

**DISCRETIONARY GRANT GUIDELINES (UPDATED JULY 2022)
FUNDING PRIORITY: VULNERABLE INDIVIDUALS AND FAMILIES**

Introduction

Indian River Community Foundation's discretionary grantmaking is aligned with a vision of a more healthy, prosperous, and generous Indian River County community. Grantmaking priorities are informed by the findings of the most recent community needs assessment and the most current data and information collected on Indian River Indicators. Discretionary grants are available in the following categories:

Category 1: Proven Programs

The Community Foundation has discretionary funding available to award grants of up to \$50,000 to support proven programs operated by nonprofit 501(c)(3) charitable organizations dedicated to serving Indian River County primarily in the areas of health, housing, education, and economic opportunity. Priority will be given to proven programs that serve vulnerable children, adults, or seniors and that address a community need aligned with one or more of the Indian River Indicators listed below.

Category 2: Capital Projects

The Community Foundation also has discretionary funding available to award grants of up to \$100,000 to support capital projects, including facility expansion or facility enhancement, that are operated by nonprofit 501(c)3 charitable organizations dedicated to serving Indian River County primarily in the areas of health, housing, education, and economic opportunity. Priority will be given to organizations with proven programs that serve vulnerable children, adults, or seniors and that address a community need aligned with one or more of the Indian River Indicators listed below. Grants to support capital campaigns are eligible for funding when at least 75 percent of the campaign's goal has been achieved.

Application Process and Deadlines

As a first step, applicants are encouraged to attend a monthly nonprofit grantseeker orientation by contacting a member of the Community Foundation's team at grants@ircommunityfoundation.org or 772.492.1407.

The application process begins with a Letter of Idea ("LOI"). LOIs are reviewed monthly in the order in which they are received. Full applications will be invited from those organizations that qualify and present compelling cases. 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.

To Be Eligible for Consideration

- Applicants must have an online grant application account at www.ircommunityfoundation.org.
- 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 "Platinum" level.

Application Review and Evaluation Criteria

Applications are evaluated using the following criteria:

- Compelling case that funds will be used to address a pressing community need or solve an urgent community problem. Evidence of this need or problem must be supported by data and information from a community needs assessment, Indian River Indicators, or other scientific research.
- Clear description of specific use of grant funds and the results to be achieved.
- Strong evidence that the people responsible for overseeing use of grant funds are 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 financial responsibility.

Additional Requirements

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

- Copy of most recent independent audited financial statement for organizations with annual operating budgets of \$1,000,000 or more, or an independently reviewed financial statement for organizations with annual operating budgets under \$1,000,000.
- Most recent IRS Form 990.
- Current organization operating budget, program budget and/or capital project budget. If multi-county, these documents must be for Indian River County.
- Most recent balance sheet, income statement, and statement of cash position.
- Current board of directors list.
- Minutes from the previous 12 months of board of directors meetings.

Reporting and Publicity

All grantees will be required to submit regular progress reports, participate in site visits, publicize news of the grant award, and participate in sharing results achieved and lessons learned associated with the grant.

Priority Areas of Need and Associated Indian River Indicators

Health

- Increase Access to Healthy Food and Nutrition
- Reduce Teen Pregnancy
- Increase Prenatal Care in the First Trimester
- Reduce Infant Mortality
- Increase Health and Prosperity for At-Risk Mothers and Infants
- Reduce Risky Behaviors Among Children After School (specifically those that can lead to overdose, hospitalization, or death.)
- Increase Access to Behavioral Health Care
- Increase Access to Substance Use Prevention and Treatment
- Reduce Undesired Outcomes Associated with Poor Behavioral Health or Substance Use
- Reduce Accidents and Other Adverse Health Incidents Among Seniors (specifically those caused by lack of access to medical and/or behavioral health care.)

Education

- Provide Affordable, Quality Early Childhood Education
- Increase Kindergarten Readiness
- Increase 3rd Grade Reading Proficiency
- Increase 8th Grade Math Proficiency
- Reduce Risky Behaviors Among Children After School (specifically those that can lead to school absence or school drop-out.)
- Increase Career or Technical Training
- Increase High School Graduation Rates

Economic Opportunity

- Increase College Access, Persistence, and Completion
- Increase Career or Technical Training
- Increase Access to Healthy Food and Nutrition
- Increase Living Wage Employment, Household Income, and Household Net Worth

Housing

- Prevent or Reduce Homelessness
- Provide Affordable, Quality Housing to Vulnerable Individuals and Families
- Reduce Accidents and Other Adverse Incidents Among Seniors (specifically those caused by unsafe or substandard housing.)