



2021 Field of Interest Funds Grant Guidelines & Instructions

**Closing Date: May 15, 2021
at 5:00 p.m. (Pacific Time)**

(Online portal will be inaccessible after 5:00 p.m.)

Mission of Inland Empire Community Foundation

The mission of Inland Empire Community Foundation is to enhance the quality of life in the communities we serve. This is accomplished through building permanent endowments, making prudent grants for charitable causes, being a catalyst to solve community concerns and strengthening nonprofit organizations.

Eligibility

- Nonprofit, public benefit corporations with evidence of tax-exempt status under Section 501(c) (3) of the Internal Revenue Code and **not classified as a private foundation**. Public agencies (in limited circumstances) may apply.
- Nonprofit organizations that can document on-going operations in Riverside and/or San Bernardino Counties and have **nonprofit status per above for at least three years**.
- Past grantees must be in good standing, and have fulfilled all previous grant obligations.

Field of Interest Funds

Field of Interest funds are restricted to a specific program area or geographic area. Those restrictions are made by the fund donors. The size of the grants varies based on the asset size of each fund. When a field of interest fund benefits a specific community, a local advisory committee may be asked to review grant proposals and make funding recommendations.

The current Field of Interest funds are:

- ***Irene S. Rockwell Fund*** - Benefits the residents of the city of Perris. Average grant award is \$2,000.
- ***Seraphim Fund*** - Aids women and children, including the economically disadvantaged, victims of domestic abuse, and those suffering from physical or mental illness or substance abuse. Average grant award is \$10,000
- ***Fred and Eva V. Stebler Fund*** - Provides funds for the treatment and care of indigent children in Riverside County, with a strong emphasis on children with special needs. Average grant award is \$10,000.
- ***James Bernard and Mildred Jordan Tucker Fund*** - Benefits wheelchair users (ADA compliance projects are eligible). Average grant award is \$10,000.

Grant making Objectives

- Maximize resources and efficiency through collaboration
 - Promote values of personal responsibility and self-sufficiency
 - Increase community involvement and volunteerism
 - Support early intervention and prevention of social problems
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Funding Priorities

Organizations that:

- Demonstrate strong, community-based boards and sound financial practices.
- Have a proven ability to carry out programs consistent with its mission and a history of successful overall operations.
- Collaborate or partner with other non-profit entities resulting in greater community impact and positive outcomes that improve, enhance, and enrich the quality of life in the two-county area, as appropriate.

Preference is given to projects that:

- are perceived as a high need in the community being served.
- fill a gap in service.
- benefit a large number of residents.
- enhance collaboration and/or make the delivery of services more effective and efficient.
- have clear objectives and can document successful outcomes.
- expand successful programs to serve additional residents or new geographic areas
- serve remote areas or areas that have received little Community Foundation funding.

Grant Period

The grant period is for one year, starting **August 1, 2021 to July 31, 2022.**

Limitations

These types of expenses are not eligible for funding:

- on-going operating expenses
- retroactive funding for costs already incurred
- capital projects (construction of buildings)
- direct support of individuals
- research or development activities
- event sponsorships
- paying off deficits or existing obligations
- endowment, capital or annual fund appeals
- sectarian programs or fraternal organizations
- school/college-based extracurricular activities
- partisan activities
- re-granting purposes

Application Review

Grants are awarded on a competitive basis. Applications will be screened for eligibility and completeness by Inland Empire Community Foundation (IECF) staff. The IECF Grant Committee will evaluate eligible applications and will forward grant recommendations to Inland Empire Community Foundation Board of Directors for final approval. **All applicants will be notified of the results in writing no later than August 1, 2021.** Please do not contact our office before that time.
