

NORTHERN NEW YORK COMMUNITY FOUNDATION

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REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS

Lewis County Child and Youth Development and Empowerment Project

In a collaborative partnership, the Northern New York Community Foundation and the Dyson Foundation have designated a total of \$200,000 for grants **to support child and youth development and empowerment efforts in Lewis County** in 2012 and 2013 (approximately \$100,000 each year). Grants will be available to organizations:

- Located in or providing services to residents of Lewis County.
- Classified as nonprofit charitable organizations under section 501(c)(3) of the IRS code; or publicly supported organizations such as school districts and municipalities (provided the request goes beyond the expected limits of government service). *Grants are not made to individuals.*

While a wide variety of projects that fit within the context of the above are welcomed and encouraged, for scoring and ranking purposes preference will be given to proposals that specifically address the areas defined in the attached sheet. This is especially true for larger grant requests. Please keep this in mind when applying for possible funding as the review committee will use them as their guiding mission document.

- Grants will be considered on semi-annual basis until the funds have been allocated. The 2012 submission deadline is **August 1, 2012 with award notification made in October 2012.**
- **Before submitting a proposal, applicants should discuss the project with Foundation staff.**
- Qualified proposals will be reviewed by a Lewis County advisory committee, which will make funding recommendations to the Foundation's Board of Directors.
- Evidence that the program will be continued once the Foundation's grant has been spent will be considered.
- In applying for a grant, the Foundation's regular grant application can be used. Please contact the Foundation for a copy of the application.

As resources are limited and finite, for purposes of ranking and prioritizing grant funding, considerable preference will be given to proposals that include one or more of the following elements:

- A focus on providing youth with interactions and activities that broaden their awareness of educational and career options and employment opportunities that they might not otherwise be exposed to.
- Involve positive role model mentorship opportunities within the context of a healthy, safe, welcoming environment which are inclusionary and promote a sense of worth, value and belonging.
- Have the potential to provide or enhance knowledge. This may include trade and mechanical/technical, technology, and team building skills.
- Have a focus on those who may “fall between the cracks.” This might include those for whom other community resources do not already exist or for which they are not otherwise eligible.
- Encourage youth to engage in activities that promote a healthy lifestyle and have the potential to boost self-confidence and self-esteem.
- **A collaborative, multi-agency, sustainable approach.**

The review committee envisions that approximately 80% of the total funding will be allocated for projects that address one or more of the above. Approximately 20% may be allocated for projects that fall outside the priority areas.

Other components identified by the review committee include: sensitivity for geography, likelihood of sustainability of a project when grant funds are exhausted, and ability to demonstrate outcomes and measurables upon project completion.

For smaller grant requests, requests could include (but are not limited to): community service opportunities, performing arts and cultural opportunities, and local/state/federal history and government.

For more information, contact Rande Richardson, Executive Director at: (315) 782-7110 or via email: rande@nnycf.org

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