

# COMMUNITY FOUNDATION OF VAN BUREN COUNTY, IOWA

“A component fund of the Quad Cities Community Foundation”

## GUIDELINES FOR THE COMMUNITY IMPACT FUND

The “Final Report” for all previous grants must be on file prior to submitting a new grant application.

Origin and Purpose: The Community Foundation of Van Buren County, founded in 2005, is a community foundation affiliated with the Quad Cities Community Foundation. The Community Foundation of Van Buren County will annually distribute funds from its endowment earnings and state funds to numerous Van Buren County non-profit organizations to fulfill our mission and legal obligations. The Community Foundation has a broad, flexible purpose providing support to a wide variety of non-profit organizations.

Restrictions: The Foundation generally makes grants only to non-profit organizations with 501(c)(3) status and qualified governmental agencies.

Grants will generally require at least a 50 % match with a minimum 25% cash match to be considered. Grants are not awarded in the following areas: deficit financing, grants to individuals, to religious or political organizations that promote a particular doctrine, and other organizations/individuals that the community foundation is not authorized to fund under IRS Code 501(c)(3). Grants will generally not be awarded to organizations for annual fund raising/operational funds, organizational endowment funds, or organizations that have applied and received funding in the current year for the same project.

Procedures: Applications will only be accepted using an online application system found on the Quad Cities Community Foundation website at: [www.qccommunityfoundation.org](http://www.qccommunityfoundation.org). Grants are generally available up to \$5,000, subject to number of grant requests funded and availability of funds. Extraordinary amounts may be given if an exceptional need is seen by the Foundation. The Foundation will rarely award multi-year grants. When a grant check is cashed, the organization is obligated to use the entire amount for the purpose given in the application. Funds not used or unused for the intended purpose must be returned to the Foundation. Grant recipients are required to file a written report describing the use of the funds after the project/program is completed or twelve months after the grant has been received, whichever is earlier using the online system mentioned above. As a general rule, only one project per organization per year may be funded.

Application information: The Community Foundation of Van Buren County is a public community foundation and recognizes the need for flexibility in problem solving. In evaluating applications the Community Foundation of Van Buren County will give consideration to the following factors. Please include answers to the following questions in the appropriate portion of the application:

- Is the project located in Van Buren County, Iowa?
- Does the program or project address a priority community need? What is its nature and scope and the number of people served by this project?
- Does the program duplicate any other community service?
- Will the project have a significant impact on a community need, what outcome will be achieved and how will it be measured?
- Does the project have a sound financial plan? A line item budget must be included in the application.
- Will this grant constitute matching funds? Please detail amount currently on hand earmarked for this project and other sources of funds.
- After this project is completed, how will the project be sustained? If not funded, what is the effect?
- Does the project have a broad base of community support such as volunteer involvement, neighborhood participation, financial support, and collaboration with other organizations?