

Bradley Community Benefit Grants at the Polk County Community Foundation

~ 2010 ~

Marjorie M. & Lawrence R. Bradley realized their charitable dreams by creating a grantmaking corporation. They left virtually their entire estate to the Board of the Polk County Community Foundation with instructions to create a permanent fund which would benefit Polk County by making grants in perpetuity. The ***Marjorie M. & Lawrence R. Bradley Endowment Fund of Polk County, North Carolina*** made its first grants in 2007. Income from this sizeable endowment fund is being distributed to the Polk County community via several grantmaking programs.

What types of projects will be funded by Bradley Community Benefit Grants? All Bradley Community Benefit Grants must fall within the parameters of the Bradley vision:

Bradley Community Benefit grants shall significantly improve the quality of life of Polk County residents for generations. The Bradley Board shall seek grantmaking opportunities which result in long-term impacts for our community as a whole and which may require a long-range view.

Has the Bradley Board set specific grant criteria? In 2008-2011, preference will be given to grants that support one of the following two areas of interest; however, the Bradley Board will consider other grant proposals which are breakthrough proposals and meet the overall vision of the Bradley Community Benefit Grants to provide significant benefits to our Polk County community for generations.

1. Areas of Interest:

- a. Direct Land Preservation and Conservation. Grants will be awarded for proposals that protect the natural assets of Polk County.
- b. Community Gathering Spots. Grants will be awarded to acquire land and/or to build or acquire buildings in Polk County that provide a locale for neighborhood or county-wide conversations, meetings, classes, recreation, cultural experiences and events.

The intended gathering may be informal, free, and small like two neighbors walking dogs in a new local park and exchanging greetings. (The grant would be used to acquire land for a park.) Or, the intended gathering may be a highly structured gathering requiring a participation fee from a self-selected group in the larger community like those who would like to see an event or take a class. (The grant would be used to acquire a new building.)

The gathering itself is not eligible for a grant; the grant proposal should describe the creation of a setting that will serve our community for generations by creating a space where people can gather and feel that they belong to this unique community.

2. Other Proposals: The Bradley Board will consider other grant proposals that are breakthrough proposals – as opposed to incremental improvements- which fit within the overall vision of the Bradley Community Benefit Grants and the specified criteria.

Are there any grant proposals which definitely won't be funded? Grants will not be awarded for projects outside the vision statement, events, maintenance expenses, operating expenses, programs, furnishings, fixtures, equipment, renovations or improvements of buildings, repairs or landscaping or other improvements to open space such as sidewalks, swing sets, leveling, retaining walls, etc.

Which organizations may apply? Qualified organizations include Polk County nonprofits and Polk County organizations primarily supported by tax dollars. Organizations based outside of Polk County that propose a project that directly and primarily benefits Polk County may be eligible for a grant depending on the nature of the project. If your donors do not receive tax deductions for contributions to your organization, or your organization is located outside of Polk County, please contact our Grant Manager for details about eligibility.

Grant Proposals: This grant proposal is the first step in this grantmaking process. Applicants may be contacted for additional information and/or an interview.

Total grant funds available in 2010: \$85,000

Questions? For additional information concerning this grant proposal, or help with your unique situation, please contact our Grant Manager at the Polk County Community Foundation. You may visit us at 255 South Trade Street, Tryon, NC or at www.polkccf.org; call 828-859-5314; or email: grants@polkccf.org.

Application Deadline:

First Cycle: By Tuesday, March 30, 2010 at 1:00 p.m.

Notification of funding decision:

First Cycle: July, 2010

**Bradley Community Benefit Grants
at the
Polk County Community Foundation**

- 2010 -

I. Cover Sheet (must be submitted in this form on one page):

Date of Application: _____

Organization Name: _____

Address: _____

Telephone Number: _____ Email: _____

Name and Title of CEO/Executive Director/President/Board Chair:

Name: _____

Title: _____

Telephone Number: _____ Email: _____

Contact Person for this grant application (if different from above):

Name: _____

Title/Role in the organization: _____

Telephone Number: _____ Email: _____

What is your tax identification number? _____

What is your nonprofit status? _____

Enclose IRS 501(c)(3) letter (required) or explain your charitable status if not a 501(c)(3). (eg. Unit of Government)

Is your organization more than five years old? _____

When does your fiscal year end? (eg. June 30) _____

List the number of paid staff at your organization. _____ F/T _____ P/T

Brief Project Description: _____

Is your organization based in Polk County? _____ Yes _____ No

Will this endeavor primarily, directly and uniquely benefit generations of residents of Polk County?

_____ Yes _____ No

II. Required Attachments:

A. Please answer the following questions in two pages or less.

- Summarize your organization's mission in two or three sentences.
- Describe how your grant proposal is a breakthrough proposal that fits the overall vision of Bradley Community Benefit Grants.
- Explain how the funding of your proposal enables significant long term benefits to the Polk County community.
- In what ways will this funding yield civic pride for generations to come and celebrate and enhance the unique attributes of our community?
- Who will be involved in carrying out the plans outlined in this request? Include a brief summary of the qualifications of the key individual(s) involved.

B. Attach a rough budget for your proposed project.

III. Required financial statement for nonprofit organizations. Submit a statement of your nonprofit organization's actual income and expenses for your last complete fiscal year. Indicate dates of your fiscal year (eg. Jan. 1, 20xx – Dec. 31, 20xx) on the financial statement.

Financial statements are not required for units of government.

IV. Additional Materials. Additional information such as a detailed project budget may be requested by the staff of the Polk County Community Foundation.

V. Signature Page. See last page of application.

I certify that the information contained in this proposal is true to the best of my knowledge and I have the authority to commit the organization to this project.

Signature

Printed Name

Title: _____ Date: _____

This must be signed by the person who is listed as the head of your organization on the cover sheet.

Please deliver applications to:

Polk County Community Foundation
255 South Trade St.
Tryon, NC 28782

Incomplete, incorrectly formatted, late, emailed or faxed applications shall not be considered. All application materials must be submitted together in one package. If you wish, you may schedule an appointment well in advance of the deadline with our Grant Manager. During your appointed time, you may ask the Grant Manager to certify that your application has been turned in on time and is complete.