Support for Children’s Health and Well Being

Ronald McDonald House Charities

Ronald McDonald House Charities (RMHC) supports nonprofit organizations whose programs help improve the health and well being of children throughout the world. Grants are provided to stable, efficient U.S.-based organizations operating domestically or internationally that have an extensive impact on children. (Programs that are local in scope are not supported.) The current focus is on sustainable, replicable projects that include a train-the-trainer component in their pursuit of addressing the most pressing issues relating to children’s health and well being. Online applications will be accepted through August 31, 2012. Visit the RMHC website to review the application guidelines.

Native American Programs Funded

Seventh Generation Fund for Indian Development

The Seventh Generation Fund for Indian Development is dedicated to promoting and maintaining the uniqueness of Native peoples and the sovereignty of tribal Nations throughout the Americas. The Fund's primary grantmaking program areas include the following: Arts and Cultural Expression, Environmental Health and Justice, Human Rights, Sustainable Communities, Intergenerational Leadership, and Women’s Leadership. Grants from $500 to $5,000 are provided three times per year to Native communities that address one or more of the Fund’s program areas. The application deadlines are February 1, June 1, and October 1, annually. (Mini-grants of up to $500 are reviewed throughout the year.) Application guidelines and forms are available on the Fund’s website.

Grants for Social Change Media Projects

The Fledgling Fund

The Fledgling Fund seeks to improve the lives of vulnerable individuals, families, and communities by supporting innovative media projects that target entrenched social problems. The Fund’s creative media initiative provides grants to nonprofit organizations throughout the U.S. for film and other media projects that engage key audiences in efforts to affect positive social change. Grants typically fall in the following broad areas: Environmental Justice, Girls’ Empowerment and Women’s Leadership, Health and Wellness, Economic Justice and Systemic Poverty, Educational Experiences, and the Justice System. The upcoming deadline for letters of inquiry is September 17, 2012; invited applications will be due on November 14, 2012. Visit the Fund’s website to learn more about the application process.

Field Trips for K-12 Schools Supported

Target Field Trip Grants

The Target Field Trip Grants program provides funds for K-12 field trips in order to give students throughout the country the
opportunity to explore more of the world outside the classroom. Over 5,000 grants of up to $700 each will be awarded to educators, teachers, principals, paraprofessionals, and classified staff who are employed by accredited K-12 public, private, or charter schools only. (Parents, PTOs, after-school programs, Pre-K centers, and other nonprofit organizations are not eligible to apply.) Types of eligible trips include art, science, and cultural museum visits; community service and civic projects; career enrichment opportunities; and other events or activities away from the school facility. Funds may be used from January 2013 until the end of the school year to cover trip-related costs such as transportation, ticket fees, food, resource materials, and supplies. Online applications must be submitted by October 1, 2012. Visit the Target website to learn more about the program.

Regional Funding Opportunities

Funds for Youth Programs in the Pacific Northwest
Charlotte Martin Foundation
The Charlotte Martin Foundation supports nonprofit organizations that provide services in urban, rural, and tribal communities throughout Alaska, Idaho, Montana, Oregon, and Washington. The Foundation is dedicated to funding projects that enrich the lives of youth (ages 6-18) in the areas of athletics, culture, and education. Grants are also provided for the preservation and protection of wildlife and habitat. The final application deadline for 2012 is September 30. Visit the Foundation’s website to review the goals and priorities for each of the Foundation’s program areas.

Grants Promote Environmental Initiatives in New England
New England Grassroots Environment Fund
The mission of the New England Grassroots Environment Fund is to energize and nurture long term civic engagement in local initiatives that create and maintain healthy, just, safe, and environmentally sustainable communities. The Fund offers two grant programs designed to foster grassroots environmental initiatives in Connecticut, Maine, Massachusetts, New Hampshire, Rhode Island, and Vermont. Seed Grants of $250 to $1,000 help volunteer groups launch and build their newly evolving projects. Requests for this program may be submitted throughout the year. Grow Grants of $1,000 to $3,500 enhance the ability of established groups to increase capacity, collaborate, and leverage impact. The application deadline for this program is September 15, 2012. Visit the Fund’s website for more information about these grant programs.

Support for Illinois Legal Aid Organizations
Lawyers Trust Fund of Illinois
The Lawyers Trust Fund of Illinois makes grants to nonprofit organizations that provide civil legal aid to low-income individuals and families in Illinois. The Fund gives preference to organizations that provide substantial amounts of direct legal assistance
to low-income clients facing critical legal problems. Nonprofit organizations throughout the state that provide services without charge to clients are eligible to apply. The application deadline is September 14, 2012. Guidelines and application forms are available by contacting deputy director Mark Marquardt at 312.938.2133 or via email at mark@ltf.org.

Animal Welfare Programs in Colorado Funded

Animal Assistance Foundation
The Animal Assistance Foundation is dedicated to making Colorado a model state for animal welfare. The Foundation provides grants to nonprofit organizations and government agencies that have a positive impact on animals and their owners throughout the state. The Foundation’s 2012 grant priorities include increasing spay/neuter services, animal shelter optimization (including equine), new ideas or innovations in animal welfare, and the prevention of cruelty to animals. Grant awards are generally between $2,000 and $5,000. The Foundation focuses its funding on rural communities, communities with high need, and communities that lack access to resources. The upcoming application deadline is September 28, 2012. (Prior to completing a formal application applying organizations must submit a letter of inquiry.) Visit the Foundation’s website to review the grant guidelines.

Federal Grant and Loan Programs

Funds Available to Advance and Educate Librarians

Institute of Museum and Library Services
The Laura Bush 21st Century Librarian Program provides support to develop faculty and library leaders, recruit and educate the next generation of librarians and archivists, build institutional capacity in graduate schools of library and information science, and assist in the professional development of librarians and archivists. The program also seeks to help librarians develop the information and digital literacy of their communities, as well as other critical skills their users will need to be successful in the 21st century. The application deadline is September 24, 2012.

Program Promotes Cybersecurity Education

National Science Foundation
The CyberCorps: Scholarship for Service program provides support to address cybersecurity education and workforce development. The Capacity Track seeks innovative proposals leading to an increase in the ability of the United States higher education enterprise to produce cybersecurity professionals. The Scholarship Track provides funding to award scholarships to students in cybersecurity. The application deadline is October 12, 2012.
Digital Humanities Projects Supported

**National Endowment for the Humanities**

The Digital Humanities Start-Up Grants support the planning or initial stages of digital initiatives in any area of the humanities. Examples of eligible activities include planning and developing prototypes of new digital tools for preserving, analyzing, and making accessible digital resources, including libraries’ and museums’ digital assets; innovative uses of technology for public programming and education utilizing both traditional and new media; scholarship that focuses on the history, criticism, and philosophy of digital culture and its impact on society; scholarship or studies that examine the philosophical or practical implications and impact of the use of emerging technologies in specific fields or disciplines of the humanities; and new digital modes of publication that facilitate the dissemination of humanities scholarship in advanced academic as well as informal or formal educational settings at all academic levels. The application deadline is September 25, 2012.

**Program Supports Education and Training about the Gulf of Mexico**

**National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration**

The Gulf of Mexico Bay-Watershed Education and Training Program supports experiential learning about the Gulf of Mexico bay and watershed. Program priority issues include water quality, habitat conservation and restoration, ecosystem integration and assessment, nutrients and their impact, coastal community resilience, and environmental education. The program focuses on the states of states of Alabama, Florida, Louisiana, Mississippi, and Texas. The application deadline is October 19, 2012.

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**Online Education Sessions**

**Upcoming Online Education Sessions**

Unless otherwise noted, all Online Education Sessions are webinars, are 90 minutes in duration, and are scheduled to begin at 2 PM Eastern Time. The registration fee is $89 per person or $150 for a group.

**FREE Tour of the GrantStation Website**

Join Jeremy Smith, GrantStation’s Communications and Technology Director, for a short tour of the GrantStation website. Learn how to use the tools that GrantStation provides to help you identify the right grantmaker for any program or project. The tour will also include information about our new, interactive Grants2020 visioning tool! If you’ve just joined GrantStation, this tour will help you determine the most effective way to use the valuable resources the website provides. If you haven’t joined yet, this tour will help you determine if a GrantStation Membership fits your needs. There will be plenty of time for questions. This webinar will be held Tuesday, August 21, 2012. Visit the link above to register.
How to Secure Funding from Foundations
Foundations are mysterious institutions to those not familiar with them. In this webinar, Judith Margolin demystifies the process of securing foundation funding. The webinar provides a thorough grounding in what foundations are all about, including how many there are, who runs them, and trends in foundation giving. The focus is on what motivates foundations to give and how you can determine why they might or might not support your organization. Topics include types of foundations and styles of approach, determining your organization's funding needs, finding the best prospect, what makes a winning grant proposal, introducing your agency to a foundation, and proposal submission techniques. This webinar will be held on Thursday, August 23, 2012. Visit the link above to register.

How to Find and Write Successful Federal Grants
The federal government is increasingly interested in funding the important work done by community and faith-based groups throughout the country. Every year the government releases millions of dollars to help nonprofit organizations serve their communities. During this webinar, Alice Ruhnke will talk about how to identify federal grant opportunities, and she'll outline the major elements of grant applications required by most federal agencies. Resources to help your organization through the government grant seeking process will also be discussed. This webinar will be held Thursday, August 30, 2012 and is for intermediate participants. Visit the link above to register.

Developing Listening Skills for Effective Grantmaking
As grantseekers we spend a lot of time telling others what we do, why we do it and why we should do more of it. Funders want to know, donors want to know, and so does the community. But just as critical is the activity on the other side of the communication coin: listening. When we're not listening to our constituency we may not design a grant proposal that best meets their needs; when we're not listening to community partners we may write a grant for redundant services; when we don't listen to staff and volunteers we may design a grant-funded program that exceeds their capacity to implement it. In this webinar, Susan Eliot will teach you the basic concepts of effective listening, show you how to design questions that increase the quality of your listening, and introduce you to a process for making sense of what you hear when you listen. She will also teach you a listening exercise called Listening for Meaning (LFM) that you will want to use again and again. In this powerful group exercise individuals interview each other, record what is said and summarize it. The information generated by LFM can be used not only to develop a grant application but also to evaluate program effectiveness, promote services or inform any other effort that would benefit from listening to the input of others. This webinar will be held on Wednesday, September 12, 2012. Visit the link above to register.

For a complete list of upcoming Online Education Sessions, click here.
Special Discounts for Grant Conference
Grant Professionals Association
The Grant Professionals Association is an international membership organization who serves those in the grants industry, from developers to managers and everyone in between. The 14th Annual GPA National Conference will be held this year in Indianapolis, IN on October 17-20. With over 70 workshops, featured and keynote speakers from the Department of Education and The Chronicle of Philanthropy, this year’s conference is sure to be packed with professional development and networking opportunities for every attendee! Hurry – the Regular Registration rate ends on August 31st! Save $50 with the discount code GS-50! For more information, please visit www.GrantProfessionals.org.

Claim Your Seat in the Free Training Webinar “Grant Writing 3.0”
Grant Writing 3.0
Write down this number: $1.2 billion. That’s how much money students made in the first two and a half years of version 1.0 of the grant writing system. Phil Johncock, The Grant Professor, is offering a free webinar describing “Grant Writing 3.0” on August 16, 2012 at 10 am Eastern Time. You will learn how social media (i.e., Facebook, Twitter, LinkedIn, YouTube, etc.) is impacting grant writers, how to create grant readiness binders, how to get paid to learn, how to become Grant Professional Certified (GPC) close to home, and the easiest grant to get that you probably don’t know about. Find out how Grant Writing 3.0 is revolutionizing the grant profession. Click here to register.

2012 Annual Grant Conference
AGWA
The American Grant Writers’ Association, Inc. is a membership organization for grant writers and grant managers who work for nonprofit organizations, educational institutions, hospitals, tribes, and government agencies. Workshops and online courses are available for beginning or intermediate grant writers, grant managers, and grant consultants. Earn the Certified Grant Writer® credential to promote your professional expertise as a grant writer. Attend the 2012 Annual Grant Conference in Arlington, VA on November 14-16, 2012. Visit our website, www.agwa.us to learn more!