

Community Foundation of Broward

Grant Guidelines



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The mission of the Community Foundation of Broward is: to provide leadership on community solutions, and foster philanthropy that connects people who care with causes that matter.

Driven by our mission, the Community Foundation of Broward continuously works to support projects that enhance the quality of life in our community by awarding grants to the most innovative, comprehensive projects that address existing needs in our community and make a difference in Broward County.

Priority is given to proposals that address one of the following:

1. **Youth who are emancipated from the foster care system:** A positive transition to independence for former foster youth.
2. **Civic Engagement:** Opportunities for citizens to take on active roles to identify issues of public concern and/or create solutions for the community.
3. **Youth and Families:** Supporting the success and vitality of Broward County's youth and families.
4. **HIV/AIDS:** Prevention and Education
5. **Capacity Building:** *Boards In Action!* Program grants

Preference will be given to proposals that:

- use a collaborative approach to produce stronger results
- pursue strategies that address new or emerging needs or approach existing ones more effectively
- address multiple areas under each initiative
- demonstrate effective programs with clearly defined compelling outcomes

Eligibility for Grants

Grants are awarded to tax exempt, public charities designated as 501(c)(3) organizations as defined by the Internal Revenue Service and to governmental agencies. The proposals considered for support must be located in Broward County or directly benefit the residents of Broward County. Organizations who are in the process of applying for their 501(c)(3) may use a fiscal agent that is a 501(c)(3) to apply.

Award Limitations

Grants are not awarded in the following areas: capital campaign/improvements, deficit financing, endowment efforts, to individuals, for religious purposes, or routine operating needs. The average amount awarded is \$10,000.

Community Foundation Grant Review Dates

Grant proposals are accepted throughout the year and are reviewed according to the following dates. Proposals must be submitted via **PhilNet** by 5:00 p.m. on the last day of each grant cycle. Dates that fall on weekends or holidays are extended to 5:00 pm the next business day.

Grant Cycles	Proposals received between...	...will receive notice by:
Cycle 1	March 18 and June 17	October 14
Cycle 2	June 18 and August 15	December 14
Cycle 3	August 16 and December 17	April 14
Cycle 4	December 18 and March 17	June 14

Priority Details

- 1. Youth who are emancipated from the foster care system.** A positive transition to independence for former foster youth.

The foster care system in Florida emancipates youth at age 18, often without adequate support and preparation for entry into the society as a productive citizen. These youth often face homelessness, poverty, lack of access to critically needed medical and mental health treatment, as well as other issues.

The Foundation will support projects for youth 18+ who have transitioned out of the foster care system. Projects should seek to provide comprehensive services to ensure the best outcomes, either through direct service or collaboration and must address issues listed below:

- ***Housing*** – provide affordable transitional housing opportunities with supervision and coordinated services to support their transition into adulthood. This can include: subsidized housing arrangements, boarding homes, supportive living facilities.
- ***Health Care*** – provide preventive services, information and referral, mental health, substance abuse and social service support to alleviate the health care crisis within this population.
- ***Life Skills Training and Support System*** – provide training, case management, and service coordination, to help youth struggling with life issues become self-sufficient, confident contributors to society. This includes projects that provide a mentor, help youth to develop essential personal and social skills, and build a positive support network.
- ***Transportation*** – provide transportation options, such as bus fare waivers, to youth under supervised transitional projects that will increase their mobility in order to continue with education and/or employment and have access to services.
- ***Educational and Career Opportunities***- provide a comprehensive set of work readiness, basic education, and career development services including subsidized work experience opportunities.

- 2. Civic Engagement.** Opportunities for citizens to take on active roles to identify issues of public concern and/or create solutions for the community.

Communities with the greatest and most diverse citizen participation are often resilient and strong. Engaging citizens to address common issues is essential for educated decision-making. Civic engagement is designed to increase the active involvement in issues. It builds a sense of ownership and inter-connectedness in communities and helps individuals realize that their participation matters.

Civic engagement can take many forms. It can encompass the actions of an individual, or the efforts of a group that address issues affecting themselves, others, or the community in which they live and work. Being civically engaged can range from volunteering, serving in a community association, rallying to solve a neighborhood problem, helping a neighbor, writing letters to

politicians, voting or running for office. The key is giving citizens, youth and adults, opportunities to give back and make a difference by addressing challenges they and/or their communities face. These opportunities should empower individuals to better their lives or the lives of others through community action.

Organizations submitting civic engagement proposals must clearly demonstrate how the project supports the mission of the organization as well as present solid strategies for engaging citizens in actions/activities that are of value and to them and/or the community. All projects must be able to demonstrate measurable impact in changing peoples' lives and/or the community.

3. Youth and Families. Supporting the success and vitality of Broward County's youth and families.

The more support young people receive from their family and community, the more likely they are to be successful. However, many families lack the tools needed to ensure members: stay safe, are healthy, receive a good education, and are prepared for the future. Additionally, many parents are challenged when it comes to providing guidance and support to their children to make sure they thrive, are successful in school and lead productive lives.

Every family needs fundamental resources to create opportunities for success in life. The Community Foundation will support projects that include one or more of the four principles below.

- ***extra curricular/out of school activities*** – At risk youth should have access to a safe place to spend unstructured time after school or on weekends. Projects should provide constructive activities, such as; academics, personal development, health, and/or physical fitness.
- ***health and wellness*** – Children need a healthy start before they begin school starting with prenatal care and early immunizations. Parents also need to understand the importance of ensuring they make healthy choices as role models and providers for their children. Projects should help parents and children maintain a healthy lifestyle through ongoing health and wellness education and services. Children and adolescents also need accessible and affordable healthcare; including good nutrition; eye, ear, and dental checkups; and regular exercise.
- ***basic skills for future success*** – Youth who stay in school are more likely to learn fundamental skills needed for future success. However, it is imperative that both youth *and* adults master basic academic and analytical skills in order prepare for employment and other life enrichment activities. Services must be available to youth and adults to help them develop skills so they will have the most potential for achieving success and independence and supporting a favorable quality of life for themselves and family members.
- ***ongoing relationships with caring adults*** – Caring adults, whether they are parents, relatives, neighbors, teachers, or mentors, can serve as a guide and role model for young people. Adults must learn strategies to help them successfully connect with youth and provide support and guidance. Projects must help ensure all youth have the opportunity to develop relationships with a caring adult.

4. **HIV/AIDS Prevention.** The Broward HIV Prevention Plan is the guide for our HIV/AIDS prevention grantmaking. An RFP is issued in July for HIV/AIDS Prevention Projects with an application deadline date in September. An RFP and application will be made available on our website. Grants are awarded once annually.

5. **Capacity Building.** Strengthening nonprofits' ability to deliver quality programs. Building the capacity of nonprofits is one way to ensure that they are providing programs and services that strengthen our communities. The nonprofit sector can be strengthened by building the infrastructure of agencies that provide key services to our community. Nonprofit executives and board leaders must be equipped with sound leadership, governance skills, and knowledge that will enable them to help carry out the mission of the organization which they serve.

Only those organizations completing the Foundation's *Boards In Action! Leadership Academy* will be eligible to apply for a capacity building leadership grant.

The *Boards In Action!* program, offered once annually and coordinated through the Foundation's Nonprofit Resource Center, has a separate application and participant selection process. Organizations who are registered with the Nonprofit Resource Center will receive notification on dates for classes and the application process. Call Carrie Turner, Nonprofit Resource Center Director at 954-761-9503 xt. 102 to learn more about the program, or visit www.cfbroward.org

Additional funding Opportunities: Request for Proposals (RFP)

Several Funds have been established to support specific areas of interest. In order to ensure an abundance of targeted proposals are submitted, RFP announcements will be issued at specific times throughout the year. These proposals will be reviewed by a committee that consists of Community Foundation staff and the Fundholder(s) who will make award decisions.

- ***HIV/AIDS Prevention:*** The Broward HIV Prevention Plan is the guide for our HIV/AIDS prevention grantmaking. An RFP is issued in July for HIV/AIDS Prevention Projects with an application deadline date in September. An RFP and application will be made available on our website. Grants are awarded once annually.
- ***Animal Welfare:*** Protect and Educate: Properly caring for animals is an important part of our society. We want to promote humane treatment of animals, provide for the welfare of animals, and educate the public about the care of animals. Applications are accepted through an RFP issued in January with a deadline date in March. Grants are awarded once annually.
- ***Elderly Issues:*** Grants are accepted for projects that seek to identify innovative projects that improve the quality of life for diverse elderly populations in Broward. Grants are awarded from the Erwin M. Vasquez, M.D., and Elaine Vasquez Family Foundation Fund. Application deadlines are posted on the Community Foundation website and are to be determined.
- ***Gay and Lesbian Issues:*** Grants are accepted for projects that provide innovative projects that address the greatest needs of the gay and lesbian community and are awarded from the John C. Graves Charitable Fund. Application deadlines are posted on the Community Foundation website and are to be determined.

After You Submit Your Proposal

Upon receipt, you will be contacted via email indicating that we have received your proposal. Your proposal is initially reviewed to determine that you have submitted all required information. Foundation staff will then thoroughly review your proposal for quality. We may conduct research, schedule a site visit, interview your staff and/or board, and talk to other experts in the field.

We encourage you to call Nancy Rogan, Manager of Grants and Initiatives at 954-761-9503 x 114 if you have any questions or if you would like to discuss your program before submitting a proposal.