



## Rum River Community FOUNDATION

### Rum River Community Foundation Grant Guidelines

**Overview:** The Rum River Community Foundation is a designated endowment fund of the Initiative Foundation, established in partnership with local citizens, to serve as a philanthropic vehicle for accumulating and distributing financial resources to benefit the following communities: The Cities of Bock, Foreston, Milaca, and Pease; and the Townships of Bogus Brook, Borgholm, Hayland, Milaca, Milo, and Page. The entire principal of the Community Foundation is held as permanent endowment by the Initiative Foundation. The income is distributed in the service area to support local charitable endeavors based upon recommendations made by the Rum River Community Foundation Advisory Board.

**Funding Priorities:** The Rum River Community Foundation will accept and consider funding proposals that fit within the following categories:

1. **Parks and Recreation:** Providing opportunities through proposals that improve parks, outdoor assets, recreation events, and activities for residents and visitors.
2. **Community:** Enhancing community livability by encouraging volunteerism and instilling a sense of pride through community involvement.
3. **Youth:** Strengthening community involvement of our youth through support of positive activities, mentorship opportunities, and education activities.

#### **General Guidelines:**

1. Eligible applicants are those that serve people living and/or working within the service area and include:
  - a. 501(c)(3) nonprofit organizations,
  - b. School districts,
  - c. Local units of government,
  - d. Community groups operating through a mission-related fiscal host with the appropriate tax-exempt status.



Rum River Community  
FOUNDATION

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2. Grants will be made only in support of proposals that fit one or more of the above funding priorities and that benefit the community(ies) identified in the geographic boundaries described above.
3. The Rum River Community Advisory Board will periodically review the minimum and maximum grant size. Our current maximum grant size is \$1,000, not to exceed 50% of total project costs.

**INELIGIBLE PROJECTS:** The Community Fund will not provide grants to/for the following:

- Grants, loans or reimbursements to individuals or businesses.
- Expenses incurred prior to receipt of this grant award.
- Endowments, national or local fund drives or general funds.
- Replacement of government funding.
- Religious activities.
- Lobbying or campaigning for a candidate, issue or referendum vote.
- Projects in support of K-12 programs that are or have traditionally been government-funded.

**APPLICATION PROCEDURE:**

1. Applicants complete and submit online application located at [www.rumrivercf.org](http://www.rumrivercf.org).
2. The Rum River Community Foundation Advisory Board reviews grant applications and makes grant recommendations to the Initiative Foundation.
3. Initiative Foundation staff process grant awards and sends award letters and payments directly to grantees.
4. Grantees receive from the Initiative Foundation final reporting requirements at the end of the designated grant period.
5. Grantees submit final report online within one month of grant period end date. (*Grantees must submit a final report before they can be considered for future awards.*)
6. **APPLY ONLINE AT:** <http://rumrivercf.org/what-we-do/grant-application-process/>

**Note to applicant:** *Please allow 60 days between the grant deadline and the start date of your project to allow for grant processing. Grants cannot be made for expenses incurred prior to notice that the grant award has been approved by the Initiative Foundation.*

**Community groups:** *The Initiative Foundation recognizes that, in many of our communities, there are groups of committed volunteers working for charitable purposes outside the structured bounds of a formal 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization. We further recognize that these groups may desire to request funds from their local community foundation or directly from the Initiative Foundation. In such cases, the Initiative Foundation expects these groups to affiliate themselves with a compatible host organization which can support their efforts and administer awarded funds properly. In these cases, the application needs to come from the 501(c)(3) nonprofit host organization or local unit of government serving as host. It is the legal responsibility of the nonprofit organization or government entity awarded a grant to ensure for its proper use and administration.*