



Co-op CAUSE 2022 – Guidelines

CO-OP CAUSE – HOW IT WORKS

At checkout, shoppers may round up their purchase to the nearest dollar (or more), the difference of which will be donated to one dedicated nonprofit organization. The organization will receive 100 percent of these donations. The donation cycle for each organization is one month, and a check is issued to the organization the following month. A signed W-9 and Vendor Form is required before an application is approved.

COOPERATIVE ENDS POLICIES

Nonprofits chosen as CAUSE recipients should be in alignment with BriarPatch Food Co-op's Ends Policies, which can be found on our website at <https://www.briarpatch.coop/join-the-co-op/co-op-governance>.

ELIGIBILITY REQUIREMENTS

Eligible organizations must:

- ☞ be a registered 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization OR a cooperative organization
- ☞ focus on improving the quality of life of our community in one of the following areas: Local Arts & Culture, Community Health & Wellness, Diversity, Equity & Inclusion, Environmental Issues, Food Systems and Agriculture, Local Area Schools, Local Arts and Culture, Organizations in Support of Co-ops, or Social Services and Food Access

Ineligible organizations include:

- ☞ Organizations that discriminate based on race, religion, physical or mental disability, sex, gender, age, or sexual orientation
- ☞ Political groups or those with a strong political agenda
- ☞ Service clubs or fraternal organizations
- ☞ Third-party fundraisers
- ☞ Private clubs funded through membership fees
- ☞ Sporting events or sports teams
- ☞ Individuals

HOW CAUSE RECIPIENTS ARE CHOSEN

Each year, a team of BriarPatch employees carefully reviews each application. Applications are evaluated and recipients are chosen based on several factors, including:

- ☞ how the organization promotes, serves or upholds the Ends Policies and Cooperative Principles
- ☞ how the stated purpose for funding creates a positive impact for the community the organization serves
- ☞ how the stated purpose for funding serves to resolve root causes of community issues the organization serves
- ☞ whether the proposed event, program or project be completed effectively and efficiently
- ☞ whether funding be used responsibly

FLEDGLING ORGANIZATIONS

New and/or small nonprofit organizations and co-op start-ups are encouraged to apply. Evidence of adequate organizational resources for the stated purpose must be provided to demonstrate ability to accomplish goals.

PREVIOUS RECIPIENTS

Prior CAUSE recipients are welcome to apply again and will receive full consideration.

ADDITIONAL FUNDING FROM BRIARPATCH FOOD CO-OP

Selected recipients for CAUSE in 2022 will be ineligible for additional funding from the co-op during the calendar year in the form of sponsorships, donation requests (cash, gift cards or product), or the Cooperative Community Fund.