Introduction

The Dr. William R. Bosien Fund at the Polk County Community Foundation was established in 1981 to honor the life and work of Dr. Bosien who gave twenty-five years of dedicated service to this area. The late Dr. Bosien moved to this area in 1954 with his wife, the late Dr. Marian Bosien. Throughout his career as a general surgeon at St. Luke’s Hospital, he touched many people’s lives, making his name an honored household word throughout Polk County and its environs. Dr. Bosien recognized the need for continuing medical education for the nurses and other medical support professionals at St. Luke’s Hospital. He cared for patients regardless of income and regularly treated patients who were unable to pay. To honor his ideals, over seventy-five families and individuals contributed to this fund.

The Polk County Community Foundation is a public charity founded in 1975 by a group of generous and visionary community leaders who wished to improve the quality of life in our area. It is completely funded by gifts and bequests from our local community.

How to apply

Use the Short Form Application, available online at www.polkccf.org and at the Foundation office, 255 South Trade Street, in Tryon.

Please note that the supplement attached to these guidelines is required with your application for Bosien grants.

Which organizations may apply?

- The Foundation awards grants to local charitable organizations that have been reviewed and approved by the Foundation’s committee and Board prior to consideration of any particular application. Please contact the Foundation with questions about your organization’s eligibility to apply for grants.

- Continuing medical education funding (grant area 1 below) is limited to St. Luke’s Hospital and local “Community Health Care Centers.” Community Health Care Centers are based in Polk County, primarily serve patients who live in Polk County, and are dedicated to serving patients who are unable to afford regular medical care.

- All Polk County nonprofit organizations and units of government are eligible to apply for funding to enhance the availability of medical care for patients unable to afford care and for funding to provide medical educational programs for the general public (grant areas 2 and 3 below).

What types of grants may be awarded?

1. Continuing Medical Education Events for staff of St. Luke’s Hospital and “Community Health Centers.” Grants may be awarded to support local continuing medical education events for St. Luke’s Hospital staff and the staff of Community Health Care Centers when the need for further education is identified. Grants may be awarded to allow these staff members to attend national and regional continuing medical educational events on patient care with the understanding that information gained will be shared with other staff members and, when appropriate, with community healthcare workers.
2. Projects to Enhance the Availability of Medical Care for Those in the Community Who Otherwise Could Not Afford That Care. For example, grants may be awarded for local studies or programs which are meant ultimately to increase access to medical care for local people who are unable to afford regular medical care. Medical care means managing disease or physical and mental impairments with surgery, drugs, exercise or diet.

3. Sponsorship of Programs by Recognized Authorities to Educate the General Public on Healthcare Subjects. As an example, the Bosien Fund provided a grant for a free nutrition program by Jane Brody, a nationally known authority on nutrition, at the Tryon Fine Arts Center.

**What type of grants won’t be funded?**

- Funds are not intended to be used for scholarships, for hospital capital expenditures, hospital equipment, or fundraising events.
- All events must occur after the grant award notification date. Grants must fit the criteria of the Bosien Fund.
- Meals are not eligible for continuing education grant funding.

**Application Deadline**

- For application deadlines, see the “Dates & Dollars” chart available online and at our office.
- Please note that all applications are due on Tuesdays by 11:59 pm on the date indicated.

**Helpful Publications**

- The “Directory of Kirby Endowment Funds, Competitive Grant Funds and Donor Information” provides information about the many funds available at the Community Foundation, including examples of past grants.
- The “Dates and Dollars” chart lists application deadlines, notification dates, interview dates and requirements (if any), and available dollars for each grant program.

**Timeframe for Using Approved Grants**

Grant funds must be spent within 12 months of the time of the award notification. You may request a longer grant period by indicating the need for an extension of time on the cover page.

**Additional Application Hints and Requirements**

Please refer to the signature page on the application.

**Questions?**

For additional information concerning this or other grant applications, or help with your unique situation, please contact Noah Wood, our Director of Grants. You may visit us at 255 South Trade Street, Tryon, NC or online at www.polkccf.org; call 828-859-5314; or email: grants@polkccf.org.
Please Note: Responses must be submitted as a supplement to your Short Form Application

I. If this request is for funding for continuing medical education for health care providers (grant area 1), please answer the following questions on a separate sheet. These questions are in addition to those included in the Short Form Application.

1. Describe the topic of the educational program, name the people who will attend (identify people by titles and job descriptions) and explain how this educational event will enhance patient care in our community.

2. Who identified the need for further education?

3. Describe how you will share the information gained.

II. If this request is for sponsorship of programs by recognized authorities to educate the general public on healthcare subject or projects to enhance the availability of medical care for those in the community who otherwise could not afford that care (grant areas 2 and 3), please use the standard questions included in the Short Form Application to explain your project. (This supplement is not required)