

## **Mission, Vision, and Purpose:**

In 1994, a group of committed individuals came together and established a permanent endowment to focus solely on improving the lives of women and girls in the Fox Valley region. That initial vision is now the Women's Fund for the Fox Valley Region.

The mission of the Women's Fund, to promote the advancement of women and girls in the Fox Valley Region, reflects our vision of a community of equality where power and opportunity are not limited by gender.

The Women's Fund mission is accomplished through grantmaking, strategic initiatives, education, and advocacy.

## **Grant Information:**

The Women's Fund has been awarding grants annually since 1997. Nonprofits may apply for funding for any project or program which meets our eligibility requirements and funding priorities. The selection process is competitive; historically we have only been able to fund less than 50% of the requests made to the Women's Fund.

Grant requests between \$2,500 and \$10,000 will be considered. A maximum of \$60,000 will be awarded for all project grants. The Women's Fund reserves the right to award different amounts of support (more or less than requested).

## **Eligibility:**

To be eligible for a project grant from the Women's Fund:

- The project/program must be consistent with the Women's Fund mission, focus, and priority areas.
- The project/program must benefit women and girls in Calumet, Outagamie, Shawano, Waupaca, or Northern Winnebago Counties.
- Your organization must be a tax-exempt, not-for-profit organization under the Internal Revenue Code, section 501(c)(3). However, agencies or informal groups without 501(c)(3) status may use another tax-exempt, not-for-profit agency as your fiscal agent. Contact the Women's Fund for further information.
- Government agencies may qualify. Please contact the Women's Fund prior to completing the grant application.

Women's Fund project grants will not fund:

- Individuals, endowments, or capital campaigns.
- Projects or programs that promote religious activities and/or beliefs.
- Political parties, candidates, or partisan activities.
- Event sponsorships
- Scholarships that fund individual students
- Co-educational programs that do not clearly communicate a specific and unique focus on women and girls.

**The Women's Fund will not fund the same project or program for more than 3 consecutive years.**

### **Strategic Focus and Priorities:**

The mission of the Women's Fund, to promote the advancement of women and girls in the Fox Valley Region, reflects our vision of a community of equality where power and opportunity are not limited by gender.

To realize this mission and vision, the Women's Fund will direct its grantmaking resources on creating, strengthening, and accelerating economic opportunities that enable women and girls to achieve their full potential.

To best achieve this outcome, we will prioritize projects and programs, and strategic initiatives that center on the following three priority areas:

- **Continuing education and training** – ensure women and girls have resources and support to enroll in and complete their educational goals.
- **Life-skills, mentoring and supports** – increase the ability of women and girls to deal effectively with challenges and successfully navigate everyday life circumstances.
- **Mental and emotional wellness** – ensure women and girls have access to a spectrum of supports to nurture mental and emotional wellness.

You may submit a preliminary application for more than one priority area. Please use separate applications for each priority area.

If you would like to discuss your project idea, you may connect with Julie Keller at (920) 702-7617 or [jkeller@womensfundfvr.org](mailto:jkeller@womensfundfvr.org).

## Criteria:

The Grants Committee will review the preliminary applications and invite organizations to submit a full proposal. We do not conduct interviews, therefore, it is important that the written application should clearly and fully explain your project.

The following criteria will be used in the decision-making process. Please make sure your written application is complete and makes a compelling case for your request. Do not hesitate to contact us with any questions.

- Does the program or project clearly address one of the funding priority areas?
- Does the program or project create, strengthen, or accelerate economic opportunities that enable women and girls to achieve their full potential?
- Is this request designed to meet the **unique** needs of women and/or girls?

For the full application:

- Are the program's goals and outcomes clearly identified?
- Are there effective strategies for implementation?
- Are there evaluation and measurement tools?
- Is the budget clear?

## Application Process:

The grant application (fillable Word document) is posted on the Women's Fund website: [www.womensfundfvr.org/grants-scholarships/apply-for-a-grant-2](http://www.womensfundfvr.org/grants-scholarships/apply-for-a-grant-2)

Complete all required fields and apply via email to [grants@womensfundfvr.org](mailto:grants@womensfundfvr.org) by 4:00 p.m. on Friday, January 13.

Questions regarding the application process can also be submitted via email to [grants@womensfundfvr.org](mailto:grants@womensfundfvr.org).

## Important Dates:

Preliminary Applications Due	Friday, January 13, 2023
Applicants notified if selected to submit a full proposal	Week of January 30, 2023
Full Proposals Due	Friday, March 3, 2023
Applicants notified of funding decisions	Week of April 10, 2023