

WELCOME TO OUR MONTHLY NON-PROFITS NEWSLETTER

FROM EXPERIENCED GRANT REVIEWERS!

GRANTWRITING TIPS FOR NON-PROFITS CONTENT

Grant applications can be long, time consuming, and complicated. That is why it is important to have a plan when you sit down to work. Writing a grant without a clear plan is simply chasing money and unlikely to be successful.

Preparation is important for success. This would mean having a **clear and simple idea of what you need funding for**. This will help in your search for funding opportunities. Once a couple of grants have been identified, a **calendar** can be created using the grant deadlines.

With a schedule to tackle grant writing, you can sit down to work on your content. It is crucial to **carefully review the grant guidelines before drafting your response. You will need to have intention in your writing, and those guidelines will help set the parameters**. Before you begin writing, answer these guiding questions for your organization: What is our mission in the simplest words? What do I need funds for? Do I have a clear budget? Do I have a plan of execution? Is this feasible? Why is it impactful? Do I have the data to back up my request to this funder? Funders can read through vague proposals and are less likely to fund them so taking time to be clear, concise and know your impact is critical.

Once you have connected the dots between your funding needs and the grantor's grant guidelines and preferences, **create an outline of the points you would like each paragraph to talk about**. Try to address in every paragraph the grantor's guidelines. When you are ready to review, check your grammar or ask someone to read your document. Grammar is more important than you might think. It shows the grant reviewers that your organization is careful and professional.

Your proposal should be simple and easy to understand. State what it is that you are asking to be funded and how much your ask is. The details to this can be further expanded in the budget sheet, but the ask should be very direct. For example, if your proposal includes scholarships for the use of your services, then it is not a program, but rather you are asking them to fund your operations. Being clear and upfront with your potential grantors will reduce the risk that the grant reviewers get lost in the explanations. The less time they spend trying to comprehend your proposal, the more time they have to decide on the merit and soundness of the proposal. Remember that there will be tough competition for grants, and these details are where your project can get ahead of the rest. Funders also want to make sure that your organization has the capacity to execute the project you are asking them to fund. *Tell* them why they can be confident in funding you.

Lastly, avoid making it unnecessarily long. Oftentimes a grant writer will draw out a simple ask with a lot of context, history, quotes, and their organization's overall impact. Statistics and research studies are helpful in rare circumstances and not by much. If you feel compelled to include these, do so only when necessary because you will need to cite and explain the research methods in which the study was conducted which takes up more of those precious characters.

We hope that these tips are helpful when doing your grantwriting! If you are an experienced grant writer, have any exceptional grant writing tips, and would like to share them with your fellow nonprofit peers, please email them to empowerednonprofitswillmar@communitygiving.org!

JUNE & JULY

GRANT LIST

These funding opportunities have been identified by WACF staff as potential sources for our local non-profit partners. Please take a look at those that might benefit your work.
Many grants require an account registration through grants.gov to apply.

[HOW TO APPLY FOR
A FEDERAL
FUNDING
OPPORTUNITY](#)

HOUSING

Supportive Housing for the Elderly
Deadline: 06/20/2024

MISCELLANEOUS

**Kandiyohi Power
Cooperative: Operation
Round-Up**
Deadline: 07/01/2024

CHILDREN & YOUTH

Mebane Foundation
Deadline: 07/01/2024

HEALTHCARE

Equitable Care and Coverage
Open: May 1
Deadline: June 26, 2024

Miracle Minute

BASIC NEEDS

**Otto Bremer Trust
Community Responsive
Fund/SWIF**
[Detailed Description](#)
Deadline: 04/19/2024

UPCOMING EVENTS IN APRIL 2024

REGISTER FOR ALL OF OUR EVENTS THROUGH EVENTBRITE!

WACF reserves the right to postpone or reschedule an event if the minimum number of attendees has not been reached within the event registration deadline. Registration ends 24 hours prior to the event date or when space limits are reached.

- April 3:** Watch Party **Calling All Board Members and Leaders: Governing Through Times of Crisis*
- April 10:** Watch Party **Board Meetings with Impact*
- April 12:** Consultant Training: **PTO/FMLA/ADA/LOA POLICIES 1-2 PM**
- April 15:** Watch Party **Six Steps to Successful Grant Funding*
- April 26:** Consultant Training: **EMOTIONAL INTELLIGENCE 10:30-11:30 AM**
- April 30:** Bridge Builder's Meeting 12:00 PM-1:30 PM

**All Watch Parties are from 1:00-2:30 PM at the Willmar Area Community Foundation office located in 1601 Hwy 12 East, Suite 9 in the AppleTree Square complex*

WATCH PARTY
RSVP

BRIDGE BUILDERS
RSVP

CONSULTANT TRAININGS
RSVP

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