



2023 Community Impact Grant Guidelines

Guiding Principles

Our region's future depends on ensuring everyone can thrive. We value the voices of all community members because each is critical to removing barriers and opening access to opportunity.

The Community Foundation of Greater Dubuque wishes to partner with groups with diverse cultures, philosophies and experiences. The Community Foundation will seek grantees and partners that incorporate diversity into their missions and strive to encourage diverse governance boards, partner organizations and served constituencies wherever practicable. It will seek to assure that its grantmaking activities reflect and promote the diversity of the communities we serve.

Results Based Funding

All applicants should be able to show how their program improves the lives of those living in Northeast Iowa. Qualified applicants could also include:

- Programs and projects in economic opportunity, education, and equity that serve a broad sector of the community, are innovative, and are responsive to changing community needs
- Organizations that have a commitment to diversity, equity, and inclusion and seeks to empower those most vulnerable to achieve improvement in their wellbeing
- Programs and projects that will enable nonprofits to reduce costs, increase efficiency, and move toward self-sufficiency
- "Seed Grants" to initiate promising new projects and programs so that such projects and programs are able to demonstrate their usefulness to the community
- Programs and projects that address and help resolve important existing or emerging community issues
- Programs and projects that facilitate cooperation and collaboration among organizations

Community Impact Grant Timeline:

- Tuesday, May 30 to Friday, June 30 – intent to apply forms accepted online
- Monday, July 17 – finalist organizations will be invited to pitch a proposal to our Community Leadership & Grantmaking Committee; remaining organizations will be notified of their status
- Monday, July 10-Friday, September 1– organizations will:
 - Develop 90 second video about their organization (videos will not be judged on video quality, but rather on the ability to convey their organizational mission and message)
 - Have the option to schedule up to two sessions with Community Foundation staff on project and pitch coaching
 - Will complete a more detailed application with budget and submit online
- Tuesday, September 19 at 3-4:15 PM – organizations will pitch their proposals to the Committee
- Tuesday, October 10 – the Committee will present grants to the Board of Directors for approval
- Monday, October 16 – grantees will be notified of their award
 - Grantees are required to sign an agreement before funds are distributed which clarifies legal parameters for use of the grant

- Grantees will be required to submit a report upon completion of their project and may be asked to host a visit or present to the Community Foundation board

Award Information

The Community Foundation will make awards between \$3,500-15,000.

Applying for a Grant - To express your intent to apply through the Community Foundation's grant system, please visit: dbqfoundation.org/grants#community-impact-grants

Limitations & Restrictions

Geographic Area

The Community Foundation considers grant applications only from nonprofit organizations in Clayton, Clinton, and Dubuque counties. Proposals from nonprofit organizations outside of the three-county area may apply ONLY if the proposed project benefits Clayton, Clinton, and Dubuque counties exclusively. Projects that have already identified key partners, venues, or other means to deliver services before applying for the grant are preferable.

IRS Charitable Status

A nonprofit organization must have a current tax-exempt status under Section 501(c)(3) of the IRS Code. Community projects that do not have tax exempt status may not apply.

Multi-Year Requests

To provide the greatest immediate impact and to respond to current needs, multi-year requests are not accepted.

Multiple Submissions

Organizations are limited to one grant proposal for consideration during a single Community Impact grant cycle.

Ineligible for Grants

- Individuals
- Lobbying activities
- Debt retirement or budget deficits
- Tuition, scholarships or core operating expenses for public schools, charter schools, private schools, or universities and colleges
- Annual campaigns, fundraising campaigns or events
- Religious organizations for religious purposes
- Political activities
- Purchases or activities that occur prior to grant decisions
- Grants that are solely focused on capital improvements

Questions? Contact Gretchen Corcoran at 563-588-2700 or gretchen@dbqfoundation.org