West Concord
AREA FOUNDATION

an affiliate fund of Southern Minnesota Initiative Foundation

West Concord Area Foundation General Grants are designed to support a broad base of community/area nonprofit collaborative initiatives. Projects must demonstrate measurable results and advance the West Concord Area Foundation mission of supporting programs and projects to improve the quality of life for people of all ages and build a stronger community for current and future generations.

Grant Guidelines

- Proposals must be submitted by a 501(c)(3) organization, a unit of government or a public agency.
- Proposals must demonstrate benefit to the West Concord Minnesota community area.
- Funding requests up to $5,000 will be considered.
- Only one application per organization will be considered.
- Projects must be completed within one year of the grant award date.

Priority Considerations
West Concord Area Foundation will give priority consideration to applications which best demonstrate:

- Measurable results—projects that can show quantitative results in West Concord community focus areas
- Asset-based approaches—projects that maximize the strengths, talents, and resources of the local community
- Collaboration/partnership—projects that work with other organizations in unique and effective ways
- Sustainability of local or other funding stream projects that have solid plans for continuation outside of West Concord Area Foundation funding
- Effectiveness—projects that effectively address an identified need and/or opportunity
- Impact—projects that demonstrate an overall impact within West Concord Area Foundation region

Exclusions

Ineligible organizations or activities include:

- Individuals, businesses, or other for-profit organizations
- General operating expenses and expenses not directly related to the project/program

- Capital funding, fixed assets, campaigns or endowments
- Existing deficits
- Programs or services mandated by law
- Projects/programs already in progress or completed
- Funds for re-granting or establishing loan pools
- Strategic planning without tangible outcomes within the 12-month timeframe
- Organizations that have an “open” cash grant with the West Concord Area Foundation or have not satisfied a grant obligation within the past 12 months
- Development or purchase of school curriculum without tangible outcomes within the 12-month timeframe
- Feasibility studies without tangible outcomes within the 12-month timeframe
- Research projects or school-related internships
- Routine city, county, or township planning or zoning

Required Documents

- Completed application
- IRS 501(c)(3) determination letter (if nonprofit organization)

Questions

West Concord Area Foundation, PO Box 54, West Concord, MN 55985
Email: WCAFoundation@smifoundation.org

Timeline

- Release of application: August 3, 2026
- Application deadline: October 2, 2026
- Grant awards determined and announced: October 24, 2026

Applications are due October 2, 2026, by 5:00 pm. Email application to WCAFoundation@smifoundation.org or send application via mail to:

West Concord Area Foundation
Attn: Grants Coordinator
PO Box 54

West Concord, MN 55985

All applicants will be contacted via email or telephone to confirm receipt of their application.

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Grant Application

Applicant

Organization:_____Application Date:_____

Address: _____

Phone: _____ Email: _____

Contact Person:_____

Organization Type: Please check all that apply

__501(c)(3) – include copy of IRS Determination Letter

__Unit of Government

__Fiscal Agent for _____
(name of organization)

Project Description

Project Title:_____

Total Project Cost: $_____ Amount of Request: $_____

Project Start Date:_____

Description of Project: (referencing outside resources, materials, and research that may support your project)

_____

_____

_____

_____

Other Contributors to the Project, i.e.: donations, cash, in-kind, etc.

_____

_____

_____

_____

Describe your status in securing other funds for this project if necessary.

_____

_____

_____

_____

Provide an impact statement supporting the benefit the project will have on the West Concord Community or surrounding area. How does your project address the community area needs?

_____

_____

_____

_____

Provide a description of the population directly served by your request and who will benefit.

_____

_____

_____

Provide a brief history of the applicant organization along with current board members.

_____

_____

_____

_____

Describe the project outcomes you wish to achieve and how you plan to keep record of the achievements.

_____

_____

_____

_____

Submit a budget that lists all proposed expenditures for the project and all revenue needed for the project, noting where funds have been secured or requested.

_____

_____

_____

_____

I agree to comply with the grant application requirements and criteria as follows:

1) The applicant will spend funds solely for the purposes stated in the application. The applicant will refund any dollars that are used outside of this purpose. In addition, the applicant will submit a final report, within one year, in a format provided by WCAF, including a financial statement documenting the expenditure of grant funds.

2) The applicant will recognize the West Concord Area Foundation (WCAF) in all appropriate publicity connected to the program or project.

3) The applicant understands all grant applications are subject to final review and approval by the Southeast Minnesota Initiative Fund (SMIF) and may be modified as deemed necessary by the WCAF.

4) The applicant understands that by submitting this application to the WCAF for review, a grant is not guaranteed.

I certify the information contained is accurate to the best of my knowledge and have the authority to apply for the funds requested.

_____

Authorized Signature Date

Title:_____

Grant application and any supporting documents can be mailed, emailed or hand delivered as follows:

Mail: West Concord Area Foundation
Attn: Grant Application
PO Box 54
West Concord, MN 55985

Email: WCAFoundation@smifoundation.org

Questions on this application:
Please send email to address above and we will give you a call.

West Concord Area Foundation Mission Statement:

To serve West Concord and neighboring townships by supporting programs and projects to improve the quality of life for people of all ages and build a stronger community for current and future generations.