

**Community Foundation of St. Clair County
Youth Advisory Council's Mini-Grant Program**

Guidelines for Student Grantseekers

PURPOSE: The intent of the Mini-Grant Program is to introduce the concept of a Community Foundation and its work in philanthropy and community betterment, while supplying education and funding opportunities of up to \$200 for projects or programs which will benefit elementary and middle school students in St. Clair County. Such projects or programs will encourage youth volunteerism and enhance the school/classroom environment through positive activities.

WHAT CAN BE FUNDED? Proposals which are school or student oriented will be considered for funding. This includes special classroom projects which are planned by the students or extracurricular activities which promote volunteerism and create a positive environment. As this is a student program, teacher or administration projects/programs will not be considered for funding.

EXAMPLES OF PROPOSALS: Cost of books that promote values concepts; Costs of Flower seeds and related materials to enhance a park or school garden; Costs of stationery and materials for letter writing unit; Costs of a party for elderly citizens given by special needs elementary students; Costs of materials to promote consideration and thoughtfulness between students; Costs of materials to enhance conflict resolution among students; and Costs of materials to remove graffiti from walls of school or clean-up neighborhoods.

WHO CAN APPLY? Any student(s) and adult advisory/teacher of a school club, organization or classroom in **grades K – 8** can apply for a grant. All applications must be written and submitted by student(s)* and **MUST** be signed by the teacher AND principal. If an application is written by someone other than a student(s), it will be disqualified. However, teachers are encouraged to have students work on the proposal as a total class project, help them to investigate the cost of budget items, answer questions about the form, and give suggestions about appropriate responses. * For **K – 1 grades**, teachers can either help students write the applications or write it for them after class discussion for proposal ideas has occurred.

WHEN? Twenty copies of the completed application must be in the Foundation office for review by its Youth Advisory Council by **February 13th, 2009**.

WHERE? Mailing address is: Community Foundation of St. Clair County, 516 McMorran Blvd., Port Huron, MI 48060.

TEACHERS are encouraged to explain the following terms to students:

Grant – a gift, donation, present or award.

Proposal – an act of putting forward or stating something for consideration.

Budget – a plan for the coordination of resources and expenses: the amount of money that is available for, required for, or assigned to a particular purpose.

Community Foundation – a publicly support organization which administers and distributes income from (endowed) funds to community organizations.

QUESTIONS? Call Lindsay Redlawsk at the Community Foundation at (810) 984-4761 or email lindsay@stclairfoundation.org.