



COMMUNITY FOUNDATION OF NORTHERN ILLINOIS CARROLL H. STARR ENDOWMENT CHALLENGE

— BUILDING SUSTAINABLE NONPROFITS SINCE 2001 —

CHALLENGE PROGRAM GUIDELINES

PURPOSE

Carroll H. Starr co-founded CFNIL in 1953 and served the organization until his death in 1963. Named in his memory and honor, the first Carroll H. Starr Endowment Challenge was offered by the Community Foundation of Northern Illinois in 2001. The goal of the program is to encourage nonprofits in CFNIL's service area to build a permanent endowment and support their efforts to do so. CFNIL will match \$1 for every \$3 raised by 501(c)(3) nonprofits to start and build permanent agency endowments. Once established, the endowments provide the grantee with a perpetual revenue stream. This is the eleventh time CFNIL has offered the challenge, making this Carroll H. Starr Endowment Challenge XI (CHS XI).

ELIGIBILITY

Applicants must be 501(c)(3) nonprofit organizations operating in Boone, Ogle, Stephenson, or Winnebago County.

HOW THE CHALLENGE WORKS

The online application opens on CFNIL's online grant portal on February 14 and closes on April 15, 2024, at 5:00pm. The application will ask about your organization's:

- Financial health
- Service population
- Vision for endowment
- The amount your organization intends to raise for the Challenge and your plan for doing so.

Organizations must choose to raise a total amount between \$15,000 and \$150,000. CFNIL will match \$1 for every \$3 raised for a total match between \$5,000 and \$50,000. All applications are reviewed by a committee of community volunteers who then recommend applicants to CFNIL's Board of Trustees for participation in CHS XI Challenge. Past applicants and participants are welcome to reapply, however, preference will be given to new applicants and organizations that have not participated in the past.

Applicants will be notified whether they have been accepted into CHS Challenge XI by May 31, 2024. If the organization does not already have an endowed agency fund at CFNIL, an agreement to establish a new agency fund will be drafted and signed by both the participant and CFNIL.

CHS XI participants will have 19 months (June 1, 2024 to December 31, 2025) to complete their fundraising efforts.

WHAT WE LOOK FOR

CFNIL seeks applicants that:

- Are strong, stable organizations,
- Have clear plans for raising funds, including the role of their board in the effort, and
- Have a vision for the role of endowment in their organization.

INFORMATIONAL WEBINAR

Join us for a virtual information session Monday, February 19, at noon. CFNIL staff will provide further details on CHS Endowment Challenge XI and time will be provided for Q & A. To register for the virtual session, visit <https://bit.ly/chsxiwebinar>.



COMMUNITY FOUNDATION
OF NORTHERN ILLINOIS

DEADLINE

The application for CHS XI will be available on CFNIL's online grant portal February 14, 2024. Applications must be submitted by 5:00 p.m. on April 15, 2024.

QUESTIONS

For questions about the Carroll H. Starr Endowment Program, contact Sarah Lambert, VP of Programs & Community Investment, at slambert@cfnil.org or 779-210-8207. For technical questions about the CHS application, contact Lisa DeLang, Program and Administrative Associate, at edelang@cfnil.org or 779-210-8210.

HOW TO APPLY

Access and submit the application using CFNIL's online grants application portal, accessed via clicking "apply for a Grant" at the top right corner of every CFNIL webpage. For guidance about using the portal, including how to register, visit <https://cfnil.org/grant-resources>.

GRANTEE TESTIMONIALS

"The opportunity to present the CHS Challenge to our donor base was a very powerful development tool. The goal was ultimately achieved through increased giving by my many existing donors, in addition to a number of new donors."

- Bernie Buchholz, President, Friends of Nachusa Grasslands

"Donors like to give to matching campaigns. Both times we reached our fundraising goal before the deadline...The money will support the management and restoration of Nygren Wetland Preserve in perpetuity."

- Kim Johnsen, Director of Marketing & Membership, Natural Land Institute

PAST GRANTEES

Since 2001, CFNIL has contributed more than \$1,200,000 to CHS Endowment Challenge grantees.

CHS I (2001): Freeport Art Museum, Illinois Growth Enterprises, The MILL

CHS II (2006): Burpee Museum & Discovery Center, Freeport Art Museum, Klehm Arboretum & Botanic Garden, Swedish Historical Society

CHS III (2009): Natural Land Institute

CHS IV (2010): Regional Access and Mobilization Project (RAMP)

CHS V (2011): Cosmopolitan Club of Rockford, Mendelssohn Performing Arts Center, Swedish Historical Society

CHS VI (2012): Discovery Center Museum, Klehm Arboretum & Botanic Garden, Natural Land Institute

CHS VII (2014): Belvidere Boone County Food Pantry, Delta Kappa Gamma (Zeta Chapter), Lifescape, Nachusa Grasslands, Rockford University, Sand Bluff Bird Observatory

CHS VIII (2016): Children's Home & Aid, Friends of Nachusa Grasslands, Klehm Arboretum Foundation, Midway Village Museum, Northwest HomeStart, RAMP, Rockford Area Habitat for Humanity, YMCA of Rock River Valley

CHS IX (2018): Boy Scouts of America, Blackhawk Area Council, Friends of Nachusa Grasslands, Goldie B. Floberg Center, Northern Illinois Center for Nonprofit Excellence

CHS X (2022): Lincoln-Douglas Society of Freeport, North Rockford Convalescent Home (dba Peterson Meadows), Northern Illinois Center for Nonprofit Excellence, RAMP

