



Community Enrichment Fund

Grants for supportive groups improving the quality of LGBT community life in Wisconsin

Established in 1996 in an effort to coordinate fund-raising for the betterment of the lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgendered (LGBT) community in central, eastern and northeastern Wisconsin, Rainbow Over Wisconsin, Inc. (ROW) has, as of 2004, distributed over \$60,000 in grants to nearly two dozen LGBT member and LGBT supportive organizations throughout the state of Wisconsin through its Community Enrichment Fund.

For the calendar year of 2005, ROW will make grants available for work on specific projects developed by groups that will enhance the quality of life for LGBT community members. Some examples of anticipated ROW Community Enrichment Fund projects are: educational seminars and similar programs on LGBT issues, outreach programs to reduce health risks, programs to provide emergency housing or other financial assistance to eligible community members, etc.

Criteria for Community Enrichment Fund Grants:

1. Community Enrichment Funds are available to established organizations whose mission has a primary or significant focus for the betterment of the LGBT community and whose service area includes central, eastern and/or northeastern Wisconsin. Statewide organizations are welcome to submit grant proposals for projects that directly involve, impact or otherwise beneficially affect LGBT communities in central, eastern or northeastern Wisconsin. Because ROW Community Enrichment Fund grants are project-focused, they are not available for conference attendance and general operating expenses.
2. Communities of interest who lack membership organizations operating in their interest within ROW's Community Enrichment Fund service area may also submit project proposals which request one-time funding to establish and promote such organizations. Establishment/promotion grants may be on a matching fund basis and may require documentation of existing funds as part of the grant request.
3. ROW's 501 (c) 3 non-profit status requires that all Community Enrichment Fund grants be granted to similar non-profit, educational or social projects. Community enrichment Fund grants are not available to political parties, 501 (c) 4 non-profit

organizations, political action committees of other non-profit groups, or for direct lobbying by any group.

4. Applications for Community Enrichment Fund grants will be accepted on an on-going basis. However, groups are requested to submit proposals that allow for a minimum of 90 days review time prior to the awarding of a grant. Organizations considering a grant request are encouraged to discuss their proposed project with members of grant review committee prior to submission.
5. Total amounts of grants are subject to amount of demand on the Community enrichment Fund and the overall availability of funds. Community Enrichment Funds will be awarded at the sole discretion of Rainbow Over Wisconsin, based on the recommendations of its grant review committee. Should grant proposals necessitate choices among competing proposals, ROW will prioritize those projects that appear to be the most viable. ROW also reserves the right to modify or cancel the Community Enrichment Fund grant program at any time.

Community Enrichment Fund Application Instructions:

Each grant proposal shall include the following:

- a. Cover letter on organizational letterhead or letter stating organization's name and address, and name of person submitting grant proposal.
- b. Name of lead contact person for project and their title, along with contact information for lead person which should include phone number, mailing address and best times to reach individual personally. Contact information also may include fax and/or cellular phone numbers, email address(es) or other means of contact.
- c. A brief background summary about the organization requesting the grant, including the group's mission statement, a brief history of the group and its recent projects.
- d. A completed copy of the ROW Community Enrichment Fund application, which will request the exact amount requested, and the total project budget, including non-ROW funding;
- e. A project summary, which will include a statement of project objectives, a project timeline, and planned means to monitor project's progress and to evaluate project's success.

Consideration on applications that are received incomplete will be delayed until all required information is actually received.

Organizations submitting grant proposals agree to submit a final report upon the completion of the project for which Community Enrichment Funds are granted. The report will detail the partial or complete success or failure of the project, using the evaluation means submitted in the grant proposal, or an explanation of alternate means devised and utilized if originally submitted means proved ineffective to judge project's success. The report shall be considered due no later than three months following the completion of the project, or, in the case of ongoing programs, within three months of the first anniversary of the ROW grant appropriate to the project.

Organizations also agree to coordinate publicity surrounding the awarding of Community Enrichment Fund grants with Rainbow Over Wisconsin, Inc. and include statement of ROW Community Enrichment Fund involvement in all publicity surrounding the project for which funds are granted.