Mission: Women creating positive, lasting change in our community through collective giving.

Impact 100 Martin Grant Process Summary

Impact 100 Martin is pleased to announce its 2020 $100,000 Impact Grant.

We recognize the important work being done by nonprofit organizations in improving the lives of people in our community. To support this work and encourage organizations to “THINK BIG,” Impact 100 Martin annually awards a grant of $100,000 to a nonprofit that provides services for Martin County.

Consistent with our mission, Impact 100 Martin funds grants that have a profound and transformative effect on the receiving organizations and the populations they serve. Grant requests may be made for: a new program/project; expansion of an existing proven program; or a collaborative effort between two or more organizations to address a broader spectrum of the community.

The grant parameters are determined yearly by the Grants Committee, which consists of volunteer members of Impact 100 Martin. There are no restrictions on focus areas this year. Grant applications will be accepted for all fields of interest.

Grants Process

- All interested, eligible nonprofit organizations must submit a Letter of Intent (LOI) that clearly articulates the proposed program/project.
- The Grants Committee reviews the LOIs and invites selected organizations to submit a full grant application.
- The Committee reviews the full grant applications, may conduct site visits, and selects the finalists.
- The finalists present their Impact program/project during the Grant Awards Celebration on April 2, 2020 at 9 a.m. at Willoughby Golf Club. Finalists have 7 minutes to make a presentation without props or visual aids. Information about the finalists is available online to all members prior to the event.
- The Impact 100 Martin members who are present at the Grant Awards Celebration will cast their votes immediately following the presentations. Other members may vote online prior to the event. The finalist with the most votes will be awarded the Impact Grant for 2020!
- The grant recipient is expected to sign a contract defining deliverables for the program/project and timing for grant distribution.

Award Amount

- Grant request amount must be $100,000 and may not exceed that amount.
- If more than $100,000 is needed, the portion to be funded by Impact 100 Martin must be clearly defined.
Eligibility Criteria

- Applicant must be incorporated and approved by the IRS as a 501(c)(3).
- Government entities, private foundations, and community foundations are not eligible to apply.
- Previous $100,000 grant recipients may not reapply for a period of 3 years.

Program/Project Proposal

- Grant application will be accepted for all fields of interest. While there are no restrictions on focus areas, each organization may only submit one proposal.
- Grant request can be made for a new program/project, expansion of an existing proven program, or collaborative effort between two or more organizations to address a broader spectrum of the community.
- Proposal should identify the opportunity for a significant, lasting change in one or more of the following areas: a service delivery model, the broader service delivery network, or a specific targeted critical problem or need in Martin County.
- Program/project may include funding of program expenses, capital expenditures/improvements, or a combination thereof. For a program/project involving capital expenditures or improvements, the applicant must own the property or have a long-term lease with a minimum of 5 years remaining as of July 1 of the Impact Award year.
- Applicant must demonstrate a meaningful and verifiable need for the program/project as well as its feasibility and sustainability. Outcomes should be quantifiable and measurable.
- Program/project may be phased (up to 3 years) for completion if necessary. Full amount of the grant must be used within 1-3 years.

Geographic Limitations

- Martin County only.
- Applicant does not have to be located in Martin County, but the proposed program/project must be used solely to have an impact in Martin County.

Prohibited Expenses

- A grant to an individual
- Pass through funds
- Partisan, legislative or political activities
- Projects of an individual church, religious organization for its own benefit
- Endowments
- Debt reduction
- Existing operating expenses
- Reimbursement for previous incurred expenses or completed projects
- Fundraising activities and/or events
- Salaries for fundraising or development positions
- Salaries of staff not specific to the proposed program/project
- Equipment not specific to proposed program/project
- Travel grants for agency employees
- Procurement of consumables (food and beverages)
- Land or building purchases
Helpful Hints for Submitting a Letter of Intent

- Pay attention to the length of your submission. There is a character limit for your answers. If you go over the character limit, the system will notify you by turning the characters that are over the limit red and your Letter of Intent cannot be submitted.
- Ensure your responses specifically answer each question. Avoid including extraneous information. Remember “less is best.”
- Avoid acronyms and jargon. If you must use an acronym, please identify it in the beginning of the Letter of Intent or application so the reviewer can easily understand your response(s).
- Avoid cutting and pasting any responses from other applications, but if you do, please make sure the application reads in one-voice. It should not read as if multiple parties contributed to the text.
- Before submitting, please reread and check for accuracy, adherence to guidelines, and spelling.

Grant Process Timeline

Wednesday, December 4, 2020 at 8:30am - Grants Workshop
Indian River State College - Chastain Center at the Wolf Center of Technology
2400 SE Salerno Road (34997)

Wednesday, January 8, 2020 - Letters of Intent due to Grant Committee

* Letters of Intent review by Grants Committee

Friday, January 24, 2020 - Invitations extended to organizations selected by Grants Committee to submit full applications

Friday, February 14, 2020 - Full applications due to Grants Committee

* Full applications review by Grants Committee

Weeks of March 9-17, 2020 - Grant applicants site visits

Friday, March 20, 2020 - Invitations to finalists to give presentations at Grant Awards Celebration

Thursday, April 2, 2020 - Grant Awards Celebration at Willoughby Golf Club at 9 A.M. / Full membership & finalists.
Frequently Asked Questions

Will start up or small organizations be considered?
Start up and small organizations will be considered if they meet all the criteria. They may want to consider collaborating with another nonprofit to have greater impact.

Will applications from unincorporated groups be considered?
No, unincorporated groups are not eligible to apply

Will multi-year funding requests be considered?
A program/project that utilizes the $100,000 grant over two or three years will be considered.

If an organization receives the $100,000 grant, when can the organization reapply?
Previous recipients must wait for three years before applying for a new grant, but they may partner with another organization who submits a grant.

May applicants submit multiple letters of intent? Specifically, may an organization apply as part of a collaboration and separately apply as an individual organization?
Each applicant organization may only submit one letter of intent, either as part of a collaborative effort or as an individual organization.

Do we need to show we have matching funds for a new program/project?
Matching funds will be viewed favorably but are not necessary.

May funds be used for equipment?
Yes, as long as the equipment is directly connected to the proposed program/project.

May funds be used for salaries?
Yes, as long as the salary is directly connected to the proposed program/project.

May funds be used to offset administrative costs? If yes, what is the acceptable percentage of the grant that may be used?
It is permissible to use up to 12% of the funds requested for costs related to administrative expenses (not salaries) directly connected to the proposed program / project.
Can an organization submit a program/project that was submitted in a previous year which did not receive the $100,000 Impact Grant?
Yes, a previously submitted program/project by an organization may be submitted again as long as it did not receive the Impact Grant. However, the organization should review the proposal to see if it can be improved upon.

What is collaboration?
Collaboration exists when two or more qualifying nonprofit organizations have the responsibility of managing and contributing to the proposed program / project in a significant manner and all organizations benefit financially from the grant. The organization that submits the LOI and application would serve as the lead fiscal agent. The other organization(s) will be asked to provide their organizational and financial information.

How do I know if the project has “high impact”?
Impact projects that influence our community can be achieved in a variety of ways:
- Enabling an organization to affect a large group of people.
- Changing the way an organization addresses its mission resulting in a fundamental shift in how it provides services to its stakeholders.
- Creating new collaborations with other organizations to address a broader spectrum of the community.
- Directly affecting a small group of people which results in significant change that will have wider implications for the group of people as well as the community.

Who should I call with questions about the LOI or the grant application?
All questions and concerns regarding the LOI, grant application, or Foundant should be directed to Robin Cartwright at The Community Foundation Martin - St. Lucie at Robin@tcfmsl.org or 772-288-3795.