



Morris Rotary Club

"World's First Small Town Rotary Club"

Community Service Committee

Mission Statement

The Morris Rotary Club community service committee is the recipient of all requests for funding to local organizations and individuals. The committee evaluates all requests for financial support and makes formal recommendations to the Board of the Morris Rotary Club for authorization to distribute funds. Local funds are used to improve the quality of life in the greater Morris area and for certain individuals who have needs that coincide with the overall goals and objectives of Rotary International and the Morris Rotary club.

Guidelines

1. The committee looks to support:
 - a. Organizations that support the development of youth and the necessary skills needed to help them become productive adults.
 - b. Organizations that are directed toward helping the socially or economic disadvantaged become more self-sufficient.
 - c. Organizations who are not supported by large foundations or have their own significant fundraising efforts.
 - d. Pilot programs or start-up situations where a small contribution can make an impact.
 - e. Individuals who have needs that are in keeping with the current missions of Rotary, such as Polio Plus and Education.
 - f. Programs that serve the community of Morris.
2. The Committee has approximately \$15,000 per year to distribute. The grants range from several hundred dollars to \$3,000 dollars. Occasionally the Club does specific fundraising events that can bring significantly higher sums to a requesting organization if they become partners in the event.
3. International projects are funded through the International Committee, as are requests for cultural exchange programs and other humanitarian projects. College level scholarship funds are available only through the club scholarship program.
4. The committee does not as a general rule favor grants to:
 - a. Religious organizations for religious reasons
 - b. Major capital fund drives or endowment funds
 - c. Any political or lobbying activity
 - d. Athletic or social organizations (individual funding is possible)
 - e. Basic or applied research
 - f. Special events, tickets and fundraising benefits

Funding request procedures

1. All requests for funding must be submitted in writing. Using the grant application form will speed up the acceptance process.
2. Requests are accepted throughout the year but the club budget process takes place in the summer months with major fundraising in the fall. Applications in late winter may not be funded until the following fall.
3. Notification of approval or denial of grant requests will come from a member of the Community Service Committee or a board member of the Morris Rotary Club. Sometimes clarification may be necessary to evaluate a request and that will also be communicated to the requesting person or organization.
4. In order to be considered for further funding, it is requested that the Morris Rotary Club be given a formal response as to how the money was spent and any publicity that came from the project funding.

Grant applications should be mailed to:

Morris Rotary Club
Attn: Community Service Chair
PO Box 741
Morris, IL 60450



Morris Rotary Club

"World's First Small Town Rotary Club"

Local Community Service Grant Application

Organization / Individual Name _____

501c 3 status Y / N

Other Non-profit status Y / N

Organization Address _____

Phone Numbers: Work _____ Mobile _____

Fax _____ Other _____

Contact person: Name _____

Title _____

Project title and brief description _____

Location and size of group served _____

Amount requested from the Morris Rotary Club _____

Total project cost or annual budget if operating fund request _____

Will the amount requested be more than 25% of the total cost of the project? Y / N

Other sources of funding applied for this project/budget _____

Signature

Date

Please answer the following questions to help the committee determine a recommendation for funding. Please type these answers on a separate piece of paper and attach.

1. What is the purpose of the project? What specifically does it accomplish? What problems will be solved by the use of granted funds?
2. Who else in the community is working with you or working on the same problem / project?
3. Specifically how will our funds be used?
4. Is there a plan for media exposure and what is your plan to contact them? What is your plan for publicly recognizing the contribution of the Morris Rotary Club?
5. If you plan on requesting more funds in the future, please describe briefly how this grant is not sufficient. Is this a multi-year request?
6. Is there anything else you would like to tell the committee?

Additional items to attach:

- The organization's IRS letter of determination
- The organization's board of directors
- The organization's most recent annual financial statement

If this is an individual request, please attach a letter of support from a non-relative familiar with your situation, such as a doctor, therapist, teacher, or coach.

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