***Frequently Asked Questions***

**What is your funding policy?**

The board does have a budget for awards with each grant cycle. The number of applications and the amount of grant dollars requested does vary from cycle to cycle. Generally, there is competition within awards due to the overall amounts requested exceed dollars to be awarded. A proven need needs to be demonstrated. The board looks at the quality of your request. Typically, a higher priority is given to equipment or capital expenditures. Generally, the foundation does not fund normal operational items, supplies, consumables, salaries, administrative or overhead items. Also, the foundation likes to see matching dollars, a partner of your funding from other sources, or from your own cash reserves. Your organization’s history and financial stability are also considered. Another criteria is what the board feels would be the overall impact of the foundation’s dollars. The foundation does not fund any type of endowment funds. And the board also tries to honor what were Mrs. Reeves philanthropic ideals.

For macular degeneration requests the scientific potential is evaluated. Direct research expenditures are appropriate for macular degeneration requests.

**Who is considered a local community organization?**

The focus is on Columbus, IN organizations or those directly serving the immediate area in the city or in Bartholomew County.

**Who is considered for macular degeneration research grants?**

Normally the focus is on research facilities of various universities and medical centers throughout the United States.

**What are your typical funding levels?**

Grants may range from $2500 to $125,000. The average is around $25,000. Macular degeneration research grants are usually higher than local community organizations requests.

**Do you accept requests for multiyear grants?**

Normally, multiyear requests are not funded. An exception would be an award for a building project or a long term project that is payable over several years.

**Can more than one request be received from the same organization?** Yes, however, please realize that each year the budget of grants to be awarded and number of requests vary. So please keep in mind that you are in essence “competing” against yourself. If you have multiple requests, providing a priority of those items would be appreciated.

**Can you submit an application multiple years?**

Similarly, your organization can apply for a grant each year and receive awards in multiple years.

**How should the grant application be completed?**

Applications and required documentation are now submitted electronically. Please refer to the annual mailing to remind organizations of the upcoming grant application cycle for the most current info.

Applications can be found on the foundation’s website. When you name your attachments of your application, please label your attachments so they can be easily identified as to your organization.

The volunteer board that reviews macular degeneration requests is comprised of both layman and physicians; writing your request in both laymen and scientific terms would be appropriate.

**Can you explain more about the application submission process?**

Two applications can be found on our website. There is one version if you are a local organization and a different one if you are involved with macular degenerations research. Local community organizations are due before May 15 and macular degeneration are due before September 1.

**What happens if the due date falls on a non business day?**

Extensions are not given for reports and applications to be received. These due dates are consistent year to year; therefore, there should be no surprises. Hopefully, you can plan accordingly. We feel this is most equitable for all involved.

**How will I be notified of the board’s decision?**

All requests will receive a letter notifying the organization of the board’s decision. The board’s goal is for a local community organization to receive a letter by the end of July and macular degeneration research study by the end of December. Please be aware the actual date your letter may be received slightly different than these target dates due to varying times of our semi-annual meetings.

**Do you have flexibility in your grant period?**

The grants are typically for what is consider a year for the foundation; although, due to timing of notification and the cut off periods for the semi- annual meetings it is typically for prospective expenditures in the next nine or ten month period. Your grant award letter will list a specific date range. The foundation does consider requests for extensions of time, up to one year. These requests must be in writing (by letter or email), timely received before your grant expiration, and will be voted upon by the board or approved by its representative. Extensions are not automatic.

More latitude for extension requests is given to macular degenerations research grants since they typically have a longer time line from funding to completion.

**When can I expect my funding?**

The foundation only provides funding upon proof of your actual expenditures, i.e., invoice or purchase order. Also, construction should be completed or equipment should be placed in service and be operational. Your award is funding any unmet need and the board does not allow leveraging of the same equipment or items from multiple sources. If your actual expenditures are more than the amount requested, the board will not exceed the original grant reward. The foundation would hope you look for the best “value” and are good stewards of your grant award. This may lead to less than the original grant being funded. Any unspent grant award is forfeited. Please submit your request for reimbursement or funding by providing a copy of the purchase order and/or invoice for items funded. Also, an excel workpaper to track the detailed budget and cumulative requests is required.

The board asks that you email ([nunnmaryann@gmail.com](mailto:nunnmaryann@gmail.com)) your funding request or you can mail your funding request (one set) to the foundation’s address of: 346 Harbor Bluff Dr., Fenton, MO 63026-7517. Please use the mail if your request is voluminous. Generally, you will receive a check within a few weeks.

**What are your other reporting requirements after your grant is funded?**

Please provide a progress or stewardship report, i.e., a summary of the impact of the grant previously awarded to your organization by the due date of applications for the following year, i.e., local community organizations before May 15 and macular degeneration before September 1. The board looks forward to hearing about the success of your organization and the impact of the dollars awarded.

**What is your preferred method of contact?**

Please e mail the foundation’s contact person at: [nunnmaryann@gmail.com](mailto:nunnmaryann@gmail.com) if you have any questions. Or call 812-343-1787. Please keep in mind that this is a small foundation. The foundation is comprised of volunteers, meets twice a year, and its office is at the home of Mary Ann Nunn.

June 2023