

2021 African American Community Fund Grant Cycle

Community Foundation of Lorain County

Instructions

The African American Community Fund

"Lifting the Community"

An Affiliate Fund of The Community Foundation of Lorain County

MISSION OF THE AFRICAN AMERICAN COMMUNITY FUND

"To foster self-esteem within the African American community; To assist in the development of projects which will strengthen the African American Community; To encourage dialogue with and efforts to strengthen relations in Lorain County."

The African American Community Fund awards grants to improve the quality of life of African Americans of Lorain County. The Fund has a special interest in affecting the most disadvantaged in the community. The African American Community Fund supports tax-exempt, organizations, and public agencies within Lorain County, Ohio, or in some cases, organizations outside the county whose projects directly impact African American Lorain County residents.

GRANT REQUEST GUIDELINES

- The African American Community Fund awards grants for definite purposes and normally covering a one year period of time.
- Applicants are encouraged to discuss their project with the Community Foundation's program staff prior to submitting a formal proposal.
- All proposals are screened by staff before presentation to the Grants Committee. The Board of Directors makes the final decision.
- All applicants are informed via email of the Board's decision as well as any conditions placed on the grant. Grant recipients are required to sign a grant agreement prior to the release of funds and adhere to its terms throughout the course of the grant period.
- If applying online is a barrier, contact us and we will work with you to submit an application.
- Questions with an asterisk (*) next to them are required.

DEADLINE

- Grant proposals are due November 15. Decisions are reported in February. Should the proposal deadline fall on a weekend or holiday, the proposal may be delivered on the next immediate business day.
- **A grant report, consisting of a fiscal and program report, must be submitted upon completion of the project.** If you received a grant in the past and its due date is before the deadline for this application, you must provide the grant report regardless of what the funding was for. Missing grant reports may result in the deferral or declination of your current grant request.

PROGRAMMING INTERESTS

The African American Community Fund awards grants to programs that address fundamental community needs, problems, or opportunities in the areas of health, social services, education, arts, and civic or cultural affairs.

The size and number of grants are directly related to the amount of money available each year and the restrictions donors have placed upon the use of certain funds. The AACF receives many more worthy requests than it can support and must make judgments on need and potential impact. In making these decisions, the Fund will weigh the extent to which proposals address the following preferences:

- Does the program involve collaborative problem-solving among several service providers?
- Does the program strengthen the capacity of organizations through local leadership or by helping non-profit organizations manage more effectively?
- Does the program demonstrate the potential for systemic change, reform, or long-range impact?
- Does the program reflect a community-wide effort or focus?
- The Fund will also review proposals that are outside the four priority funding areas if the projects clearly address the African American Community Fund's programmatic interests.

PRECLUDED ACTIVITIES

In general, the African American Community Fund does not make grants for:

- Medical research;
- Membership fees;
- Ticket sales for charitable fundraising events;
- Religious purposes;
- Grants to individuals, except scholarships;
- Services commonly regarded as the responsibility of government;

- Public or non-public school services required by state law;
- Capital support, including buildings, construction, or land purchase;
- Equipment, unless it is a minor part of an innovative or otherwise fund-able program;
- Ongoing operating support and other expenses of an existing program or project;
- Capital debt reduction

CONTACT US WITH ADDITIONAL QUESTIONS

We encourage you to contact the Community Foundation with any questions about this grant application form itself or with any questions regarding your project request and its logistics. Call us at 440-984-7390 or email alee@peoplewhocare.org.

Organization & Project Description

Organization Description Section

Organization History, Purpose, and Population Served*

Character Limit: 10000

Project Description Section

Project Name*

Character Limit: 100

Target Project Start Date*

Character Limit: 10

Target Project End Date*

Character Limit: 10

Project Description and Duration*

What will you do? How many will be involved? Is this a new project or a continuation/expansion of an old project? What are your expected outcomes? How many African Americans will be involved?

Character Limit: 10000

Goal of the Project*

How will this project help solve the problem you are addressing in our community? Does the project have significance in resolving issues nationally? For example, can the Project be replicated or will it demonstrate new solutions?

Character Limit: 3000

Collaborations*

How are other individuals or groups working with you in the planning and the implementation of this project? Who are they? Please type your answer in the box below.

For projects that involve collaborating with other agencies, **please provide a letter of support or Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) from the key agencies involved.** If providing multiple letters, combine them into one file and upload them together with the button below this question.

Character Limit: 2500 | File Size Limit: 1 MB

Project Achievements*

How will you let the community know about the project's achievements?

Character Limit: 2000

Results and Evaluation*

How will you determine whether your project was successful? How will you measure the results? If this request is for a project already taking place, please provide a figure on how many African American individuals were served by the project/program in the previous year.

If your project uses an evaluation form such as a survey to help measure its impact, you may upload it here.

Character Limit: 2500 | File Size Limit: 2 MB

Do you have any other comments that support your application?

Character Limit: 3000

Are you working with a Fiscal Sponsor on this project?*

If you choose "Yes," fill out the "Fiscal Sponsor Information" section that appears further down this application.

If you are tax-exempt, choose "No." You do not need to fill out the Fiscal Sponsor section.

Choices

Yes

No

Fiscal Sponsor Information

Fiscal Sponsor Section

This section is for organizations that do not have an IRS 501(c)(3) tax-exempt status. Grants approved will be made payable to the Fiscal Sponsor as the tax-exempt organization representing the grant seeker. As Fiscal Sponsor, the organization assumes fiduciary responsibilities for this project as though it were a project of the Fiscal Sponsor.

Name of Organization or Entity

Character Limit: 250

Employer Identification Number (EIN)

Character Limit: 10

Fiscal Sponsor Letter of Support

On agency letterhead, letter signed by the Executive Director and Board President indicating the following information:

- Willingness to administer the grant if awarded.
- Duration of time and nature of the cooperative relationship between the entities
- List services and frequency that the fiscal sponsor will provide to the grant seeker, e.g., bookkeeping, payroll, benefits, space, grant reporting, reports to the IRS, etc.
- Fees for services charged by the Fiscal Sponsor to the grant seeker.

File Size Limit: 2 MB

Copy of Minutes from Board meeting approving the fiscal sponsor relationship.

Please acquire a copy of the Board meeting minutes approving the fiscal sponsorship from your Fiscal Sponsor and upload it in the "Governing Body Authorization to Apply" question within the below "Financial Information and Additional Materials" section.

List of Board Members

Please acquire a Board of Directors roster from your Fiscal Sponsor and either type in the list or upload a file of the list in the "2020 Board of Directors" question within the below "Financial Information and Additional Materials" section.

Copy of current operating budget including year-to-date financial information

Obtain an operating budget from your fiscal sponsor and upload it in the "Financial Audit or Current Operating Budget" question in the "additional materials and financials" section below.

Financial Information and Additional Materials

Amount Requested from the African American Community Fund*

Please round to the nearest whole number.

Character Limit: 20

Project Budget Amount*

Provide the budget just for the project for which you are requesting funding.

Character Limit: 20

Project Budget Form*

Download this template and list the anticipated line-item expenses for your project, how much funding from the African American Community Fund would go toward each item, and any other sources of funding supporting this project.

File Size Limit: 2 MB

Current Board of Directors*

Either type your full Board of Directors roster in the text box below or attach it as a file. Please include any Officer titles and years served for each Director.

Character Limit: 5000 | File Size Limit: 1 MB

Governing Body Authorization to Apply*

Provide a letter showing your Board of Directors' support for this project request.

File Size Limit: 2 MB

Program Staff Evaluation

Program Staff Evaluation Section

Program Staff Notes and Questions

Character Limit: 10000

If the agency received grant funding last year, did they submit a grant report?*

Choices

Yes

No

Agency did not receive grant funding last year

Prior Grant Report (If Applicable)

File Size Limit: 5 MB

Executive Summary*

Character Limit: 10000

Funding History

Grant Date - Grant Cycle- Amount - Project

Grant Cycles:

AACF - African American Community Fund

CF - Community Foundation General Cycle

HCCF - Huron County Community Foundation

HF - Hispanic Fund

WF - Women's Fund

YF - Youth Fund

LCF - Lakeland Community Foundation Fund

Character Limit: 5000