

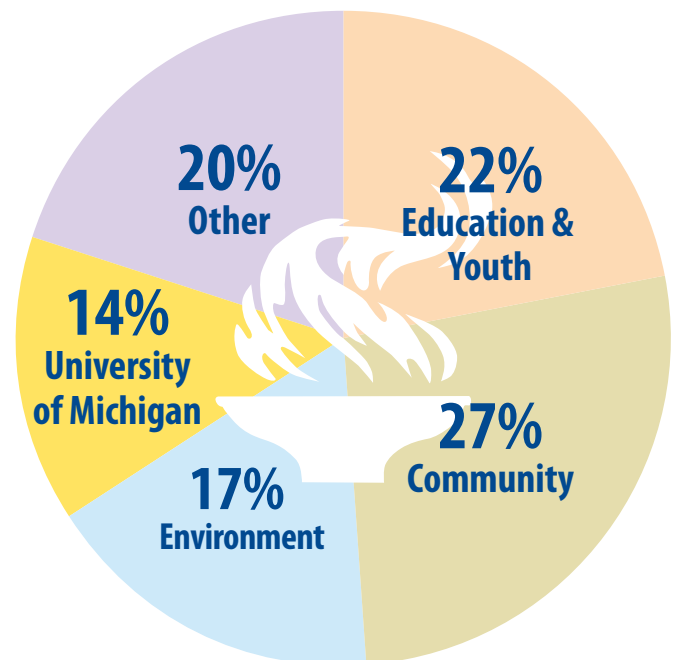


The
Cook Family
Foundation

2015 Grants

Through strategic, proactive use of funds and grants, the Cook Family Foundation strives to strengthen institutions, extend their mission and enable their growth. Our goal is to help initiate change and promote sustainability within an organization, and as such the Foundation is willing to provide financial support for programs, facilities, equipment, staffing, professional development, contracted services, or other tools for positive change. Each year the Cook Family Foundation reviews grant proposals from community organizations with emphasis on key areas as highlighted in this listing of projects funded in 2015.

Community Organizations	\$189,889	University of Michigan	\$107,751
Nonprofit Capacity Building Program	\$85,654	Scholarships	\$84,200
Owosso Community Players	\$31,000	Scholarship Support	\$23,551
Memorial Healthcare	\$20,000		
The ARC Shiawassee	\$17,558	Additional Financials	
Other Community Arts Grants	\$16,075	Administration & Associated Costs	\$92,644
Shiawassee United Way	\$5,194	Office Expenses and Memberships	\$34,619
Shiawassee Economic Development Partnership	\$5,000	Taxes	\$8,810
Intern Program	\$3,970	Professional Services & Fees	\$4,418
Shiawassee County Humane Society	\$2,488	Communications	\$4,062
Other Community Development Grants	\$2,950	Other Grants	\$3,000
Education and Youth	\$137,417	Total Disbursements	\$726,670
Shiawassee Regional Education Services District			
Shiawassee Scholars	\$90,260		
Owosso Public Schools IB Programme	\$36,000		
Early Childhood	\$10,000		
Other Education and Youth	\$1,157		
Environment	\$144,060		
Saginaw Bay Watershed Initiative Network (WIN)	\$20,000		
Friends of the Shiawassee River	\$120,060		
Green & Blue Network	\$4,000		



In the last five years, the Foundation has made grants totaling in excess of \$2.6 million dollars in four primary areas.

Grant Information

The Cook Family Foundation invests in community organizations that are committed to positive change, both within Shiawassee County and within the organization itself. We make grants to community institutions that desire to better serve the residents of Shiawassee County through new activities, improved programs, or collaborative initiatives. Strong preference is given to grants that are part of an organizational self-improvement plan, such as the Foundation's NonProfit Capacity Development Program. Rather than just make a gift of financial resources, the Cook Family Foundation seeks to invest in the mission, and the future, of an organization.

What are the criteria for grant applications?

The Cook Family Foundation commits funding to projects which strengthen community institutions, extend their mission, or enable their growth. Grant requests should meet the following four criteria:

- 1 Will the grant request fund an activity central to the adopted mission of an organization and does the grant implement the organization's strategic plan?
- 2 Will the grant enable an organization to expand its programs, the number of people served, membership, volunteers, public support, and/or financial base?
- 3 Does the organization have a plan in place to sustain the new growth or make permanent new changes after grant funds are expended?
- 4 Is the grant request part of a comprehensive and long-term financial strategy that leverages additional resources, involves grants or donations from other sources, and/or is matched by investment of the organization itself?

What types of grants are given?

Our goal is to help initiate change and growth within an organization, and as such the Foundation is willing to provide financial support for programs, facilities, equipment, staffing, professional development, contracted services, or other tools for positive change. In order to carry out our mission and assist a variety of good causes, we cannot provide on-going support to organizations.

Where are grants made?

The Foundation focuses its grant making on Shiawassee County and seeks to support institutions that serve the residents of Shiawassee County. We prefer to fund

organizations that are based in our community; at a minimum, applicants should have strong representation of Shiawassee County residents in their governance system. Grants for environmental purposes are made to protect the natural areas defined by the watershed of the Shiawassee River. The only significant grants made outside of Shiawassee County are to the University of Michigan and the State YMCA of Michigan.

What size grants are available?

The Foundation typically makes grants of between \$5,000 and \$50,000. Sometimes we have made effective grants for smaller amounts, and on a few occasions we have made larger grants for very promising and significant endeavors. We prefer one-time grants, but have also made multi-year commitments to help initiate projects.

Are there any areas of interest?

The Cook Family Foundation does not seek to promote any particular cause or address only certain concerns. Rather, we desire to help community organizations grow and be successful in the mission they have set for themselves. We are open to funding a wide variety of issue areas.

Are there any limitations on grants?

The Cook Family Foundation does not give grants for religious purposes and upholds federal law which prohibits the expenditure of funds for political campaigns or direct lobbying activities. With the exception of scholarships, we do not give grants to individuals.

Grant Application Deadlines

The Cook Family Foundation accepts grant applications throughout the year and reviews those applications at least twice a year. First consideration will be given to grant applications submitted by April 1. Applications for the end of the year should be made no later than November 1. The Foundation establishes a total annual grant budget in January for that year and addresses applications on a first-come, first-served basis within that budget.

Learn more, including how to apply at:
www.cookfamilyfoundation.org/grants

