

GRANT GUIDELINES
COMMUNITY ENRICHMENT FUND
AVAILABLE AT WWW.IRCOMMUNITYFOUNDATION.ORG

Introduction

Since its establishment in 2008, Indian River Community Foundation (“Community Foundation”) has carried out a mission of building a better community through donor-driven philanthropy. In doing so, the Community Foundation has collected more than \$100 million in contributions, and together with our generous clients, has distributed more than \$50 million in grants to charitable organizations in Indian River County and beyond.

The majority of the Community Foundation’s grants are awarded from charitable giving accounts that are established and advised by local individuals and families. Thanks to the generous contributions from anonymous local philanthropists, however, the Community Foundation is also able to award a limited number of competitive grants on an annual basis.

The Community Foundation currently has funding available to award competitive grants from its Community Enrichment Fund for the following:

Program Support – Grants of up to \$50,000 to support or expand existing programs, or to develop new programs, that are operated by nonprofit 501(c)(3) charitable organizations dedicated to serving Indian River County in the areas of vulnerable individuals and families, education, environment, animal welfare and historic preservation.

Capital Projects and Expenses – Grants of up to \$100,000 to support capital projects, including new initiatives, facility expansion or facility enhancement, that are operated by nonprofit 501(c)(3) charitable organizations dedicated to serving Indian River County in the areas of vulnerable individuals and families, education, environment, animal welfare and historic preservation.

Application Process and Deadlines

The application process begins with a Letter of Idea (“LOI”). LOIs submitted by 5:00pm on the last day of each month are reviewed on a monthly basis in the order in which they are received. Full applications will be invited from those organizations that qualify and present compelling ideas. Submitted applications will be reviewed in the order they are received, and approved or declined by the Board of Directors on a quarterly basis by March 31, June 30, September 30 and December 31 of each year.

Application Requirements

- LOIs and invited applications must be submitted using the Community Foundation’s online grant application available at www.ircommunityfoundation.org.
- To be eligible for this grant opportunity, applicants must be 501(c)(3) public charities dedicated to serving Indian River County, Florida, with an updated profile on www.guidestar.org at the “Silver” level or higher by the time the LOI is submitted. Organizations with a “Platinum” level profile will be given priority consideration.
- All grantees will be required to submit interim and final progress reports.
- All grantees will be required to publicize news of the grant award and to participate in sharing results achieved and lessons learned associated with the grant.

Application Review and Evaluation Criteria

Applications are evaluated using the following criteria:

- Compelling case that grant funds will be used to address a pressing need or important issue in the Indian River County community.
- Clear description of specific use of grant funds and the results to be achieved.
- Strong evidence that the person/people responsible for overseeing use of grant funds is experienced and capable of achieving stated results.
- Achievable timeline that corresponds with key activities.
- Meaningful, measurable benchmarks and indicators of success.
- A track record of (established organizations) or capacity for (new organizations) financial responsibility.

Additional Requirements

The following information is required to be submitted along with your application.

- IRS letter with tax exemption ruling.
- Current Board of Directors list.
- Copy of most recent independent audited financial statement for organizations with annual operating budgets of \$1,000,000 or more, or a reviewed financial statement for organizations with annual operating budgets under \$1,000,000.
- Most recent financial statements for current fiscal year.
- Most recent IRS form 990.
- Organization, program and/or capital project budget.

Questions Answered at Nonprofit Grantseeker Orientation

If you have any questions about the application process please register to attend a nonprofit grantseeker orientation by contacting a member of the Community Foundation's team at grants@ircommunityfoundation.org or 772.492.1407.