

## **WELCOME GRANT APPLICANTS**

The Exchange Club of Charleston AIMS Committee is pleased to announce the release of its 2020 Grant Guidelines for applicants interested in requesting support for programs/projects that align with the Committee's specific Areas of Interest. Please review these guidelines carefully before submitting a grant proposal.

## **ELIGIBILITY CRITERIA AND REQUIREMENTS**

Organizations that meet the following criteria are eligible to apply:

- The applicant organization must be a nonprofit 501(c) (3), tax-exempt organization, or have a 501(c) (3), tax-exempt organization that serves as the authorized umbrella entity for the supported organization.
- The applicant organization must provide or plan to provide programs/services that benefit the Tri-County and surrounding areas of Berkeley, Charleston and Dorchester Counties. The applicant organization does not need to be located in the Tri-County, but the applicant organization must demonstrate that it provides or plans to provide services that directly benefit the Tri-County.
- The applicant organization must have the demonstrated capacity to carry out the program work funded by the grant and to maintain fiscal accountability.

In general, the Committee does not give grants to:

- For profit organizations
- Projects that do not substantially benefit the Tri-County area
- Projects and proposals unrelated to the COMMITTEE's Areas of Interest for Funding
- Endowments, building campaigns, annual fund appeals, fundraising events
- Commercial ventures
- Political Campaigns
- Individuals

## **FUNDS AVAILABLE AND DURATION**

The Exchange Club of Charleston AIMS COMMITTEE grants will be awarded in June 2020 to fund projects that will take place in FY 2020-21. Due to limited resources, applicants can apply for only one grant per year, and multi-year grant requests will not be considered. Those who are awarded funding in a given year may apply again the following year.

The number of grants and the amounts awarded are tied directly to the Exchange Club of Charleston's fundraising efforts on an annual basis and can vary from year to year. The club's COMMITTEE will review grant proposals in the spring of each year through

an objective process designed to identify proposals that most closely align with our grant guidelines.

Recommendations are then forwarded to the Board of Directors for review. Approved grants are distributed in June. If your organization is approved for funding, we require that you recognize the Exchange Club of Charleston, SC on your website, social media and/or advertising, and attend our Community Service Celebration to receive your check distribution.

The COMMITTEE will not be able to fund all requests submitted in response to this Request for proposals – only those projects that most strongly meet the identified program goals above will receive support within budgetary limitations.

### **TYPES OF SUPPORT**

The COMMITTEE prefers to provide program of service and community project support and does not generally provide core operating or capital grants requests. Exceptions may include this type of support as part of a specific project or program.

### **HOW TO APPLY**

Eligible organizations should download PDF application forms. ALL forms make up your grant proposal and are required for submission.