



**Community Priority Grants
2011-12 Information Packet**

Issued: July 14, 2011

Deadline: 4:30 p.m. Friday, August 26, 2011

Contact: Patti Fields, VP Community Investment & Engagement

United Way of Johnson County

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What is a community?

A community is a collection of neighborhoods, schools, civic clubs and all those diverse groups that play an important role in making this a better place in which to live.

Our community is a vital part of the mission of the United Way of Johnson County. To support this important work, the United Way has created a fund that is available to community groups for innovative health and human service projects. Grants will provide one-time, short-term funding for special projects that will make an impact in our community.

What kinds of projects will qualify?

A strong candidate for a Community Priority Grant project is one that 1) serves a health or human service purpose, 2) begins with a creative and innovative idea, 3) generates strong community interest and volunteer involvement, and 4) positively impacts the 2020 Vision Goals for the Common Good.

What kinds of groups can apply for this funding?

Eligible groups must be nonprofit organizations in Johnson County. This may include: United Way partner agencies, neighborhood organizations, civic groups, environmental groups, scouting troops, school, clubs, volunteer initiatives, membership organizations, and other similar groups. Individuals are NOT eligible.

What types of requests would NOT be appropriate?

These funds are not designed to support ongoing social service programs or to sponsor annual events. These funds will also not fund capital campaigns. However, proposals for short-term social service-related projects will be considered on an individual basis.

Priority will be given to proposals that:

- Use innovative and collaborative approaches to create community impact in one or more of the following areas: Education, Income and Health.
- Address one or more community goals identified in the 2020 Vision Goals for the Common Good:
 - **Improve success for children and youth by decreasing the preparation gaps by 1/3 for school, post-secondary and work.**
 - **Increase by 20% households in Johnson County that are financially stable.**
 - **Increase by 1/3 the number of children and adults who are healthy and avoiding risk behavior.**
- Address recognized gaps in services or meet needs that have been documented by other community needs assessments or data sources.
- Use research-based practices and/or approaches that have proven to be successful.
- Maximize efficiency including capacity, process, and quality improvements and/or leverage other resources.

For additional information on 2020 Vision Goals for the Common Good, you may find them at www.unitedwayjc.org

Funding Parameters

The grant funding period will be October 31, 2011—September 30, 2012.

Grant awards will be for one year only. It is acceptable for an agency to request funding for a program that was funded previously, but these requests will be treated as new proposals and are not guaranteed funding. An organization may receive Community Priority grant funding for the same program for a maximum of three consecutive years.

Funds may not be used to supplant existing funding.

Selection Criteria and Process

Proposals will be reviewed and evaluated by the United Way Community Impact Council. The Council will make funding recommendations to the Community Investment Committee. The Community Investment Committee will review and make final recommendations to the United Way Board of Directors. Grant awards will be announced following the October 2011 UWJC Board meeting. All applicants will be notified in writing of the funding decision. United Way reserves the right to deny any and all grant applications.

Requirements for Grant Application

- You must submit a separate application for each program for which funding is requested.
- Letters of commitment from collaborative partners are required, but do not submit general letters of support. (Emailed letters of commitment must be received by pfields@unitedwayjc.org directly from the collaborative partner.)
- Limit attachments to letters of commitment and evaluation tools.
- **Proposals, including attachments, must be submitted electronically at <https://www.ctkodem.com/uwjc/>**

Proposals must be received by 4:30 p.m. Friday, August 26, 2011. Proposals received after the deadline will not be considered for funding.

Questions regarding this RFP or the application process should be addressed to Patti Fields, pfields@unitedwayjc.org; phone 338-7823.

Grant Administration

Grant recipients will be required to submit two progress and expenditure reports—one covering the first 6 months of the project and one year-end report—following the format provided by United Way.

Grants of \$5,000 or less will be paid in one lump sum. Grants of over \$5,000 will be paid in two equal sums. The first payment will be made by the end of October 2011; the second payment will be made in April 2012, pending receipt of the progress report.