

COMMUNITY SUSTAINING FUND OF THURSTON COUNTY

2103 Harrison NW, Suite 2715 Olympia, WA 98502

***SPRING 2016* GRANT INFORMATION**

Thanks for inquiring about the Community Sustaining Fund's grant award program. Below are Grant Criteria and a four-page Grant Application.

The deadline for receipt of Grant Applications for this cycle is: close of business Friday, April 29, 2016

- Send as an email file attachment to thurstoncsf@comcast.net
(our ***strong*** preference)

OR

- Mail an original plus five (5) copies of your application to:
2103 Harrison Ave NW, #2715, Olympia 98502

Please note that brief conferences with applicants whose projects meet our minimum criteria will be held on **Saturday, May 7** - generally between 9 am and 1 pm (location to be announced).

Please carefully review and address the attached Grant Criteria in your application. NOTE: *Applicants may request up to \$1,000, but awards have historically been in the \$100 - \$600 range. Applicants may be asked if they are willing to accept less than amount requested.*

Final funding decisions will be made on the day of grant interviews and award checks are distributed soon thereafter. All applicants will be notified of either award or denial of funds. CSF does require all funded projects to fill out a Grant Completion Report following the end of the project. Note that CSF policy allows previous grantees to apply again, with two conditions: 1) it must be at least one year since receipt of a prior grant award, and 2) the applicant must have filed a Grant Completion Report from any previous grant project.

IF YOU NEED ASSISTANCE OR HAVE QUESTIONS CONCERNING YOUR APPLICATION,
PLEASE FEEL FREE TO CALL VIC COLMAN, LEADERSHIP GROUP MEMBER AT 360.878.2543

[HTTP://WWW.OLY-WA.US/CSF](http://www.oly-wa.us/CSF)



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THURSTON COUNTY

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GRANT CRITERIA

The Community Sustaining Fund (CSF) provides grant support for progressive, community-oriented projects across all of Thurston County. Our funding is aimed at creating a democratic, just, nonviolent and ecologically sound society.

CSF was formed in 1987 in response to the lack of funds available for developing and maintaining local social change activities. We support groups and individuals that are actively working to educate and involve our community in questioning, challenging, and correcting the social, political and economic inequities around us.

Grants are awarded by CSF for organizational needs such as start-up funding, public outreach, training, equipment, and special projects. CSF realizes that most applicants will neither be involved in all of these activities, nor fit all the criteria listed below. Hence, the CSF treats all applications as case-specific and unique.

CSF CONSIDERS PROJECTS WHICH:

- Are developed and led by residents of Thurston County for activities in Thurston County
- Operate in a democratic, nondiscriminatory manner which is responsive to the constituency served
- Actively pursue cultural diversity in group composition
- Actively work toward a more just and equitable world of ecological and economic balance and personal and social responsibility

CSF WILL GENERALLY NOT FUND:

- Direct social service projects that are or can be funded by traditional funding sources (i.e., government agencies, United Way, major foundations, etc.)
- Artistic or cultural events that are not part of other organizing activities (we are interested in supporting projects that integrate cultural activities into social change work)
- Ongoing organizational operating costs—however, you can request one-time operating/bridge funding—see more information below.

CSF IS INTERESTED IN GROUPS FOCUSING ON:

SOCIAL JUSTICE (people >> people)	Youth, Gender Equality, Disarmament, Gay & Lesbian, Foreign Affairs, Racial Equality, Domestic Violence, Native Peoples, Challenged , Elderly, Parenting & Child Care, Civil Liberties
COMMUNITY BUILDING (people >> society)	Education, Economics, Communication, Arts & Culture, Health Care, Transportation, Housing & Homelessness, Grassroots Democracy, Unemployed, Underemployed & Working Poor, Labor Issues, Spirituality, Sustainability
ENVIRONMENT (society >> environment)	Environmental Defense, Agriculture, Animal Rights, Land Use Planning, Forestry, Energy, Water Quality, Waste & Recycling, Environmental Racism, Endangered Species

CSF IS MOST INTERESTED IN THOSE GROUPS THAT EXPRESS THE FOLLOWING:

Values

- Material simplicity
- Participatory democracy
- Community-oriented economics
- Ecologically conscientious society
- Nonviolent forms of conflict resolution
- Respect for human dignity and diversity
- Connect local activities with broader social change issues
- Inclusive of people with varying political, social and cultural backgrounds

Strategies and Activities

- Work to introduce new people to ideas of social change
- Organize people to participate in social change activities
- Promote cultural and artistic activities that encourage social change

Organizational Approach

- Encourage networking with other social change groups
- Effectively reach and build an organization responsive to the community
- Work to make power relationships equitable within their group and issue area

Long Term Goals

- Develop and implement long-range strategies and goals
 - Develop a self-sustaining financial plan based on realistic sources of revenue
 - Pass on skills and expertise to increase the body of local and regional organizers
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GRANT APPLICATION

*Please confine your answers to the available space, and, if possible,
send via email file attachment to: thurstoncsf@comcast.net*

PART 1: GENERAL INFORMATION

PROJECT TITLE _____

GROUP OR INDIVIDUAL NAME _____

EMAIL _____ ADDRESS _____

PROJECT COORDINATOR _____ PHONE (W) _____ (CELL) _____

EMAIL _____ ADDRESS _____

ALTERNATE CONTACT _____ PHONE (W) _____ (CELL) _____

ORGANIZATIONAL STATUS:

◆ UNINCORPORATED GROUP

◆ FOR-PROFIT BUSINESS

◆ TAX-EXEMPT ORGANIZATION

◆ INDIVIDUAL

◆ *PREVIOUS CSF GRANT RECIPIENT? If YES, WHEN? _____*

Total Amount Requested from CSF \$ _____

Project Dates: Begin _____ End _____

FEDERAL ID NUMBER OF GROUP (IF APPLICABLE): _____

CSF WOULD LIKE TO HAVE THE ABILITY TO SHARE THIS APPLICATION WITH LOCAL COMMUNITY GROUPS INVOLVED WITH THE ISSUES IT ADDRESSES. IF YOU WOULD PREFER TO KEEP THIS APPLICATION CONFIDENTIAL, PLEASE EXPLAIN WHY.

HOW DID YOU HEAR ABOUT OUR ORGANIZATION?

◆ CO-OP

◆ WORD-OF-MOUTH

♦ INTERNET

♦ OTHER? _____

PART 2: INTRODUCTION – APPLICANT

A) PLEASE PROVIDE A BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF YOUR GROUP, OR A HISTORY OF RELATED ACTIVITIES IF AN INDIVIDUAL APPLICANT.

B) DESCRIBE YOUR PROJECT (WHEN IT STARTED, WHAT YOU WANT FUNDED, COMMUNITY NEED, ETC.)

PART 3: FINANCIAL INFORMATION

A) PLEASE FILL OUT THIS BUDGET MATRIX COMPLETELY.

BUDGET ITEM	PRIORITY: <i>HIGH, MEDIUM OR LOW</i>	REQUESTED FROM CSF	TOTAL BUDGET FOR PROJECT
STIPENDS			
OFFICE SUPPLIES			
POSTAGE			
PRINTING/COPYING			
PHONE			
EQUIPMENT			
OTHER			
1.			
2.			
TOTALS:			
TOTAL ORGANIZATIONAL BUDGET FOR CURRENT YEAR			

B) ANY ADDITIONAL BUDGET INFORMATION?

C) **IF YOU ARE REQUESTING ONE-TIME OPERATIONAL/ BRIDGE FUNDING,** PLEASE ANSWER THESE ADDITIONAL QUESTIONS:

1. What factors have influenced your decision to seek grant funding for operations?
2. What have you done or are doing to solidify the financial sustainability of your organization or project?
3. How critical is your need for operational dollars and what would happen if you do not get them?

PART 4: PROJECT INFORMATION

A) HOW DOES YOUR PROJECT DIRECTLY RELATE TO CSF FUNDING CRITERIA?

B) HOW WILL YOU ACCOMPLISH YOUR PROJECT? (INCLUDE SPECIFIC ACTIVITIES AND TIMELINES)

C) HOW WILL YOU DETERMINE IF YOUR PROJECT IS WORKING AND WHETHER ITS GOALS WERE ACCOMPLISHED?

D) IN WHAT WAYS WILL YOU LET THE GREATER COMMUNITY KNOW ABOUT YOUR PROJECT OUTCOMES AND THOSE FUNDING THE PROJECT?

E) WILL YOU ASSIST / SUPPORT CSF IN MUTUALLY SUPPORTIVE OUTREACH ACTIVITIES?

PART 5: ORGANIZATION INFORMATION

A) CSF IS COMMITTED TO SUPPORTING GROUPS THAT INCLUDE AFFIRMATIVE ACTION GOALS IN THEIR SOCIAL CHANGE WORK. DESCRIBE YOUR GROUP'S PRESENT COMPOSITION.

B) DO YOU INTERACT WITH OTHERS WORKING ON SIMILAR ISSUES? IF SO, WHO? DESCRIBE *HOW* YOU WILL WORK WITH OTHER INDIVIDUALS AND GROUPS.

C) LIST NAME AND CONTACT INFORMATION (EMAIL OR TELEPHONE) OF **TWO** REFERENCES FAMILIAR WITH YOUR WORK, BUT **NOT** A PART OF YOUR GROUP, NOR BOARD MEMBERS OF CSF.

D) PLEASE ADD ANYTHING THAT WILL HELP US BETTER UNDERSTAND YOUR GROUP AND/OR THIS PROJECT. IF YOU ATTACH ANY INFORMATION TO THE APPLICATION, PLEASE LIST HERE.
*NOTE: SUBMISSIONS AND ATTACHMENTS WILL **NOT** BE RETURNED.*