



## **CAPACITY BUILDING MINI-GRANTS**

### **WHAT ARE CAPACITY BUILDING MINI-GRANTS?**

Sumter Community Foundation at Central Carolina Community Foundation (SCF) will provide mini-grants to nonprofit organizations interested in improving their capacity and strengthening their sustainability, impact and success.

SCF is working to help build sustainability for nonprofit organizations in Sumter County. Capacity Building grants support this endeavor by providing funds that will allow nonprofits to carry out their missions more effectively. The Foundation aims to assist organizations with organizational and financial stability, program quality, and growth. These funds are not intended for the implementation of programs or initiatives.

### **WHAT WE FUND**

The Sumter Community Foundation is looking to fund grants that will:

- Strengthen the Board of Directors and governance of the organization, through training or assistance from an expert in the field.
- Assist in strategic thinking and planning for the future of the organization.
- Enable organizations to merge operations and/or programming to ensure sustainability.
- Build a plan for long-term sustainability and reliable funding streams.
- Develop the skills of the Board and staff in a specific area impacting governance or management of the organization.
- Support collaborative initiatives or efforts to enhance systemic support around a community issue.

### **EXAMPLES OF ELIGIBLE ACTIVITIES**

Including but not limited to:

- Developing or refining organization mission, vision or goals
- Organizational assessment, evaluation of overall effectiveness, and strategic planning
- Building and diversifying revenue streams
- Developing or refining communications, marketing and outreach strategy
- Improving impact measurement tools and program evaluation capacity
- Developing executive leadership succession plans

### **EXAMPLES OF NON-ELIGIBLE ACTIVITIES**

- Routine operating expenses of the organization
- Fundraising projects—including events
- Conference registration, certifications or tuition fees
- Debt reduction
- Endowment or capital campaigns
- Marketing collateral such as brochures and program promotional items
- Costs associated with the creation of a new nonprofit organization
- Program implementation costs
- Grants to individuals
- Medical research

### **ELIGIBILITY REQUIREMENTS**

- Organizations must be determined as a charitable organization in good standing under Section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code or other charitable, educational or faith-based organizations.
- Organizations must have a physical location in Sumter County.

**GRANT AMOUNT**

The Community Foundation has at least \$14,000 available for Capacity Building Mini-grants. Applicants may request up to \$3,000.

**Note:** The Community Foundation acknowledges general costs are associated with operating a nonprofit. As such, grantees may allocate up to 15% of their grant award for general and administrative costs (i.e. overhead or indirect costs).

**GRANT PERIOD**

Please see [our website](#) for the most up-to-date information about application periods, deadlines, and program years. The grant period is a six-month span of time but the program dates may change from year to year.

**HOW TO APPLY**

Interested organizations should apply online [here](#). All applications will be submitted via our grant portal. Mailed, emailed, faxed or hand delivered applications will not be accepted.

Prior to applying, organizations are encouraged to thoroughly review all information about this grant on the Community Foundation's [website](#).

**REVIEW PROCESS**

Applications will be reviewed by the Sumter Community Foundation Board of Advisors. Final funding decisions are made by the CCCF Board of Trustees.

For further information, please contact Erin Johnson, Vice President for Community Investment, at 803-978-7822 or [erin@yourfoundation.org](mailto:erin@yourfoundation.org).