



Guidelines for 2017 Catholic Leadership Circle Grants

OVERVIEW

The Catholic Leadership Circle is an innovative new program from the Catholic Community Foundation. Inspired by a new generation of philanthropists, the Circle is unique - each member is an active participant in the community grantmaking process. By joining together, the Circle magnifies philanthropy into larger, more impactful grantmaking opportunities.

AREAS OF GRANTMAKING

Grants, through the Catholic Leadership Circle program, are currently offered in the following five areas:

1. **Teacher's Choice & Youth Programs** + Supports Catholic Education by awarding classroom and school projects as proposed by Catholic high school and elementary school teachers. Funding is also available to projects aimed at youth in the areas of creating enriched educational opportunities, leadership, promotion of Christian virtue and academic enhancement.
2. **Evangelization & Sanctity of Life** + Supports the work of evangelization in organizations and ministries whose primary purpose is to spread the Gospel of Jesus Christ to the world. This includes media, outreach efforts and seminarian and religious life vocations. Funding opportunities are available for ministries dedicated to the protection of human life - from conception to natural death.
3. **Work Among the Poor** + Enables support for the advancement of various solutions to the issues of poverty, such as homelessness, hunger and lack of basic medical care, and provides for outreach and direct care for the poor.
4. **Health & Wellness** + Funding will be awarded to programs serving vulnerable populations and addressing any of the following needs: food insecurity and/or access to healthy foods, preventative health and wellness, health education, access to health resources, and recreation and physical activity.
5. **Arts & Culture** + Funding will be awarded to programs that serve Catholic populations and/or celebrate Catholic spirituality through art in the following areas: arts in the schools, classical music instruments, performing arts experiences for youth and the elderly, access to arts education, church art and musical instrument needs, public art with a Catholic/spiritual theme, and cultural enrichment experiences.

FUNDING PRIORITIES

Decisions on the thrust of the Circle's grant program are guided by an evolving assessment of community needs.

Presently, priority is being given to grant applicants who are able to show:

- The project is a well-planned approach to addressing a clearly identified need with clearly stated goals, objectives, and means of measuring outcomes.
- The project helps fulfill the primary mission of the applicant organization.
- The proposed project is likely to continue and expand after the grant period, becoming self-sustaining.
- The proposal provides innovative and creative solutions and demonstrates efficiency in its use of funds.
- The project supports the mission of the Church and its ministries.

TYPES OF GRANTS

- Program
- Capital
- Collaborations
- Challenge or matching

ELIGIBILITY

- 501(c)(3) organization in Arizona
- Values align with the teachings of the Church
- Primarily serves within the Diocese of Phoenix
- Follows best practices for nonprofits

OTHER CONSIDERATIONS

- Applicant organizations must be aligned with Catholic values.
- The grants process will be a 2-phase process. Phase 1 is the Letter of Inquiry (LOI) phase, where organizations may submit a 500-word proposal to the Foundation summarizing their program, including a statement of need, methodology, other funding sources, and impact. Only those organizations which submit LOI's that most closely align with Foundation and diocesan funding priorities for the year will be invited to complete a full grant application, Phase 2.
- The project will be fully funded within one year of the grant award.
- Grant monies must be used for the purpose for which funds were applied for and approved.
- Organizations are limited to one grant proposal for consideration during a single grant cycle.
- Grantmaking will focus on the listed funding priorities versus areas such as tuition assistance, annual fund-raising initiatives and/or debt reduction.
- Organizations must complete and return a Grant Agreement before funds are released from the Catholic Leadership Circle.

- Organizations must complete and submit an Impact Report for active grants before applying for a new grant.
- Recipients of 2017 grants must take one-year hiatus before they may reapply to Catholic Leadership Circle for a new program/project grant request.