



# ***Community Enrichment Fund***

## ***2012 Grant Prospectus***

### ***Grants improving the quality of LGBT community life***

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 the end of 2010, distributed approximately \$149,000 in grants to over two dozen LGBT member and LGBT supportive organizations throughout the state of Wisconsin through its Community Enrichment Fund (CEF) and other projects.

For the calendar year of 2012, ROW will make CEF grants available for work on specific projects developed by groups that will enhance the quality of life for LGBT community members in the ROW Service area. Some examples of anticipated ROW Community Enrichment Fund projects are: educational seminars and similar programs on LGBT issues, educational and cultural events, community networking and development projects, 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**

### **Criteria For Established Organizations**

Community Enrichment Funds are available to established organizations whose mission has a primary or significant focus for the betterment of the LGBT community. Funds are available for projects, programs or initiatives conducted in the ROW service area, which includes the central, eastern and northeastern Wisconsin counties of Brown, Calumet, Door, Fond Du Lac, Kewaunee, Langlade, Manitowoc, Marathon, Marinette, Menominee, Oconto, Outagamie, Shawano, Sheboygan, Waupaca, Winnebago and Wood.

Statewide organizations are welcome to submit grant proposals for projects that directly involve, impact and occur in the LGBT communities in ROW's service area as defined above.

Because ROW Community Enrichment Fund grants are project-focused, they not available for conference attendance and general operating expenses.

Projects also must be reasonably accessible to interested members of the LGBT and allied communities beyond the sponsoring groups' immediate membership to be grant eligible.

### **Criteria For Community Interest Start-Up Groups**

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.

### **Not For Profit Requirement**

ROW's 501 (c) 3 nonprofit status requires that all Community Enrichment Fund money be granted to similar nonprofit, educational or social projects. Groups that are not recognized as 501 (c) 3 entities must present organizational documents that verify their nonprofit educational and social missions as part of their grant request. Groups may be required to establish fiscal agency through a recognized 501 (c) 3 entity operating in ROW's service area in order for a grant to be awarded. Community Enrichment Fund grants are not available to political parties, 501 (c) 4 nonprofit organizations, political action committees of other nonprofit groups, or for direct lobbying by any group.

### **Grant Application Time Frame**

The grant year for 2012 will begin on January 10 and end on November 5. Applications for Community Enrichment Fund grants will be accepted on an ongoing basis during this period. 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.

### **Availability Of Grant Funds**

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.

### **Other Considerations**

Should grant proposals necessitate choices among competing proposals, ROW will prioritize those projects that appear to be the most viable or address the most critical community needs.

ROW also reserves the right to modify, suspend 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 should 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. Communities of interest should summarize their needs and any attempts to address them.
- 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 time line, and planned means to monitor project's progress and to evaluate project's success.

### **Grant Review Criteria**

Cost efficiency of all grant requests will be reviewed. Grants for post-project cost overruns or shortages will not be considered.

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

### **Responsibilities Of Grant Award Recipients**

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