



*A program funded by the Community Foundation for the Alleghenies’
Summer 2018 Youth Philanthropy Internship through The Heinz Endowments*
Applications Due: Thursday, August 2, 2018, at Midnight

Statement of Need:

Everyone wants to feel connected. Living in communities with close relationships forges a path for success; current research shows that stronger regional connection promotes business growth, mental wellness of residents, education, and overall economic stability. The lack of such connection, which we have identified as a concern in the region, is a partial cause of many issues negatively affecting our area. In various meetings with community leaders and local nonprofits, many have communicated that, “People don’t know their neighbors,” or, “There is a lack of connection here.” As of April 2017, Johnstown was ranked by *24/7 Wall Street* as the third-fastest shrinking city in the United States. People do not feel attached to their communities and the people living there, so they leave. Multiple causes contribute to this disconnect. Many people, especially youth, think that the opportunity for entertainment and socialization is slim. If the strongest amusement options are at home (e.g. television, gaming consoles, social media), individuals will opt to stay indoors, physically disconnected from their surrounding community. Furthermore, a well-kept neighborhood is the backbone of community engagement. Blight and waste clutter many surrounding neighborhoods, perpetuating the view that these areas are negative and undesirable places to connect with others; according to former Johnstown City Manager, Arch Liston, there were 1,400 blighted houses identified for demolition last year. The drug epidemic, another prevalent issue in building unity, unhinges existing connections. Finally, negative mindsets and closed-mindedness in the region hinder the desire to engage. **We have identified a need to combat this lack of unity by promoting connections between the residents of our region to foster more synergetic communities.** Our goal is to encourage residents to contribute, connect, participate, unify, and engage in their community.

Funding Opportunity:

The Community Foundation for the Alleghenies' Summer 2018 Youth Philanthropy Internship Program is requesting applications from I.R.S. designated 501 (c)(3) nonprofit organizations, governmental entities, or religious organizations to fulfill a community need. We are seeking an organization to develop or expand a program that will stimulate resident-to-resident and resident-to-community relationships in Bedford, Somerset, Cambria, and/or Indiana counties. The organization should seek to strengthen connections between the residents living in communities. We also encourage that organizations facilitate relationships between people across the region and of different backgrounds. We hope that these bonds will serve as sturdy foundations that support other aspects of life: regional positivity, mental wellness, educational aspirations, business endeavors, etc.

PlaceMakers, an organization devoted to urban development and community cultivation, identified the following seven keys to creating a stronger social fabric:

- good governance
- walkable and mixed-use character
- parks and recreation
- partnerships
- programming (such as festivals and events)
- neighborhood-responsive schools
- tree culture

Examples of possible programs include, but are not limited to: beautification efforts, social events, and/or recreational opportunity.

Sustainability and the intent of becoming an ongoing program should be key objectives. We anticipate that one organization will be awarded one grant of \$25,000; however, budgets should not be inflated to meet that amount. Consideration will also be given to awarding several smaller grants (totaling no more than \$25,000) to multiple meritorious programs, or to one project to be funded over multiple years.

Primary Goals:

- Engage community members in activities outside their homes.
- Promote a healthy community atmosphere and foster relationships for residents.
- Improve community life through interactions among residents of the area.
- Break the stigma that there is “nothing to do here,” and more effectively communicate the opportunities that our area has to offer.

Preferences (not limitations):

- Create or uphold programs that benefit a younger audience to establish a sense of value in *new and creative* ways.
 - Build community atmosphere between people of differing races, ethnicities, sexual orientations, or religions.
 - Encourage fellowship among members of a community to uphold a sense of accountability.
 - Be sustainable for at least 3 years.
-

Who May Apply:

Applications may be submitted by a single agency, but partnerships and collaborations will also be considered. The agency/lead agency must meet the following criteria:

- A 501 (c)(3) organization in Bedford, Cambria, Indiana, and/or Somerset County.
 - In full compliance with federal, state, county, and local requirements and laws pertaining to nonprofits, including the USA Patriot Act and other counterterrorism laws.
-

How to Apply:

Applicants must submit the following:

- Agency information and answers to the application questions (below)
 - Detailed project budget including line item expenses and all sources of revenue
 - Organization's most recent annual financial statements
 - Organization's most recent audit
 - List of board of directors
 - IRS 501(c)(3) determination letter
-

Agency Information:

Organization Name:

Street Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip Code: _____

Organization Website:

Primary Contact Name and Title:

Primary Contact's Phone Number:

Alternate Phone Number:

Primary Contact's Email:

Project Information:

Project Name:

Funding Request (Up to \$25,000):

Total Project Budget:

Relationship with other organization(s) relevant to this project (if applicable):

Questions:

Please complete the following questions in a separate document.

1. Describe your organization and how it has helped the community in the past.
 2. Explain the scope and goals of your project and how it will be implemented.
 3. Provide a timeline for planning, implementing, maintaining, and evaluating the project. In what ways will you effectively adhere to your timeline? (i.e., measurable goals/benchmarks)
 4. How will you measure the success of your project? (i.e., value, impact)
 5. In what ways will the project build unity?
 6. What do you want participants to gain from this program?
 7. What groups of people are you looking to bring together and how?
 8. How long will this grant funding be used to sustain your program? How do you plan on maintaining the program's success in the future?
 9. What challenges do you expect to face, and how you will address them?
 10. Through what means, other than this grant, will your project be funded?
 11. If the full amount of the grant request is not awarded, how will the project be impacted?
 12. Please give any additional relevant information that you think is important.
-

Formatting:

- Title Page
 - *(Includes: organization name, project name, name and contact information in the event of questions regarding the application)*
- Question responses in numbered order

Please drop off or mail proposals to:

Community Foundation for the Alleghenies

ATTN: 2018 Youth Philanthropy Internship Program

116 Market Street, Suite 4, Johnstown, PA 15901

Or submit proposals electronically to:

aberzonski@cfalleghenies.org

Questions? (814) 254-6030 or amishlerypi@gmail.com

Proposals Due: Thursday, August 2, 2018, at Midnight

Please note: This submission day differs from CFA's normal submission day (Friday).

Grant award winners will be personally notified by Wednesday, August 8, 2018, and recognized publicly on the evening of Thursday, August 9, 2018, at the Community Foundation for the Alleghenies' Founders' Day Event