



2018 COMMUNITY GRANT APPLICATION APPLICATION FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

Who is eligible to receive a grant?

Eligible grant recipients include tax-exempt 501(c)(3) charitable organizations, including fiscal sponsors of individuals and organizations, engaged in charitable activities that serve the independent cities of Staunton and Waynesboro, and the counties of Augusta, Nelson, and Highland.

What are the funding priorities of the Community Foundation?

While the Community Foundation does not have specific funding priorities for its Community Grants program, we do favor organizations and programs that:

1. Address identified community issues or opportunities,
2. Are well-conceived with a realistic schedule of activities and thoughtful use of resources, and
3. May contribute to the applicant's organizational capacity and sustainability.

The Community Foundation looks favorably upon:

1. Organizations that have developed, or are actively developing, a broad base of financial support that contributes to their long-term sustainability.
2. Organizations that provide a clear method of evaluating the results and impact of their efforts.
3. Organizations that demonstrate the stability and leadership needed to ensure the effective accomplishment of their mission and use of their resources.
4. Organizations that are working in cooperation or collaboration with other organizations.

What does the Foundation typically not support through its Community Grants program?

Deficit reduction, endowments, benefits for individuals (including travel, fellowships), and fraternal or strictly religious programs (community-based, non-denominational programs which meet the Foundation's selection criteria are eligible for support).

Sponsorship Requests: If you are seeking support for a short-term event (duration of up to one week), we have created a separate budget for responding to such requests. Do not complete the Community Grant application. Simply submit your request in writing, at any time, to Dan Layman at dlayman@cfcb.org or P.O. Box 815, Staunton, VA 24402-0815. At this time, the Foundation's practice is to avoid providing sponsorship support for the same organization in two consecutive years.



What are typical grant amounts?

Historically, the Foundation has awarded grants ranging from \$1,000 to \$10,000 through its Community Grants program. A list of our 2017 Community Grants Program recipients may be found on the Foundation's website at www.cfcbr.org/2017-community-grant-recipients/

Does the Foundation require reports on grants?

In 2017, the Community Foundation decided to discontinue the mid-year and final grant reports in favor of spending more one-on-one time with each organization. This decision reflects our commitment to continuing the shift of philanthropy from simply a financial transaction to a stronger partnership between parties with unique assets. We look forward to our continued work with you and each nonprofit organization dedicated to the well-being and prosperity of our community.

If I receive a grant, can I spend the money on different projects?

Any funds not expended for the specific purpose of the grant cannot be diverted to other uses without the express written approval of the Foundation. Without such permission, grant recipients must return the unused portion of their grant to the Community Foundation.

Who makes the grant decisions?

A committee of community members, appointed by the Foundation, will carefully review each grant application, deliberate the merits of applications, and recommend grant decisions. The Foundation's board of directors holds the ultimate authority to ratify grant awards. If a committee member has a conflict of interest related to a specific grant application, he or she refrains from reviewing that application and recommending a grant decision. The Foundation maintains the anonymity of committee members throughout the review process.

Can I contact the Foundation if I have any questions or need help?

Yes — please do! This is your community foundation. Any and all questions are encouraged at any point in the process. Please contact Cristina Casado, Director of Community Engagement at (540) 213-2150 and/or at ccasado@cfcbr.org.

If you have any questions about your organization's eligibility, your grant ideas or about the online application at any time during the grant writing process, please don't hesitate to contact the Foundation. We are here to help. In addition, because it is unlikely the Foundation will be able to fully fund all requests, we may share information with other funders or potential donors in an attempt to provide more funding for the proposals we review.