evanston!community foundation 30! years

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ECF Nonprofit board service workshop next Wednesday, May 3rd

understanding responsible governance, funding, and structure

Third (final) workshop *in Tools That Work* series for nonprofit organizations.

When: Wednesday, May 3rd from 5:30-8:30pm

Where: Rotary Building, 1560 Sherman Ave, Conference Rooms

Cost: Registration for each workshop is $50, with a discounted fee $125 for three workshop registrants. The fee includes a light meal.

Learn more about workshops.

Every nonprofit relies on the skills, talents, and resources of the people who serve on its Board of Directors. This training is designed to give current nonprofit board members, executive directors, and those who want to serve on boards the tools they need to improve their board's ability to contribute to their organizations. Participants will learn the fundamental roles and responsibilities of nonprofit boards with emphasis on governance, policy, and planning. Participants will leave understanding how responsible board service contributes to overall nonprofit success.

About the facilitator: Steve Strang, MPA is a Consultant with Spectrum Nonprofit Services, where he provides consulting and training in sustainability strategies for community-based organizations. He also serves as Managing Director at Project Pivot, a nonprofit focused on creating more engaged communities through stronger leadership and governance. Steve is an Advisory Board member for Allowance for Good and the Axelson Center for Nonprofit Management at North Park University and former Executive Co-Chair of the Young Nonprofit Professionals Network.

New ECF Rolling Grants Cycle

ECF is now awarding Rolling Grants — grants up to $5,000 — on a quarterly basis.

Download the RFP. Proposals may be submitted at any time throughout the year, and will be considered by the grants committee on a quarterly basis (March, June, September, December). Grants are awarded for one year.

grantmaking philosophy

As described in grantmaking philosophy and process, we make investments in organizations and projects that are poised to make a difference in the community by strengthening nonprofit organizations and their programs.

qualifications

- Any group or organization providing services to Evanston residents may apply for a grant. All proposals must address issues, concerns or opportunities in the Evanston community.
- Applicants must either be 501(c)(3) organizations, schools, government entities or they must have a fiscal sponsor that qualifies as a tax-exempt organization under Sec. 501(c)(3) of the IRS.
- Applicants must be able to demonstrate inclusive practices leading to diversity of their boards, staff and constituents.

funding parameters

- One year grants with a maximum request amount of $5,000.
- New applicants, current, and former grantees, and/or previous applicants to any ECF grants program are eligible and encouraged to apply.
- Groups may receive one rolling grant per calendar year.
- We do not fund general operations, endowments, fundraising events or sponsorship of events, appeals for religious purposes (though faith-based organizations may apply for projects benefitting the general community), or individuals. ECF is unlikely to fund capital campaigns or one-time conferences, performances, or events.

funding areas

- **Capacity building:** specific project to support an organization's long-term growth and development to better fulfill its mission (e.g. strategic plans, racial equity audits and training, board and/or staff development, technology upgrades, program evaluation)
- **Collaboration (program):** efforts that bring people, organizations, government, and/or businesses together to tackle a shared issue, reach a shared goal, or test a new idea. Planning grants for new strategic alliances are eligible.
- **Pilots (program):** program design, plans or pilots. Particularly those that reach underserved Evanstonians.
- **Time-sensitive Needs or Opportunities (program):** pressing and/or unforeseen needs, or requests that capitalize on a funding opportunity.

how and when to apply

- Proposals may be submitted at any time throughout the year through eGrant: http://evanstoncf.egrant.net.
- Download the Rolling Grants Application Template and Rolling Grants Budget Template. Upload the two completed documents on eGrant.
- The grants committee will make funding decisions in March, June, September, and December of each year. Be sure to submit your request by the first of each month to be included in that quarter's review.
- If you need access to a computer or assistance submitting online, please contact our office: 847-492-0990.

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