

PUTNAM COUNTY COMMUNITY FOUNDATION

2024 Community Grant Guidelines



MISSION STATEMENT

The Putnam County Community Foundation (PCCF) partners with those who give to enrich the quality of life and strengthen community for this and future generations.

PROGRAM OVERVIEW

The PCCF Board of Directors guides the organization's grantmaking priorities and strategies to ensure grant funds can leverage the greatest good. Their guidance informs the work of the Grants Committee which oversees the Community Grants program, a competitive funding program which seeks to meet community needs through broad, flexible grantmaking. Grants awarded through the Community Grants program are funded by PCCF's unrestricted funds, endowments designed for the general benefit of the community. The Committee reviews grant applications from eligible organizations on a biannual basis and recommends grant awards to the Board of Directors for approval.

AREAS OF INTEREST

Requests for Community Grants must relate to at least one of the following areas of interest:

- Animal Welfare
- Arts and Culture
- Civic and Community
- Economic Development
- Education
- Environment
- Health and Human Services
- Nonprofit Capacity Building
- Recreation
- Youth Leadership

ELIGIBILITY

Grant applications will be accepted from nonprofit organizations in Putnam County. These organizations must be a tax-exempt organization in good standing whose purposes are described in Section 501(c)3 of the Internal Revenue Code. Grant applications will also be accepted from governmental entities including public schools for charitable purposes. Organizations which have received prior grants must have completed all reporting requirements to be eligible to submit a new request.

GRANT GUIDELINES

In general, grants from the Community Grants Program will **not** be awarded for the following:

- Individuals
- Operational expenses
- Projects that do not serve Putnam County citizens
- Projects normally fully funded by units of government

- Religious programs that appear to serve one denomination and not the community at large
- Political organizations or campaigns
- National and state-wide fund-raising projects
- Projects operated by for-profit companies
- Retroactive funding of program or project
- Projects to build or fund an endowment outside PCCF

A strong proposal will have several or all the following characteristics:

- Reach a broad segment of the community.
- Demonstrate other fundraising efforts to support the program or project and identify sustainable long-term funding sources if applicable.
- Improve the ability of organizations to serve the community over the long term.
- Present an innovative and practical approach to solve a community problem or project.
- Demonstrate a thoughtfully created project plan and identify evaluation efforts to measure the project’s impact and success.
- Promote collaboration and avoid duplication of efforts.

GRANT DECISIONS

Each complete grant application will be reviewed and researched by the Grants Committee and PCCF staff. When possible, each grant applicant will receive an on-site visit from a member(s) of the Grants Committee. If an on-site visit is not possible, the applicant may have the opportunity to speak with a member(s) of the Committee to explain the benefits of the proposal and to answer questions. The Board of Directors relies upon the work of the Grants Committee and staff to inform its grantmaking.

2024 GRANT DATES

	Applications Due Online by 5 PM	Committee Review	PCCF Board Review	Funding Available
SPRING 2024	February 1	February and March	April 22	May
FALL 2024	August 1	August and September	October 28	November