

MEMO

To: Mayor, Mayor Pro Tem, and City Council

From: Daniela Villarreal, community liaison

Subject: Quality Community Foundation Nonprofit Grant Program

Date: March 12, 2018

Purpose

The purpose of this memo is to provide city council with information on the Quality Community Foundation's annual non-profit grant program, including the results of the 2018 solicitation. Nonprofits awardees will be recognized at the March 19 city council meeting.

Foundation Background

In 2003, City Council formed the Non-City Agency Grant Program to financially contribute to non-profit organizations that augment City services and render assistance to Commerce City residents. After the program gained momentum, and in an effort to avoid perceived conflict of interests among council members, the Quality Community Foundation (QCF) was established as a nonprofit in 2006 for charitable purposes.

The Quality Community Foundation's mission is to improve the quality of life for Commerce City residents by serving people and agencies. The foundation achieves its mission through the following objectives:

- Attracting charitable gifts and promoting community philanthropy;
- Serving as a steward for entrusted funds to support city programs and the programs and activities of economic, educational, social, and cultural non-profit organizations;
- Enhancing the effectiveness of the non-profit community, and
- Being a community resource and providing services to individuals, non-profit agencies, and the community-at-large.

Currently, the Foundation operates three programs to implement these objectives:

- Nonprofit grant program, funding for which is annually appropriated by city council
- Post-secondary scholarship program, funding for which is raised by the annual QCF golf tournament and annual city council appropriations
- Youth recreation scholarships, funding for which is raised by the annual QCF Wine & Beer Tasting event

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Up to 11 members are appointed by city council and the city manager's designee (currently the director of finance) serves on the board as treasurer. The Foundation receives dedicated staff support from the community liaison in the city manager's office.

Nonprofit Grant Program

The Foundation's board of directors annually refines the grant program based on feedback from applicants and city council. Since 2014, the number of requests has exceeded available funding as noted in Table 1.

Table 1. Nonprofit program budget, requests, and awards

Year	Program Budget	Amount Requested	Amount Awarded	# of Awarded Entities
2014	\$123,500	\$231,420	\$123,500	39
2015	\$120,000	\$278,480	\$120,000	35
2016	\$120,000	\$198,800	\$120,000	25
2017	\$140,000	\$179,354	\$130,029	27
2018	\$140,000	\$198,274	\$136,325	27

Applicants generally must meet the following:

- Organizations must be a 501(c)3 nonprofit in good standing with state and federal regulations
- Grant activities must benefit Commerce City residents
- Successful grantees will:
 - Clearly explain and use data to demonstrate a compelling community need
 - Describe how their organization will address the need, including how they measure progress and/or success
 - Have a board-approved statement that prohibits discrimination based on race, color, religion, gender, age, national origin, disability, marital status, sexual orientation or military status.

The grant, eligibility, and selection criteria requirements are published two months prior to the submittal deadline. Technical assistance meetings also are held to support nonprofit submittals. The maximum award amount a nonprofit can receive is \$7,500 – in an effort to achieve objective of serving as a community resource and ensuring a broad array of services.

Previous applicants also must submit a grant report from the prior year detailing how funding was spent and verifying the number of residents served to be eligible for funding. The board analyzes the reports, using this information as a funding criterion for evaluation.

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Meaningful Community Impact

Based on annual reporting from funded organizations, the number of organizations awarded and residents benefited are broken down by category as noted in Tables 2 and 3.

Table 2. Number of residents served by category

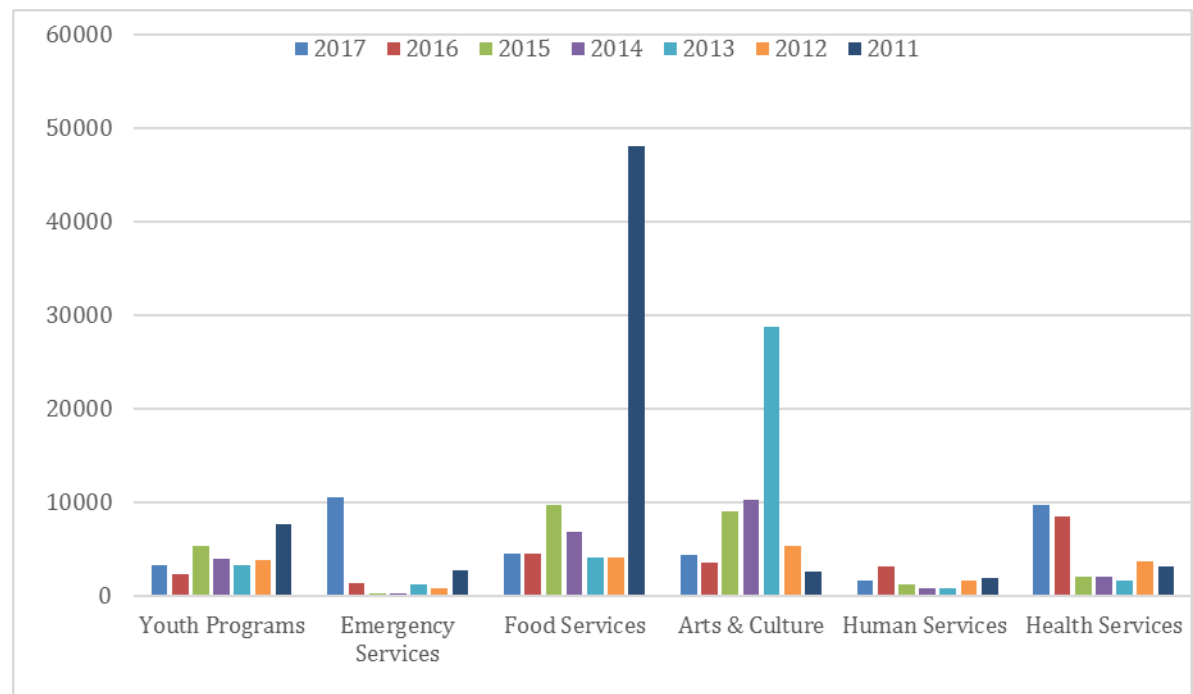


Table 3. Number of organizations awarded by category

Award Category	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018
Emergency Services	3	2	3	4	2
Human Services	9	7	5	5	6
Youth	17	14	11	12	11
Food	3	3	2	2	2
Arts/Culture	5	7	1	1	4
Health	2	2	3	3	2

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2018 Grant Process

The 2018 grant process kicked off December 11, 2017. Local nonprofits were able to apply through February 2, 2018. Applications were offered through the city website and applicants had an opportunity for technical assistance, proposal discussions, and questions during meetings January 10 and 13, 2018. The staff liaison also was available to assist with incoming questions via telephone or email.

After receiving all submissions, board members reviewed funding requests and scored each application based on the established criteria. A quorum of board members met to discuss the scoring and application information. The 2018 grant cycle was a competitive process; the Board decided not to fund three applicants: Commerce City Rotary Foundation, Fraternal Order of the Eagles, and Little Giants Learning Center. Final decisions on the 2018 grant awards are noted in Table 4.

Future Programming

The Quality Community Foundation sees a need and desire within the local nonprofit community for grant writing technical support and workshops, which will help build the capacity of these organizations well into the future. The Foundation Board will use remaining funds from this year's budget to provide grant-writing class opportunities for small and local nonprofits that will not only benefit future Foundation requests but help local nonprofits expand funding sources.

The Board also looks forward to meeting with City Council in the future to discuss how the Foundation can better align with stated goals and the vision for the city.

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Table 4. 2018 grant awards

Organization	Program Name	Program Description	Amount Awarded	Projected # of City residents served
A Precious Child Inc.	Fill a Backpack program	Fill A Backpack will provide children in need with brand new backpacks and grade appropriate school supplies.	\$5,000	172
Access Housing of Adams County	Family Shelter	Short-term, on-site shelter is provided to families with children for up to 60 days. Households receive case management, basic needs, crisis intervention support, victim advocacy, resource information as well as linkages to community partners; adult family members also receive weekly life skills training.	\$7,500	18-155
Adams 14 After School Program	After school programming transportation and learning materials	Adams City Middle School's geographic location makes it difficult for students and families to access services or programs that are offered throughout the city. Transportation is the key factor in ensuring that our students have access to quality experiences.	\$5,000	400
Adams 14 Education Foundation	Leadership/ Scholar Retention	Leadership Commerce City is a program to enable new leaders in our community to emerge to support both school districts, the city of Commerce City, Adams County, the Fire and Water Districts, and the multiple non-profits providing services to the residents of Commerce City.	\$5,000	56

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Organization	Program Name	Program Description	Amount Awarded	Projected # of City residents served
Adams County Emergency Food Bank	Emergency Food Distribution	The Adams County Emergency Food Bank provides nutritious food, including produce, rice, beans, fruit, meat, and dairy products, on Wednesdays, Thursdays and Fridays.	\$7,500	4,900
Adams County Youth Initiative	Post-Secondary Success Project	<p>ACYI presents a unique organizational structure and approach to supporting and engaging individuals and organizations, who in turn provide direct services to our youth. The goals and the plan for implementation can be broken down as follows.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. ACYI will work with Adams 14 and Commerce City leaders to develop and implement technical assistance readiness, on boarding, and exit criteria processes for the project to strengthen post-secondary enrollment in order to build each partner's understanding and capacity to utilize Continuous Improvement methodology and tools. 2. ACYI will create opportunities and increase accessibility for cross-sector learning and sharing in order to scale up effective practices in Commerce City. 3. ACYI will convene and facilitate sharing by cross-sector partners of results from experiments and tests to scale up what is working. 4. ACYI will communicate lessons learned and successes in improved outcomes, including stories of impact and 'failing forward' – learning and growing from failure. 	\$3,500	100

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Organization	Program Name	Program Description	Amount Awarded	Projected # of City residents served
Adelante Community Development	Business Boot Camp	'Business Boot Camp' is a series of two sessions hosted in the Summer and Fall of 2018. Each session will host six workshops for emerging business owners. The sessions will cover business basics such as accounting/taxes, financial literacy, safety, insurance, etc. Leaders in their respective fields lead each session. Funds will be used to support the advertising and recruitment of the sessions as well as the materials to host the classes and offer a stipend to the facilitators for their time and knowledge.	\$3,500	300
Almost Home	Homeless Prevention Program	Homeless Prevention Program- This program will provide rental assistance and case management for families facing eviction.	\$7,500	15
Audio Information Network of Colorado (AINC)	Audio Information Services	AINC Commerce City Services. Provision of free audio information services to Commerce City's blind/visually impaired/print disabled residents.	\$1,200	10
Brothers Redevelopment Inc.	Paint-a-thon	Funding in the amount of \$5,000 would allow us to paint the exterior of 5 seniors' homes in Commerce City.	\$5,000	5
CASA of Adams & Broomfield Counties	Volunteer Advocate Program	The mission of Court Appointed Special Advocates (CASA) is to provide specially selected and trained community volunteers, CASA Volunteers, to advocate for abused and neglected children in the pursuit of safe and permanent homes. CASA Programs recruit, train, and supervise these community	\$7,500	55

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Organization	Program Name	Program Description	Amount Awarded	Projected # of City residents served
		volunteers who advocate for victims, ages birth to 21, who were physically or sexually abused, who witnessed domestic violence, or who were severely neglected by their parents or guardians and are involved in the court system. Only CASA Programs are authorized to provide this service. The duties and responsibilities are outlined in Colorado state statute C.R.S.§19-1-201 et seq. of the Colorado Children's Code.		
Catholic Charities	Emergency Assistance	Emergency Assistance program funds will help low-income Commerce City residents avoid homelessness by providing financial assistance with rent/mortgage or utility payments.	\$5,000	46
Commerce City Cultural Council	Music in the Park & Art Shows	Art Shows and Music in the Park Support and host two spring student art shows in partnership with Adams 14 and Adams 27 J school districts, and a combined student art show in December 2018 at the Civic Center. Music in the Park concerts in July offers residents a free fun event for the family every Thursday in July.	\$4,000	3,900
Commerce City Historical Society	Coloring Book/Coloring Contest	Coloring book will expand by 16 pages with the help of the student art class at Adams City High School. A total of 1200 coloring books will be printed and crayons will be ordered.	\$2,000	1,200

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Organization	Program Name	Program Description	Amount Awarded	Projected # of City residents served
		The pages submitted for the contest will be picked up and judged by the CCHS Board of Directors.		
Community Uplift Partnership	Journey Job preparedness	Community Uplift Partnership (CUP) currently lead two Community Groups for women, Women of Worth and Senior Serenity. The purpose of these groups is to help the women build relationships, life skills and connection, all things believed to help break the cycles of poverty. CUP is expanding Journeys Job Preparedness Program this year, which focuses on character building and hands on job training to help individuals keep and maintain stable employment and break the cycles of poverty.	\$5,000	200
Environmental Learning for Kids	CC Youth Naturally	Commerce City Youth Naturally is a year-long, multi-year learning experience that immerses Commerce City students in science education, outdoor activities, and leadership development through hands-on field activities, local excursions, recreational activities, and overnight camping experiences. CCYN offers 2-6 activities each month, including 3-5 overnight trips every year. CCYN youth also participate in stewardship projects, giving youth a sense of ownership and stewardship and an understanding of how they play a part in the continued preservation of their community.	\$2,500	75

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Organization	Program Name	Program Description	Amount Awarded	Projected # of City residents served
F.I.S.H.	Food Program	All funds will be used solely to purchase the food items from Sam's Club, King Soopers, the Food Bank of the Rockies, and sometimes Walmart.	\$3,500	3,824
Food Bank of the Rockies	CC Mobile Pantry Program	Mobile Pantries are mobile feeding sites set up in neighborhoods where the need is greater than the capacity of existing resources.	\$7,500	14,764
Inspire	Change Agent Institute	A three-day training institute where students are empowered to explore college and career options. Change Agents have the opportunity to meet both their college and professional mentors. Change Agents learn about the college process.	\$3,000	45
Joyful Journeys Community Enrichment	Santa Shop	Provide 200 or more children from Commerce City a full Christmas including new toys, stocking stuffers, games, puzzles, clothes, food, hygiene products, and stuffed animals.	\$2,500	200
Junior Achievement, Rocky Mountain Inc.	JA programs for CC	Funds awarded will help fully fund 187 youth who participate in a Junior Achievement (JA) programs. JA implements numerous experiential learning programs for young people in grades K-12 aligned with state educational standards and focused on personal finance, entrepreneurship and workforce readiness.	\$3,500	5,414

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Organization	Program Name	Program Description	Amount Awarded	Projected # of City residents served
Kids First Health Care	Community and school based health care	Funds awarded will support to help underwrite direct health care services provided to uninsured, low-income, and at-risk children and youth at its five Commerce City health clinics.	\$7,500	2,400
Mercy Housing Mountain Plains	Holly Park Employment Readiness	In addition to stable housing, Mercy Housing's Resident Services program helps families maintain housing and achieve self-sufficiency, secure employment or continue their education, improve their health and wellness, and stabilize their families. Core Resident Services programs include homework help and after-school programming for children, financial literacy for adults, health and wellness workshops, food banks, on-site health screenings, health navigation support, and eviction prevention counseling.	\$4,125	30
Project Angel Heart	Home Delivered meals	Home-delivered meals for ill Commerce City residents. Funding would purchase food, ingredients, and packaging supplies for meal production.	\$6,500	60
Ralston House	Child Advocacy Center	Currently, services at the Ralston House Northglenn site are provided in a small house that has only one interview room - not nearly enough space to serve an anticipated 600+ children annually - and no medical room. Fortunately, a new building will be constructed in 2018 that will be large enough for three interviews to be held simultaneously, as well as medical	\$7,500	95

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Organization	Program Name	Program Description	Amount Awarded	Projected # of City residents served
		exams. Funding already has been secured for this construction from municipalities in the 17th Judicial District (including Commerce City) and from foundation grants. The building, designed for the comfort and confidentiality of families, will have three investigative wings or “pods.” Each pod consists of an interview room, private parent waiting/meeting room, playroom for children, and investigator observation room. RH will need to buy a larger number of supplies, including an initial supply of toys and furnishings, to equip these three service pods and serve more families.		
St Anthony North	Influenza Vaccination	Goal for 2018-2019 Flu Season: The St. Anthony North Pastoral Nurse Program seeks to vaccinate 2,000 people to prevent illness and complications due to influenza.	\$7,500	441
The Senior Hub	Homecare services	A grant award will pay for a portion (410 hours) of the Homecare Services we provide low-income seniors in Commerce City.	\$6,500	32