



GRANT MAKING GUIDELINES

We provide funding and create connections between community-minded nonprofits and the resources they need. We inspire ideas and ignite action.

INTRODUCTION

The Grant County Community Foundation (GCCF) is a tax-exempt public charity governed by a volunteer Board of Directors broadly representing southwest New Mexico, including Grant, Hidalgo, Luna and Catron Counties. The Board has adopted a strategic framework to guide its community investments and works with nonprofit, educational and government partners to improve the quality of life in southwest New Mexico. Our interests are broad and grants are generally based on the priorities and needs of those organizations we choose to support. The goal of the foundation grant making efforts is to seek and identify where our grant making will make significant and lasting differences. Most awarded grants come from either charitable funds created by donors to fulfill their personal giving goals or from the GCCF's unrestricted funds.

ELIGIBILITY REQUIREMENTS

The tax-exempt or charitable group or organization applying must conduct the proposed activities within southwest New Mexico for the benefit of those communities. Organizations that do not have their own non-profit status may apply through a fiscal sponsor.

The Foundation does NOT make grants to the following:

- Organizations where grant money would be used to advance a particular political or religious doctrine.
- Individuals
- Debt reduction
- Building of endowments for organizations other than the GCCF
- Purchase of property
- Payment for existing obligations or replenishing other sources used to pay such obligations
- To supplant existing funding resources

Grant proposals are only accepted during the announced submission time frame.

Grants will be made only to:

- Groups that have non-profit and charitable status;
- Organizations that are able to document their responsible, fiscal management and adequate accounting procedures;
- Projects or programs that are proposed in writing by the organization's governing body.

PROPOSAL REQUIREMENTS

The GCCF seeks to partner with and support nonprofit organizations that create long-term solutions to identified community priorities.

Organizations are limited to one proposal per grant cycle and grantees will not be eligible again for three years.

Applications must be submitted using the GCCF on-line grant application and completed within the stated time frames of the application process. Proposals are due January 31, 2018 with grants awarded March 1, 2018.

Grants are made for one year. The GCCF encourages organizations to develop realistic plans for long-term sustainability that do not depend upon recurring support from the GCCF Competitive Grants Program.

REVIEW PROCESS

Grants will be reviewed by a committee of community volunteers and members of the GCCF Board of Directors. Review committee members are selected to represent the broad geographic and professional diversity of southwest New Mexico. Award funding will be dispersed in two payments, half when grant contract is signed and the remainder upon receipt of the mid-year report.

Grants are competitive and selection is based on the following criteria:

- Strength of the proposed project
 - Addresses a demonstrated community or organizational need or opportunity
 - Has a strong likelihood of success and impact on the community
- Applicant's organizational capacity
 - Leadership and experience capacity
 - Organization's track record, service delivery and community impact history
 - Overall financial health of the organization

The Grant Committee puts forward recommendations to the GCCF Board for approval.

GRANTEE EXPECTATIONS

Grantees are expected to do the following:

- Submit by April 1, 2019 project completion report outlining major accomplishments.
- Maintain the organization's tax-exempt status.
- Participate in feedback surveys.
- Meeting with GCCF and other supporters, as requested.
- Reference GCCF support in media and press releases.