COMMUNITY ASSISTANCE GRANTS

(A grant partnership between the PATH Foundation & Northern Piedmont Community Foundation)

ELIGIBILITY AND FUNDING PRINCIPLES

The Community Assistance Grant program invites proposals for projects from 501(c)(3) nonprofits delivering services within Fauquier, Rappahannock and northern Culpeper counties. Community Assistance Grants are allocated for program services as well as general operating support. These grants can provide unrestricted funding to help support and maintain an organization as it pursues its mission. This type of grant is flexible and gives the grantee the ability to use the funds where they are most appropriate and will have the largest community impact. Community Assistance Grants may also fund specific program or project needs that are immediate in nature and address or alleviate hardship. We encourage collaborative proposals that build and develop community resources and partnerships. These grants can help to:

1. sustain successful existing programs;
2. scale-up existing programs in the number or areas served;
3. make quality improvements to existing programs;
4. start new programs;
5. or make purchases for needed equipment, supplies, or training.

Priority consideration will be given to those nonprofits demonstrating strong management and a proven track record of accomplishments. Only organizations with a 501(c)(3) status for 3 or more years are eligible to apply.

Grants may be awarded for proposals which:
- Improve access to services and programs for vulnerable and underserved populations
- Preserve and increase access to our unique community assets
- Test new ideas and different partnerships
- Address issues, concerns or opportunities in our communities

Grants are made on an equal opportunity basis without regard to race, color, religion, sex, marital status, disability, national origin or age. Funds are to be used solely for the purposes stated in the application. Any portion of the grant not used by the grantee in accordance with the submitted proposal must be returned to the Foundation.

CRITERIA FOR AWARDS

Our grant committee considers numerous criteria in reviewing grant proposals. For example, does the organization’s proposal:

- Benefit a meaningful number of people through the project in relation to its cost?
- Assist those whose needs are not met by existing services?
- Promote collaboration among agencies?
- Strive to strengthen or improve agency self-sufficiency or efficiency?
- Evaluate the outcomes of its programs?
- Demonstrate experience in providing services to its constituents?

Additional information or visits may be requested during consideration of a proposal.
HOW TO APPLY
Please go to NPCF.org and click on Grants. Scroll down to access the Community Assistance Grant application. Before submitting a proposal, organizations are encouraged to call the Executive Director at 540-349-0631 to briefly discuss the proposal, timetable for submission, or circumstances that may warrant expedited consideration. Please call well before the submission deadline. All applications must be submitted through the online application site on our website, www.npcf.org.

SUBMISSION DEADLINE
Friday, January 18, 2019: LOI due
Thursday, January 31, 2019: Approved applications due

GRANT FOLLOW UP
Grant recipients will be asked to provide follow up report(s), detailing how dollars were expended, any significant difficulty encountered, what the project achieved, and any significant change to the goal of the project.

An unsuccessful application does not reflect on the worthiness of a particular project. An agency whose request has been declined is encouraged to contact the NPCF office to discuss specifics.

WHAT WE GENERALLY DON’T FUND

- Organizations not tax-exempt under section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code
- Private non-operating foundations
- Individuals
- Fundraising events (such as tickets, raffles, auctions or tournaments), annual fundraising appeals, or agency celebrations
- Political, fraternal or religious activities
- Endowment
- Existing obligations, debts/liabilities or costs that the agency has already incurred
- Scholarly research
- Scholarships, camper (participation) fees, fellowships or travel
- National or international organizations, unless the grant directly benefits Fauquier, Northern Culpeper or Rappahannock counties
- Projects normally the responsibility of government
- Organizations that were awarded discretionary funding from the Foundation the preceding year
- Private, primary or secondary schools or academies
- Capital campaign requests