

February 10, 2022

Greetings from the Polk County Community Foundation,

We hope this message finds you healthy, safe, and well. Calling these past two years "challenging" would be the understatement of the century. And yet, we have been heartened by all of you in our community's nonprofit and public sector who have risen to that challenge, again and again, to keep your doors open (if only virtually), to continue serving your clients and stakeholders, and to adapt to new and innovative ways of operating. The Foundation has been honored to be part of many of your efforts to not just sustain during these times, but to come out the other side stronger and more committed to our shared goal of improving the quality of life in our local community. Thank you.

We have been looking forward to moving toward a "new normal" in our grantmaking and are pleased to announce two 2022 grant cycles as we begin that transition. We realize that the March deadline listed below may be tight; however, we decided to run this first cycle so organizations that may be planning summer and fall programs would have an opportunity to seek grants in time to support them. As the Foundation evaluates how to most effectively and efficiently move forward, we will keep you updated about additional grant opportunities this year and next.

Short Form Applications due by Tuesday, March 8th at 5:00 pm:

- Free Community Event Grants: for free gatherings in Polk County & Landrum
- Kirby Civic Event Grants: for free Civic events in the Tryon area
- Kirby Harmon Field Grants: for free activities for youth at Harmon Field
- Kirby Rogers Park Grants: for free events at Rogers Park
- Student Intern Program Grants: for agencies to hire local high school students as summer interns (*see required supplement to Short For Application*)

Long Form Applications due by Tuesday, June 7th at 5:00 pm:

- Unrestricted Fund Grants: for projects that enhance the quality of life in our local community
- Mary F. Kessler Fund Grants: for certain projects that benefit Tryon and Landrum
- Organizational Strengthening & Board Planning Grants: for strategic planning, board retreats, and other initiatives to support long-term success
- Saluda Community Fund Grants: for organizations located in and serving Saluda
- Grantwriting for Public Safety Organizations Grants: to enhance public safety organizations' receipt of non-local grants

Grant Applications accepted on a rolling basis in 2022:

- Kirby Endowment Fund Non-Competitive Grants: for organizations designated by the Kirby family (*Forms are mailed to beneficiary organizations*)
- NC Center for Nonprofits Membership Grants: for organizations to join or renew memberships with the Center (*Contact the Foundation to apply*)

Short Form and Long Form Applications, as well as individual fund guidelines are available on the Applications page of our website, www.polkccf.org, and at the Foundation's office. Please contact me with any questions regarding the application process, to discuss potential projects, or just to catch up. We'd love to hear from you!

If your organization is newly established or does not have a grantmaking history with the Foundation, please inquire about your eligibility to apply for a grant.

As always, if you would like your applications certified as being complete and on time, I would be happy to schedule a meeting with your organization's designated grant representative in advance of the deadline. Appointment slots for this service fill up quickly so please plan accordingly.

I look forward to connecting and reconnecting with you as we continue our important work together.

Kind regards,
Noah

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