Development – Providing underserved youth with development opportunities through civic education, career, and academic activities. And, also providing opportunities for parents and families to better support and participate in their child’s learning and development, including becoming advocates for their child.
- Career Training – Helping people to advance or get on a career pathway, including scholarships or institutional support for short-term career training and job placement services within San Mateo County.
- Civic Engagement – Increasing long-term civic participation by underrepresented communities in San Mateo County through organizations that engage residents in identifying common issues of concern, providing leadership development, organizing and advocacy skill building, and increasing voting.

**WHAT WE LOOK FOR**
- Organizations that fit the Foundation’s issue areas and geographic focus.
- Strong local leadership that reflects the communities that are being served.
- Solid organizational capacity to fulfill the organization’s mission and vision.
- Collaborative efforts and/or coordination of resources to maximize impact.
- Organizations that use an equity lens to provide resources and support to marginalized communities, people most impacted by oppression and injustice, and those living at the intersection of racism, sexism, transphobia, disability, xenophobia and classism.
- The Foundation also invests where other resources can be leveraged and/or effective programs can be scaled.

**APPLYING FOR A GRANT**

The Grove Foundation does not accept unsolicited proposals but welcomes exploratory meetings with organizations who share common goals.