



## 2023 Community Grants Overview

The Delaware County Foundation supports numerous non-profit organizations that work to improve our community. Grant funds are made available across a variety of categories based on donor intent and the guidance of our committee.

### Grant Requirements

Nonprofit organizations and government entities with projects that benefit Delaware County Ohio residents are eligible to apply. Grants are not made to individuals.

### Eligible Organizations

Organizations that either (a) have established their tax-exempt status under Section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code and are not "private foundations" as defined under section 509(a) of the Code; or (b) have tax exemption as a governmental or other publicly-funded entity; or (c) have a qualified, tax-exempt fiscal sponsor are eligible to apply.

***All organizations and programs aligned with the Foundation's areas of funding are invited to apply. Preference will be given to programs addressing recovery, housing, mental health, basic needs, and workforce development.***

### Exclusions

- Activities that are non-secular or promote a religious doctrine
- Academic or medical research
- Annual fundraising campaigns or events
- Creation of, or addition to, endowment funds
- Payment of debt or legal settlements
- Political or partisan purposes

### Award Information

Grants are expected to range between \$2,500 to \$20,000 and will be funded upon availability.

### Timeline

June 15<sup>th</sup> - Grants opportunity opens

July 31<sup>st</sup> - Grant submission deadline

Mid-December – Grants announced

Grant projects are typically completed by the applicant within 12 months after Foundation approval; however, preference will be given to projects which plan to be completed within 6 months of funding.



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### **How to Apply**

All grant requests must be submitted through the Foundation's online portal:

[www.delawarecf.org/community-grants-3/](http://www.delawarecf.org/community-grants-3/)

No hard copy applications will be accepted.

To ensure that requests are submitted on time, applicants are encouraged to create an account in the online portal at least one week prior to the preliminary grant request deadline. The Foundation cannot guarantee that registration requests submitted later than these dates will be processed in time for the application deadline. Individuals who have registered previously do NOT need to re-register; please log in using your existing account.

The Foundation actively promotes diversity, equality and access, and a community free of discrimination based on race, gender, sexual orientation, ethnic or religious background, age, or disability. The Foundation reflects this philosophy in considering grant requests.

The Foundation reserves the right to review all applications with community agencies, resources, people, and/or other funding sources. This can occur when additional input is believed to be necessary or to help assess the proposal and its potential significance.



## Frequently Asked Questions

### **If I have a fiscal sponsorship, can my organization apply for a grant?**

Yes, if your organization has a fiscal sponsor while it is in the process of attaining its 501(c)(3) status, you are eligible to apply. You will need your fiscal sponsor's EIN number and a letter of organizational support.

### **How will my application be evaluated?**

Applications will be evaluated on:

- Alignment with the Foundation's funding priorities and identified community needs.
- Organization's financial capacity and long-term sustainability.
- Organization's activities, outcomes, and intended impacts.

### **How Do I Get in Touch with the Foundation If I Have More Questions?**

If you have questions about the Foundation's Community Grant guidelines, please contact us. You can send us an email at [foundation@delawarecf.org](mailto:foundation@delawarecf.org).

### **If I receive a grant, can I spend the money on different projects?**

Any funds not expended for the specific purpose of the grant cannot be diverted to other uses without the express written approval of the Foundation.

### **What is SmarterSelect?**

SmarterSelect is the online platform used by the Foundation to manage all our online applications.



## **What are the Foundation's funding priorities?**

**ANIMAL WELFARE:** Promoting the proper care of animals and the many ways they bring quality to our lives

Strategies:

- Support promising models, programs and practices that improve the quality of care for animals.
- Improve human-animal connections.

**ARTS & CULTURE:** Supporting arts and cultural activities that enrich the lives of individuals, promote interactions among residents, and build community

Strategies:

- Support art experiences for students both in and outside of school, with focus in low-income communities.
- Provide opportunities for all residents to experience culturally diverse arts programming led by professional teaching artists and arts educators.
- Strengthen arts collaborations between businesses, schools and community arts organizations.

**BASIC NEEDS:** Investing in approaches that combat food insecurity, provide affordable housing, and remove barriers to transportation, childcare, and education for low-income residents

Strategies:

- Prioritize securing affordable permanent housing for low-income families.
- Support programs targeted to provide food and necessities to those in need.
- Support organizations which remove barriers to education, childcare and transportation to work.

**EDUCATION:** Promoting excellence in education by supporting innovative programs for all ages

Strategies:

- Support organizations which ensure that low-income students have the resources needed to thrive in school.
- Provide professional development of early learning providers, teachers and administrators to ensure local schools benefit from best practice research.
- Collaborate between the education system and the business community to retrain adults in new, high-demand skills.

**ECONOMIC OPPORTUNITY:** Investing in the work force of tomorrow by funding programs that build prosperity, create jobs, and enhance the quality of life in our communities

Strategies:



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- Build interest and awareness in high schools around opportunities in the skilled trades and their earning potential.
- Support collaborative programming between local businesses and technical colleges/Career Centers focused on earn-while-you-learn courses and apprenticeships.
- Assistance to low-income adults pursuing their GED and post-secondary education. Connecting them with affordable childcare, academic counselors and technology.

ENVIRONMENT: Funding solutions that contribute to a healthier, cleaner, and more sustainable Ohio

Strategies:

- Invest in organizations cultivating and strengthening environmental stewardship.
- Build better relationships between industry and environmental protection organizations.
- Research the impacts and promote awareness of climate change in the county.