

Lake County CARES Act Charitable Nonprofit Grant Guidelines

Lake County has established a Mini Grant Program with CARES Act funds to support Charitable Nonprofit Organizations in Lake County. Funds may be used for planning for and responding to the COVID-19 pandemic.

Goals of This Grant Program are to:

1. Support the ability to provide essential services to all Lake County residents during this pandemic.
2. Maintain or enhance quality of life including physical, mental, emotional and financial wellbeing.
3. Support the continuation of Charitable Nonprofits serving Lake County.

Eligible applicants:

Organizations classified as 501(c)(3) charitable nonprofits based out of and/or serving primarily Lake County residents.

Eligible expenses include those that are:

- Necessary expenditures incurred due to the COVID-19 public health emergency
- Not accounted for in the budget approved by March 27, 2020 (date of the CARES Act)
- Incurred between March 1, 2020, and ends on December 1, 2020
- Not be reimbursable from any other source

Examples include, but are not limited to:

- Items or services that enhance quality of life for those served
- Technology and/or transportation to support safe working conditions and provision of services
- Staffing (above and beyond regular staffing costs)
- Training of staff or volunteers
- Personal protective equipment and disinfection supplies

Loss of revenue due to COVID is not an eligible expense.

Maximum preliminary awards are allocated as listed for charitable nonprofits within Lake County whose stated purpose focuses on:

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| 1. Health, Safety, Social Justice | up to \$5000 based upon availability |
| 2. General Education | up to \$4000 based upon availability |
| 3. Culture, Arts and Recreation | up to \$2000 based upon availability |
| 4. Business and Economic Development | up to \$1000 based upon availability |
| 5. Health, Safety, Social Justice (in Ely) | up to \$500 based upon availability |

Since Lake County citizens in Fall Lake township make up 5% of the County population, who may benefit from charitable nonprofit services based out of Ely, MN, 5% of the \$100,000 (\$5,000) will be awarded to charitable nonprofits in Ely. Those grants will be prioritized to organizations whose purpose meets Priority #1 of Health, Safety and Social Justice.

Grant awards will normally not exceed 10% of “Amount Spent for Program Purposes” as listed on the MN Office of the Attorney General’s Financial Information for the Year Ending on Dec. 31, 2019.

Application Deadline:

Applications will be accepted until all funds allocated for this program have been expended. Review of applications will initially be made after September 15, 2020. On November 1, grant awards may be reconsidered, and additional funds may be distributed based upon grant applications and available funds.

Review and Selection:

Funding decisions will be made by a committee appointed by the Lake County Board of Commissioners. Committee members include: County Administrator, County Commissioner, Chamber of Commerce Director and Emergency Management Director and/or other citizen volunteer. The committee will evaluate all complete applications received and notify applicants of grant awards. Award decisions are final and are not subject to appeal. Lake County may deny incomplete applications and applications that do not meet the required criteria. The submission of inaccurate or misleading information may be grounds for disqualification from the award.

Accountability and Reporting Requirements:

All grant recipients must submit a grant report that itemizes how funds were spent on or before December 1, 2020. Lake County may request additional verification (invoices, receipts, etc.). Funds not spent by December 1, 2020 must be returned to Lake County.

If a grant recipient has used funds for purposes not authorized under this program, Lake County may recover any money previously paid and used for an unauthorized purpose from the recipient or pursue any other remedy available under law. Grant recipients that receive funds from another source for the same costs of planning for or responding to COVID-19 after receiving funds through this program must notify Lake County of the amount received from the other source. Grant recipients must repay the amount of duplicate grant funds, as determined by Lake County.