Pooled Fund Criteria: for targeted, aligned, collective action to reach our goals.

We fund strategies and activities that:

Mandatory Criteria

- Shared with & supported by majority of active **working group** members.
- Fill **identified gap/s** & are **informed by evidence** when available/possible.
- Advance **pace, quality, and/or scale of progress toward HEY!'s 10 year impact** outcomes.*
- Focus on intentionally including **HEY!'s priority populations.**+
- Are **feasible,** with a clear, realistic implementation plan (SMART).
- Include a **plan for measuring impact** that aligns with the Shared Measurement framework.
- Meet **legal requirements** of 501c3 grant-making.
- **Share back learning** with the HEY! Network via network gatherings, reports, and/or Working Group gatherings.
- Are **co-developed/-implemented with youth.**
- Outline **sustainability** considerations and complementary funding opportunities.

Preferred Criteria

- Are **collaborative** and implemented by multiple organizations.
- Are **synergistic** with other HEY! strategies and activities.

What we don't fund:

- **Unsolicited** grant requests.
- Maintenance of existing programs or services.
- The **priorities of one** individual organization or program without significant changes to pace, quality, or scale.

Other Considerations:

- Conflicts of interests need to be declared and excluded from voting or undue influence.
- **Additional fundraising can be supported** for larger, high potential proposals (dream big!)
- Not all proposals meeting the criteria are guaranteed to receive funding.
- **Not** all WG actions **require funding.**
- We recommend **$1M in commitments in 2025** to ensure multi-year sustainability.
- HEY! should not inhibit or replace current funders' support in the behavioral health space. [HEY! is not the only vehicle].

*Increase youth belonging and agency, increase number of trusted adults, and improve behavioral health
+Black/brown, LGBTQIA+, and systems-involved youth aged 12 – 24 living in the Cincinnati MSA in OH & KY.

HEY!