

The Greater Kanawha Valley Foundation

Grant Process 2016-2017

A Guide for Applicants

The Greater Kanawha Valley Foundation envisions a forward-thinking and closely connected community that fearlessly works together to promote the prosperity of all.

TGKVF makes thoughtful and proactive investments that grow the multiple forms of wealth necessary for our community to thrive. These forms of wealth include the individual, intellectual, social, political, natural, built, and financial assets within our community.

Introduction

The Greater Kanawha Valley Foundation (TGKVF) is a 501c3 community foundation established in 1962 as a charitable trust for, and by, the people of the greater Kanawha Valley region. The Foundation manages approximately 500 separate funds that make investments in the communities we serve.

TGKVF is guided by its vision of a forward-thinking, closely connected community that fearlessly works together to promote the prosperity of all.

Strategic Plan Development

In 2014, our analysis of the root cause issues and the development of the Foundation's new strategic direction were completed in collaboration with over 300 of our grantees, donors, and advisors. During this process, our partners not only helped identify the root cause issues, but also defined the places where the Foundation can have the greatest impact on these hard-to-solve problems. This process resulted in our new Strategic Plan and an organizational shift to being a more proactive and deliberate investor in social change.

During the planning process, the Foundation Board and staff also realized that the issues we seek to address are too deep and complex for any one organization to solve. For this reason, we seek to fund collaborative efforts that target the goals and objectives found in TGKVF's Strategic Plan. The Greater Kanawha Valley Foundation has shifted from solely supporting individual organizations and programs to

supporting the multiple organizations and intersecting networks that support our goals. Once you become a grantee partner, the Foundation will work to strengthen the collaborative capacity of your team and help foster supportive relationships and strategic thinking among grantee partners working on similar goals.

Root Causes Issues

- Underperforming education system and ill-prepared students
- Poor health of our population
- Not enough strong and visionary leadership – at all levels of society
- Weak community connections and lack of collaboration
- Apathetic attitudes and unhelpful cultural beliefs
- Economic disparities and lack of a diverse economy

Geographic Service Area

Applicants who apply through our discretionary grantmaking process must be located and/or operate within our six-county region of Kanawha, Putnam, Clay, Boone, Fayette, and Lincoln counties in West Virginia.

Exclusions

The following items are generally not funded:

- National or statewide proposals that do not focus on our 6-county service area
- General operating budgets established for organizations
- Annual campaigns or membership drives
- School uniform purchases
- Consultants, consultant fees, conferences or workshop speakers
- Staff costs only
- Individuals, student aid, or fellowships
- Endowments
- Religious activities
- Purchases prior to the grant decision
- Debt retirement/reduction
- Passenger vans for transportation to activities
- Individual school classrooms or individual schools that do not enact a system-wide or county change
- Individual athletic organizations (i.e. school boosters, community-based leagues, etc.)
- Requests that are more than 25% of the agency's (or combined agencies') annual budget(s)
- Requests that include indirect costs exceeding 10%
- Any organization that discriminates on the basis of age, race, national origin, ethnicity, gender, disability, sexual orientation, political affiliation, or religious belief

Community Wealth Building

TGKVF believes that only by uplifting the forms of capital that are already present in our communities and building up those forms that are lacking can we begin to truly prosper.

Applicants must demonstrate how their projects will enhance, strengthen, and measure the following forms of wealth:

Individual: Skills, Health, Confidence, & Income

Intellectual: Shared Knowledge, Innovation, & Technology

Social: Trust, Relationships, Mutual Support

Natural: Resilient Natural Resources

Built: Community Infrastructure

Political: Influence & Voice

Financial: Community Investments & Household Savings

For more information on how we define community wealth building efforts, visit our website at www.tgkvf.org

TGKVF Grant Programs

The Foundation has two major competitive grant programs:

Proactive Community Collaborations and

Responsive Grantmaking in Arts/Culture and Basic Needs

- Proactive Community Collaborations (pgs. 3-4)
- Responsive Grantmaking in Arts & Culture and Basic Needs (pgs. 4-5)

Proactive Community Collaborations

Timeline:

- Applicants may apply throughout the year through one or more proposals as working collaborations that address our three goal areas of education, health, and community economic development
- Funding decisions will be made quarterly (March, June, September, December) by our Board of Trustees
- TGKVF's current grantmaking structure allows for both one-year and multi-year grants. While some grants may achieve their anticipated outcomes within a 12-month period, others will need longer than a grant period of one year to become sustainable and achieve the kind of impact the Foundation seeks. For this reason, grants of 2-5 years will be considered. Grantees selected as potential multi-year funding recipients will be required to demonstrate measurable outcomes at the end of each year they are funded; they will also need to complete a renewal application/interim report at the end of each year they are funded. Multi-year funding will be contingent upon the grantees' outcome-based progress and the Foundation's available spending. Multi-year final and interim reports will be due at the appropriate times, as directed by a program officer, throughout the grant period.

Application and Review Sequence and Flow

- Applicants are invited to apply on a rolling basis
- Applicants must work with a program officer prior to receiving an invitation to apply—this work generally has a 2-3 month timeline from the moment you call a program officer to pitch your project idea to the moment you are sent an online application link
- Applicants will be invited to meet with the appropriate TGKVF task group in health, education, or community economic development to discuss their projects
- Applications are reviewed by task groups with expertise in each of our goal areas; Distribution Committee makes funding recommendations to our Board of Trustees
- The Board of Trustees makes final funding decisions at their meetings in March, June, September, and December

Eligibility Criteria

Proactive Applicants must:

- be 501 c3 nonprofit organizations or public government entities as determined by the IRS
- demonstrate their ability to build community wealth
- address one or more of TGKVF's goals, objectives, and indicators of success
- be part of a collaborative effort amongst multiple agencies and intersecting networks

Priority Areas in Proactive Collaboration Applications

Education

1. Increase access to proven out-of-school time tutoring, mentoring, and/or learning programs that focus on Science, Technology, Reading, Engineering, Arts, and Math (STREAM) education
2. Deepen the impact and scale of programs at home, school, and community centers that connect families to their children's development
3. Expand the efforts of proven post-secondary guidance, career advisory and vocational programs that train students for jobs in promising economic sectors

Community Economic Development

1. Increase in number of local residents who are economically whole, including access to discretionary income (income available after paying necessities) and wealth (savings and assets).
2. More thriving local businesses that are profitable and growing.
3. Access to high quality of life, including communities that have a great appearance, safety, networks, gathering places, and positive momentum.

Health

1. Increase the capacity of communities, organizations, and social entrepreneurs to develop healthy recreational opportunities and/or expand access to locally grown, healthy foods
2. Expand the amount of public greenspace, access to streams and bikeable/walkable paths within our community
3. Improve access to preventative, behavioral, and/or oral healthcare in marginalized communities

For more information about these priority areas, please visit our website at www.tgkvf.org

Responsive Grantmaking in Arts & Culture and Basic Needs

*You must discuss your project with the appropriate program officer prior to applying.

- Timeline: Applicants may apply throughout the year for consideration at the March, June, September, or December Board meetings

Application and Review Sequence and Flow

- Applicants are invited to apply on a rolling basis
- Applicants must work with a program officer prior to applying
- Applications are reviewed by the Distribution Committee which makes funding recommendations to our Board of Trustees
- Funding decisions will be made quarterly (March, June, September, December) by our Board of Trustees
- Funded projects typically have a one-year timespan; final and interim reports due at appropriate times throughout the grant period

Responsive Grantmaking Eligibility Criteria:

Applicants must:

- be 501 c3 nonprofit organizations or public government entities as determined by the IRS
- demonstrate their ability to build community wealth
- priority given to proposals that demonstrate multi-agency collaboration

Arts & Culture Responsive Grantmaking

TGKVF believes that arts and cultural activities are integral to a community's success. The Arts & Culture project priority will be given to organizations seeking to increase opportunities for marginalized communities to participate in diverse and artistic experiences, and particularly those that foster creativity, self-expression and cross-cultural exchange. Those projects that demonstrate their ability to achieve measureable results and involve goal-oriented, flexible partnerships among nonprofit, public, and private sectors will also be prioritized.

Basic Needs Responsive Grantmaking

TGKVF believes that without caring for its residents' basic needs, a community is incapable of thriving. For this reason, the Foundation will continue to support basic needs projects through a competitive, responsive grantmaking fund. Basic needs, as we define them, are shelter, food, and clothing. TGKVF believes that without caring for its residents' basic needs, a community is incapable of thriving.

Basic Needs project priority will be given to organizations that demonstrate the potential to expand or deepen their impact or those that are already achieving measureable impacts as well as efforts that involve goal-oriented, flexible partnerships among the nonprofit, public, and private sectors and initiatives that take a long-term view of what is required to move people and places out of poverty.

Program Officer Contact Information

For Education projects, contact Program Officer Stephanie Hyre at shyre@tgkvf.org or at 304-346-3620

For Health projects, Program Officer Megan Simpson at msimpson@tgkvf.org or at 304-346-3620

For Community Economic Development projects, contact Senior Program Officer Sheri Ryder at sryder@tgkvf.org or at 304-346-3620

For Arts & Culture or Basic Needs projects, contact Senior Program Officer Sheri Ryder at sryder@tgkvf.org or at 304-346-3620

For more information, please visit our website at www.tgkvf.org

