

Request for Proposals Early Child Care Education & Workforce Development

DEADLINE

Online application form **MUST** be received on or before **October 31, 2016**.

SUBMISSION

Submit the completed grant proposal using the Community Foundation's online system by midnight on October 31, 2016.

GRANT AMOUNT

Grants from the Communityworks Fund generally range up to \$10,000.

FOR MORE INFORMATION

Contact Catherine Bocke Meckes, Program & Outreach Coordinator
(217) 222-1237
outreach@mycommunityfoundation.org

BACKGROUND

The Community Foundation is inviting organizations to submit proposals for programs in the areas of 1) child care/early childhood education and 2) workforce development. Applicants should address important community issues in child care/early childhood education or workforce development and contribute to the vision of the Communityworks Endowment Fund as described below. Organizations should demonstrate present and future sustainability and provide identifiable outcomes of the proposed project or program. The Community Foundation will consider grant requests from nonprofit organizations that are recognized as exempt under Section **501(c)(3) of the IRS Code** and units of government.

Proposals are due on or before October 31, 2016. The Grant Committee will review and formulate funding recommendations to the Community Foundation Board of Directors, which gives final approval for the funding. It is estimated that awards will be determined by December 15.

In addition:

- The grants will be for a term of one-year from the award date.
- Projects must serve one or more of the counties of Adams, Brown, Hancock, and Pike in Illinois.
- Applicant must provide one-to-one match. Matching funds can come from multiple sources and can include in-kind contributions.

CHILD CARE/EARLY CHILDHOOD EDUCATION VISION

An investment in the quality of child care can be addressed by nurturing existing relationships between providers and organizations supporting the early developmental years of our communities' children. Organizations should consider the long- and short- term visions of the Communityworks Fund and how programs relate to and fulfill the following vision:

Long-Term Vision:

- To have an educated pool of providers who see themselves as professionals and take advantage of the ongoing opportunities to grow in their field; to educate parents on the benefits and value of choosing quality child care; to assist in efforts which increase revenue streams for child care providers over and

above parent fees and raise value / respect for child care profession.

Short-Term Vision:

- Improve the quality and quantity of family-based child care and the region's care settings.

WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT VISION

The Community Foundation recognizes the importance of workforce development to assist in expanding existing businesses and attracting new ones that provide a variety of interesting employment opportunities and offer livable wages and benefits for the current workforce and future workers. Organizations applying for funds should consider the long- and short-term vision of the Communityworks Fund and how programs relate to and fulfill the following vision.

Long-Term Vision:

- Ensure current and future workers are prepared with the skills needed to fill a variety of existing, expanding, and new employment opportunities that provide livable wages and benefits to ensure workforce sustainability.

Short-Term Vision:

- Assess and support the improvement of essential and technical skills in the region.

TO APPLY

Step 1: Login to the Community Foundation's online grant system by going to the link provided by the Community Foundation. You can also access the online system by going to the Community Foundation website mycommunityfoundation.org and visiting the Grants page.

Step 2: Create a New Account (first time users only). If you are a Returning User enter your email address and password. If you do not remember your password, use the Forgot Password link or contact the Community Foundation.

Step 3: Login.

Step 4: Click on Apply on the left hand menu bar.

Step 5: Select 2016 Communityworks Grant Application (at bottom of page).

Step 6: **Submit your application by 11:59 p.m. on October 31, 2016.**

QUESTIONS OR NEED ASSISTANCE ON THE ONLINE APPLICATION

Contact Catherine Bocke Meckes with questions about the online application or the Communityworks grant program at 217-222-1237 or grants@mycommunityfoundation.org.