

William Swanston Charitable Fund

2018 Request for Proposals (RFP) - Healthy Lifestyles, Healthy Futures Initiative

About the William Swanston Charitable Fund

The mission of the William Swanston Charitable Fund is to provide support and assistance to abused, neglected, and dependent children in Mahoning and Trumbull counties. The William Swanston Charitable Fund is the legacy of a local farmer who cared about his community and who wanted to help the less fortunate, especially children.

Granting Priorities

Reflecting its belief that physical health is key to children thriving and its commitment to reduce childhood obesity and improve the overall health and well-being of our children, the William Swanston Charitable Fund requests proposals for funding in 2018 for innovative projects that prevent or reduce obesity in the most vulnerable children in Mahoning and Trumbull counties. Proposed projects should build on the evidence that providing early intervention, particularly for children age 0-5 including prenatal care with pregnant women to promote healthy weight babies, reduces the risk of childhood obesity and improves the long-term health outcomes for those children.

In addition, the William Swanston Charitable Fund is committed to supporting projects that:

- Address underlying social and economic challenges contributing to poor health outcomes in the communities served, such as poverty, lack of access to healthy foods and absence of parks/recreational centers
- Extend past individual behavior or *program* related services by modifying policies, systems and environments to help make healthy options practical and readily available
- Demonstrate collaboration among sectors, including public health, government, education, healthcare, etc.
- Prioritize engagement of residents from the communities served
- Adhere to existing evidence-based best practices or promising practices
- Leverage additional funding as well as community assets
- Provide an established plan for evaluation including measurable outcomes

The William Swanston Charitable Fund also recognizes that it takes time to plan collaborative efforts, incorporating the above ideologies with shared priorities and measurable outcomes. Grant requests for planning successful collaborations are encouraged.

Target Population

The William Swanston Charitable Fund is interested in improving opportunities for vulnerable children who have the greatest difficulty thriving in life.

- The targeted consumers of resources provided by the William Swanston Charitable Fund are abused, dependent, and neglected children and youth in Mahoning and Trumbull counties who are at the most-risk for childhood obesity.
- As identified by the Ohio Department of Health, those most at risk include Non-Hispanic black and Hispanic children, children residing in Appalachian counties and low-income children.
- The Fund believes early action is critical, therefore placing a primary focus on achieving and maintaining a healthy weight for children ages 0-5 years as well as ensuring healthy birth weight for newborns in the high risk populations.

Supportable Activity / Non-Supportable Activity

The William Swanston Charitable Fund supports projects by nonprofit organizations that directly benefit abused, neglected, dependent children as well as pregnant women in Mahoning and Trumbull counties.

Applicant organizations MUST meet the following criteria:

- Nonprofit corporation with proof of 501(c)(3) tax-exempt status;
- Demonstrated experience working with the targeted population; AND
- Interest or proven track record of collaborations with other organizations

The Fund cannot consider grants to individuals and generally will not consider grants for:

- Individual scholarships or grants, even if through an otherwise qualified organization
- Sectarian religious activity
- Lobbying

- Religious purposes
- Capital building projects
- Endowment funds
- Film or video production
- Debt reduction
- Foreign operations or expenditures
- National fundraising campaigns or mass mailing campaigns
- Membership in civic organizations or trade associations
- Veterans' organizations or fraternal societies
- Annual support to local or national offices of organizations whose stated purpose is to combat a particular disease or family of diseases
- Organizations that do not provide services in the Mahoning Valley (i.e. Mahoning and Trumbull Counties, Ohio)

How to Apply

The William Swanston Charitable Fund invites proposals, under a competitive Request for Proposal (RFP) process. Interested applicants must submit a letter of inquiry (LOI) on or before Friday, December 15, 2017 at 4:00 PM. (Please do NOT submit a full proposal unless invited to do so; see below.) LOIs are available at www.cfmv.org.

Please submit to ckrell@cfmv.org. Those invited to submit a full proposal will be notified in February 2018. If the letter of inquiry (LOI) is accepted, an application form will be made available. Completed applications with supporting documents must be submitted to the William Swanston Charitable Fund on or before Friday, March 16, 2018, at 4:00 PM. Grant awards will be announced in May 2018.

Contact Information

For more information concerning the William Swanston Charitable Fund or this Request for Proposal, please contact Casey Krell at the Community Foundation of the Mahoning Valley at 330.743.5555 or at ckrell@cfmv.org.