



GEORGE REED FOUNDATION INC.

Granting Policy

Request for Funding and Sponsorship

Approved April 2014

George Reed Foundation Board of Directors

Application Deadline for 2015: April 30, 2015

GRANTING POLICY

PROGRAM AREAS

The GRF supports the disabled and disadvantaged who are physically / intellectually challenged through promoting education and continuous learning and supporting activities that inspire health and active living.

WHO WE WORK WITH:

- We work with a range of partners to achieve our goals as the scale of the problems we are trying to solve is large. Our partners include nonprofits, businesses, and governments. Other partners may co-fund work or help us bring together multiple players working toward a common goal

WHO MAY BE ELIGIBLE

- The foundation makes most of its grants to Saskatchewan based organizations who are qualified donees as defined by subsection 149.1(1) of the *Income Tax Act* .

HOW WE FOCUS OUR GRANT MAKING

To invest resources most responsibly, the foundation begins by asking:

- What affects the most people?
- What has been neglected?
- Where can we make the greatest change?
- How can we harness innovative solutions and technologies?
- How can we work in partnership with experts, governments, and businesses?

Next, we look for projects that:

- Produce measurable results
- Use preventive approaches
- Promise significant and long-lasting change
- Leverage support from other sources
- Accelerate work the foundation already supports

Examples of areas the foundation does not fund include:

- Political campaigns and legislative lobbying efforts
- Building or capital campaigns

- Projects that exclusively serve religious purposes
- Direct support for individuals
- For Individuals Seeking Funds
- Any entity that is not a qualified donee as defined in subsection 149.1(1) of the *Income Tax Act*.

OUR APPROACH TO GIVING

STEP ONE: DEVELOP STRATEGY

We use the following approach.

- Define the problem and opportunity;
- Articulate a formal strategy;
- We develop an execution plan and budget.
- Review



DEFINE THE PROBLEM

Long before we make a single grant for any given issue, we listen and learn about problems that cause great inequity. We begin by immersing ourselves in information about problems that cause great harm and get far too little attention. As we learn about an issue, we ask whether we can make a difference with our money and our ability to bring partners together. We get involved only if we believe we can make a unique contribution.

ARTICULATE THE STRATEGY

For each opportunity, we consider its cost, the risk associated with it, its long-term viability, and, most important, its potential impact on people's lives. Based on the answers to these criteria, and after extensive discussion, the program identifies a strategy, which includes a budget, the results they hope to achieve, and a plan to measure those results over the short and long term. They present this strategy for approval to the Board of Directors of the George Reed Foundation.

DEVELOP AN EXECUTION PLAN

Once we receive approval on a strategy, an execution plan is developed. To create this plan, the "nuts and bolts" of how it will be implemented against our strategic goals. A budget is developed based on the dollars requested and the specific milestones and time frames.

STEP TWO: MAKE GRANTS

Once we decide on a strategy, we consider grants that will support it. We look for partners who can carry out our strategy. We generally make three- to five-year grants and establish formal agreements with expected outcomes.

Most of our grant making goes to large intermediary partners—organizations that in turn provide funding and support to those doing the work in the field. This lets us take advantage of expertise that others already have, and it builds up expertise among people in the field.

STEP THREE: MEASURE PROGRESS

We are willing to take risks to address the issues that are important to us, and we recognize that the steps we take—or that our grantees take—may not always be the right ones. That's why, once we've made a grant, we expect the grantee to measure progress and report on the results.

STEP FOUR: REVIEW

Every year, the GRF Board of Directors require a report from our grantees that carefully tracks and reports on their work as it pertains to funds provided from the GRF.

MEASURING PROGRESS TOWARDS IMPACT

We aspire to measure the work in an ongoing way. Every three to five years we take stock of our overall strategy and the extent to which it accomplished our key goals.

This process is more in-depth and exhaustive than progress assessments, and we're continually refining our approach. We take the following types of steps:

- We commission third-party evaluations that provide in-depth findings on the effectiveness of the work. In some cases, we evaluate specific grants; in other cases, we may review entire programs.
- We turn to outside advisors and experts to help us examine our efforts and give us honest counsel.
- We reach out to the people we intend to serve—our ultimate beneficiaries—to make sure that our investments are meeting their needs.

Based on this review, we consider whether we need to make adjustments or even change course.

STEP FOUR: ADJUST STRATEGY

Measuring progress and impact is only useful if you're willing to act on the results. Once we've gathered feedback, the Board of Directors decides whether to continue with the existing strategy or to make adjustments.

WHAT WE ASK.

- Were our strategies effective in meeting our goals?
- What did we accomplish and why?
- What has not been accomplished? Why?
- What were the major obstacles?
- What have been the unanticipated consequences of our work, both positive and negative?
- What lessons did we learn?
- How can these lessons inform and shape our future efforts in this area?
- What course corrections might we make in the future—in our goals or our strategies?

REQUEST FOR FUNDING / SPONSORSHIP

Timeframe: Applications will be accepted up to April 30. Those not approved are invited to resubmit.

NAME OF REQUESTOR:

CHARITABLE ORGANIZATION:

CRA #

REQUEST:

- A. Tell us about the problem or opportunity that you are addressing?
- B. What is the strategy being employed to address the problem or opportunity?
- C. Execution Plan and Budget Requirement
- D. How will you measure results?

REPORTING

In accordance with our Funding Policy, The George Reed Foundation requires a report on the use of the funds and the measurement of impact on a quarterly basis for long term projects. If asked to sponsor a one-time event, the GRF requires a report on the use of funds within 3 months.

