

Ralph C. Wilson, Jr. Legacy Funds at the Community Foundation for Southeast Michigan

2018 Grantmaking Guidelines

Key Facts

Caregivers Fund:

The current goal of this Fund is to improve support for caregivers – whether paid or voluntary – through efforts that provide needed skills, resources, education and respite. Caregivers are those who look after dependent individuals such as children with special needs, disabled adults and older adults who require caregiving. Projects supported through this fund should have a direct impact on caregivers. In addition, the Fund will consider grants to programs that provide emotional care and supportive services to cancer patients as well as their caregivers.

Design & Access Fund:

Support from this Fund will be considered for pre-planning, development and /or construction costs of projects related to increasing the walkability and bikeability of local communities and/or increasing outdoor recreational activities within the region. This purpose aims to increase the health and quality of life of local residents of all ages. Waterways and greenways as well as recreation corridors are of interest. It is a preference, but not requirement that the projects:

- Incorporate green design, to be environmentally sustainable, and
- Incorporate universal access design, to best serve people of all abilities

Large sports facilities are not of interest to this fund. Playgrounds are only of interest if they utilize universal access design and are connected to larger recreation corridors within and between communities.

Youth Sports Fund:

Support from this Fund will provide opportunities for all children to be active through sport. Requests must address one of the following objectives:

1. Ask kids what they want
2. Reintroduce free play
3. Encourage sports sampling
4. Revitalize in-town leagues
5. Think small
6. Design for development
7. Train all coaches
8. Emphasize prevention

These objectives all link to the goals identified in the “State of Play Southeast Michigan” report, which can be found at this [link](#).

Grosse Pointe Community Assets Fund:

This remains a broad yet competitive fund which supports projects of anchor nonprofit organizations that provide services and experiences to residents of the 5 Grosse Pointe communities, home to Mr. Wilson during his lifetime.

Key Facts

- Individual grants from each of the funds will typically range between \$10,000 – \$25,000. Grants from the Access and Design Fund may be up to \$50,000.
- Most grants will be for a 12-month period. However, applicants may identify other time frames that would be more beneficial to spend the grant over. For example, if it is more beneficial to the proposed project to spread the grant over an 18- or 24-month period, please simply state that in the application.
- Projects that are innovative and fill critical community needs will be given the highest priority.
- Low priority is given to requests for ongoing operational costs, capital campaigns, annual fund drives, conferences or other one-time events.
- Requests may be for programming and/or capital costs. For Youth Sports, this may also include equipment requests. For Caregivers, this may also include medical equipment as a piece of a larger project scope.

Who May Apply

Any 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization, school or government in southeast Michigan may apply for a grant from the Caregiving Fund, the Design & Access Fund, or the Youth Sports Fund. Southeast Michigan is defined as the 7 counties of Wayne, Oakland, Macomb, Monroe, Washtenaw, St. Clair and Livingston.

Any 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization, school or government located in the 5 Grosse Pointe communities of Michigan, defined as the City of Grosse Pointe, Grosse Pointe Farms, Grosse Pointe Park, Grosse Pointe Shores and Grosse Pointe Woods, may apply for a grant from the Grosse Pointe Community Assets Fund. In rare circumstances, organizations not located within the Grosse Pointes but serving their residents may also be considered.

No grants will be made to individuals.

Frequently Asked Questions

1. What size grant can I request?

Grant requests should range from \$10,000 – \$25,000 for Caregivers, Youth Sports and Grosse Pointe Community Assets. Grant requests should range from \$10,000 – \$50,000 for Design and Access.

2. How do I apply?

We will begin accepting applications on October 16, 2017 Applications are due by **11:59 p.m. on January 8, 2018**. Applications are only accepted online, following steps at <https://cfsem.org/fund/ralph-c-wilson-jr-funds/>

3. When are funds available?

Awards from the 2018 cycle will be distributed after May 31, 2018 for projects that begin and end during the time period of June 1, 2018 – May 31, 2019. While grants are generally for 12 months, we can be flexible and allow for a slightly longer time period when it makes sense.

4. Will the Fund consider a multi-year request?

No, multi-year grant requests will not be considered.

5. Are municipalities eligible to apply for funding?

Yes, 501(c)(3) nonprofit organizations, schools and any government entities are eligible to apply.

6. Will requests outside of the Foundation's areas of interest be considered?

No.

7. May I submit more than one application to the Community Foundation for the Ralph C. Wilson, Jr. Legacy Funds?

Organizations are limited to one application per funding category, but can apply to multiple funding categories

8. If I received a grant previously from this fund, can I apply again in a successive year?

Organizations can absolutely apply again to the same fund in successive years. However, please note that there is no guarantee of funding from year to year. Each year, each new group of applications will be considered on their own merits and the most competitive applications will be funded.

9. Can my organization apply for a grant from this fund at the Community Foundation and for funding from the Ralph C. Wilson, Jr. Foundation?

Yes. The purposes of the two funding pools are slightly different. The Ralph C. Wilson, Jr. Legacy Funds at the Community Foundation for Southeast Michigan were established as an endowment to honor Ralph C. Wilson, Jr.'s legacy in perpetuity. The grants made from these funds are distinct from the grants made by the Ralph C. Wilson, Jr. Foundation directly.

In most cases, the Legacy Funds support localized projects for which a small grant can make all the difference.

The Ralph C. Wilson, Jr. Foundation aims to support larger initiatives with broad impact and reach with its grantmaking. More information about their grantmaking can be found at: <http://www.ralphwilsonjrfoundation.org/>.