

HARDIN COUNTY COMMUNITY ENDOWMENT FOUNDATION 2012 GRANT GUIDELINES

Application deadline: February 3, 2012

For the seventh year, we are pleased to offer a **Hardin County Community Endowment Foundation** (HCCEF) Grant Application. This form seeks to make the application process simple and straight-forward for non-profits. Hard copies may be obtained at your local city hall or by contacting the Hardin County Extension Service at 641-648-4850. You may also download a copy from the Hardin County ISU Extension website at www.extension.iastate.edu/hardin/ or the HCCEF website at www.donateiowa.org/hardin.

The **Hardin County Community Endowment Foundation** was formed in 2005 to foster private giving, to strengthen service providers, and to improve the quality of life for citizens throughout Hardin County.

HCCEF promotes endowment building, community grant making, organizational collaboration, and public leadership for the benefit of the Hardin County area. Foundation board members strive to assess community needs, develop assets, evaluate area grant applications, encourage partnerships, and initiate activities to enhance Hardin County.

Each year HCCEF makes grant awards in these seven areas of our mission:

**Arts & Culture *Community Betterment *Education *Health & Human Services
*Recreation & Environment *Youth Development
Economic Development & Entrepreneurship

The **Hardin County Community Endowment Foundation** makes grants to IRS 501(c) (3) tax exempt organizations, 170(b) units of government organizations, and/or other charitable groups to fulfill the Foundation's mission of supporting worthwhile, innovative projects and programs. Grant amounts are dependent upon the allocation of funds available to HCCEF each fiscal year.

- The maximum grant is \$10,000, not to exceed 50% of total project cost.
- Grant requests may be wholly or partially funded.
- We fund projects that address significant community issues; present innovative, creative, and practical proposals which build on community strengths; develop the leadership potential of the community; involve local people in the planning and implementation of the program; provide a plan for sustainability beyond the funding period; and promote capital projects that impact a significant number of county residents.

(PLEASE TURN OVER)

- Projects funded should not duplicate initiatives already undertaken by other non-profit agencies.
- We do not give multiple grants to the same organization in the same year or give grants to organizations that have HCCEF grants that are not fully completed.
- We do not fund the same projects year after year; current operating expenses; annual and capital campaigns; budget deficits; reduction of debt; completed projects; endowments; individuals; grants to religious organizations (this does not exclude grants to religious organizations for non-religious purposes). We also do not fund projects for memorials, statues, and plaques.
- If awarded a grant, the project must be completed within 9 months of receiving grant money, unless written permission for an extension has been allowed.
- Fifteen copies of your completed application must be delivered either to the Hardin County Auditor's Office at the courthouse in Eldora, or the Hardin County Extension Service Office in Iowa Falls by 4:00 p.m. on Friday, February 3, 2012 **OR** mailed to **Hardin County Community Endowment Foundation, Box 2, Eldora, IA 50627**, and postmarked no later than Friday, February 3.

**Applications submitted after the February 3rd deadline
will not be considered for this year's grant cycle.**

Grants will be reviewed based on the following criteria:

- benefit to residents in Hardin County -- with special attention given to projects that apply to a broad segment of the population
- the intrinsic merit of the project for meeting priority community needs
- number of residents who will be affected
- completeness of application -- with attention to clarity and measurability of the project's goals
- collaborative relationships

If you have any questions, please call Grant Chair Kristi Harris of Iowa Falls at 641-648-3475 or e-mail at kjmharris@msn.com.

NOTE: A grant workshop will be held **Tuesday, January 3rd** at the Hardin County Extension Office in Iowa Falls at 6:30 p.m. and **Thursday, January 5th**, at the Eldora Public Library at 6:30 p.m. All non-profit organizations interested in submitting a grant application to HCCEF are invited to attend one of these meetings. At the end of the meeting, participants may visit individually with an HCCEF board member about their organization's specific grant proposal.