



2020 GRANT GUIDELINES NEIGHBORHOOD GRANTS PROGRAM

WELCOME

Thank you for considering the Neighborhood Grants Program to support your group's project.

The Neighborhood Grants Program (NGP) is committed to providing financial and technical support to resident- and community-led groups for projects in their neighborhood or community that help improve the quality of life for its residents.

HEALTHY, SAFE, VIBRANT COMMUNITIES

The vision of the Community Foundation for Monterey County adopted is healthy, safe, vibrant communities. The NGP seeks groups that can carry out this vision in their respective neighborhoods or communities.

ABOUT NEIGHBORHOOD GRANTS PROGRAM (NGP)

The NGP is a competitive grant program of the Community Foundation for Monterey County. NGP reviews applications from various community groups throughout Monterey County that actively bring residents together to identify community issues and implement solutions to address them.

WHO SHOULD APPLY

Any resident- or community-led group in Monterey County is eligible to apply. To apply, the group must include at least five volunteers. Priority is given to applicants from underserved and/or low-income areas in the county. Priority areas include South County, Salinas, North County, Seaside and Marina.

The following are examples of groups that have been funded in the past.

- Any resident- or community-led group working on a project or activity that will directly benefit their community.
- Advocacy groups focusing on neighborhood improvements such as: after-school programs, sidewalk improvements, streetlights, farmers' markets, etc.
- Art groups organizing free art (painting, poetry, music, theater, dance, etc.) lessons, experiences, exhibits, etc. in under-served communities or in communities where art programs and services are limited or non-existent.
- Neighborhood or apartment associations, neighborhood groups that develop resident leadership to identify and resolve neighborhood issues.
- Youth sports teams (baseball, basketball, soccer, etc.) that increase or improved parent participation, physical and mental health, life skills or similar youth developmental abilities.
- Support groups where none exist due to transportation or language barriers, or subject matter.

Funded groups will be required to open a bank account under the group's name. The CFMC will provide staff support for those who need help.

*If you are a fiscally sponsored group, please contact Erika Matadamas, Program Officer, before applying. (831) 754-5880 ext. 134, erika@cfmco.org

INFORMATION SESSION WORKSHOP

Groups interested in applying for its first Neighborhood Grant are encouraged to attend an Information Session:

January 29, 2020

5:00 to 6:00 PM

Community Foundation for Monterey County
945 S. Main Street Suite 208
Salinas, CA 93901

CRITERIA

Projects must be carried out in the neighborhood or community where the members live. In addition, a group applying for a Neighborhood Grant will be selected based on the following criteria.

- **Need:** Does the project fulfill a community need that is not being met?
- **Leadership:** Does the group demonstrate leadership and train its members to take on leadership roles?
- **Involvement:** Does the group involve other people in the project? Are decisions made collectively and not by one person?
- **Impact:** Will the group's project achieve positive changes for their community?

If your group answered "Yes" to the questions above, then your group should consider applying for a neighborhood grant.

DEADLINE/APPLICATION INFORMATION

- Applications must be received by 5:00 PM, **February 14, 2020 or earlier.**
- Applications that are incomplete or late will not be processed for consideration
- Only one application per group will be considered
- **Online applications preferred:** www.cfmco.org/apply

If you are unable to submit an application online, please contact Erika Matadamas, Program Officer, to receive further guidance, erika@cfmco.org (831) 754-5880.

GRANT AWARDS

In 2020, the Neighborhood Grants Program expects to award approximately 12-15 grants. In 2018, the average grant size was \$3,333. Neighborhood grants are generally awarded to informal groups without 501(c)3 nonprofit status and are up to \$4,000.

Funding will be awarded by early May. Grantees will be required to submit a final report in order to be eligible to apply in the future.

EXCLUSIONS:

- Academic research
- Capital campaigns
- Debt reduction or legal settlements
- Expenses incurred prior to the grant award date
- The creation of, or addition to endowment funds
- Funding to schools and public agencies that would supplant tax-supported, mandated services
- Projects with a main purpose of fundraising
- Individuals, including scholarships
- Political campaigns
- Religious activities or services
- Salaries, stipends, honorariums, or other special pay

IMPORTANT DATES

Jan 1 Application is available
Jan 29 Information Session in Salinas

Feb 14 Deadline to apply
April 17 Applicants notified of decisions
Early May Deadline for new grantees to open bank account
Early May Grants are awarded

CONTACT

For more information, please contact:

- Erika Matadamas, Program Officer
erika@cfmco.org: (831) 754.5880 x134
- Karina Gutierrez-Barboza, Grants and Program Coordinator
grants@cfmco.org: (831) 754-5880