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- Q. My organization is not registered as a non-profit corporation or not-for-profit cooperative - can we still propose?
- A. GCF encourages groups that do not meet these categories -- but are organized to pursue projects consistent with the mission of the Foundation -- to seek out a qualifying organization to act as fiscal agent for their project. A qualified fiscal agent is an organization that is already a 501(c)3 non-profit or not-for-profit cooperative that could receive donated funds and will act as a financial sponsor (or overseer) of the grant. The fiscal agent should be an organization whose mission is relevant to the mission of the organization applying for the grant.

- Q. Where does the money come from?
- A. Since the Greenbelt Community Foundation was established in June 2006, it has received roughly \$330,000 in contributions from Greenbelt citizens, business owners and governmental organizations. To date, over \$140,000 of this has been reinvested in the Greenbelt Community through grant awards.

- Q. How can I get my other questions answered?
- A. Questions regarding GCF proposal process may be sent to the Greenbelt Community Foundation, PO Box 234, Greenbelt, MD 20768, or emailed to info@greenbeltfoundation.net.

Testimonial from the Chesapeake Education, Arts and Research Society (CHEARS)

Major ways in which the GCF grant helped us initiate the Three Sisters Demonstration Gardens:

- 1. Served as a catalyst! It helped us articulate and plan the project in an inclusive manner that potentially benefited all in Greenbelt!*
- 2. Gave us seed money to start.*
- 3. Helped us get needed City Council approval, i.e. the award was contingent on getting the City's OK.*
- 4. Promoted partnership concepts urging us to work with others.*

enriching Greenbelt's future

Greenbelt Community Foundation
P.O. Box 234
Greenbelt, MD 20768

Website:
www.greenbeltfoundation.net

Email:
info@greenbeltfoundation.net

Please remember GCF in your will

Greenbelt Community Foundation



Tips for Writing a Winning Proposal

What Can I Propose to the Greenbelt Community Foundation?

Greenbelters have always managed to find practical and creative ways to address problems and to make improvements that benefit community life. In 2006 the Greenbelt Community Foundation (GCF) was formed to carry on this tradition, acting as a conduit for funding of thoughtful projects that "celebrate, respect, and build upon the legacy and ideals of Greenbelt."

The Foundation is especially interested in new initiatives that will enhance the cultural, artistic, recreational, social, or environmental vitality of Greenbelt. It will generally not grant funds for organizational operating support. The Foundation is primarily interested in funding projects that can be completed in one year or less.

Non-profit corporations and not-for-profit cooperative organizations are encouraged to apply. Other groups that are pursuing projects consistent with the mission of the Foundation may still apply by partnering with an eligible non-profit.

Frequently Asked Questions

Q. How much money can I request?

A. From \$500 to \$5,000.

Q. What projects has GCF already funded?

A. Go to www.greenbeltfoundation.net/ and click on "Grants" for a partial list.

Q. Where do I get the proposal form?

A. Go to www.greenbeltfoundation.net/ and click on "Grants"

Q. Can I fill out the application form by hand?

A. Yes

Q. How are proposals submitted?

A. Proposals are mailed to Greenbelt Community Foundation, P.O. Box 234, Greenbelt, MD 20768 or emailed to info@greenbeltfoundation.net

Q. When are proposals due?

A. April 15 and October 15 of each year.

Q. How long does the review process take?

A. Complete proposals will be reviewed by the GCF Proposal Review Committee and decisions will be made by the full Advisory Board. Winning proposals from the April cycle are awarded in the summer. Winning proposals from the October cycle are awarded in the winter.

Q. What are common reasons that proposals are not funded?

- A. - They fall outside GCF funding priorities.
- They don't follow GCF general eligibility guidelines.
- They don't present a clear and convincing description of the project proposed.
- They cite partnerships for which letters of support are not provided.
- They don't fall within GCF's geographic boundaries.
- They are for ongoing rather than new work.
- They propose work requiring more than one year to complete.

Q. What agreement needs to be signed by awardees?

- A. The agreement states that the grantee is a 501(C)3 agency or has designated such an agency to act as Fiscal Agent; that the grant will be used solely for the purpose stated in the grant award letter and any modifications must receive the Foundation's prior approval; and that the funds must be returned if the program for which the funds are designated is not implemented during the 12-month period beginning on the date of the grant award.

Q. What Final Report information is required?

- A. Final Reports are due one year after the award date and should include the project's outcomes and community benefits. Website links capturing the work in photos with captions will be linked to the GCF website.