The Blocker Foundation

Grant Application

About The Blocker Foundation

S. Frank Blocker, Jr., was a man of intellect, charm, wealth and generosity. A Norfolk native, he inherited the profitable Eastern Auto Distributors and continued to build the business to even greater success. His business acumen extended to the stock market as well, enabling him to financially contribute to a wide range of organizations and non-profits across Virginia. Blocker was an active supporter, serving on the Board of Directors of Virginia Wesleyan University and as Board Chairman for the Norfolk YMCA, later renamed the Blocker Norfolk Family YMCA in recognition of his generous contributions of time, energy and money.

Although he passed away in 2020, at the age of 93, Blocker's altruism continues through The Blocker Foundation, formed in 1983. The 501c3 carries on Blocker's support of non-profits that promote and support a safe, healthy, inclusive community.

It is the mission of The Blocker Foundation to inspire, empower and support the Hampton Roads community to provide all in our community wholesome nourishment, safe shelter, educational opportunity, economic opportunity and a healthy environment in which all may thrive.

Eligibility and Funding Guidelines

The Blocker Foundation provides grants to tax exempt non-profit organizations which serve the Hampton Roads Metropolitan Service Area (MSA). Applicants must be a nonprofit organization classified as tax-exempt under Section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code. In addition, applicants must serve communities or populations residing in The Blocker Foundation's service area, the Hampton Roads MSA which includes the cities of Chesapeake, Franklin, Hampton, Newport News, Norfolk, Poquoson, Portsmouth, Suffolk, Virginia Beach, and Williamsburg as well as Gloucester County, Isle of Wight County, James City County, Mathews County, Southampton County and York County. Also included are Camden County, Currituck County and Gates County, NC.

In an effort to support organizations in what they do best, we will consider grant requests of the following nature:

- **Project Grants** – Those grants seeking funding for a project that will be completed within a specified time frame with very specific costs.
- **Program Grants** – Funding provided for ongoing "programmatic activities."
- **"Core Support" Grants** – General operating funding necessary for the ongoing operations of the organization
- **Capital Grants** – Funding for those items related to land, building, and equipment acquisition or creation

The Blocker Foundation will consider grant requests for a term of no less than 12 months but not exceeding a period of 5 years. The timeline of the request should match the proposed project and be justifiable through the submission of a workplan.

Funding may not be used for:

- Lobbying or political programs or events
- Sectarian or religious organizations whose grant request will only benefit that organization's members.
- Organizations that discriminate by race, color, creed, gender, sexual orientation or national origin
- Individual scholarships
- Funding that supplants existing sources of support
- Supporting Organizations as defined by the IRS

Grant Considerations

The grantmaking objectives of The Blocker Foundation are intended to assure that our limited resources are allocated to help create the most impact in the communities that we serve. We support organizations and activities that empower people and community systems in a way that tackles the root causes of the problems our communities face and build upon the strengths within these same regions. We strive to expand access to opportunities for people from low-income and otherwise disadvantaged communities, including a commitment to diversity and inclusiveness. We seek to foster partnership amongst like-minded organizations, encouraging communication and collaboration to build programs and services that are sustainable.

Grant Deadlines and Requirements

The Blocker Foundation asks that any organization interested in applying for a grant, please call the Foundation directly at 757-942-2005 for discussion of the request prior to submission.

All applications are due as follows:

Application Deadline	Grant Award Notification	Grant Start Date
March 1st	May	July 1st
September 1st	October	January 1st

Reporting will be required on all approved grants in the form of both an Interim Report and Final Report. The details for these reports will be outlined in each grant contract. Reports are due by 2pm on the day of deadline.

Application Requirements

Organization Name

Address

Phone

Fax

Email

Web address

Tax ID

Tax Status (and tax status notes)

Annual Budget

Organization Type

Primary Contact Information

Request Amount

Project Title and brief description

Supporting Documents:

- Most recent IRS Form 990 (including Schedule A). If you do not file with the IRS, indicate why.
- Latest Audited Financial Statement or Review. If your statements are not audited, indicate why and include your balance sheet and latest income and expense statement.
- Most recent IRS 501(c)(3) Determination Letter.
- If a school, annual cost to attend and description of financial aid program.

Proposal Information:

- Cover Page – Please complete the "cover page" template that can be found on our website and within the application itself.
- Organization Background and Community Context – Provide a brief description of your organization's mission and history. Provide an overview of the community (municipality, county or region) that is the focus of your proposed efforts. Tell us about the demographic you serve. Include community data that supports your project or efforts. What are the assets and challenges that exist within your service area?
- Project overview – Who does your project benefit and what need does it meet? What will be the project impact by the end of the grant period and how do you plan to measure it? What will be left behind once the project ends? What best practices or evidence leads you to believe this project will be successful?

If your request is for operational "core" support funding – how does this funding help the overall impact of your organization for your community? What gap does it fill or immediate need does it meet? What will these dollars mean for the continued operation of your organization? How will you measure this?

- Timeline – What is the timeline (grant term) for what you are seeking funding?   Please note that a grant term of no less than 12 months and no more than 5 years will be considered. Why have you chosen this timeline?
- Workplan – Please outline a plan for the grant period outlining major activities, persons responsible, deliverables and measurables.
- Proposed Partners – Please provide a list of current community partners. Give a brief overview of past partnership efforts and proposed future work. How do you plan to engage the community you plan to serve?
- Statement of Interest and Readiness – Who is the proposed project leader and what skills or experience do they have relevant to this work? Why is your organization applying for this opportunity and how would this grant enable your organization to be different or more impactful? How could The Blocker Foundation staff help you during this grant period if awarded?
- Letters of Support – Please provide at least (2) letters of support from other community members, organizations, or government entities surrounding the proposed project or your organization and its efforts as a whole.
- Budget - Please complete the "budget worksheet" template that can be found on our website and within the application itself. *Budget guidelines can be found on our website for reference.*
- Budget Narrative – A budget narrative must be provided that offers a brief description for each line item in the budget worksheet. An explanation of how this cost was determined should also be included.
- List of Board Members – Please provide a list of all current board members including titles, corporate affiliations, and cities of residence.
- Adverse Decisions - Please provide information concerning any grants which have terminated prior to conclusion.