



Toledo
Community
Foundation

The Stranahan Supporting Organization Grant Guidelines

At present, the Stranahan Supporting Organization has a limited amount of funds available for grant making, and therefore cannot accept unsolicited grant applications or proposals. These guidelines are provided to assist nonprofits and the Stranahan Supporting Organization's Board of Trustees in grant making.

The Stranahan Supporting Organization was created by the Stranahan Foundation under the auspices of the Toledo Community Foundation, Inc. to enrich the quality of life for citizens of northwest Ohio and southeast Michigan. The Supporting Organization will consider projects or programs that fall within five areas: arts and culture, education, ecological well-being, human services, and physical and mental health.

Grants are awarded only to nonprofit, charitable organizations which have been designated as having tax exempt status under section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Service code. The Stranahan Supporting Organization will place a priority on proposals from organizations that have capable, accountable leadership and programs that are effective in addressing current community needs, thereby assuring the wise use of philanthropic resources.

Guiding Principles

The goal of the Stranahan Supporting Organization's grant making is to help people become independent and responsible citizens. Our grant making is guided by the following values:

- That self-sufficient people can best help themselves and others
- With respect for oneself, for others, for our communities and for our environment
- With freedom of thought, speech, religion and economic choices within a just and democratic society
- With the courage to embrace change and, as necessary, to take the initiative to bring about positive change

We believe that these fundamental values are best instilled at a young age by families, supportive schools and a society which feels a strong sense of responsibility for educating and nurturing their young to be knowledgeable, motivated and prepared to take part in the preservation and betterment of the community.

Grant Making Priorities

The following descriptions are intended to provide grant seekers with guidance as to the types of programs that would best fit the Stranahan Supporting Organization's priorities.

Arts and Culture

The Stranahan Supporting Organization believes that every person in our society should have access to the creative process and that the arts have a unique and powerful ability to improve the quality of our lives because they communicate, delight, educate, motivate, build self esteem and have therapeutic value. The Supporting Organization has a particular interest in programs that:

- seek to include those who might not otherwise have such opportunities
- engage participants of any age in the creative process

Education

The Stranahan Supporting Organization seeks to increase the number of quality educational opportunities for students at the pre-school, primary and secondary levels and to promote greater access to such programs. The Supporting Organization is interested in:

- educational/learning experiences that value independent thinking, artistic appreciation, cultural, economic and ethnic diversity, and community service
- programs that offer alternatives to traditional educational opportunities (for example, career-oriented or vocational training, etc.)
- small manageable programs within institutions of higher learning

Ecological Well-being

The Stranahan Supporting Organization believes ecological well-being is inextricably linked to the sustainability of our community. The Supporting Organization has an interest in programs that focus on:

- preserving or returning to healthy, sustainable communities for both current and future generations
- conserving and restoring our natural environment
- educating community members about our natural environment

Human Services

The Stranahan Supporting Organization seeks to strengthen our local communities through support for programs that offer disadvantaged families and individuals of all ages:

- access to services that meet basic human needs
- opportunities to work, recreate and fully participate in community life
- avenues for achieving self-sufficiency and making positive contributions to their community

Physical and Mental Health

The Stranahan Supporting Organization fosters programs – in both the physical and mental health arenas – that build healthy communities. The Supporting Organization has a particular interest in programs that:

- create better access to care
- educate people to take better care of themselves and their families
- support alternative care methods
- support preventive measures
- support research to eradicate health crises

The Stranahan Supporting Organization does not consider proposals for funding in the following areas: endowment fund campaigns; personal businesses; projects that are located outside of the United States; reduction or elimination of deficits; sectarian activities of religious organizations; government sponsored or controlled projects; or individuals. The Supporting Organization will not support organizations that discriminate in their leadership, staffing or service provision on the basis of age, gender, race, ethnicity, sexual orientation, disability, national origin, political affiliation or religious beliefs.