Wayne County COMMUNITY FOUNDATION

GIVE 365 Grants

Founded in 2016, GIVE 365 Wayne County is an affiliate fund of the Wayne County Community Foundation. Members of GIVE 365 contribute to the Fund each year. The group decides on a focus area for each year's grant awards. Nonprofit agencies in Wayne County, Ohio that propose projects related to the annual focus are eligible to apply.

Application Guidelines for Grant Proposals

Submission Deadline: March 1

The membership of GIVE 365 selects a broad theme each year, allowing for proposals on a wide-array of topics to make the greatest impact in our community. The focus area for grantmaking should be announce in January each year and will be listed on our website and via press release, along with examples.

Characteristics of GIVE 365 Grants

Eligible Organizations

By law, the Wayne County Community Foundation can only make grants to organizations recognized by the Internal Revenue Code as nonprofit, tax-exempt, charitable organizations (501(c)(3)s, public schools, and churches); or to qualified governmental agencies. **The Foundation strongly encourages collaborations between and among organizations working to achieve a common goal.** In such collaborations, one organization must be identified as the grantee applicant.

Size of Grants

GIVE 365 has approximately $25,000 available for grants. The amount to award each year varies based on the Foundation's spending policy for permanently endowed funds. Previous awards have ranged from $1,500 to $20,000. Proposals that demonstrate the most effective use of funds in the context of their programs have the greatest chance for success.

Duration of Grants

GIVE 365 grants are for a period of up to one year, with the expectation that the full amount of the grant will be used within that time.

Geographic Range of Grants

GIVE 365 grants must benefit residents of Wayne County, Ohio.

Leadership and Fiscal Accountability

GIVE 365 grantee organizations must have the leadership capacity, financial stability, and appropriate procedures in place for fiscal and organizational accountability.

GIVE 365 invites proposals for:

- **Project grants:** For existing project costs or those in addition to an organization's regular programming.
- **Start-up grants:** For new and emerging organizations that may or may not have a track record but show significant promise for success and sustainability. These funds are specifically targeted to new organizations that need initial financing in order to leverage funding from other sources.
- **Capacity-building grants:** For organizations to increase their range of services or to efficiently serve more clients on an ongoing basis.

GIVE 365 will NOT fund:

- Scholarships to a university, college or technical program (However, WCCF has a number of scholarships for traditional and non-traditional students. Please see WCCF Scholarships for more information.)
- Capital campaigns
- Religious activities
- Political activities
- Retroactive funding requests
- Fundraising events
- Organizations that may be deemed as discriminatory on the basis of race, age, gender, ability level or sexual orientation
- Requests to reduce an operating deficit or to liquidate existing debt
- Agencies of the state or federal government, unless they are part of a community collaborative that includes eligible organizations
- Organizations outside Wayne County, Ohio
- Individuals

Grants are limited to activities and organizations benefiting the greater Wayne County area. Grants may not be used to carry on propaganda or otherwise attempt to influence legislation, participate in or intervene in any political campaign on behalf of or in opposition to any candidate for public office, or to conduct, directly or indirectly, any voter registration drive (within the meaning of Section 4945(d)(2) of the Internal Revenue Code).

The Foundation makes grants only to organizations that are recognized by the Internal Revenue Code as nonprofit, tax-exempt, charitable organizations (501(c)(3) organizations); or to qualified governmental agencies. The Foundation does not make grants to individuals except through scholarship funds, which are paid to the student's educational institution.

Online Grant Proposal Application

All grant applications are completed online through our **Online Grant Portal**.

Answer the questions as completely, yet briefly, as possible. Clearly state the goal of the project for which you are requesting funds and describe how the funds would address the focus area for the current grant cycle.

If you are working with other organizations, foundations or businesses please identify them and describe the intended working relationship with each in the appropriate section of the application. You may also attach letters of support.

Grant Proposal Application Deadline

The grant application deadline is March 1st for a decision before June 1st.
If you have any questions regarding the GIVE 365 grant guidelines or grant proposal application, please contact us at grants@wccfoh.org.

Proposal Review and Grant Approval Process

1. Proposals are reviewed by the GIVE 365 membership. You may be asked to arrange an on-site visit from representatives of GIVE 365 and/or Wayne County Community Foundation staff. You may also be asked to conduct an off-site interview with members of GIVE 365. Review criteria will include the following:
    - Does your proposal include all required attachments?
    - Are the objectives of your proposal clear?
    - Does your proposal promote collaboration between organizations?
    - Does your proposal target GIVE 365's stated funding priority?
    - Is your budget projection realistic?
    - Is your organization financially stable enough to implement the project?
    - Does your organization's structure provide appropriate levels of leadership and accountability?
2. GIVE 365 grant award recommendations must be approved by Wayne County Community Foundation's Trustees.
3. Award decisions will be determined in part by the capacity of the applicant organization to implement the proposed project and meet GIVE 365 objectives.
4. Award recipients must submit one interim report within the first six months, as well as a final written report and final fiscal report within one year of the award. They may be called to provide an in-person debriefing at the conclusion of the project period.
5. Grant awards will be announced not later than June 1st each year.

I still have questions!

We aim to keep our website up to date with the most recent information. If you still have questions, please contact us at grants@wccfoh.organd we will be happy to assist!