



REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS

EXCELLENCE IN SERVICE TO WOMEN GRANT

The Women's Fund of Greater Omaha is pleased to announce a special grant to be awarded in October 2010. The \$25,000 grant is intended to recognize and encourage excellence in programming for women by honoring programs with a proven track record of success. Award monies may be used at the discretion of the recipient for general operating expenses or programming.

In making this award, the Women's Fund seeks to recognize programs that have been responsibly managed and can demonstrate successful outcomes for the women served in measurable and concrete terms. Applicants must describe the specific impact their programs have had on the women served, e.g. percentage of women gaining employment within one month of completing program, percentage of women obtaining permanent housing within one month of program, etc.

Consistent with the mission of the Women's Fund, any program with a focus on the economic, educational, physical, emotional, social, personal or professional growth or well-being of women in the greater Omaha area will be considered. In making the award decision, the Women's Fund will give consideration to:

- Programs that reverse negative social trends and conditions affecting women.
- Programs that enable women and the organizations serving them to achieve economic self-sufficiency.
- Applicant organizations in which women are the primary decision makers.

CRITERIA FOR FUNDING:

- Only existing programs in which 75% or more of the clients served are women over the age of 18 will be considered.
- Only 501(c)(3) organizations with an active program based in metropolitan Omaha are eligible.
- Organizations that have received an Excellence Award must wait 3 years before applying again. However, recipients of Women's Fund Community Initiated Grants in any year are eligible to apply for this award.
- Grants are not made to individuals.
- Less consideration will be given to applications from tax supported institutions, individual churches and similar religious groups, veteran and labor organizations, social clubs and fraternal organizations.

HOW TO APPLY:

Applicants should submit a letter (not to exceed three pages) which provides the following information in the following order:

1. An overview of the applicant organization and its mission.
2. A description of the organization's overall impact on women in Omaha.
3. A concise description of the program to be considered for recognition, including number of women served.
4. An outcomes-based narrative on the impact of the program on those served – program evaluations, surveys, etc. (see page 1).
5. The level to which women participate in the decisions made by the organization.
6. A brief description of the organization's track record regarding collaboration.

Please note that letters of application longer in length than three (3) pages will not be considered. The letter should be submitted on the organization's letterhead and signed by both the chief executive and board president.

In addition, the application packet must include:

- A copy of the IRS letter confirming the organization's 501 (c)(3) status.
- A list of current board members and their professional affiliations.
- Two (2) testimonial letters from program clients.
- A copy of the organization's most recent budget.

Six (6) copies of the complete application packet are due at the Women's Fund Office by 4 p.m. **Wednesday, June 2, 2010**. No handwritten, faxed or emailed copies will be accepted. Incomplete applications will not be reviewed. There are no exceptions.

Submit application to: Women's Fund of Greater Omaha 7602 Pacific St., Suite 300, Omaha, NE 68114.

Direct questions to 827-9280 or sthompson@omahawomensfund.org