



THE RAYMOND JOHN

WEAN FOUNDATION

Raising the Mahoning Valley's Capacity for Change

Grantseeker Workshops

April 2010



Our Mission

To enhance community well-being and vitality in the Mahoning Valley through grantmaking, convening, advocating and providing leadership with a focus on economically disadvantaged people and neighborhoods.



Serving the Mahoning Valley

Mahoning County Trumbull County

Founded in 1949 by Raymond John Wean, Sr.
Foundation has assets of roughly \$72 million;
Distribute \$3.1 million annually



Foundation is led by...

- A board of 7, made up of 1 family member and 6 community members
- Four staff members



Grant Programs

- Early Childhood Development
- Neighborhood SUCCESS
- Community Investment



Early Childhood Development

To improve the system and quality of early childhood development so that all Mahoning Valley children arrive in kindergarten socially, emotionally, physically and intellectually ready to learn and thrive.



Neighborhood SUCCESS

To support grassroots groups in small community projects that improve the quality of life in the neighborhoods of Warren and Youngstown, particularly lower income neighborhoods and those at risk of destabilization.



Community Investment

To foster a culture in the Mahoning Valley that is open to new ideas, collaborations and new ways of thinking.



Our Values

- Engaging Community
- Fostering Leadership Development
- Encouraging Collaboration
- Promoting Inclusion



Guiding Principles

These guiding principles inform our grantmaking:

- To explore new, innovative approaches to addressing issues
- To seek inclusion and broad community involvement
- To build on the considerable assets of the Mahoning Valley
- To strive for equity and supporting social justice



Guiding Principles (con't.)

- To leverage additional resources, partners and ideas
- To support the development of human assets and capital
- To cultivate leadership in the community
- To provide support to people and communities which are often overlooked or insufficiently funded



Focus Areas

Building Community Capacity

This effort will be focused on neighborhoods particularly in Youngstown and Warren which have received insufficient investment in recent years.



Focus Areas

Building Community Capacity (cont.)

We seek to build on community strengths by investing in the social and political capital of individuals and families and to support the achievement of authentic and sustainable change.

The Foundation believes it is important to start from local conditions. The best efforts flow from and adapt to local realities.



Focus Areas

Building Community Capacity (cont.)

Collaborations of local residents, public, private, and the nonprofit sectors are the core of successful community building.

Consequently, community ownership and involvement in the proposed project or activity is critical.



Focus Areas

Building Organizational Capacity

We believe:

Strong nonprofit organizations, in a variety of areas, are central to the development of the Valley.

Strong nonprofits are efficient, well-managed, responsive, results-oriented, open, thoughtful and strategic.

By assisting nonprofits to develop these attributes, the Foundation leverages the investment of other funders in the well-being of the community.



Focus Areas

Building Organizational Capacity (cont.)

We seek to assist nonprofits in thoughtful planning, developing collaborations, and increasing their capacity to accomplish their goals. We also believe it is important to invest in the development of nonprofit leadership.

The Foundation believes that strong nonprofit groups are central to any effort of thoughtful community change.



Focus Areas

Building Network Capacity

The Foundation believes it is important to connect diverse organizational and residential leaders to come together for collective action.

By promoting collaborative working relationships and supporting the development of networks and partnerships between networks, the Foundation can invest in a thoughtful process of community change which emphasizes collaboration and building on community assets.



Grant Guidelines

All grant proposals should consider the previous principles and priorities. Specifically, grant proposals should be for efforts which contribute to:

- a. Developing and implementing solutions to the problems faced by low-income people
- b. Increasing the organization and development of neighborhoods in the Cities of Youngstown and Warren
- c. Improving the quality of life in neighborhoods



Grant Guidelines (con't.)

- d. Increasing the ability of non-profit agencies to do their work in a way that has impact in the community
- e. Building of collaborations among and between groups that will lead to an improved quality of life
- f. Understanding between people and groups of people, particularly where there is a history of friction or enmity

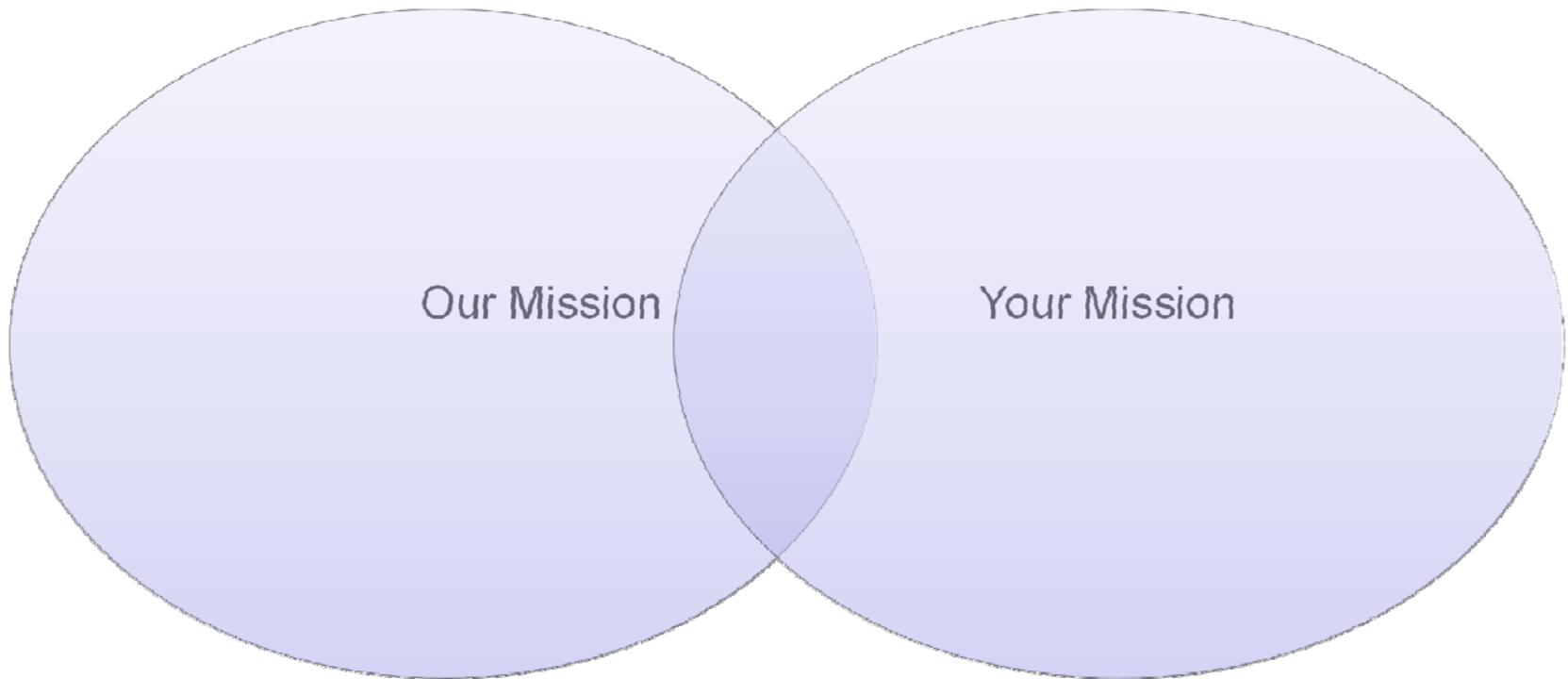


Grant Guidelines (con't.)

- g. Developing better educational opportunities specifically for those with limited access to education.
- h. Effecting economic growth in a manner that directly impacts on the creation and development of jobs for low income people. (Specifically we are seeking efforts that are thoughtful, creative and differ from standard job creation efforts.)
- i. Developing leadership in underserved communities



Our Funding Interest





Collaboration

We are committed to facilitating and convening discussions among diverse organizations prior to grant requests.

We welcome opportunities to engage in discussion.



WHAT WE DON'T FUND

Grant Limitations

The Foundation can not consider grants to individuals and generally will not consider grants for:

- individual scholarships or grants, even if through an otherwise qualified organization
- sectarian religious activity
- endowment funds
- film or video production
- debt reduction
- foreign operations or expenditures
- national fund-raising campaigns or mass mailing campaigns
- membership in civic organizations or trade associations
- veterans' organizations or fraternal societies
- annual support to local or national offices of organizations whose stated purpose is to combat a particular disease or family of diseases
- organizations that do not provide services to Ohio's Mahoning Valley



WHAT TO DO FIRST

TALK TO US

TALK TO US

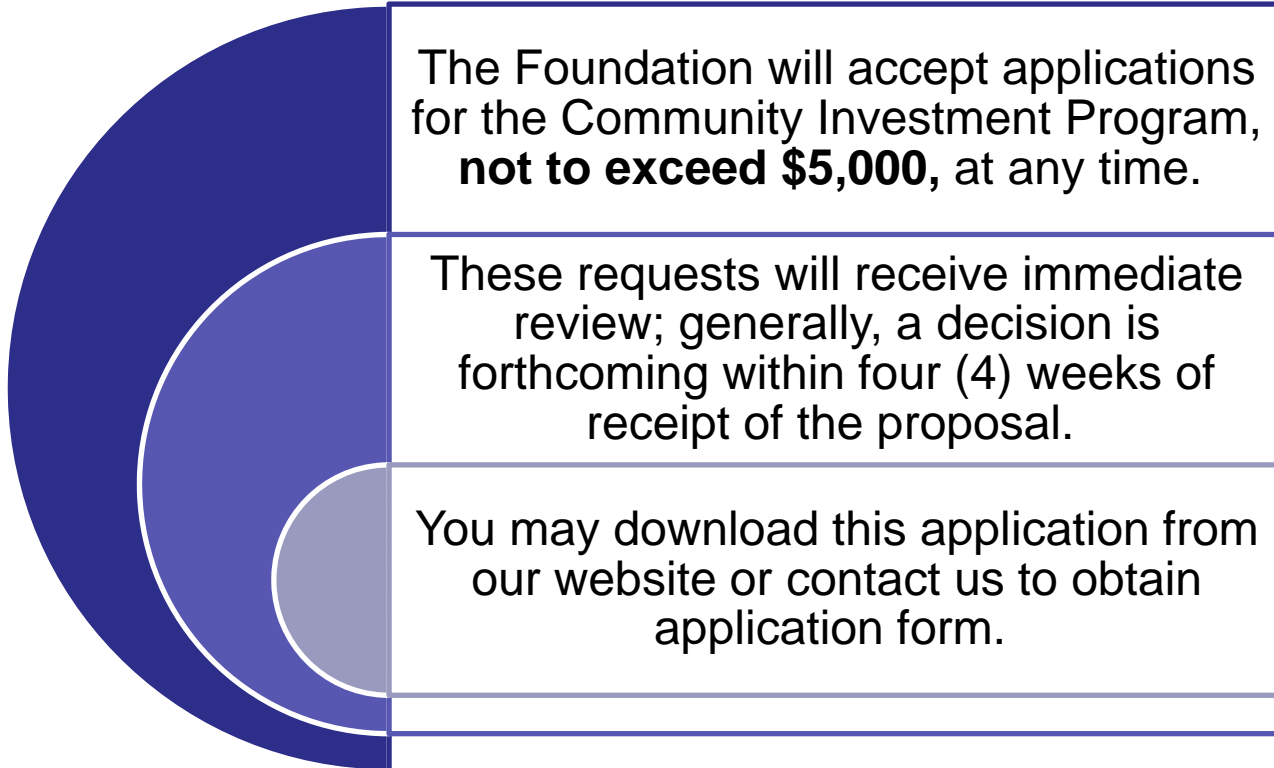
TALK TO US

COMMUNICATION IS CRITICAL IN
BUILDING RELATIONSHIPS



Our Process

\$1,000 to \$5,000

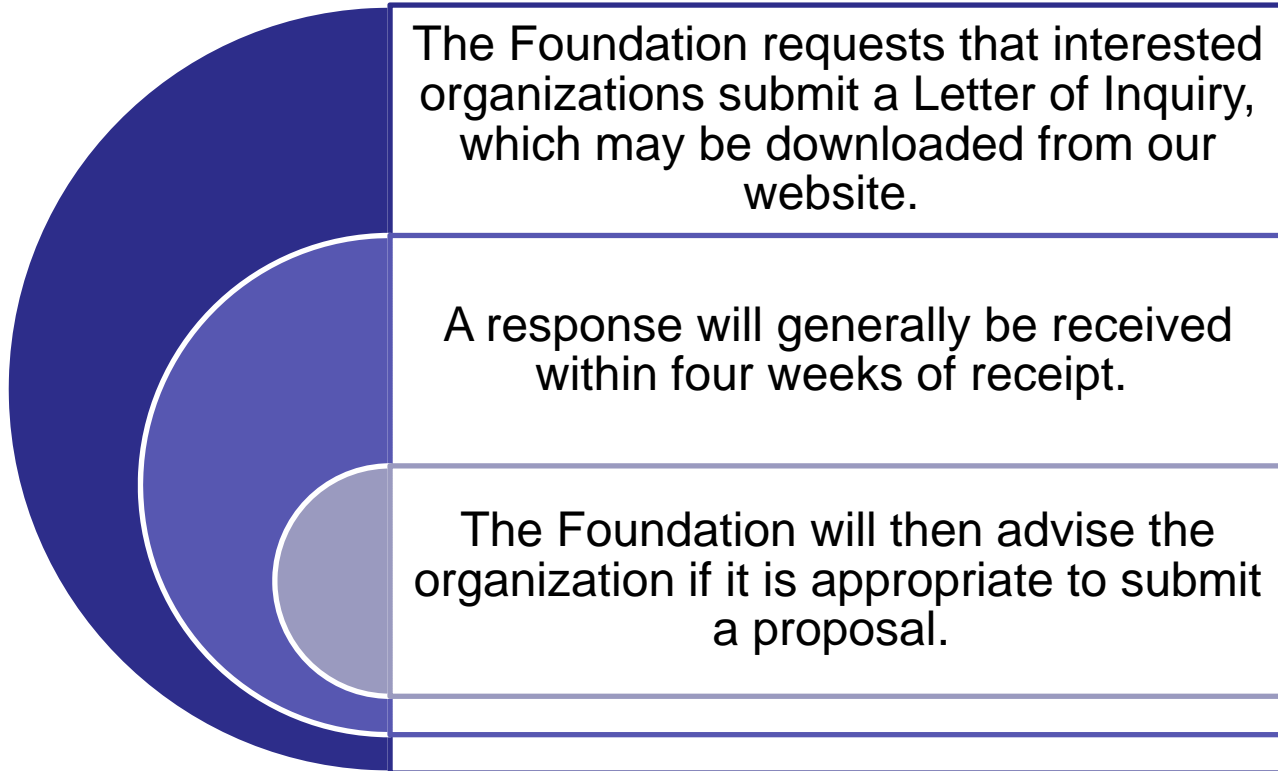


A Letter of Inquiry is not required for grant requests not exceeding \$5,000.



Our Process

Over \$5,000





Deadlines

Letter of Inquiry Deadline	Proposal Deadline	Board Meeting
December 1	January 15	March
March 1	April 15	June
June 1	July 15	September
September 1	October 15	December



**Organizations
typically receive
one (1) grant
per calendar year.**



What we'll expect from you

- Keep in touch
- Willingness to adapt to changing circumstances
- Final Report



We want to support you

- *The **POWER** of the **ARTS**: Community Meetings*
 - April 27, 2010, 5:00 pm to 7:00 pm – YWCA Warren*
 - May 12, 2010, 5:00 pm to 7:00 pm – Hippodrome*
 - May 17, 2010, 5:00 pm to 7:00 pm – YSU Bliss Hall*
- *Quarterly Grantseeker Orientation Sessions*
- *Neighborhood **SUCCESS** Grant Orientation Sessions*
 - May 19, 2010, 4:00 pm to 5:00 pm – Willard School*
 - May 20, 2010, 4:00 pm to 5:00 pm – Choffin Career Center*
 - August 10, 2010, 4:00 pm to 5:00 pm and 5:30 to 6:30 pm –
Park Vista*
 - August 18, 2010, 4:00 pm to 5:00 pm and 5:30 to 6:30 pm - TMHA*



We want to support you

- FOURTH ANNUAL NONPROFIT SUMMIT

YOUNGSTOWN STATE UNIVERSITY
KILCAWLEY CENTER

TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 21, 2010



Resources

The Foundation Center - Cleveland

Website: www.foundationcenter.org

The Public Library of Youngstown and Mahoning County

Contact: Sally Freaney

sfreaney@libraryvisit.org

305 Wick Avenue

Youngstown, OH 44503

Telephone: 330.744.8636

Website: www.libraryvisit.org

Kent State University - Trumbull Campus

Contact: Rose Guerrieri

rguerrieri@kent.edu

4314 Mahoning Avenue, NW

Warren, OH 44483

Telephone: 330.675.8866



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