3/9/2020

Hello,

This application is four pages.

**Page one** defines the Athena Proposal Statement for the 2020 grant cycle.

**Page two** will help you understand the Mission and Beliefs of the Athena Progressive Giving Circle.

**Page three** explains the Athena Progressive Giving Circle Grantee Guidelines.

**Page four** details the information that must be provided to Athena for consideration.

**IMPORTANT:** Grant funding must be used in Sarasota and/or Manatee counties in Florida.

If you would like additional information about this application please contact Katie Schwabach, Philanthropic Advisor, at the Community Foundation of Sarasota County via email at Katie@cfsarasota.org.

We look forward to hearing from you,

Athena Progressive Giving Circle
ATHENA PROPOSAL STATEMENT 2020

Athena Progressive Giving Circle will fund **up to $20,000** for the following:

**Opportunity**

National, state, and local elections are generally affirmations of ongoing policies and practices or a powerful catalyst for change. Every voter’s future is affected by those elected to lead us. It is vitally important that all citizens participate. Far too often, however, many do not or cannot—because of illiteracy, or physical impediments, or legal challenges to their right to vote, or lack of knowledge of when or where to vote or what implications voting (or not voting) will have on their lives.

Recognizing that there are many roadblocks to full participation in our elections, the Athena Progressive Giving Circle is seeking impactful programs by existing non-partisan, 501(c)3 organizations in Sarasota and Manatee counties that will measurably improve voting participation, particularly by traditionally low-turnout women.

The program funded would ideally have a strong voter education component, so that those who rarely vote or have never voted understand the importance of voting in their lives and will pass this knowledge on to future generations.

Athena’s objective is to advance women’s empowerment, locally and nationally, by ensuring as full a voting participation by women as possible, now and in the future. Monies will be granted for use during the 2020 election cycle.

**All proposals must be submitted to Katie Schwabach, Katie@CFSarasota.org, at the Community Foundation of Sarasota County, Inc. no later than Tuesday, April 14, 2020.**

The Athena Progressive Giving Circle is a component fund of the Community Foundation of Sarasota County, Inc.

**NOTE:** Grant request cannot exceed $20,000

**NOTE:** Grant application deadline is April 14, 2020
MISSION: The Athena Progressive Giving Circle (APGC) is a community of women funding programs/initiatives that meaningfully improve the lives of women and girls in our community. APGC is a component fund of the Community Foundation of Sarasota County.

ATHENA PROGRESSIVE GIVING CIRCLE BELIEFS:
A. Every woman has the right to make her own decisions about issues important to her, including the management of her assets, education of herself, her children and health care choices, including reproductive rights.
B. It is still necessary to use the lenses of race, gender, sexual orientation, ethnicity and religion to assure equality.

We will seek non-profit partners working on long-term solutions, who can demonstrate positive impact in the communities they serve. Grants will be awarded to U.S. IRS 501(c)3 and other tax-exempt organizations for programs or initiatives in Sarasota/Manatee counties in Florida.

NOTE: Grant request cannot exceed $20,000
NOTE: Grant application deadline is April 14, 2020
GRANTEE GUIDELINES

GRANTEE ORGANIZATION CANDIDATES MUST:
1. Show an innovative, holistic, effective and direct approach to supporting women, girls.
2. Show a clear need for the funds and a plan for their use.
3. Demonstrate a deep commitment to their work.

ATHENA WILL NOT PROVIDE GRANTS TO THE FOLLOWING:
1. Organizations that discriminate against people because of age, race, creed, handicap, sexual orientation, gender identity, ethnicity or national origin.
2. Religious or sectarian organizations, unless engaged in a significant project benefiting the entire community.
3. Athletes, teams, sporting events or tournaments of any kind (amateur, professional) including charity golf or tennis tournaments.
4. Non-academic educational activities such as bands, choirs, proms, after proms, graduations, etc.
5. Fundraising events such as telethons or walk-a-thons.
6. Fashion shows beauty pageants or contestants.
7. Individuals, for any purpose (e.g. scholarships, hardship assistance, field trips).
8. Requests to support travel for groups or individuals when that is the primary reason for the proposals.
9. Political candidates or organizations.
10. Organizations in which Athena members are staff, volunteers or hold Board positions.

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IN COMPLETING YOUR PROPOSAL, PLEASE PROVIDE THE FOLLOWING INFORMATION:

1. Name of organization seeking funding. Include the name, address, email and telephone of contact person.

2. Name of program/initiative to be funded

3. Amount requested

4. Provide a detailed description of your program/initiative and how the grant would be utilized to achieve the objectives. Please refer to the Athena Proposal Statement 2020 for clarification on expected information. Athena would like to see meaningful results associated with grants made. Consequently, specific programs/initiatives with clearly articulated objectives, measures, and milestones are most appealing.

5. What is the budget for the program/initiative? Provide as much detail as possible to explain how you will use the funds. Non-profit partners must be prepared to provide reporting on use of funds and progress against objectives on an agreed upon schedule.

6. How does your program/initiative align with Athena’s mission, beliefs and focus area? Projects funded must reflect Athena’s mission, focus areas and grantee guidelines.

7. Are there other sources of funding for the program/initiative proposed? If so, what is the origin? If not, how will the program be sustained after the initial funding?

8. Is the program/initiative located in Sarasota or Manatee County? If both, please state.

9. IF your organization does NOT have an active profile in The Giving Partner, you must provide a copy of your organization’s most recent 990 and a list of Board members.

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