



WOMEN'S FUND
of OMAHA

Community Impact Grants 2012 Request for Proposals

The Women's Fund of Omaha examines issues and conducts research to provide informed support for initiatives that improve the lives of metropolitan area women and girls.

2012 FUNDING AREAS

The Board of Directors of the Women's Fund has identified specific programmatic priorities for its 2012 community impact grants. **Applications outside these interest areas will not be considered.** The Women's Fund will support new and existing programs benefiting **women ages 18 and up** in these interest areas:

- Economic self-sufficiency
Examples: Programs focusing on financial literacy, home ownership, etc.
- Domestic violence
Examples: Programs for prevention, advocacy, coordination, intervention, education, etc.
- Leadership development
Examples: Programs for underrepresented women, small businesses, neighborhood organizations, etc.

The Women's Fund will also support programs for **girls and young women ages 13 and up** in the following area:

- Sexual literacy programs
Examples: Programs on awareness, education, prevention and/or intervention; programs to enhance self-esteem, etc.

Continuation grants: Requests for continuation grants for projects recently or currently supported by the Women's Fund will be considered as long as they are consistent with the above priorities. Preferential consideration will be given to projects that have been responsibly managed, demonstrated successful outcomes, and complied with Women's Fund grant reporting requirements.

FUNDING PRIORITIES

The Women's Fund will give special consideration to:

- Applicant organizations for which women are the primary decision makers.
- Applicant organizations with women and minorities on the board of directors.
- Applicant organizations that have been in existence for at least three years.
- Programs that incorporate education, self-development or self-awareness, and/or relationships or mentoring.
- Projects that address the needs of low-income and underserved women and women of color.
- Programs that are collaborative in nature and that draw upon the collective strength of the partners.
- Programs that include cost-sharing by the applicant and/or third parties.

FUNDING AMOUNTS:

Awards will generally range from \$5,000 to \$10,000.

CRITERIA FOR FUNDING:

1. Only 501(c) (3) organizations in the Omaha metropolitan area are eligible. However, an organization based outside of Omaha with an active program in Omaha will be considered. Grants are not made to individuals.
2. Only programs where at least 75% of clients served are women over the age of 18 will be considered (except for applications for sexual literacy programs, where the age is 13 and up).
3. Except under unusual circumstances, grants are not given for endowments, capital campaigns, deficit funding, or general operating expenses.
4. Less consideration is given to applications from tax supported institutions, individual churches and similar religious groups, veteran and labor organizations, social clubs and fraternal organizations.
5. Applications are not accepted from any organization that has an owner, officer or executive-level employee serving on the Women’s Fund of Omaha Board of Directors. (see list on last page)

Application Procedure for Community Impact Grants

Submit 15 copies of the application including the following attachments:

1. IRS letter confirming the organization’s 501 (c)(3) status.
2. Actual income and expense statements for the past and current fiscal years, identifying principal sources of revenue.
3. Names of the Board of Directors and their principal occupation.
4. Copy of the most recent final report if your agency received a Women’s Fund Community Impact Grant in the last three years.

Please paperclip the 15 individual copies – no staples.

In addition, submit one (1) copy of the organization’s most recent audited financial statement.

Only applications that are complete will be considered.

**Applications MUST be received by 4 p.m. Friday, June 1, 2012
Women’s Fund of Omaha
7602 Pacific St., Suite 300, Omaha, NE 68114**

Awards will be presented at the Women's Fund Fall Luncheon on October 18, 2012

HAVE QUESTIONS ABOUT PREPARING YOUR GRANT?

WOMEN’S FUND GRANT WORKSHOP

**Friday, April 20, 2012 – 3:30 to 5 p.m.
Methodist Hospital – 8303 Dodge**

Centennial Room - second floor conference room by the cafeteria

Register online – see link at www.omahawomensfund.org under Grants
or call 402.827.9280

Registration deadline is 11 a.m. Wednesday, April 18, 2012

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Proposal Outline and Guidelines Community Impact Grants

Please adhere to the recommended space limitations and content and formatting guidelines:

- I. **Project Abstract** (Not to exceed one page)
Identify the priorities to be addressed, the objectives and the proposed strategy for achieving them. Indicate the total estimated project costs, the amount requested from the Women's Fund and other principal sources of support.
- II. **Project Narrative** (Not to exceed five pages. Organize content under the following section heads.)
 - A. Introduction: Describe the organization's capacity to undertake the project. Indicate its past achievements, experience and accomplishments in serving women and girls. Summarize the proposed project and its relevance to the organization's mission. Describe how the organization utilizes women as decision makers.
 - B. Problem/Needs Statement: Describe the problem to be addressed using current data from internal and/or external sources. Describe in quantifiable terms the population to be served. Describe how the proposed program meets the priorities outlined on page 1 of this RFP.
 - C. Collaboration/Coordination: Indicate if/how your organization will collaborate with other agencies/organizations in the implementation of this project. Be specific as to how the proposed project would expand or complement existing community services.
 - D. Program Objectives/Evaluation: List the objectives and expected outcomes of the project in measurable terms. Who will be better off, and how, at the end of the grant period? How will the project be evaluated, and when will the evaluation report be shared with the Women's Fund?
 - E. Methods: Describe the sequence of activities needed to accomplish the program objectives. Describe staffing and other resource needs. Highlight any special methods, best practices or techniques to be employed in carrying out the project.
 - F. Future and Additional Funding: Describe the financial plan for current and future support of the proposed project. Identify any pending grant applications and what impact it will have on the project should these funds not be secured. If the project will be continued after this year, how will it be supported?
- III **Project Budget** (Not to exceed two pages)
Present a line item budget that delineates all project expenses and matching funds. Provide a separate budget narrative that justifies each line item and explains the nature and source of matching funds.

NOTE: A thorough review of your grant may involve contacting a variety of people including your board members, other agencies, other grant makers, your clients, and members of the community. If you do not wish us to contact any one or all of these groups, please advise us in writing. The Foundation maintains a file on all agencies that have applied or received its grant monies. These files are open to community donors.

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