



FREEPORT  
COMMUNITY  
FOUNDATION

# Fall 2019 Grant Seekers Presentation

# Freeport Community Foundation

- ▶ Founded in 1975 – Freeport Community Trust
- ▶ Evolved from Trust to a Non-Profit Corporation
- ▶ Name Changed to Freeport Community Foundation in 2002
  - ▶ **Our Mission:** To help provide for the well-being of the citizens of northwest Illinois by accumulating assets in the form of permanent funds and prudently distributing income from those funds to charitable organizations.
  - ▶ **Our Vision:** To Improve the Quality of Life for Everyone
  - ▶ **We Serve:** Residents of Stephenson, Jo Daviess, and Carroll counties
  - ▶ **We Grant To:** Non-Profit Organization with 501(c)3 status and in good standing that serve the residents of Stephenson, Jo Daviess, and Carroll counties.
- ▶ **Significant Growth In Last Decade**
  - ▶ **Awarded over \$850,000 in grant funding since 2009**, supporting over 270 different grants, all with projects and programs benefiting residents of northwest Illinois
  - ▶ **2018 record-setting \$189,324** in grants awarded to over 30 agencies
  - ▶ **2019 poised to break previous record and break \$200,000 mark in grant distribution**
  - ▶ **We Serve:** Residents of Stephenson, Jo Daviess, and Carroll counties
- ▶ Looking Forward ... **An Improved Quality of Life for Everyone** ... Evolving the FCF to better meet the growing needs and challenges of our region.



# What We Do ...

## The Incoming Side ...

- **Community Needs / Marvin Unrestricted Fund**
  - Our largest pool of funds, with unrestricted giving
  - Supports Annual Spring/Fall Grant Cycles
- **Additional FCF Established Funds**
  - The John M. Drogosz Youth Substance Abuse Prevention/Treatment Memorial Fund
  - Luthin Family Endowment Fund
  - Dan and Nancy Schmitt Family Fund
  - Ian Murphy-Mitchard Fund for Music & Arts
  - Northwest Illinois-Southwest Wisconsin Fund for Community Development

## The Outgoing Side ...

- **Four Annual Grant Cycles**
  - Community Needs / Marvin Unrestricted Fund (Late Winter / Late Summer)
  - Youth Advisory Council Grant Cycle (Winter)
  - John M. Drogosz Youth Substance Abuse, Prevention/Treatment Memorial Fund (Early Summer)

- RC Miller Agriculture and Land Conservation Fund
- Jeanette Lloyd Memorial Scholarship Fund
- Freeport Area Church Cooperative (FACC) Permanent Endowment Fund
- United Way of Northwest Illinois Endowment Fund
- VOICES Sexual Assault and Prevention Fund
- RAMP Organization Endowment Fund

### ➤ **Donor Advised Grants**

- Distributed Annually
- Per Donor Discretion

### ➤ **Matt Marvin Volunteer of the Year Award**

- Winning Individual / Organization Receives \$1,000 monetary award
- Awarded monies directed to Award Recipient's Charity of Choice (within FCF service area)





To Improve the Quality of Life for Everyone

# Fall 2019 Grant Cycle

Accepting Applications Through 4 p.m., Tuesday, August 27

Enter *EVERYTHING* Online at [www.freeportcommunityfoundation.org](http://www.freeportcommunityfoundation.org)

## Items of Note – Financials

- ▶ **For EVERYONE -- REQUIRED:** Most recent 990 or 990-PF documentation
- ▶ **For AUDITED Organizations -- REQUIRED:** MUST attach most recent audited financial statements
- ▶ **For UNAUDITED Organizations -- REQUIRED:** MUST attach current 1) Income Statement; 2) Balance Sheet; 3) Cash Flow Statement
- ▶ **Proposed Purchase Quotes -- REQUIRED**
  - ▶ For Materials, Equipment, and Supplies Needed for Project Implementation
  - ▶ Required for any significant purchase
  - ▶ Over \$1,000 – Multiple (2 okay, 3 better) comparison quotes



To Improve the Quality of Life for Everyone

# Fall 2019 Grant Cycle

## Items of Note – Grant Narrative

- ▶ Identify A Specific Need
- ▶ Describe and Detail HOW Your Project will Meet Identified Need
- ▶ Explain Why Your Organization is Best Equipped to Implement Project and Meet Need
- ▶ Explain the Big Picture – How will the fulfillment of this project meet the FCF’s Vision of an improved quality of life for everyone?
- ▶ Be Specific in Your Narrative – Remember, You Are Selling by Telling a Story
  - ▶ GOOD – “This project will help a lot of middle-schoolers in our area.”
  - ▶ BETTER – “This project will benefit all eighth graders attending Freeport Public Schools.”
  - ▶ IDEAL – “This project will directly benefit, through implementation of the outlined program, all eighth graders attending Freeport Public Schools. Furthermore, based on the program’s track record at other districts, we anticipate a ripple effect through seventh and sixth grade classes that share classrooms/buildings with eighth grade classes. Additionally, this program could be easily replicated by other districts throughout Stephenson county, thereby deepening its overall positive impact.”



To Improve the Quality of Life for Everyone

# Fall 2019 Grant Cycle

## Items of Note – Additional Details & Requirements

### ▶ Letters of Recommendation

- ▶ At least one (1) required
- ▶ May include up to three (3)
- ▶ Letters of Rec from Staff or Board Members NOT Accepted

### ▶ Board of Directors Roster

- ▶ Required
- ▶ Include Names and Community Business Affiliations
  - ▶ Don Jones, CPA at Jones Accounting, Freeport
  - ▶ Mary Smith, EdD, Retired Educator, Stockton

### ▶ Project Budget – Make sure your numbers added up and match throughout application.

### ▶ Project Timeline

- ▶ Project cannot start before grant distribution date (10.24.19 for Fall 2019 grants)
- ▶ Try to keep project to one calendar year or less, if possible

### ▶ Logging Into the System – Contact us with issues

### ▶ Check, double-check, triple-check application's SPELLING, GRAMMAR, AND MATH!

*Ya, we know ...  
We meant to do that  
... HA! HA!*

# Timeline

- **Tuesday, Aug. 27 – Grant Applications Due by 4 p.m.**
- **Tuesday, Sept. 10 – Grants Selection Committee Meets**
- **Thursday, Sept. 12 – Matt Marvin Award Nominations Due**
- **Thursday, Sept. 19 – FCF Board of Director’s Meeting – Fall Grant Awards**
- **Week of Monday, Sept. 23 – Notification re: Fall 2019 Grant Applications**
  - ALL APPLICANTS NOTIFIED VIA TRADITIONAL MAIL AND EMAIL
  - Grant Recipients will receive follow-up call re: Grant Agreement requirements
  - Others encouraged to contact FCF Office
    - Notification letters will include reasons for declination
    - Encourage all those receiving Letter of Declination to re-group and re-apply in Spring 2020
- **Thursday, Oct. 24 – Annual Donor & Fall Grants Reception**
  - 5:30 – 7:30 p.m. at Eagles Club
    - All Grant Recipients, Board Members and Regional Non-Profits Invited to Attend
    - Please RSVP to either [ofcmanager@freeportcommunityfoundation.org](mailto:ofcmanager@freeportcommunityfoundation.org) or by phone at (815) 801-3035
  - 2019 Matt Marvin Award Announced
- **TBD November 2019 – Winter Grant Seekers Meeting**
  - 2020 FCF Grant Award Opportunities
  - 2020 FCF Grant Education Opportunities



# CONTACT US, ANYTIME ...

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Executive Director

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**Cindy Carter**

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**Office Hours**

Monday ... 9 am – 4:30 pm

Tuesday ... 9 am – 4:30 pm

Wednesday ... CLOSED

Thursday ... 9 am – 4:30 pm

Friday ... 9 am – 1:30 pm



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