



THE RAYMOND JOHN

WEAN FOUNDATION

Raising the Mahoning Valley's Capacity for Change

Grantseeker Workshops

February 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 \$71 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



Grants

- 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 resident-driven projects that have the potential to improve the quality of life in Warren and Youngstown neighborhoods



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

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

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 that 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

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.



Focus Areas

Building Organizational Capacity

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

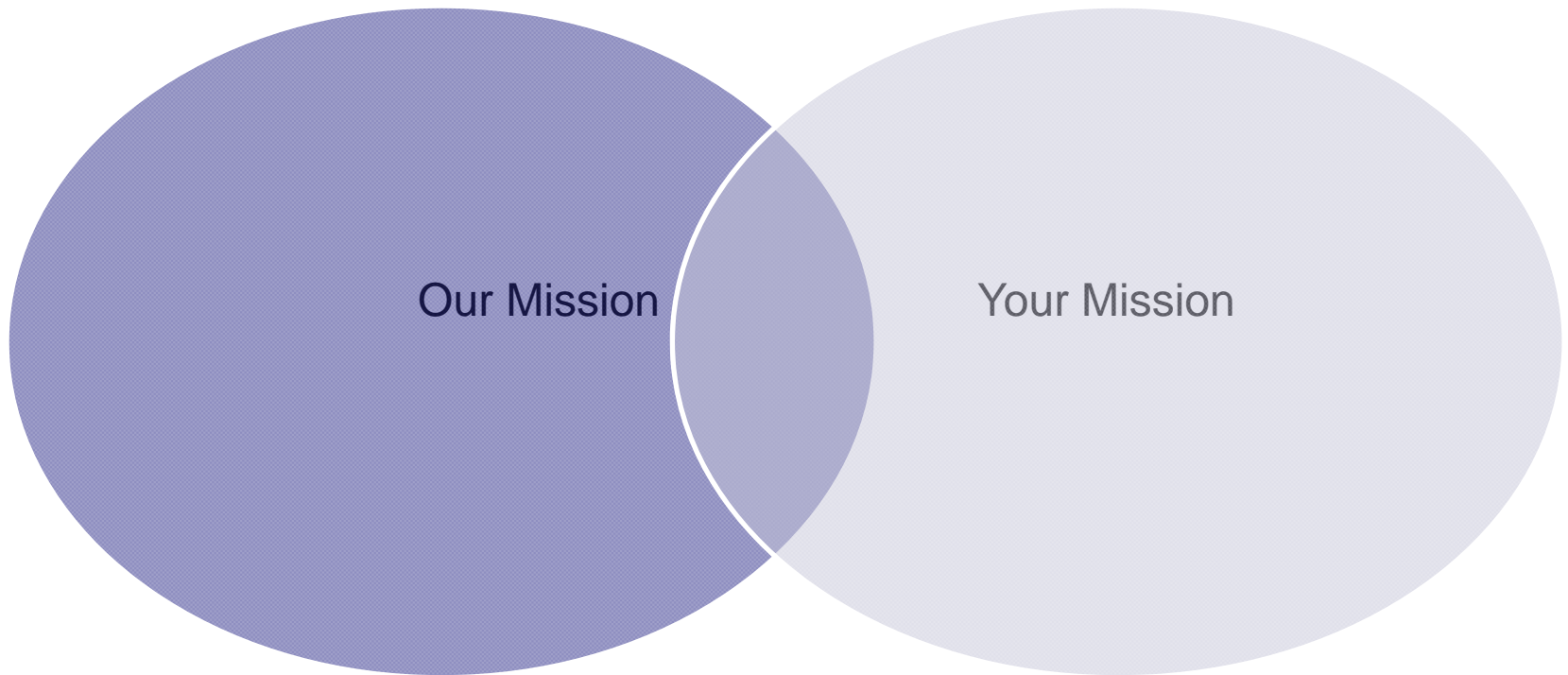


Grant Guidelines (con't.)

- 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

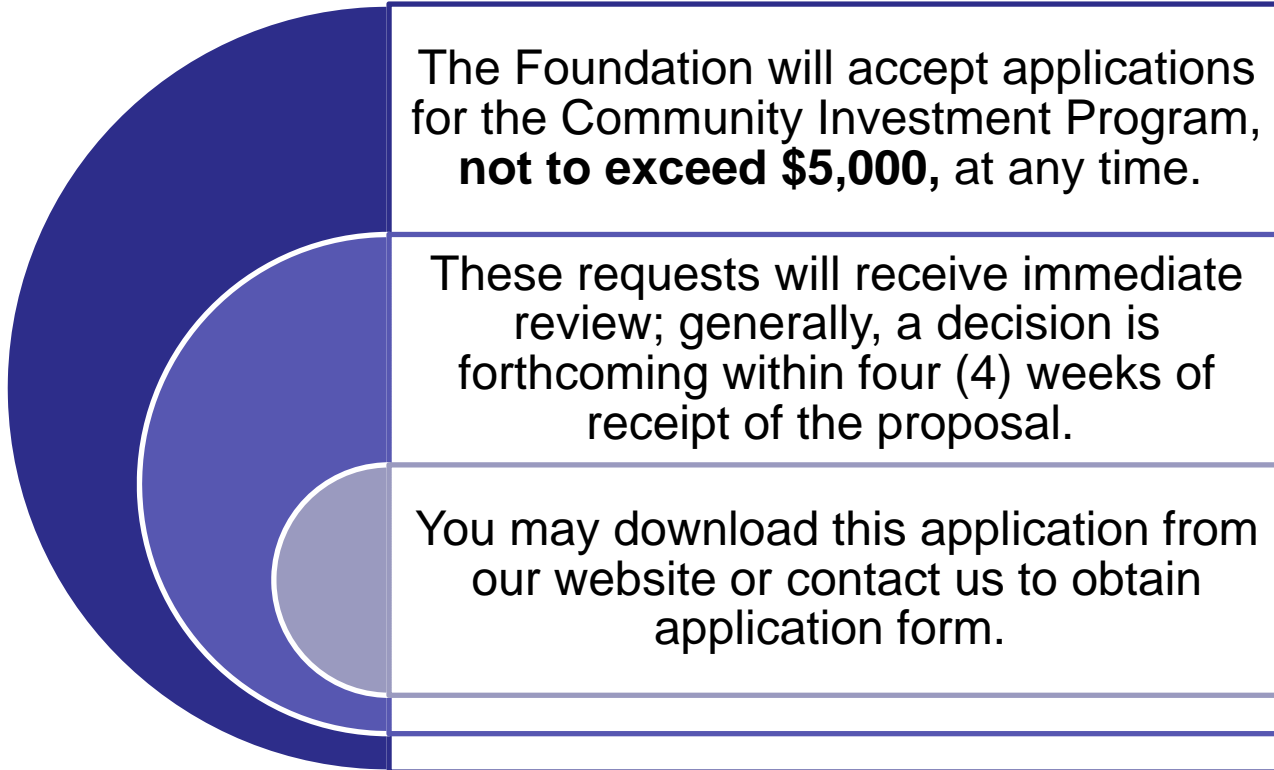
TALK TO US

COMMUNICATION IS CRITICAL IN
BUILDING RELATIONSHIPS



Our Process:

\$1,000 to \$5,000

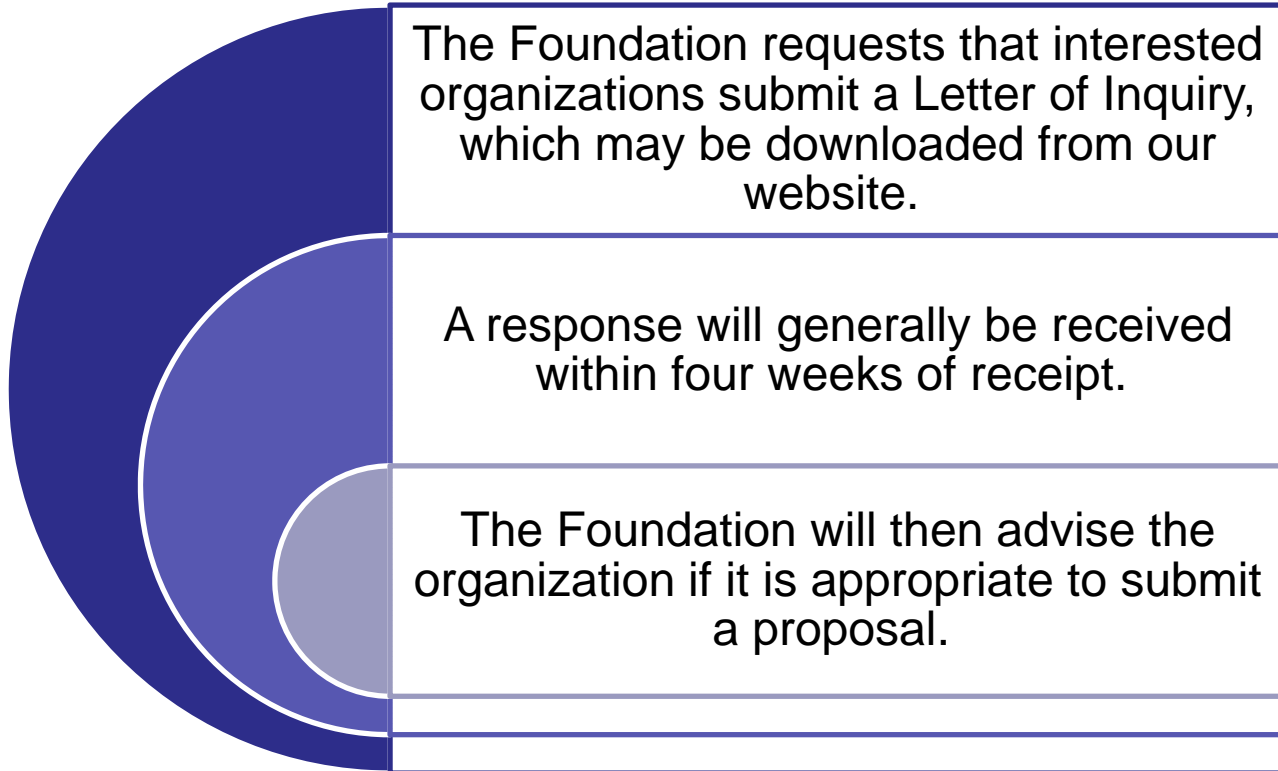


A Letter of Inquiry is not required for grant requests not exceeding \$5,000.



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



Goals and Objectives

Clear measurable goals, outcomes or benchmarks should be included as part of the proposal

- Specify what will change. Will there be a change in knowledge, attitude, behaviors, skills or condition? How will the organization/group be better situated as a result of this effort?
- Include a time frame for when this change should occur
- Include how you will measure the change that has happened



Goals and Objectives

Clear measurable goals, outcomes or benchmarks are valued by the Foundation

We began our own evaluation process in 2009 to measure our own progress to the goals and objectives we discuss in our grant guidelines and plan on sharing some results with the community in 2010.



We want to support you

- The **POWER** of the **ARTS**
 - **Our Arts & Our Valley: A Call to Action**
 - **February 10, 2010, 5:00 pm to 7:00 pm**
 - **YSU-Bliss Hall Spotlight Theater**
 - Quarterly Grantseeker Orientation Sessions
 - Neighborhood Success Grant Orientation Sessions
 - Tuesday, February 9, 2010, Trumbull Metropolitan Housing Authority, 4076 Youngstown Road SE, Room A, Warren, 4:00 – 5:00 or 5:30 to 6:30
 - Wednesday, February 17, 2010, Jewish Community Center, 505 Gypsy Lane, Youngstown, 4:00 -5:00 or 5:30 to 6:30.
 - Annual Nonprofit Summit
 - **YSU – 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

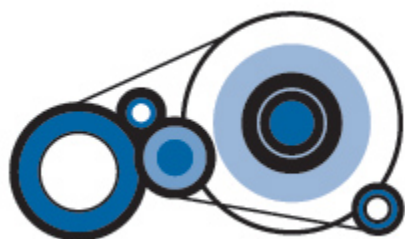
Contact: Rose Guerrieri

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