



This is an exciting time in our 130 year history at Avista. We recently announced our plans to invest an additional \$7M into our local communities as a part of that birthday celebration.

“Our region and our company are human powered,” said Scott Morris, chairman and CEO of Avista. “To celebrate 130 years of working together to build strong, healthy and vibrant communities, Avista is pleased to announce an investment of more than \$7 million that will fund initiatives in our local communities.”

Working with the communities, Avista will focus on three initiatives:

1. **Homelessness** – working to help find solutions to this very complex issue facing communities both large and small
2. **Small Town Pride** - strengthening communities by solving tough problems, building resilience and continuing to care for neighbors
3. **Youth Success** – recognizing the many challenges faced by youth today, investing in initiatives to ensure youth can be safe and successful in the classroom and excited for their future

Our grants process remains unchanged where the Avista Foundation website is the single, easy point of entry for all of our philanthropy program applications. The application timeline and deadlines are published there as well.

Proposal Cycle	Annual Application Period	Award Announcement
Health and Human Services	Jan 1 – Feb 1	April 1
Education and Youth Development	March 1 – April 1	July 1
Economic and Community Development	July 1 – Aug 1	October 1
Arts and Culture	Oct 1 – Nov 1	Dec 1
Environment	Oct 1 – Nov 1	Dec 1

The issues surrounding homelessness, our rural communities and our youth are each big and very challenging. We know it will take time to collaboratively work toward solutions. We look to make investment of the announced \$7M over the course of the next several years through Avista’s existing philanthropic grants programs.

We are not creating any different or separate system. However, we are looking to further strengthen our connections to our community partners and engage with them even more. We have hundreds of Avista employee volunteers serving throughout the region on committees, boards, etc. in non-profit organizations. We are encouraging these partnerships to unearth the opportunities and solutions to the complex issues we face together – and to submit those investment opportunities as grant applications. Engagement with our employee volunteers in the community to collaborate and identify opportunities within our three areas of investment focus will help us to move the dial together on these pressing challenges. We want to be able to celebrate success together when our communities are strengthened.