



GUIDELINES FOR GRANT MAKING (2010)

The Lancaster County Community Foundation mission is to advance the vitality and well-being of people of Lancaster County by inspiring generosity and by being responsible stewards of gifts for future generations.

Key Criteria

Sustainable Change

The Community Foundation seeks to work and invest in organizations, systems and networks that change our community for the better. This means being people centered, financially responsible and acting in a way that will last well into the future.

Collaboration

Systemic change requires interdisciplinary partners working together with a common vision. We are interested in cultivating collaboration and supporting partnerships with a track record of success.

People and Places

The Community Foundation serves all of Lancaster County. We are specifically interested in supporting inclusive organizations that serve a wide array of people and/or focus on an underserved or underrepresented group of people.

Strong Organizational Capacity

We encourage and strive to promote a healthy nonprofit sector. Our interests are in supporting organizations that practice financial responsibility and regularly adapt programmatic capacity to achieve the organizational mission. The Standards for Sustainability outline governance and management practices encouraged by the foundation.

Leadership

Successful applicants will have strong leadership at both the board and staff level and a succession plan. Evidence of collaboration and knowledge in the field is required.

Measureable Results

The Community Foundation expects organizations to articulate goals, strategies and a plan for impact. Measurable results are required for determining the intended community impact.

Application Deadline:

Rolling deadlines and awards
March 26, 2010
July 30, 2010
September 24, 2010

Application Info:

www.lancastercountyfoundation.org

Duration of Grants:

6 months - 36 months

Grant Review Criteria:

Funding periods should be in 6 month increments

Proposals are reviewed based on community benefit, alignment with guidelines, sustainability of organization and project plan.

Grantee Reporting:

Required at least every 180 days using format and including invoices

Award Dates:

May 20, September 23 and November 18 unless noted

Additional Information on the grant review process, review criteria and timeline are available via at www.lancastercountyfoundation.org.



Eligible Organizations and Requests:

- Provide service and benefit to residents of Lancaster County
- Have a current 501(C)(3) designation from the IRS
- Are registered with the Pennsylvania Bureau of Charitable Organizations unless otherwise exempt per the Institutions of Purely Public Charity Act.
- Provide required documents including IRS Form 990 showing a positive financial standing
- Conduct annual audits or have completed a financial review by an independent CPA within 12 months
- Be in good standing with existing awards and contracts from the foundation.
- One proposal per project concept. If the project fits into the purpose of multiple funds, you may develop a budget up to the total amount of all applicable funds. For example, an environmental project in eastern Lancaster County fits the purpose of both the environmental fund and Ressler Fund; a proposal for one project with a budget combining the total amounts available may be submitted.
- Multiple proposals may be submitted per organization although we do recommend limiting how many you submit.

Preference Will Be Given To:

- Organizations promoting collaboration and/or sustainable community change
- Financially stable organizations that have secured matching project funds or are able to leverage Community Foundation funds to obtain additional funds.
- The organization that is best-positioned for success based on financial status and resources
- Organizational decision making inclusive of varying perspectives based on race, ethnicity, sexuality, gender, income and geography.

LCCF Will Not Typically Fund:

- Expenses to assist in the creation of a new organization.
- Individual public, private, and charter schools - exceptions made for schools that serve predominately low-income and/or physically or mentally handicapped students.
- Sponsorships
- Organizations located outside Lancaster County unless they serve residents within the County
- Expenses associated with a capital or political campaigns or capital costs (i.e. equipment, building repairs or maintenance).
- Expenses accrued for the project before the grant has been awarded
- Cemetery associations
- Religious causes or civic agendas that further any specific belief or philosophy or group directly associated with the cause or agenda
- Individuals (except through our scholarship program)

ALL DOLLAR AMOUNTS ARE ESTIMATED. Changes are made at the discretion of the Community Foundation. Final award amounts are determined by the Community Foundation Board of Directors.

In addition to the funds outlined below, the Community Foundation awards grants from donor advised, organizational advised, designated, field of interest, scholarship and organizational endowed funds. The John Baldwin Fellowship Program for nonprofit executive leaders wishing to pursue personalized professional and personal growth is available as part of these funds.

The majority of the foundation's unrestricted funds are distributed through initiatives. The initiatives focus on enhancing or correcting a specific system that positively impacts our community. These funds are not typically disbursed through a competitive process. Instead goals are established at the discretion of the Board of Directors through a community engagement process. Available resources are determined on a 5 year review of foundation assets. For more information contact Shanon Solava-Reid.



Competitive Grant Making Programs (Use Competitive Application)

NEW Funds for 2010 are noted with an asterisk (*).

Ada F. Harr Fund

The Ada F. Harr Fund supports organizations which provide home health or custodial care to sick, disabled, or infirm individuals in Lancaster County.

Resources available: \$50,000

Anne C. & W. Franklin Ressler Fund

The Anne C. & W. Franklin Ressler Fund supports projects intended to benefit residents who live in Eastern Lancaster County, particularly in the areas defined by the Conestoga Valley School District, Eastern Lancaster School District, and Pequea Valley school districts.

Resources available: \$50,000

Better Lancaster Fund

The Better Lancaster Fund supports projects related to early childhood development with a focus on children ages zero to five.

Resources available: \$50,000

Capacity Building Fund*

The Capacity Building Fund is available for organizations to enhance their operations to better serve the community. For example, funds can be used for organizational development activities like strategic planning, staff development and succession planning. Organizations are encouraged to utilize the services provided by Millersville University's Nonprofit Resource Network and Leadership Lancaster's Board Leadership Academy for staff and board development. Funds to support PANO's Standards process qualify for funding. Requests of up to \$20,000 will be considered.

Strategic Alliances are also considered under this fund because they build the capacity of the sector. Organizations having already approved a formal merger, affiliation or acquisition aimed to enhance operational efficiencies are encouraged to contact Shanon Solava-Reid. These activities are fluid and require the submission of written plan and are considered outside of the competitive grant timeline. Additional information is available on the web site. Applications considered on an individual basis and there is no request limit.

Resources available: up to \$350,000

Florence Starr Taylor Fund for the Visual Arts

The Florence Starr Taylor Fund provides support to the visual arts.

Resources available: \$45,000

Lancaster Environmental Fund

The Lancaster Environmental Fund encourages environmental protection, conservation, and environmental education efforts. Funds will be disbursed for the following purposes:

1. To preserve and protect the natural resources and environment of Lancaster County, PA
2. To increase the awareness of the general public of the need to manage and conserve natural resources and to protect the environment
3. To investigate, explore, study and evaluate new, useful and efficient methods, procedures and technologies relating to resource conservation, waste management, and protection of the environment

Resources available: \$75,000



Matching Endowment Opportunity

A match up to \$10,000 is available through a competitive process for organizations interested in opening an agency endowment fund at the Community Foundation. If you are interested in an agency endowment fund check out the endowment guidelines for qualifications and contact Kim Shorter, Vice President of Development at kim@lancastercountyfoundation.org.

Nonprofit Sustainability Matching Fund*

Operational funding is available on a competitive basis for organizations able to meet the Sustainability Standards and raise the required matching funds. The focus of this fund is on financially strong nonprofit organizations with the ability to generate revenue for long term sustainability. Awards will be in the form of unrestricted grant dollars. Applications will be accepted via a separate process (available online) with applications due May 28 at noon. Notification of awards will happen in late July. Organizations with more than 1 year of an operating deficit in the last 5 years, need not apply.

Resources available: at least \$500,000

Innovation Fund*

The Community Foundation encourages new and innovative ideas that have a long term impact on the community. The focus is on creating solutions to long standing problems in our community and identifying emerging opportunities with broad systemic impact. Sponsorships will not be accepted.

Resources available: \$100,000

Patrick Kenney, Jr. Memorial Education Fund

The Patrick Kenney, Jr. Memorial Education Fund encourages better Human Relations in Lancaster County through internships, scholarships, workshops and education.

Resources available: \$15,000

Sam & Verda Taylor Fund for the Performing Arts

The Sam & Verda Taylor Fund provides ongoing support for the performing arts.

Resources available: \$60,000

NEW Funds for 2010 are noted with an asterisk (*).

Questions:

Please call 717.397.1629 or email below

Primary Contact Person for Competitive Grant Applications

Dave Koser, Program Associate

David@lancastercountyfoundation.org

Shanon Solava-Reid, Vice President of Programs

shanon@lancastercountyfoundation.org

Melody Keim, Program Officer

Melody@lancastercountyfoundation.org