Grantmaking Guidelines/ Policies

The LincolnWay Community Foundation (LWCF) was founded in 1987. Annually, LWCF distributes funds from its earnings to numerous area nonprofit organizations to fulfill its mission: inspiring communities by connecting people with causes and resources for all generations. The Community Foundation has a broad, flexible purpose providing support to a wide variety of nonprofit organizations.

Who is eligible?

- Nonprofits that provide services within rural Clinton County including Andover, Calamus, Charlotte, Delmar, DeWitt, Goose Lake, Grand Mound, Lost Nation, Low Moor, Toronto, Welton and Wheatland
- Nonprofit 501(c)3 organizations, public institutions, and/or organizations without nonprofit status partnering with a fiscal sponsor organization
- Organizations must operate in a manner that no applicable anti-discrimination laws are violated
- Only one application can be submitted in a single calendar year
- Applications must be submitted online through the Foundation's grant management system, GOapply.
- The **final report** for all previous grants must be on file prior to submitting a new grant application

What we Look for:

LWCF is a public community foundation and recognizes the need for flexibility in problem solving. In evaluating applications, the Foundation gives consideration to the following factors:

- Does the project have potential for significant impact with the residents and the identified problem within the community?
- Are other community resources, organizations or volunteers involved in the project?
- Does the application indicate sound financial management with funding from additional sources?
- Does the project fit the Foundation's mission statement?
- Are the project goals and expected outcomes clear and measurable?
- Is this a one-time project or is there a plan for future funding?
- An itemized list of all related expenses is included and is clearly explained.

What we do not fund:

- Annual fundraising
- Organizational endowment funds
- Deficit financing
- Grants to individuals, or for salary purposes.
- Challenge/matching grants may be initiated by the Foundation.

Procedures:

Applications will be due March 1, 2024. Applications received after the deadline will not be accepted. Grant recipients are required to file a report through the grant management system, GOapply, describing the use of the funds either after the project/program is completed or nine months after the grant has been received. As a general rule, only one project per organization per year will be funded.