

DAKOTA HOSPITAL FOUNDATION

All gifts to the Dakota Hospital Foundation (DHF) are used to further its' important mission of community health and wellness. Through financial contributions, the foundation supports local non-profit organizations with initiatives focused on enhancing opportunities in our three main focus areas as follows:

- **Clinical Innovation:** Seed money to foster and enhance new programs and fund unique services
- **Health Care Education:** Support of community health and wellness programs and scholarships for health professionals
- **Quality of Life:** Supporting community projects that enhance the quality of life of our residents, patients, visitors and staff

GRANT GUIDELINES

Dakota Hospital Foundation is empowered to support the Vermillion area grant submissions using the *Healthy Hometown* improvements path: **eat well, move more, feel better**. Using these paths, and the [2025-2027 Community Health Needs Assessment](#) as our guides to awarding impactful grant submissions.

The Dakota Hospital Foundation takes the following items into consideration as they consider requests for funding:

1. Volunteerism

Projects which have paid staff but involve significant and continuous community volunteer support to enhance their existing programs will be favorably considered.

2. Innovation

The foundation funds ongoing, well-established projects as well as innovative projects designed to address existing community needs in innovative ways.

3. Operating Expenses

Foundation funds will not be awarded to subsidize operating expenses for private, public or governmental entities.

4. Project Longevity

The foundation recognizes that there are worthy projects that begin and end the same calendar year. Ongoing projects are encouraged, multi-year funding submissions are a low priority. However, funding exclusively for equipment, or like items would be considered for the success of multi-year funding projects.

5. Seed Grants

Applications requesting startup money must provide feasibility data indicating a need for the project, support for the project and the ongoing sustainability and probability of success.

6. Capital Improvements

Due to the limited amount of annual discretionary funds and the rising cost of building and remodeling, capital bricks and mortar projects generally will not be funded.

7. Minimum Awards

Grant applications requesting more than \$10,000 will not be considered. Exceptions to this figure may be considered based upon the merit of the proposal.

8. Multi-Year Funding

Generally only proposals for one year will be considered by the foundation innovation committee. If projects require more than one year to accomplish their objectives, they should submit a letter with the first-year application indicating their intent to request additional years of funding. No more than three years of sequential grant funding shall be awarded to any one grantee for the same purpose.

9. Challenge or Matching Grants

The foundation encourages matching funds from all grant applicants. When the committee perceives the need for more local involvement and support of a given project in order to establish ownership in the

community, it may require challenge grants in any proportion. Funding may be contingent upon acquisition of the required matching money.

10. Partnerships

Applications received from partnership applications of two or more organizations will be considered if their proposal meets the guidelines of Dakota Hospital Foundation. However, communications and accountability must be established with one organization.

11. Exceptions

The committee may make an exception to any printed policy upon motion duly made, seconded and carried by two-thirds of the members present and voting. Motion must state rationale for the exception. Exceptions taken in one instance do not constitute precedent exceptions for future grant decisions.

12. Service Area

The foundation focuses on the service area of Sanford Vermillion Medical Center. Community locations bordering the footprint area surrounding Vermillion are: Gayville, SD; Irene, SD; Hudson, SD; Akron, IA; Jefferson, SD; Ponca, NE; Hartington, NE; Wynot, NE.

GRANT PROCESS

1. Application Submittal

Applications will be accepted in the months of March and October. The Dakota Hospital Foundation will respond to all applicants in a timely manner. Those applications which do not fit the mission of the foundation, or clearly do not qualify will be eliminated. The committee will review the applications, award and report to the full board.

2. Communications with Applicants

All applicants will be informed in a timely manner of any action taken on their grant application. The committee will hold decisions in confidence until publicly announced by the foundation.

3. Final Evaluation Report

A final evaluation report shall be submitted to the foundation office immediately following project completion. A grant file is considered complete only after the final evaluation report is received in the foundation office, and until received, no additional grant requests will be considered (unless deemed a multiple year project).

4. Re-applications

Multiple or repeat applications from one organization in less than a twelve-month period is not allowed unless encouraged by the foundation to resubmit.

Grant applications are received twice annually in March and October. Applicants are notified by our office within approximately 30 days following the grant cycle deadline.

FUND DISTRIBUTION

1. Fund Distribution

Funds will be distributed to successful applicants on a schedule that is prepared by Dakota Hospital Foundation. Timelines for fund disbursements will be developed to correspond to the schedule of activities being funded by the grant.

ADDRESS YOUR APPLICATION TO:

Dakota Hospital Foundation
c/o Sanford Administration
20 South Plum Street
Vermillion, SD 57069

