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515.883.2626

Capacity Building Grant

Capacity Building Grants seek to strengthen an organization in an area related to governance or management and provide capacity support for a collaborative initiative/effort to enhance systemic support around a community issue or priority.

Timeline: Capacity Building grants are given throughout the year and can be submitted for consideration at any time. Notification of grant approval or declination will be provided within 10 business days of application submission.

Contact: Organizations interested in this grant program are strongly encouraged to contact Anna Nalean, Director of Nonprofit Relations

Grant Amount: Grant requests of up to \$5,000 will be considered.

Eligibility Requirements: Grants are made only to charitable organizations or causes with 501(c)(3) status, or to governmental agencies serving a charitable purpose. Geographically, funding is limited to projects that will significantly improve the Greater Des Moines community. It is not the Community Foundation's practice to fund completed projects or proposals or projects that have begun implementation. It is strongly recommended that organizations speak with Anna Nalean - nalean@desmoinesfoundation.org prior to submitting a Capacity Building Grant.

The Community Foundation WILL CONSIDER grant applications for projects that

- Strengthen the Board of Directors and governance of the organization, through training or assistance from an expert in the field with application outlining the project deliverables.
- Assist in strategic thinking and planning for the future of the organization.
- Enable organizations to merge operations and/or programming to ensure sustainability.
- Build a plan for long-term sustainability and reliable funding streams for the organization.
- Develop the skills of the Board and staff in a specific area impacting governance or management of the organization.
- Support collaborative initiatives or efforts to enhance systemic support around a community issue.

The Community Foundation WILL NOT CONSIDER

- Capital infrastructure projects (bricks and mortar).
- Ongoing annual operating and program expenses.
- Feasibility Studies.
- Organizational re-branding.
- Grants to individuals.
- Sectarian religious programs promoting a particular faith.
- Projects not serving residents of Greater Des Moines.
- Individual conference registrations without a wide dissemination plan.
- Costs associated with creation of a new nonprofit organization.
- Requests to fund computer or other technology hardware/equipment, donor management software or website development.
- Completed projects or proposals that have begun implementation.

Capacity Building Grant

Application Process Overview

The following is an overview of requested information within the Capacity Building Grant application process.

Community Foundation grant applications for Leadership Grants and Capacity Building Grants are available for completion through an online web portal called Manage My Grants. For instructions on how to use Manage My Grants [click here](#). To obtain a user name and password for Manage My Grants, please contact Thomas Biedenfeld at the Community Foundation at biedenfeld@desmoinesfoundation.org or at 515-447-4219.

Budget Information

- Funding request amount
- Total project budget
- What percent of the overall project budget is being requested?
- Organization's total annual budget
- If the request is partially funded, share how you will move forward with the project.

Project Information

- Provide an overview of your organization, including mission statement and future goals.
- Is your organization listed in the [Iowa Principles and Practices Registry of Accountability?](#)
- Funding request. Total project budget. What percent of overall project budget is being requested?
- What percent of the overall project budget is being requested?
- Organization's total annual budget.
- If the request is partially funded, share how you will move forward with the project.
- State the organizational need and how it will be addressed with a Capacity Building Grant.
- Share the anticipated timeline for this project, including a starting and ending date.
- The Capacity Building Grant program is designed to strengthen a nonprofit organization in areas related to governance or management. How will your organization be strengthened in one of these two areas and, in turn, be more effective in meeting your mission as a result of a Capacity Building Grant?
- Does your organization plan to work with a consultant? If yes please upload a detailed work plan submitted by the consultant after this application is submitted that includes the hourly rate for the consultant, estimated number of hours for the project, and deliverables.

Required Documents

- Project budget detailing other sources of funding including your organization's and/or board's financial commitment and the amount requested from the Community Foundation.
- Organizational budget
- List of the organization's Board of Director's with contact information, including email addresses.
- Consultant Work Plan (if applicable)