

Community Foundation for South Central New York Grant Program FAQ

What counties does the CFSCNY grant to? The Community Foundation for South Central New York covers 5 counties including: Broome, Chenango, Delaware, Otsego and Tioga.

What are the goals of CFSCNY grant program? In general, the Community Foundation hopes to accomplish several different goals through its granting program. As an organization that supports local communities, the Community Foundation seeks to: increase access to community resources, maintain community spaces, increase innovation, increase organizational capacity and improve the lives of community members. We invest in organizations that share our grant-making goals.

Does the CFSCNY have funding priorities? The CFSCNY conducts extensive need assessment in our 5-county region. The most recent reports can be found on our website: www.donorswhocare.org. We use this information to guide the allocation of our resources. Some of the funds that we administer have very specific funding priorities. Please ask the Program Officer about your particular area of interest.

Do I have to be invited to apply? While a formal invitation to apply is not typically issued, we do require that you submit a Letter of Interest as the first step in our on-line application. The open grant opportunities will be available to your organization once you've created an account in our new on-line system. Please visit our website: www.donorswhocare.org for more information.

How often does CFSCNY accept applications? In general, CFSCNY will accept applications to the majority of the funds we administer on-line. To create an account for your organization, please visit our website where you will find information on how to access our on-line grant-making portal. Information on all of our grant programs is posted under the "Forms and Guidelines" tab of our website.

What if it's an emergency? You may call the Executive Director or Program Officer at any time to discuss an emergency request.

What is the Community Fund? The Community Fund is the Foundation's general fund, which addresses pressing community needs. The needs are identified through our need assessment process. It is a twice-yearly (Spring and Fall) competitive process and applications are accepted from all 5 counties. Awards range in size from \$5,000-\$15,000. To review the full set of guidelines for the Community Fund and to view recent grantees, visit our website at www.donorswhocare.org.

Are there any other funds? Yes! The Community Foundation has a wide array of funds that support the community including:

-The Women's Fund: This fund was established to improve the lives of women and girls in the counties the Community Foundation serves. The annual application process is competitive and grant awards range from \$250-\$6,000. Applications are considered in June. A complete set of guidelines and information on past grantees can be found on our website: www.donorswhocare.org

-The Barbara H. Chaffee, MD, MPH Educational Fund: This fund was established to enable dedicated health professionals who currently reside in the Greater Binghamton NY Area to continue their education in the field of HIV/AIDS and follow in Dr. Chaffee's footsteps well into the 21st century. Applications are considered on a rolling basis. For more information regarding the fund, visit the CFSCNY website at: www.donorswhocare.org

-The Broome Library Foundation Fund: This fund was established to support public libraries for library services, programming, exhibits and historical exhibitions in conjunction with public libraries in the region served by the Community Foundation for South Central New York (Broome, Chenango, Delaware, Otsego and Delaware Counties.) Awards range from \$250-\$1,250 and applications are considered in April.

-The Paul G. and Miriam B. Mattern Fund: This fund awards up to \$5,000 per year to organizations seeking to improve the lives of the residents of Walton, NY. Applications are considered in April.

-The Small Grants Program: This program accepts applications 6 times a year for requests of \$5,000 or less. The Small Grant Application (SGA) can be accessed through our grant-making portal on our website: www.donorswhocare.org.

What kind of application does the Community Foundation use? For requests over \$5,000, the Community Foundation for South Central New York uses the Uniform Grant Application (UGA). For requests \$5,000 and under we use the Small Grant Application (SGA) Both the UGA and SGA can be accessed through our on-line grant-making portal which can be accessed by visiting our website: www.donorswhocare.org.

What does the Program Officer do? It is the Program Officer's (PO) job to "shepherd" applicants through the Community Foundation's grant-making process. The PO makes sure organizations put their best application forward. The PO will discuss your project with you and assist with the development of goals/objectives/evaluation. If awarded a grant, the PO will manage your contract and track your outcomes, help trouble- shoot if you get "stuck" and ensure that you receive timely reimbursement. Consider this position a partner and advocate!

Does the Community Foundation offer any training? Yes! The Community Foundation offers regional trainings to organizations focused on putting forward a strong application. Check our website for a complete schedule.

If my application isn't accepted, will I be told why? Absolutely! Your organization will receive a decline letter shortly after the review process. If you would like to have an in-depth discussion regarding your proposal, please call the Program Officer at 607-772-6773.

Where can I find more information? The Community Foundation's website has all of the information you'll need. All forms, guidelines, tutorials, access to our on-line portal and fund descriptions are there to help you determine your eligibility.