Wayne County Community Youth Foundation Grants

The Wayne County Community Youth Foundation ("WCCYF") was established in Fall 2012 from donations to establish a Wayne County Community Youth Foundation Fund ("WCCYF Fund"). The Youth Foundation is a part of the WCCF and shall adhere to all WCCF policies. Members of the YF shall be youth advisors, who evaluate grant requests and recommend action for approval by the WCCF Board of Trustees.

Application Guidelines for Grant Proposals

Submission Deadline: February 1

Charitable organizations serving the youth of Wayne County are invited to apply for grants from the Youth Foundation Fund by February 1st of each year for projects requiring funding after June 1st each year.

Characteristics of Youth Foundation Grants

Eligible Organizations

By law, the Wayne County Community Foundation can only make grants to organizations recognized by the Internal Revenue Code as nonprofit, tax-exempt, charitable organizations (501(c)(3)s, public schools, and churches); or to qualified governmental agencies. **The Foundation strongly encourages collaborations between and among organizations working to achieve a common goal.** In such collaborations, one organization must be identified as the grantee applicant.

Size of Grants

The amount to award each year varies based on the Foundation's spending policy for permanently endowed funds. Previous awards have ranged from $250 to $15,000. Proposals that demonstrate the most effective use of funds in the context of their programs have the greatest chance for success.

Duration of Grants

Grants are valid for a period of up to one year, with the expectation that the full amount of the grant will be used within that time.

Geographic Range of Grants

Grants must benefit youth in Wayne County, Ohio.

Leadership and Fiscal Accountability

Grantee organizations must have the leadership capacity, financial stability, and appropriate procedures in place for fiscal and organizational accountability.

In order to make the best use of available funds, the Foundation looks for one or more of the following when reviewing proposal requests:

- The project is a well-planned approach to solving a problem and delivering services.
- The use of funds will be efficient and effective.
- Foundation support is vital or catalytic to the success of the project.
- The proposed project is expected to continue after the grant ends.
- Expenses will be reduced by sharing resources with other agencies or groups.
- Due to the nature and size of grants available for youth funding, most YF grants will most probably be to support new initiatives or operating expenses.

The Foundation normally does NOT approve grants from the Youth Foundation Fund to support:

- Deficit financing;
- Endowment funds;
- Annual appeals or membership contributions;
- Conferences, field trips, travel or recognition events;
- The Foundation does not support religious organizations for religious purposes. However, WCCF does support non-religious programs like hunger centers, job training or childcare.
- The Youth Foundation may not award any grants for scholarships from the WCCYF Fund.

Grants are limited to activities and organizations benefiting the greater Wayne County, Ohio area. More specifically, grants from the WCCYF Fund shall be limited to only organizations that benefit youth activities within the greater Wayne County, Ohio area. Grants may not be used to carry on propaganda or otherwise attempt to influence legislation, participate in or intervene in any political campaign on behalf of or in opposition to any candidate for public office, or to conduct, directly or indirectly, any voter registration drive (within the meaning of Section 4945(d)(2) of the Internal Revenue Code).

The Foundation makes grants only to organizations that are recognized by the Internal Revenue Code as nonprofit, tax-exempt, charitable organizations, educational institutions, or to qualified governmental agencies. The Foundation does not make grants to individuals except through scholarship funds.

NOTE: If you are seeking a grant for a group or agency that is not a 501(c)(3) tax-exempt, charitable organization, educational institution, or qualified governmental agency (i.e. booster club, youth group, parent/teacher organization), your group must be affiliated with one of these types of primary organizations to be eligible to apply. When completing the online application, the organization contact information and EIN/Tax ID number applies to the primary organization. Awarded grants will be given to the primary organization for the benefit of your affiliated group.

Organizations receiving grants are required to submit a report to the Foundation **within one year** of receipt of the grant.

Online Grant Proposal Application

All grant applications are completed online through our **Online Grant Portal**.

Answer the questions as completely, yet briefly, as possible. Clearly state the goal of the project for which you are requesting funds and describe how the funds would serve youth in Wayne County, Ohio.

If you are working with other organizations, foundations or businesses please identify them and describe the intended working relationship with each in the appropriate section of the application. You may also attach letters of support.

Please note, first preference will be given to organizations that have not received a grant from the Youth Foundation in the previous year.

Grant Proposal Application Deadline

The grant application deadline is February 1st for a decision before June 1st.

I still have questions!

We aim to keep our website up to date with the most recent information. If you still have questions, please contact us at grants@wccfoh.org and we will be happy to assist!