

Women's Fund Grants

Supporting organizations improving the lives of women and girls in Black Hawk County

Grant Guidelines

Women's Fund – 2022

SNAPSHOT		
APPLICATION OPENS	May 10, 2022	This document provides the necessary details about this specific grant opportunity, including deadlines and eligibility requirements. For information about accessing the online grants management site, tips on grantwriting, and more, visit the Grantseeker Resources section of our website (www.cfneia.org). If you have any additional questions, please contact Program Manager Dotti Thompson at 319-243-1358 or dthompson@cfneia.org .
APPLICATION DEADLINE	July 31, 2022	

About the Women's Fund

The Women's Fund is a permanent endowment fund that was established within the Community Foundation of Northeast Iowa in 1999. Women's Fund grants are used to support programs and projects benefiting women and girls in Black Hawk County. The members of Women for Good, a leadership initiative of the Community Foundation promoting the intellectual and economic growth of women, advise the grants from the Women's Fund each year.

What We Support

The Women's Fund supports projects or programs addressing issues that lead to long-term change for Black Hawk County women and girls. This grant opportunity provides funding in the following focus areas:

Education and Literacy

Projects providing education and literacy to all ages that enhance the leadership, cognitive, and/or knowledge skills of women and girls. Educational opportunities for girls and women to learn and experience things that will expand skills leading to long-term economic, personal, and career development.

Health and Healthcare

Projects that concentrate on identifying and addressing healthcare issues specific to women and girls. Organizations that offer specialized programs addressing the mental, emotional, and/or physical health for women and girls.

Poverty and Homelessness

Projects that address the unique challenges for women and girls dealing with poverty and homelessness. Programming approaches that provide concrete assistance in obtaining housing, moving out of poverty, and creating long-term solutions to these issues.

Violence and Safety

Projects that focus on the safety of women and girls within their community, homes, and schools. Violence prevention efforts that include educating on the individual, institutional, and societal level through specific programming and advocacy strategies.

Eligibility to Apply for Funding

Organizations must provide benefits to women and girls of Black Hawk County **and** must meet the following criteria in order to apply for a grant:

- Be classified as a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization or be a government entity. Tax-exempt organizations classified as *other* than 501(c)(3) are also eligible **if, and only if**, the project is deemed charitable; please contact our office to discuss the project's eligibility prior to submitting a proposal.
- Be current with all state and federal reporting requirements, such as filing of 990 forms.
- Must not have any past due grant reports for previous Women's Fund grants.

Restrictions

- **Public and private schools and school districts** may apply, but the Foundation will not fund capital improvements, salaries or technology/equipment requests. Priority will be given to requests for innovative, replicable projects.
- Requests are for one year only.
- Organizations may only submit one proposal annually.
- If awarded, **grants must be expended within Black Hawk County**. Administrative or other fees paid to a parent organization are not eligible budget expenses.
- Request minimum is \$1,000 and maximum is \$20,000.
- Inherently religious activities such as religious worship, instruction, or proselytization or activities that promote specific religious doctrine are not eligible.
- Requests for funds to be re-granted (pass-through funds) by the applicant are not eligible.
- Requests for programmatic scholarships are eligible.
- Requests for operational support from other foundations are not eligible.
- The Women's Fund currently does not accept requests for **capital campaigns**.
- **Late, incomplete, or hard copy applications will not be considered**. Incomplete applications are those that are in DRAFT mode at the time of the application deadline.

Review Criteria

Applications will be reviewed and scored on the following elements:

- **Organization** – The overall health and reputation of the organization and how the application reflects the organization's capability for completing the project.
- **Feasibility** – The probability the project will be successful, including the organization's level of staff/volunteers and collaboration with community partners.
- **Community Need and Outcomes** – The need for the project and how the proposed outcomes impact Black Hawk County women and girls.
- **Project Budget** – The details of the budget and the ability to secure and/or leverage other funding sources, including in-kind services.

Funding Priorities

The Women's Fund Committee prioritizes grant requests according to the following criteria:

- Projects that address a critical and urgent need by fostering a solution-based approach
- Effective programming focused on creating significant and direct impact to women and girls in Black Hawk County
- Projects that show innovative approaches to advancing women's and girls' growth and success
- Projects that show other funding and/or community support or that will use this grant to leverage additional funding support
- Proposals that include budgets that are clear and detailed

How to Apply

Applicants interested in seeking grants from the Community Foundation should fully review these grant guidelines prior to submitting an application to ensure all eligibility requirements are met. Applications must be submitted through the foundation's online grant management system, which can be located in the grant opportunity section of www.cfneia.org. Also located on the website are helpful resources for logging in and navigating the online grants system.

Important Dates

- **The grant application deadline is 5:00 pm on July 31, 2022. Support for applicants will be available until 5:00pm on July 29th.**
- All applicants will be notified of the results of the grant decisions in mid-September 2022.
- 2022 grantees are invited to the Women for Good Holiday Luncheon on December 15, 2022.
- Grant Reports, for successful proposals, will be due by **October 31, 2023**.

Grant Conditions

Awarded applicants are required to:

- Sign a Terms of Grant agreement which clarifies legal parameters for use of the grant.
- Submit a Grant Report to show the results of the project and to show that all the funds have been spent as intended. (If the project takes longer to complete, the Community Foundation will consider a request to extend the Grant Report deadline.)

Questions

Organizations interested in applying are advised to contact Program Manager, Dotti Thompson, (319-243-1358 or dthompson@cfneia.org) with specific questions on submission procedures or eligibility.