



WOMEN'S FUND
OF CENTRAL INDIANA

 A CICF Fund

2016 GRANT GUIDELINES

Women's Fund of Central Indiana was established in 1996 as a permanent endowment whose income will support programs and organizations working to improve conditions and opportunities for women and girls in Central Indiana (including Boone, Hamilton, Hancock, Hendricks, Johnson, Marion, Morgan, and Shelby Counties). Women's Fund is a fund of the Central Indiana Community Foundation.

2016 FUNDING PRIORITIES

Women's Fund will consider program or operating support Letters of Intent from organizations which share our interest in improving conditions for women and girls.

It is important for applicants to know:

- **Women's Fund is particularly interested in funding programming in the following areas:**
 - Breaking negative cycles and moving to economic self-sufficiency (especially regarding poverty and domestic violence)
 - Programming for girls that is preventive and has a demonstrated impact
- **Letter of Intent for operating support** – Letters of Intent for operating support will be accepted only from organizations whose mission is to serve women and/or girls or from organizations for whom females constitute a significant majority of individuals served.
- **Letter of Intent for program support** – Women's Fund is interested only in gender-specific efforts, not just programs that happen to serve women and/or girls.

Women's Fund will support organizations and programs specifically designed to meet the needs of women and girls which demonstrate:

- Significant Impact
- Fiscal Responsibility
- Innovation/Creativity
- Collaboration
- Outreach to Traditionally Underserved Populations
- Potential for Matching Funds (this is a bonus, not an expectation)

Women's Fund **will not** consider funding for:

- Organizations not committed to gender equity
- Programs promoting religion, including proselytizing or religious training (see below)
- Fundraising activities (such as golf tournaments or galas)
- Political campaigns
- Individuals
- Organization-sponsored conferences or event sponsorships
- Organizations whose board of directors is composed of less than 50% women at the time of submission, unless the organization can provide a written and board-approved plan to reach at least 50% female board composition within the next 12 months.

Women's Fund believes spirituality is an important component in a woman or girl's self-development. It has been our experience that organized religion provides the traction and grounding for spiritual development. However, it is our policy not to fund programs promoting religion, including proselytizing or religious training. If your organization's mission statement is religious in nature, you must describe the role that religious mission has in the grant activities for which you are seeking Women's Fund support.

SUBMISSION INSTRUCTIONS

1. Organizations wishing to be considered for funding by Women's Fund of Central Indiana must submit a Letter of Intent to proposals@cicf.org by **Friday, April 22, 2016 at noon**. The Letter of Intent, which should not exceed two (2) pages, must contain the following information:
 - a. Organization name
 - b. Contact name, phone number and email
 - c. Organization website
 - d. Brief description of activity or program for which funding is sought (including the population to be served, the need for services and the number of women and/or girls to be served)
 - e. No more than three (3) outcomes that will be used to measure success
 - f. Estimated request to Women's Fund
 - g. Total cost of activity or program for which funding is sought
 - h. Attached one page board list which identifies female members (this does not count in the two page limit)
 - i. Attached board-approved plan to reach 50% female board membership (if applicable – this does not count in the two page limit)
2. Women's Fund Grants Committee will review Letters of Intent. Applicants will be notified by June 1, 2016 whether they will be invited to submit a full proposal. Invited full proposals will be **due Friday, July 8, 2016 at noon**.
3. If you are not a 501(c)(3) and plan to use a fiscal sponsor, please contact Julie Koegel at 317.293.7006 or juliek@cicf.org BEFORE submitting a Letter of Intent.
4. Organizations that received a Women's Fund grant in 2015 are NOT eligible to apply.
5. If after reviewing the guidelines you have questions about the submission process, please contact Grants Officer Julie Koegel at juliek@cicf.org.