

GFC Harvest Grant

The Claude W. & Dolly Ahrens Foundation

Grinnell Food Coalition Harvest Grant

The **Grinnell Food Coalition (GFC) Harvest Grant** is a pilot program designed to support existing programs, projects, and new initiatives that address food insecurity and enhance local food systems in Grinnell and Poweshiek County. This grant provides financial support to strengthen communities by funding both immediate needs and long-term solutions that promote sustainable food systems.

Grant Details:

- **Grant Amount:** Applicants may request up to \$5,000. The grant may be awarded in full or as a partial amount of the requested funds.
 - **Eligible Projects:** The grant is open to projects based in Grinnell and Poweshiek County, including surrounding communities.
 - **Eligible Expenses:** Funding can support operating costs, food costs, and infrastructure expenses aimed at strengthening local food systems.
 - **Eligible Organization Types:** Eligible applicants can include non-profit organizations, schools, government entities, service groups, and faith-based organizations with a charitable intent. If you have any questions about your eligibility, please email jennifer@ahrensfamilyfoundation.org.
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Application Process:

Applicants should be aware of the following guidelines:

- **Submission Format:** The narrative questions can be found here. Choose one of the following options to submit your responses:
 - **Written Response to Questions:** A max of 1,500 characters per question, submitted via a standard text box within the application.
 - **Uploaded Written Narrative:** A detailed narrative with a max of 12,000 characters, including spaces.
 - **Uploaded Audio or Video Submission:** A recorded response with a max duration of 10 minutes.
- **Supplemental Uploads (optional):** Should be combined into a single file and may include:
 - Up to **5–10 photos** related to the project (photos may also be part of the narrative submission).
 - **Letters of Support or Partnership** (one page per letter).

- **Fiscal Sponsors:** Organizations without 501c3 status must partner with a fiscal sponsor. A fiscal sponsor must be in place for your application to be considered. If you'd like assistance with getting a fiscal sponsor, email jennifer@ahrensfamilyfoundation.org.
- **Steering Committee Conversation:** If your project or program matches the scope of the grant and needs further explanation, you may be invited to schedule a conversation with the steering committee. Review the potential discussion questions that may be asked.
- **Rubric:** Evaluators will use this rubric as a guide to review all applications. This will help ensure that the process is fair and consistent.

Grant Timeline:

- The GFC Harvest Grant opens twice a year:
 - ♣ Cycle 1: App open April - May; Awards distributed in June
 - ♣ Cycle 2: App open Oct - Nov; awards distributed in Dec
- Applicants may apply twice but can only receive funding once a year.

Steering Committee

Jennifer Cogley (not an evaluator)
Jill Harris
Joe Bagnoli
Kim Sieck
Melissa Strovers
Mindy
Clayton

Please contact Jennifer at (641) 236-5518 or jennifer@ahrensfamilyfoundation.org with any questions or for technical assistance.

Applicant Information

Project or Program Name*

The name of the project or program will be included in all media related to the grant.

Character Limit: 100

Service Area*

Please choose the geographical area that will be primarily served by the grant proposal.

Choices

Grinnell
Poweshiek County

What type of organization are you?

If your organization is using a fiscal sponsor to steward your grant, please select "I am using a Fiscal Sponsor" below. A Fiscal Sponsor is an organization with an active 501(c)3 status that will receive the funds on your organization's behalf and provide fiduciary oversight for your project.

Choices

Non-profit Organization
School
Government Entity
Service Group
Faith-based Organization
I am using a Fiscal Sponsor

Budget

Amount Requested*

Maximum request \$5,000

Character Limit: 20

Budget*

Please complete the budget Excel document provided:

- Click on the Budget Link to download the budget template
- Open budget using Excel, save to your computer and complete the budget
- Upload the completed budget using the "Upload a file" button below.

File Size Limit: 2 MB

Other Funding*

Describe other funding applied for or secured for this project. Please enter "n/a" if no other funding has been sought.

Character Limit: 250

Milestones

Milestones*

What tasks and activities make up this project and what is the timeline?

Please complete the Milestones Excel document provided:

- Click on the Milestones Link to download the milestones template
- Open milestones template using Excel, save to your computer and complete the template

- Upload the completed milestones Excel document using the "Upload a file" button below

File Size Limit: 2 MB

Narrative Questions

Which method will you use to answer the narrative questions?*

Choices

Traditional Grant Application (Same format as previous questions)

Uploaded Written Document (Max 12,000 characters including spaces)

Uploaded Audio File (Max 10 minutes in length)

Uploaded Video File (Max 10 minutes in length)

Narrative Questions Traditional Response

Describe your organization including background, mission, and purpose?*

Character Limit: 1500

What is your current need?*

Character Limit: 1500

How do you plan to address this need?*

Character Limit: 1500

What results are you expecting from this project or program?*

Character Limit: 1500

How does your project or program address food insecurity or improve local food systems? *

Character Limit: 1500

If you are not awarded the full amount, how will this impact your project or program?*

Character Limit: 1500

Fiscal Sponsor Details

Please complete all questions if Fiscal Sponsor is different from Applicant

Fiscal Sponsor Organization Name*

Character Limit: 50

Fiscal Sponsor EIN*

Can be found on W9 completed and signed by your Fiscal Sponsor

Character Limit: 10

Fiscal Sponsor Mailing Address*

Can be found on the W9 completed and signed by your Fiscal Sponsor. Grant award will be mailed or deposited by ACH to Fiscal Sponsor.

Character Limit: 50

Fiscal Sponsor Contact Name*

Character Limit: 100

Fiscal Sponsor Contact Email*

Character Limit: 254

Fiscal Sponsor Contact Phone Number*

Please use the following format: 111-111-1111

Character Limit: 20

Narrative Question File Upload

Upload file responding to narrative questions*

If you are submitting a written document, audio file, or video file that answers the narrative questions, please upload here.

File Size Limit: 34 MB

Attachments

Please upload a signed W9 by the Legal Applicant/Fiscal Sponsor*

If you are using a Fiscal Sponsor, the W9 must be signed by them and dated within the last 12 months.

Link to fill out a W9: <http://www.irs.gov/pub/irs-pdf/fw9.pdf>

File Size Limit: 2 MB

Letter of Support

If you have a letter of support, please upload it here.

Character Limit: 500 | File Size Limit: 3 MB

Please upload any supplemental documents

Include any additional information you feel is valuable. If you'd like to include more than one document or photo, please combine them into one file. Only one file upload is allowed.

Character Limit: 500 | File Size Limit: 5 MB

Please upload a copy of your IRS tax exempt status determination letter

Not Applicable for Schools and Government Entities

File Size Limit: 2 MB

Signature and Certification for Legal Applicant

Legal Applicant Contact Signature*

Character Limit: 100

Legal Applicant Contact Signature Date*

Character Limit: 10

Fiscal Sponsor Signature and Certification

Fiscal Sponsor's signature is required. If you are using a fiscal sponsor, they must sign off on the application in order for it to be considered complete.

Follow the steps listed below:

1. Click the [blue Collaborate button](#) at the top of the page
2. Make sure the "Can Edit radio button is selected
3. Enter your fiscal sponsor's email (entered in Fiscal Sponsor Details section on your application)
4. In the Message field enter or copy & paste the following:

"As our organization's Fiscal Sponsor, your signature is required for our grant application to be complete. Please follow the link provided in email to register or sign in.

1. Make sure your Role is as an Applicant.

2. Click on the Collaborate Requests tab.

3. Click on Edit Application.

4. Please go to the Fiscal Sponsor's Signature and Certification section near the bottom and complete.

5. Make sure to Click on SAVE APPLICATION and sign out."

Fiscal Sponsor Signature

Character Limit: 100

Fiscal Sponsor Signature Date*

Character Limit: 10