



APPENDIX A: GLOSSARY OF TERMS

An **eligible partnership** is a formal relationship between an existing grantmaking institution (as defined above) and either an additional grantmaking institution, a State Commission on National and Community Service, or a chief executive officer of a unit of general local government where the partner organizations will share responsibilities under the award.

An approach is **evidence informed** if it refers to interventions that have a preliminary level of evidence of effectiveness per Section *I.D.4. Evidence and Evaluation* of the *Notice*. An approach is evidence based if it has a moderate or strong level of effectiveness per Section *I.D.4. Evidence and Evaluation* of the *Notice*.

Preliminary evidence means evidence that is based on a reasonable hypothesis supported by credible research findings.

Moderate evidence means evidence from previous studies on the program, the designs of which can support causal conclusions (i.e., studies with high internal validity) but have limited generalizability (i.e., moderate external validity).

Strong evidence means evidence from previous studies on the program, the designs of which can support causal conclusions (i.e., studies with high internal validity), and that, in total, include enough of the range of participants and settings to support scaling up to the state, regional, or national level (i.e., studies with high external validity).

High-performing refers to nonprofit organizations that are well-run and financially healthy with capable leadership, clear goals and clear objectives; that diligently collect quality data and use this data to understand which of their efforts work and which do not; and that use this knowledge to make adjustments to their approach to continuously improve.

Low-income communities:

- A population of individuals or households being served by a subrecipient on the basis of having a household income that is 200 percent or less of the applicable federal poverty guideline, or
- Either a population of individuals or households, or a specific local geographic area, with specific measurable indicators that correlate to low-income status, such as, but not exclusive to, K-12 students qualifying for free- or reduced-lunch, long-term unemployment, risk of homelessness, low school achievement, persistent hunger, or serious mental illness.

Promising interventions refers to a model at a specific stage of development that, at a minimum, must have at least preliminary evidence of effectiveness as defined in the *Notice*.

Scaling

Within the SIF framework, we refer to two types of scaling: **scaling the delivery** of the model by serving more of the original population, and **scaling the applicability** of the model by testing if the intervention continues to be effective for additional populations or geographic areas.



“Significantly philanthropically underserved” communities

CNCS considers applicants to be serving significantly philanthropically underserved communities if they support subrecipients that carry out activities in low-income communities that have considerably less than the average number of active philanthropic institutions or investments as similarly populated communities in their state or region.

An approach is **“transformative”** if it not only produces strong impact (as defined in the *Notice*), but also:

- (1) presents a new solution or novel adaptation or application of a solution to a critical local or national challenge where existing solutions or interventions have not been proven to be effective, are not achieving outcomes at scale, or are too slow to respond,
- (2) has the potential (as evidenced by data) to affect how the same challenge is addressed in other communities,
- (3) addresses more than one critical community challenge concurrently, and/or
- (4) produces significant cost savings through gains in efficiency.