

PUTNAM COUNTY COMMUNITY FOUNDATION

Envision 2011

Frequently Asked Questions

Last updated 05-18-10

- 1. Will the Community Foundation give one \$100,000 grant or several smaller grants through the Envision 2011 initiative?** The Community Foundation hopes Envision 2011 will empower local organizations to come together to make a significant impact on the community. Up to \$100,000 is available for one grant.
- 2. Is the Community Foundation seeking to fund an ongoing program or activity?** Not necessarily. If the program will be on-going, long-term sustainability issues of the program must be addressed.
- 3. Would a short-term, time-limited project qualify for funding?** Yes. If the completed project will require maintenance, long-term sustainability issues of the project must be addressed.
- 4. Who are partners and how are they chosen?** A partner actively contributes to the impact of the identified project and has a defined role or purpose. The number of partners depends upon the project. Partners share the same goal(s).
- 5. Are there eligibility guidelines for the partners?** There are no eligibility requirements for the partners, only for the lead organization. Nearly all legal entities could be eligible, contributing partners.
- 6. What does it mean that the lead organization must be based in Putnam County?** The legal address of the lead organization must be inside Putnam County. An organization based outside of Putnam County, but providing services inside Putnam County is not eligible to be the lead organization.
- 7. Is there a minimum amount of other contributions required?** The Community Foundation favors projects that will leverage its grant dollars to bring in more monies for the public good in Putnam County.
- 8. Who reviews the applications?** All grant applications are reviewed by Community Foundation staff members, committee members and board members. As a public charity, the Community Foundation has an obligation to operate in a transparent manner. It intends to evaluate and widely publicize the impact of the Envision 2011 grant and report results to the public. Sensitive information which may be shared within applications, reports, and discussions will be protected.
- 9. Does the project have to be completed by December 31, 2011?** This is not a requirement. An individualized grant agreement will be developed with the selected grantee.
- 10. Could a project continue over multiple years?** This is permissible. An individualized grant agreement will be developed with the selected grantee.
- 11. Will there be a mechanism to help people find partnerships?** Organizations looking for partners are encouraged to conduct their own research and to contact the Community Foundation for information about potential partnerships.
- 12. Where does the money for Envision 2011 come from?** The Putnam County Community Foundation administers an unrestricted endowment financially supported by individual donors. This endowment creates the opportunity to award grants that address the changing needs and aspirations in the community over time. In 2010, more than \$200,000 was available for granting to the community.
- 13. Would a project that expanded an existing program physically outside of Greencastle, but not necessarily to all parts of the county, be eligible?** The Putnam County Community Foundation is responsible to serve all of Putnam County and hopes Envision 2011 will further this goal.

14. **Will the Community Foundation support operating costs (salary, rent, utilities) for Envision 2011 projects?** Yes. The Community Foundation will support operating costs for Envision 2011 projects. There are no changes to the rules for the Community Grants Program, and operating costs for those projects will not be supported.
15. **Who is the Board of Directors?** The Board of Directors is the body of persons with legal responsibility for the organization and the project, e.g. the Trustees, the City Council, the County Council, the Elders, etc.
16. **Should we provide an organizational operating budget of revenue and expenses for the entire lead organization?** Yes. The application must include financial information about the lead organization as a whole. The lead organization may choose to provide a summary document if it prefers. If additional information is needed, the lead organization will be notified.
17. **What if the lead organization does not have an external audit or file a 990?** It is recommended that the project find a different lead organization to serve as fiscal sponsor; however, if preferred, the lead organization may submit a written explanation as to why it does not receive an external audit.
18. **What if the project requires expenditures prior to January 1, 2011; could those expenditures be eligible grant expenditures?** The Community Foundation will consider these requests. The applicant should make special note and explanation of this need in the application. If approved, the grant agreement will make note of this.