

# Community Foundation of Central Missouri

## Community Granting Fund Guidelines 2023

### Community Support Grants

#### Overview

The Community Foundation of Central Missouri (CFCM) seeks 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, Moniteau, and Randolph counties).

#### 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.

#### Community Support Grant Period and Amount

Community Support Grants are awarded annually, and we estimate that approximately 10 grants between \$500-\$1,500 each will be awarded during the 2023 cycle.

#### 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.

To receive a Community Support Grant (if your organization did not receive one last year), the organization must consistently pursue work that falls into at least one of the following four CFCM priority funding areas. This means that the organization's mission, or much of its programming, as well as the proposed application project, falls within of one of the following four areas:

- human capacity development, especially for disadvantaged persons (equal opportunity, poverty reduction, education and literacy, 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.)

If an organization received a CFCM Community Support Grant in 2022, it is not eligible to receive an award this year.

### **On-line Application Process**

All applications are submitted online, and the CFCM staff and Grants Committee will review all applications and make awards decisions. 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.

### **2023 Granting Schedule**

- June 30, Friday, online grant application process commences end of day
- August 25, Friday, online applications due by 11:59:59 PM
- End of October, grant award decisions finalized, and notifications 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 and photo in marketing materials.
- You may call 573-817-5027 or email [info@cfcmfoundation.org](mailto:info@cfcmfoundation.org) if you have questions about the application or process.
- No paper applications will be accepted. All application questions must be answered in full. Please contact CFCM staff if your organization does not have a computer or internet access.

## **Funding Decisions**

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

- organization's mission is compatible with CFCM funding priority areas
- organization responds to needs in central Missouri
- organization's work provides meaningful outcomes
- organization is facing financial challenges
- organization has met all application requirements of CFCM
- organization did not receive a CFCM Support Grant in 2021

Awards are presented at a time of mutual convenience.

## **Reporting Requirements**

All recipient organizations must submit a written, final report to CFCM within 180 days to let us know how the organization is faring and what impact the cash grant had on the organization's impact for others. The report (two-three paragraphs only) is due to the Community Foundation by May 31, 2024.