

GRANT GUIDELINES

Established in 1998, the Tuscola County Community Foundation is a nonprofit corporation dedicated to improving the quality of life in Tuscola County. The foundation accepts and administers gifts from donors of all types. The principal of these gifts remains intact forever, with only the income used for grants. Through its grants, the Tuscola County Community Foundation addresses the area's most pressing needs and supports its promising opportunities.

The Tuscola County Community Foundation places emphasis on projects which:

- are innovative,
- present opportunities to leverage other local funds raised by an organization and yield substantial local benefits for the community resources invested,
- facilitate cooperation and collaboration between organizations, and
- have the potential to continue after the grant period.

When making grants, the Tuscola County Community Foundation's Grant Committee and Board of Trustees are guided by the following general policies:

- Other than grants made to individuals through designated scholarship funds, grants are made only to 501 (c) (3) nonprofit organizations and programs benefiting the citizens and communities of Tuscola County.
- Grants are made for a wide variety of charitable, community, scientific, literary, educational and cultural programs and purposes while striving for geographic balance.
- No grants are made to churches for sectarian religious programs.
- No grants are made for operating budgets, previously incurred debt, endowment campaigns or fundraising activities. Exceptions are made only when there are compelling reasons to do so.
- Although not specifically precluded, lower priority is given to requests for travel for groups such as school classes, clubs or sports teams.
- Grants are ordinarily made for one year only.
- Proposals for hospitals, K – 12 schools, child care centers, nursing or retirement facilities, computers, motorized vehicles and tax-supported community services will be considered only if they are the type of project emphasized by the foundation, fall within the foregoing general policies and they are highly unique, have limited access to other funding, demonstrate substantial impact or address the needs of a significant or underserved portion of the community.

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The Tuscola County Community Foundation operates without discrimination as to age, race, religion, sex, handicap, sexual orientation or national origin in consideration of grant requests.

The Tuscola County Community Foundation is a new foundation and our grant funds are limited. Unfortunately, this means we must restrict the size of our grants. Absent unusual circumstances, our grants typically range from \$500 to \$15,000. Those requesting grants will be made aware of this limitation.

Any one that has questions about these grant guidelines or about our view of a particular project is encouraged to call the foundation office at (989) 673-8223. Representatives of the foundation would be pleased to discuss any proposed project.

Application Deadline

The application deadline is **March 1**, for spring round and **September 15** for fall round.

To be considered for funding, a complete application and 5 copies must be submitted. A complete application must include clear and concise responses to all information requested as well as a cover sheet and required attachments.

Please note: The Tuscola County Community Foundation Grant Application form is used for all funds except the Future Youth Involvement Fund and is available online at www.tuscolacountycommunityfoundation.org

The Youth Advisory Committee/Future Youth Involvement has separate application forms and guidelines, but the same mailing address (P.O. Box 534, Caro, MI 48723). The fillable form is available online at www.tuscolacountycommunityfoundation.org. All applicants are expected to complete the form online, then download it and send the original with 5 copies to the address listed above.

Schools must have the approval from the appropriate board of education and/or superintendent when applying for funds. Evidence of the approval must be submitted with the application (i.e., letter of support signed by an authorizing official).

We reserve the right to review any application with community planning agencies, resource people, and/or other funding sources when their input would be helpful in assessing a proposal and its significance. Furthermore, representatives of a requesting organization may be asked to meet with the foundation's Grant Committee for a detailed discussion of a grant request.

Applications to the **Tuscola County Community Foundation** should be addressed to:

**P.O. Box 534
Caro, MI 48723**