The Clayton County Community Foundation welcomes proposals for projects that benefit a broad spectrum of the community or a chronically underserved segment of the population. We look for projects which:

- Address significant community issues
- Present innovative, creative, and practical proposals which build on community strengths
- Present clear work plans which show the ability to achieve the project’s goal
- Focus on strategic innovations that encourage cooperation, create efficiencies and reduce duplication of services
- Develop the leadership potential of the community
- Involve the people served in the planning and implementation of the program
- Demonstrate quality, vision, effectiveness, collaboration and good management;
- Provide a plan for sustainability beyond the funding period

Eligibility:

- Nonprofit 501(c)(3) tax-exempt, not-for-profit agency or affiliated with a public agency/unit of government (County, City, School) operating and providing services within Clayton County
- Organizations who do not have 501(c)(3) status are encouraged to find a qualifying agency to sponsor them. A Fiscal Sponsorship Agreement must be attached to the application.
  - Examples of organizations and sponsors:
    - Elementary School sponsored by School Board
    - Park and Rec Board sponsored by City Council
- Applicants must demonstrate a 25% cash match of the requested amount.
- Maximum grant request amount for this grant cycle is $1,000.00
What We Fund:
We award grants in the areas of Health and Human Services, Education, Neighborhoods and Community Development, the Environment, Children, Youth, and Families, and Arts and Culture, including historic preservation.

1. Health & Human Services
Encompasses social service projects that benefit the underserved segments of our community. For example, issues of homelessness, health care, hunger, poverty, and the elderly.

- Empower the underserved to seek solutions
- Promote self-sufficiency
- Programs that focus on long-term approaches to issues
- Provide independence to the elderly and/or to persons with disabilities
- Improve access to health care
- Strengthen the capacity of human service organizations to serve their constituencies

2. Education
Encompass community education projects that serve all age groups and segments of our population.

- Increase literacy and basic skills development
- Develop efforts that address the needs of students who are most at-risk for dropping out of school or not enrolled
- Promote inclusiveness and diversity
- Provide creative approaches to improvement of our educational system

3. Neighborhoods and Community Development
Programs that address community and neighborhood development, both social and economic.

- Encourage community responsibility for solving community problems
- Develop leadership opportunities for youth, minorities and the economically disadvantaged
- Benefit the community’s low-and moderate-income population
- Ensure equal-opportunity in housing, services, and economic opportunity
- Build capacity for non-profits and neighborhood organizations

4. Our Environment
Programs that address our natural resources and environment.
  - Enhance awareness of regional environmental issues
  - Encourage responsible stewardship and conservation of our natural resources

5. **Children, Youth & Families**
Programs that enhance the quality of life for children and youth through opportunities to enhance their intellectual, emotional, physical, and social development.
  - Support models that encourage an alliance of shared responsibility and coordination of resources among schools, parents and community-based organizations
  - Enhance life options of youth through such means as improved basic skills and development of work, life management, and leadership development skills; and reduction of risk-taking behaviors.
  - Support efforts to enhance parental understanding of strategies they can use to improve the educational attainment of their children.

6. **Arts and Culture**
Programs that increase access to and awareness of arts and culture.
  - Encourage participation and heighten awareness in the arts and culture among underserved populations.
  - Increase public exposure to and appreciation of different ethnic and cultural art forms.
  - Support efforts that encourage life-long learning experiences.