

Winneshiek County Community Foundation

Grant Workshop
November 21, 2022



WINNESHIEK COUNTY
**COMMUNITY
FOUNDATION**

here for good.

Welcome

- Community Foundation of Northeast Iowa is the host foundation for the Winneshiek County Community Foundation
- Winneshiek County Community Foundation is governed by individuals from throughout Winneshiek County
- Grant decisions are made locally through a grant review process

2022-2023 WCCF Committee Members

Dianne Ameling, treasurer	Chelsey Kephart
Jeannie Boyer	Mark Kuhn
Tracy Dostal	Marcia McKelvey
Nathan Ersig	Emily Mineart
Jana Evelsizer Olson	Keith Newhouse
Terry Haindfield	Joe Skretta, chair
Lilly Jensen, vice-chair	

Ashley Christensen- Upper Explorerland Regional Planning Commission, administrative support

Dotti Thompson-Community Foundation of Northeast Iowa Grant & Scholarship Manager, advisor and technical support

Reminders

- This session is being recorded.
- All participants are muted for the duration of the workshop.
- If you have a question, please use the CHAT box to type and submit. Ashley is monitoring it and we'll answer questions at the end of the workshop.

WCCF Panel



Marcia McKelvey



Emily Mineart



Nathan Ersig



Keith Newhouse

Workshop Agenda

- Overview of Guidelines and Grant Application
- Funding Priorities
- Grant Review Criteria
- Q & A and Wrap-up

Address Important Needs in the County

The Winneshiek County Community Foundation provides grants to improve life in Winneshiek County. Our mission is to strengthen communities by supporting meaningful projects that benefit rural areas of the county.



Arts
& Culture



Community
Betterment



Education
& Youth
Development



Environment
& Animal
Welfare



Health



Human
Service

Notes about the Grant Cycle

- Requests for general operating costs are not accepted.
- One year to complete projects (report is due April 2024).
- Maximum grant request amount is \$20,000. Minimum grant request amount is \$1,000. Grants awarded generally range from \$3,000-\$5,000.
- Project bids are required for work or items that are more than 5% of the total costs or more than \$50.
- Include a list of your organization's current Board of Directors or Governing Body.

Start on your application early.

It is already mid-November and the due date is January 15, 2023 by 5:00 pm.

- The grant application is available now online at the Community Foundation of Northeast Iowa's website under Winneshiek County.

<https://www.cfneia.org/affiliates/winneshiek-county#grants>

Tip: Ask someone who is unfamiliar with your project to read your request. They may have questions that will help you in writing your application.

And reach out to Dotti Thompson, CFNEIA Grant & Scholarship Manager for assistance.

Eligibility and Restrictions

Full details available in the Grant Guidelines online.

- 501(c)3 or government entity. Other tax-exempt status should contact Dotti for guidance.
- Up-to-date on tax filing and past grant reporting
- Minimum grant request is \$1,000; Maximum grant request is \$20,000.
- Must use Budget template that is provided
- Inherently religious activities are not eligible.
- Submitted on time. Deadline is January 15, 2023 by 5:00 pm.

Funding Priorities

The WCCF gives priority to projects that:

- Address important needs in the county.
- Encourage additional funding including matching gifts from other donors and in-kind donations.
- Provide realistic plans for continuation funds (if applicable) from other sources.
- Yield substantial benefits to the county for the resources invested.
- Are new, innovative and have not been previously funded.

Priorities \neq Hard Requirements

Your project may not meet all of these priorities. If it doesn't, that doesn't mean your project is ineligible.

BUT

...these priorities confer **weight** and **consideration** in the review process.

The more of these priorities a project meets, and **meets strongly**, the **more likely** your project will receive funding.

(If a project doesn't meet *any* of them, it is unlikely to receive funding.)

**Address important needs in the
county**

Encourage Additional Funding- including matching gifts from other donors and in-kind donations

- The Community Foundation is **not the sole source** of funds.
- Other **grants**, other **donations**.
- Investment from your own **agency funds**.
- **In-kind** donations (goods and services).

Provide Realistic Plans for Continuation of Funds (if applicable) from other sources

- What will happen to your project after the grant is over?
- Is it a **one-time** project, or will the funded activities **continue**?
- If so, how will it be **funded in the future**?

**Yield Substantial Benefits to the
County for the Resources Invested**

Are New, Innovative and Have Not Been Previously Funded

- **New** -- your organization has never done this particular activity/program/project before.
- **Innovative** - your project is smart, fresh, and creatively meets needs in the county.
- **Not been previously funded** -- your organization may have previously received Foundation funds, but not for this same identical activity.

Grant Review Criteria

Guide decisions to ensure best use of WCCF funds in support of most meaningful, impactful projects.

Rubric-based

Scored on the quality of the *proposed project*, not the application

Reviewers do not score any applications they have a Conflict of Interest with

Use them to make your application and your project better!

Remember: We want to fund you!

Organizational Health and Capability

Is this organization going to be able to complete this project?

- Fiscal stability
- Appropriate personnel
- Previous successes

Being new isn't a disqualification. You just have to demonstrate that you are capable of doing the project!

Project Feasibility

How likely is this project to be completed successfully?

- **Implementation Strategy:**
 - Is there a solid plan for making the project happen?
 - How will you measure the success of the project?
 - Does the project build capacity to bring the organization/program to the next level?
- **Timeline:**
 - Is the timeline for completion realistic?
 - What unknowns could throw that timeline off and what would it mean for the success of the project?

Project Feasibility

How likely is this project to be completed successfully?

- Sustainability:
 - Are there multiple people/organizations funding this project?
 - How will the project continue after this round of funding?
- Community Partners:
 - Are there others working to make this project happen?

Community Need

How important is the project to the community?

- This is an important piece to articulate clearly, show us you need it!
 - Get a “second opinion” on what you have written
 - It’s your one time to grab the attention of the grant scorer and make an impression
 - Know that your audience is looking at a lot of applications

Community Need

How important is the project to the community?

- Community can take on different forms, how does it improve your community?
 - Bricks and mortar?
 - Communication?
 - Education?
- Show the needs of the community and how your project fills that need.

Project Budget

Is the budget well planned? Are costs appropriate?

- Very important to the success of any project, here or elsewhere, it needs to be clear where the money is coming from and where it is going.
 - Compare to a project at home or work
 - Know that you have to show where the money goes
- A well-prepared budget is a great way to show that you are prepared and have put time and effort into it before it even begins.
- Applicants should obtain recent project bids or estimates to include with your application.

Project Budget

Is the budget well planned? Are costs appropriate?

- All of the applications will be asking for support through a grant because they need money to help complete the project, find ways to separate your application
 - Show collaboration
 - Show in-kind donations
 - Show volunteer efforts
 - Show it is part of a bigger picture
- Make sure your numbers add up on the project worksheet
 - Have someone double check your work
 - Have someone make sure your budget worksheet makes sense

The Budget Template

The following items are part of the budget template.

- **Pending** -- you've asked for a grant or donation, but don't know yet whether you'll receive it in full.
- **Secured** -- you've been *told* that you'll receive a grant or donation, but the money is not yet in your organization's bank account.
- **Received** -- the grant or donation is in your bank account and ready to go.

If you have questions about any of the above terms and how they apply to your application, contact Dotti to inquire further.

Outcomes

How well are the projected outcomes articulated? Are the stated outcome measurable?

- It can be hard to measure the outcome, especially right away. Think in terms of success.
- What need did it fulfill?
- What improvement did it make for the community?
- Who did it help? What did it save your community of or what else were you able to do because the community foundation helped with this?

2022 Grant Awards

Arts & Culture

- ArtHaus, *ArtHaus Community Gallery Remodel*, \$5,000
- City of Spillville, *Civic Improvement Association – Inwood Stage*, \$4,800
- Laura Ingalls Wilder Park and Museum, *Relocating the Burr Oak One-Room Schoolhouse*, \$5,000
- New Minowa Players, *Sound System*, \$3,000
- Winneshiek County Historical Society, *Preserving, Indexing, and Digitizing the Ossian Bee*, \$5,000

Community Betterment

- City of Calmar, *Fire Department – Equipment Update*, \$7,293.79
- City of Decorah, *Library – Mobile Outreach Booth*, \$3,357.41
- City of Fort Atkinson, *Community Center/Gym - HVAC System Upgrade*, \$5,000
- City of Ossian, *Community Center – Opening Doors to Everyone*, \$8,400
- City of Ossian, *Fire Department – Breathing Apparatuses*, \$5,000
- Decorah Volunteer Fire Dept Association, *Rescuer Safety*, \$7,820.50
- Fort Atkinson Firefighter's Association, *2022 Firefighter Protective Gear*, \$3,580.64
- Protivin Firefighters, *New Protivin Fire Station FY22*, \$4,800
- Ridgeway Rural Fire Department, *Personal Safety Turnout Gear*, \$5,117.60

Education & Youth Development

- Helping Services for Youth & Families, *Youth Mentoring at Helping Services*, \$5,000
- Sunflower Child Development Center, *Sunflower's Growing Healthy Kids Initiative – Kitchen Equipment*, \$4,700
- Toys Go 'Round Toy Lending Library, *TGR Back to Basics – 30 Years & Counting!*, \$5,700

Environment & Animal Welfare

- Winneshiek County – Auditor, *Conservation – Dry Run Bridge – Decorah to the Greenbelt*, \$20,000

Health

- Aase Haugen Senior Services, *Spa Enhancements for Well-Being & Quality of Life*, \$5,600
- Winneshiek Medical Center Foundation, *Rehabilitation and Sports Medicine Remodel*, \$5,000

Human Service

- Allamakee New Beginnings/Iowa Food Hub, *Delivery Truck to Distribute Local Foods*, \$5,000
- Northeast Iowa Area Agency on Aging, *Winneshiek County Home Delivered Meals General Operating Expenses*, \$5,000
- Northeast Iowa Food Bank, *Feeding Families*, \$5,000
- Riverview Center, Inc, *Winneshiek County Sexual Assault Crisis Response Program*, \$5,000

Questions and Answers

The slide features a white background with a decorative graphic on the right side. This graphic consists of several overlapping, semi-transparent green shapes in various shades, ranging from light lime green to dark forest green. These shapes are primarily triangular and polygonal, creating a layered, abstract effect. A thin, light gray line also runs diagonally across the lower right portion of the slide, intersecting the green shapes.

For grant-related questions, contact:
Dotti Thompson, Grant & Scholarship Manager
email: dthompson@cfneia.org
319-243-1358 phone (*direct*)

Application is online at:
www.winneshiekccf.org

Important dates to remember:
November 15—Grant application is available
January 15, 2023 at 5:00 pm—Grant application is DUE

Awards are made and announced in March 2023

Reports are due April 2024