



NEIGHBORHOOD GRANTS PROGRAM

NEIGHBORHOOD GRANTS GUIDELINES

PURPOSE

The Neighborhood Grants Program exists to:

- **Promote resident participation and leadership;**
- Encourage and support the work of neighborhood-based groups and organizations preserving and/or improving their neighborhood's quality of life;
- Invest in and build on the existing neighborhood strengths and assets; and
- Promote civic pride in our community.



ELIGIBILITY

To be eligible for funding, an applicant must:

- Be a 501(c)(3) tax-exempt, not-for-profit agency and/or an organized group carrying out a charitable purpose for the common good (i.e. a neighborhood association);
- Have a minimum of three active leaders (e.g. President, Treasurer, Secretary, etc.);
- Have an established process to manage funds, including a current checking account in the name of the organization/group;
- Be operated and organized so that there is no discrimination on the basis of race, color, sex, sexual orientation, religion, age, national or ethnic origin, political beliefs, veteran's status, disability, or any other factor prohibited by applicable law;
- Be a neighborhood or neighborhood-based organization/group that is located within Boone, Ogle, Stephenson, or Winnebago County;
- Have a plan to implement a project that will benefit residents of a defined geographic area;
- Have the capacity to complete the proposed project by the end of the year; and
- Be current on all final reports for previously awarded Neighborhood Grants.

WHAT WE LOOK FOR

We look for projects that:

- **Are generated, led, and executed by residents of the neighborhood to the extent possible;**
- Build on the assets existing in the neighborhood, including using the skills of residents, involving youth, or working with an existing neighborhood group; and
- Encourage partnerships between residents, businesses, nonprofits, and institutions (i.e. schools or churches) within the neighborhood.

The maximum award granted per project is \$2,500.



COMMUNITY FOUNDATION
OF NORTHERN ILLINOIS

946 N. SECOND ST, ROCKFORD, IL 61107
cfnil.org 815-962-2110

WHAT WE FUND

- Beautification Projects*
- Crime Prevention
- Neighborhood Cleanups
- Neighborhood Events
- Newsletters & Organizing
- Community Gardens
- Reforestation Projects**
- Neighborhood Surveys
- Resident-Focused Education

*Beautification Projects

- Permanent fixtures (e.g. trash receptacles, planters) must be installed on public property or common areas.
- Landscape projects must be permanent improvements to the area (e.g. shrubs, trees, perennials) and have a maintenance plan (e.g. watering, weeding).

**Reforesting Neighborhoods:

Trees may only be planted on public or common areas, not private property.

WHAT WE WON'T FUND

Grants are NOT made for:

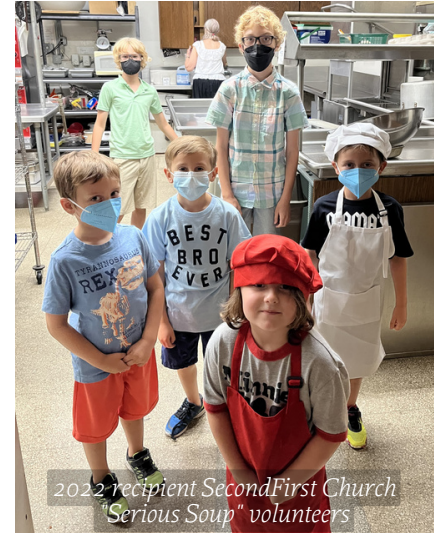
- Landscaping private property
- Activities that primarily benefit non-resident individuals, organizations, or groups
- Projects and programs that promote a religion or require participation in a religious activity as a condition for receiving services. However, grants may be made to faith-based organizations for other purposes.

DEADLINES

Applications for the Neighborhood Grants program will be accepted from March 13 to April 17, 2023. Recipients will be notified in early May. A reception honoring this year's recipients will be held in late spring, details TBA. Applications must be submitted through CFNIL's Online Application Portal. To learn more and apply, visit cfnil.org/grants/neighborhood. If you have not yet created a portal account, follow the instructions on the portal login page.

QUESTIONS?

Need help creating your portal account? Questions about eligibility or your application? Get in touch! Call Lisa DeLang, CFNIL Program and Administrative Associate, at 779-210-8210 or email at edelang@cfnil.org.



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