Grant Program Overview: Community Enrichment

- **Mission**: to support activities that enhance the vitality of our communities, including activities that promote local arts, culture, creativity, civic engagement, and community development.

- **Examples**:
  - Arts and Culture: including but not limited to art in public places, programs that encourage art in community institutions (community centers and schools), and “art for art’s sake.”
  - Community development: including but not limited to community-enhancing projects, and the preservation of community heritage and history.
  - Civic engagement: Advancing community cohesion and participation
Grant Program Overview:
Organizational Development

• Mission: support projects that strengthen and improve nonprofit organizational efficiency and effectiveness

• Examples include:
  • Planning support (strategic, fund development, marketing, etc.)
  • Fostering new collaborations
  • Small capital needs (furniture, equipment, technology, etc.)
Funding Guidance

• While there are no set grant amounts, grants tend to fall between $2,000 and $10,000
• Must be a 501c3, municipality, or have a fiscal sponsor
• Activities must take place within our 33-community region
• One application per organization per grant program
• Capacity for impact: Demonstrate capacity and potential for achieving and sustaining long-term impact.
• Plan of action: Include a plan of action with evidence that the plan is likely to achieve its intended outcomes.
• Tracking progress: Include measurable objectives and outcomes with a plan to monitor progress.
Timeline

- **Grant Program Launch**: 21 Aug. 2023
- **Application Deadline**: 8 Sep. 2023
- **Award Announcements**: 23 Oct. 2023
- **Interim report**: 27 Apr. 2024
- **Final report**: 29 Nov. 2024
Application Overview: Community Enrichment

Statement of Need: we are looking for local evidence. Provide stats and data if you have them.

Project activity: please be clear and concise. Ensure the evaluator has a clear understanding of how your program works.

Outcomes: we are looking for 2-3 specific, measurable (quantitative) goals. Explain how you are going to track the outcomes. What tools do you have in place?

Capabilities: here is your chance to brag a little. Why are your organization and staff best equipped to deliver the program?

Sustainability: we do not intend to be the sole supporter of a program year after year. What plans do you have to ensure other funding for this program?

Budget: the template can be accessed directly from the application.
Application Overview: Organizational Development

**Project Description**
- What is involved?
- Why is the project needed now?
- How will it impact your operations?
- What is the timeline?

**Outcomes**
- How will you know the project has improved your organization's efficiency and effectiveness?

**Budget**
- A template is provided.

**Sustainability**
- What are the ongoing costs?
- How will they be funded?
Helpful Hints

- Review the funding guidance
- Draft your proposal in Word and then copy and paste it into SmarterSelect
- Check grammar and spelling
  - SmarterSelect does not do this for you!
- Remember to save your work frequently
- Do not use jargon or acronyms
- Create a compelling narrative
- Be clear and concise
- Ask a friend or family member to read your proposal
  - Does it make sense to someone not familiar with the program
Technical Assistance

Contact Meghan at mmaceiko@cfncm.org or 978.335.8493 Ext. 104
Q&A

What questions do you have?