



Positive Change Grants Guidelines and Information

Positive Change Grants are intended to support emerging community needs and projects that strengthen and improve the quality of life in Bartholomew County. This grant program is designed to support programs and initiatives that offer solutions for positive change for our community.

- No limit on the dollar amount of grant requests
- Multi-year grant requests are eligible
- Requests must be submitted by 5pm on March 1, June 1, September 1, or December 1
- Grants are awarded within 90 days of the grant submission deadline

Who May Apply?

Organizations classified as 501(c)(3) tax-exempt public charities by the Internal Revenue Service are eligible for grants. Public entities such as schools, municipalities, and libraries may also qualify. Organizations must be located in or provide services for the benefit of Bartholomew County.

The applying organization must be current on all grant reports due to Heritage Fund.

Organizations are eligible to receive a maximum of one grant per year through the Positive Change Grants Program. Organizations receiving a Positive Change Grant may still apply for an Opportunity Grant.

Grants will not be made:

- To individuals
- For events, performances, seminars or trips unless there are special circumstances which will benefit the community

- For individual school needs, unless approved in writing by the school administration
- To faith based organizations unless the project in question is not religious in nature, is not restricted based on faith, and involves no faith based proselytizing.

Eligible Requests

Heritage Fund will consider grants for the Positive Change Grants Program that meet the following guidelines:

- Are change oriented and provide a creative approach to address community issues
- Address community challenges, underserved populations and/or service gaps
- Provide a plan to improve the quality of life in our community and make a significant and measurable impact
- Demonstrate strong community support and capable organizational leadership
- Include a realistic project budget and organizational information that demonstrates fiscal health
- Create and support programs rather than provide operating support
- Utilize support from other community resources (government and other funders)
- Engage community residents through challenge/matching grants and volunteer efforts
- Have a plan for long term program sustainability

Who Reviews and Makes Decisions on Positive Change Grants?

Positive Change Grant requests are reviewed by the Grants Manager and members of the Grants Committee. Selected applicants will receive a site visit. Applicants can expect a response within 90 days of the submission deadline.

To Apply

Organizations applying for funding must submit a complete application and all requested documentation to be considered for a Positive Change Grant. See the attached application for details.

Applications can be submitted via mail, email or in person to:

Kyle Hendricks, Manager of Community Impact
Email: khendricks@heritagefundbc.org

Mail: Heritage Fund
538 Franklin Street
Columbus, IN 47201