

Community Foundation of Central Missouri

Community Granting Fund Guidelines 2017

Overview

The mission of the Community Foundation of Central Missouri (CFCM) is to improve lives in our communities by promoting private giving for public good. Since its beginning in 2010, the Community Foundation of Central Missouri has become an expert in listening and responding to community needs by providing creative charitable solutions and resources.

CFCM has prioritized funding to address many community needs. While the Community Foundation's numerous donor advised and/or organization funds have their own mission and granting goals, the Community Granting Fund is the name of CFCM's fund from which the Community Foundation board of directors distributes to chosen nonprofit agencies in central Missouri (Adair, Audrain, Boone, Callaway, Cole, Cooper, Macon, and Moniteau counties—maybe more).

Eligibility

Nonprofit organizations may apply for grant support from the Community Granting Fund of the Community Foundation of Central Missouri if they meet either of the following criteria:

- 1) are exempt from federal income tax under section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code and currently serve, or propose to serve, persons or communities in **central Missouri** (see County list above), or
- 2) are units of local government or public education institutions or other IRS-qualifying organizations for charitable purposes located in **central Missouri**.

No grants will be made to individuals, political parties, candidates, or political activities.

Grant Period and Amount

Grants are awarded annually, and we estimate that approximately 7-10 grants will be awarded in the range of \$500-1,500 during the 2017 cycle. Grants from CFCM require an end of program/project report to be submitted by the grantee.

Funding Priorities

The Community Foundation of Central Missouri wishes to partner with nonprofits that share our vision and passion for improving lives of central Missouri residents. We consider our grants to be community investments, and look for an “improved lives” return on the investments we make.

We want to help start promising programs, support collaborations, and leverage additional funding and resources to make grants in central Missouri that make a positive difference.

CFCM gives priority to proposals that address one or more of the following concerns—they are not listed in ranked order, as they are all equal in weight to CFCM:

- planned-giving and development support for nonprofits (fund raising software, temporary personnel, fund raising materials, etc.)
- human capacity development, especially for disadvantaged persons (equal opportunity, poverty reduction, schools, library, affordable housing, work force training, diversity training, etc.)
- senior adult services (transportation, delivery, health/respite care, home care, etc.)
- arts (dance, theater, music, visual arts, literary arts, etc.)
- environmental sustainability and public spaces (environment, recycling, food production—farmer’s markets, public transportation, parks, trails, conservation, neighborhoods, recreation, aesthetics, etc.)
- economic and public development (nonprofit efforts to spur local economies, projects to retain young families in smaller communities, etc.)

On-line Application Process

Applications are submitted online, and the CFCM Staff and Granting Committee will review all applications and make awards decisions. The application has sections for both prose and easily-entered factual data. During the review process, CFCM may contact the applying organization to clarify the request, schedule a site visit, or make suggestions to strengthen the proposal.

2017 Granting Schedule

- June 30, grant opportunities listed on the cfcfoundation.org website (Main Menu/Services/Granting, or Main Menu/Partners/Non-Profits/Granting)
- June 30, Friday, online application process commences
- September 1, Friday, online applications due by 11:59 PM
- October 23, Monday, grant award decisions finalized and notifications will be sent soon thereafter.

Application Guidance

- You must keep to the character limitations for prose (open-ended) questions.
- The application deadline is firm and late applications will not be accepted.
- Organizations which receive a grant agree to allow CFCM to use their organization name, photo, and project story in CFCM printed and digital materials.
- You may call 573-817-5027 if you have questions about the application or process.
- No paper applications will be accepted. If your organization does not have a computer or internet access, such can be found at most public libraries or in other community locations.
- All application questions must be answered in full.

Funding Decisions

Not all grant applications can or will be funded--recent years have seen a ratio of three applications received for every grant awarded. All proposals will be evaluated using the following, minimum criteria:

- organization's mission is compatible with proposed program
- proposal responds to needs of target population in central Missouri
- proposal has meaningful outcomes
- proposal has a reasonable budget
- organization has met all application requirements of CFCM
- proposal receives preference if it addresses one or more of CFCM's funding priorities

Awards are presented at a time of mutual convenience.

Reporting Requirements

All recipient organizations must submit a written, final report to CFCM within 90 days of the conclusion of the program funded. If the funded program or project is not completed within one year of the date of the grant, a progress report is to be sent to the Community Foundation by no later than December 10, 2018. The report should include how the grant funds received were spent and outcomes and accomplishments made possible through funding.