



Frequently Asked Questions: Grant Opportunities

What mission focuses does the grant process address?

Grants available through this ongoing process originate from funds that have specific focus areas, based on the intent of the donors who established or contributed to them. The amount available for distinct missions such as education, human services, environment, animal welfare, and the arts is based on MCF's responsibility to administer funds according to donor wishes. Therefore, while we welcome requests from all mission areas, our ability to award grants may be determined by funds available in your mission area.

We may also share your request with donor advisors who could choose to make a contribution to support your organization through their donor advised fund.

MCF is actively seeking grant requests that support, enhance and lead with diversity, equity, inclusion and access as a guide.

What size grants will be considered?

While we can consider a grant of any size, our funds are limited. If you are requesting an investment greater than \$10,000, we suggest you call or email us so that we can talk with you about your needs.

What types of support will be considered?

The Grants Committee will consider requests that support current or new programs*, help your organization build greater capacity, capital expenses, and even operations. Regardless of the type of support, it is important for MCF to understand the gains your organization makes for its clients and program participants.

**Please note: If this is a collaboration with a nonprofit partner, or government, we require that you upload a letter of agreement. OR--*

If this request is being made on behalf of a school, we require that you upload an official letter from the administrative office at the School District.

Is funding limited to COVID-19 related needs?

No, but you will help us consider all possible funds available by stating the degree to which your request is COVID-19 related.

Is funding available for a new program in the “pilot” stage?

The Grants Committee will consider support for established and new programs. For either request, be sure to share the gains you expect program participants will make in addition to how many people will be impacted.

Should we call the foundation first to make sure our request is a “fit”?

We always welcome your contact before submitting a request, especially if the request is larger than \$10,000. With any submittal, our team may reach out for additional information, clarification or adjustments that may be needed before presenting to the committee.

How often may we submit a request?

The Grants Committee will consider granting to the same organization more than once within a year per fund availability. However, we suggest you prioritize your requests to Manatee Community Foundation.

When will we hear about a decision on our request?

The Grants Committee will review applications monthly. If we are unable to fund your request based on our available funding, we may seek support from donor advisors.

Do you require a profile in The Giving Partner?

The Giving Partner (www.thegivingpartner.org) is an important local tool for donors, nonprofits, businesses and foundations. Manatee Community Foundation prefers that your 501c3 charitable organization has a current profile to help us better (and more conveniently) understand your nonprofit. If you do not have a profile or an updated profile, please contact us before submitting your request.