

## **Grantmaking Guidelines/Policies**

### *Annual Grant Cycle*

#### **Who is Eligible?**

To be eligible for funding, an organization/program shall:

- Provide services within Jackson County
- Be a nonprofit 501(c)3 organization, public institution, and/or organization without nonprofit status partnering with a fiscal sponsor organization
- Operate in a manner that no applicable anti-discrimination laws are violated
- Submit only one proposal per funding year per organization

#### **What We Look For**

We welcome proposals for projects that benefit a broad spectrum of the community or a chronically underserved segment of the population. We look for projects which:

- address significant community issues and lead to long-term, sustainable solutions
- present innovative, creative, and practical proposals which build on community strengths
- focus on strategic innovations that encourage cooperation, create efficiencies and reduce duplication of services
- has clear and measurable program results
- improves quality of life for the most disadvantaged in our community

#### **What We Fund**

We award grants in the priority areas of community development, diversity, education, our environment, health and human services, children, youth, families and senior citizens, arts and culture including historic preservation, and wellness projects.

#### **What We Do Not Fund**

In general, grants are not made for the following:

- Capital Campaigns
- Individuals
- Operating Expenses
- Political Organizations and Purposes
- 'Inherently religious' activities such as religious worship, instruction, or proselytization or activities that promote specific religious doctrine

Additional Detail on priority areas of funding:

**Community Development** - Programs that address community and neighborhood development, both social and economic.

- Encourage community responsibility for solving community problems
- Develop leadership opportunities for youth, minorities and the economically disadvantaged
- Benefit the community's low- and moderate-income population
- Ensure equal-opportunity in housing, services, and economic opportunity

**Diversity** - Programs that bring tolerance, inclusion, and value to people of all backgrounds regardless of ethnicity, sexual orientation, gender, age or physical challenges.

- Teaching tolerance to youth: Fostering a generation free of bias and intolerance
- Alleviating discrimination: Encouraging communities to be free of prejudice

**Education** - Encompass community education projects that serve all age groups and segments of our population.

- Increase literacy and basic skills development
- Develop efforts that address the needs of students who are most at-risk for dropping out of school or not enrolled
- Provide creative approaches to improvement of our educational system.

**Our Environment** - Programs that address our natural resources and environment

- Enhance awareness of regional environmental issues
- Encourage responsible stewardship and conservation of our natural resources

**Health & Human Services** - Encompasses social service projects that benefit the underserved segments of our community. (For example, issues of homelessness, health care, hunger, poverty, and the elderly.)

- Empower the underserved to seek solutions and promote self-sufficiency
- Programs that focus on long-term approaches to issues

**Children, Youth, Families and Senior Citizens** - Programs that enhance the quality of life for children and youth through opportunities to enhance their intellectual, emotional, physical, and social development.

- Support models that encourage an alliance of shared responsibility and coordination of resources
- Enhance life options of youth through such means as improved basic skills and
- Support efforts to enhance parental understanding of strategies they can use to improve the educational attainment of their children.

**Arts and Culture, including Historic Preservation** - Programs that increase access to and awareness of arts and culture.

- Encourage participation and awareness in the arts and culture among underserved populations
- Increase public exposure to and appreciation of different ethnic and cultural art forms.
- Support efforts that encourage life-long learning experiences.
- Support efforts to preserve the history of Jackson County

**Wellness Projects** - Programs that promote health, wellness education and disease prevention

- Address the particular health needs of traditionally underserved populations
- Encourage solutions for long-term improvement in healthy behaviors
- Increase the priority for physical health and emotional well-being

## Questions?

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