



## 2017 GRANT GUIDELINES

### What is the Kossuth County Community Foundation?

The Kossuth County Community Foundation (KCCF), an affiliate of the Community Foundation of Northeast Iowa, is created by and for the people of Kossuth County. The Community Foundation's main goals are to support Kossuth County and to attract additional funds by assisting donors in creating lasting legacies through a variety of giving options within Kossuth County.

### What We Support

ART AND CULTURE  
COMMUNITY BETTERMENT  
EDUCATION  
ENVIRONMENT

HEALTH  
HISTORIC PRESERVATION  
HUMAN SERVICE

### Eligibility for Grants

- Applying organizations must be (or be sponsored by) a charitable, tax-exempt, non-profit entity classified by the IRS as a 501(c)(3) organization, or equivalent tax-exempt organization. Government entities must provide their IRS determination letter or proof of governmental status. ***\*Fiscal Sponsors are legally and financially responsible for funds that are approved and granted from KCCF.***
- Other tax-exempt organizations may be eligible to apply for **charitable** projects that they conduct, but should call our administrative office to discuss the nature of their project prior to applying.
- Applicants must be in compliance with all KCCF funding requirements including having submitted all required reports for prior grant awards.

### Review Criteria

- The relevance of the proposed project to KCCF's mission areas of focus (the extent to which the proposal addresses a community need, demonstrates broad-based community support, and provides benefits to the community-at-large)
- Ability of the proposed project to leverage funding and support from other sources
- Extent to which the proposal maximizes community resources through cooperation and collaboration with other organizations in the community and the elimination of redundant services, programs, or projects
- The capacity of the applicant's organization and staff to achieve the desired result
- The sustainability of the proposed project without additional long-term financial commitments from KCCF
- There are no set criteria that, if met, will guarantee funding.

### Notes About the Grant Process: Charitable Purposes

Grants will NOT be awarded for the following:

- Participating in or intervening in (including the publishing or distributing of statements) any political campaign on behalf of (or in opposition to) any candidate for public office (within the meaning of section 501(c)(3) of the IRC).

- Carrying on of propaganda or otherwise attempting to influence legislation (within the meaning of section 4945(d) (1) of the IRC).
- Influencing the outcome of any specific public election or carrying on, directly or indirectly, any voter registration drive (within the meaning of section 4945(d) (2) of the IRC).
- Undertaking any activity for any non-charitable purpose or to the extent that use of grant funds would constitute a taxable expenditure (within the meaning of section 4945(d) of the IRC) or in any other manner which would jeopardize or cause the KCCF to lose its status as an organization exempt from federal income tax under section 501(c) (3) of the IRC.
- Discriminating against any individual or group based on race, religious beliefs, ethnic or national origin, or other legally impermissible criteria.
- Benefiting for-profit businesses.
- Supporting private foundations as described in IRC 509 (a).
- Funding projects outside of Kossuth County unless there is a demonstrated material/direct benefit to a substantial number of Kossuth County residents.
- Benefiting church-affiliated organizations for religious purposes (however, support may be provided to non-religious programs like child care, hunger centers, etc.).
- Benefit/fundraising events, such as galas or athletic tournaments.
- Applications which request funds to retire an organization's debt.
- Applications which request funds to make up for deficit spending.
- Individuals, including scholarships.
- Endowment funds.
- Debt incurred or purchases made prior to KCCF grant award notification.
- Salary or operating expenses.

### [Applying for a Grant](#)

Applicants interested in seeking grants from the Kossuth County Community Foundation must submit a completed grant application via the Foundation's online grant application system: [www.kossuthccf.org](http://www.kossuthccf.org). To access the online grant system, click on "Apply for Grant" in the gray shaded box on the right side of the page.

***Incomplete or hard copy applications will not be considered.***

### [When are grants awarded?](#)

All applicants will be notified of the results of the grant process by March 31, 2017. Grant awards will be presented at a ceremony in April or May 2017.

### **Awarded applicants are required to:**

1. Sign a Terms of Grant Agreement which clarifies legal parameters for use of the grant.
2. Submit a short online report by **October 31, 2017** on the outcome of the funded project.

**Applications must be submitted online no later than 11:59pm on January 15, 2017.**

Applicants are invited to contact our administrative office at 319-243-1358 or [dthompson@cfneia.org](mailto:dthompson@cfneia.org) with specific questions.