



2026 Community Foundation of Marshall County Grant Guidelines

The Community Foundation of Marshall County (CFMC) awards grants to nonprofit organizations serving Marshall County, and partners with individuals, families, and organizations to create permanent endowments. The CFMC is an affiliate of the Community Foundation of Greater Des Moines and is therefore eligible to offer the Endow Iowa Tax Credit.

2026 Area of Impact:

A strategic goal of CFMC Board is to grant at least 50% of grant making funds to the areas of impact that have been identified. The Board has identified **Investment in Youth Capital Projects** as their area of impact for the 2026 grant cycle.

Grant Submission Documents:

The 2026 Community Foundation of Marshall County (CFMC) Grant is open through the letter of intent process. All interested applicants start by submitting a letter of intent to the CFMC Board of Directors for review. Grant application materials will be offered by invitation only to selected applicants. Final submissions must include the completed application, along with a detailed project budget. Funding decisions are made through a competitive application process.

2026 Funding Available:

\$90,000 is available for the 2026 grant cycle.

Eligibility

Funding is available to non-profit, I.R.S. 501(c)(3) tax-exempt organizations, 170(b) units of government organizations or charitable organizations without the above designations through a qualified fiscal sponsor. All programs and projects must benefit Marshall County. Organizations must be in good standing with CFMC which includes completion of prior grant projects and submission of the related final report.

Grant Conditions

- The letter of intent must be for a specific project or program
- One letter of intent may be submitted per organization
- The minimum grant award is \$1,000 with the maximum not to exceed funding available
- Projects should be completed by December 31, 2026

Grant Cycle Timeline

Thursday, October 16, 2025 at 12:30 p.m.: Live informational meeting (Zoom link on website)

Monday, October 20, 2025 – Recording of informational meeting available on website.

Monday, November 24, 2025: Letter of Intent due by noon

Thursday, December 18, 2025: Applicants notified if they are invited to complete application

Friday, January 23, 2026: Grant applicants due by noon

March 24, 2026: Grant Award Ceremony



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Letter of Intent

Letter of Intent should include grantee contact information: individual responsible for answering questions (email address & phone number), organization mailing address, amount of funding requested and a narrative of the project including:

- *Project description
- *How the program or project aligns with the 2026 area of impact
- *Who will benefit from the project
- *What difference will this project make to Marshall County
- *Total project cost, amount requested from this grant and other secured funding
- *If warranted, how the project fulfills one or more of the priorities listed below

Letter of Intent should be no more than two pages in length, using 12 point font, single spaced. The only attachments should be project plans and/or quotes and should not exceed three additional pages.

Projects given priority

- Projects that align with the 2026 area of impact
- Projects that positively impact the future of Marshall County
- Transformational and/or forward looking projects
- Projects that require just one time funding

Evaluation

Letters of Intent will be reviewed and evaluated for:

- Positive impact on advancing Marshall County as a place to thrive
- The population that your project serves
- The feasibility and support from other financial and human resources
- Demonstration of the need for this project (statistics, alignment with plans, etc.)
- A well-planned approach, committed leadership and the involvement of individuals with the skills necessary to carry out the project
- Use of collaborative strategies to support efficiencies, increase effectiveness and build leadership for achieving broader impact without duplication

Submission Procedures

Letters of Intent must be submitted electronically to the CFMC via email at director@cfmarshallco.org or before, **November 24, 2025 at NOON.**

You will receive a confirmation email acknowledging receipt of your letter of intent. If you do not receive an email acknowledging receipt, you must follow up by calling the office at 641.758.3028 by November 25th at noon.



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Nondiscrimination Policy

The Community Foundation of Marshall County does not discriminate on the basis of race, ethnicity, color, religion, gender, gender identity or expression, sexual orientation, disabilities, age, status as a veteran, national origin or any other protected class. Organizations applying for Community Foundation of Marshall County Grants must hold similar standards in provision of services.

Program Terms and Limitations

CFMC will determine when the grant award is disbursed based on the project presented. Grant funding must be for expenses incurred after the grant award date.

Grant Awards

The grant recipient may be asked to provide CFMC with photographs and narrative to publicize the project via social media, web site, press releases, etc.

The grant recipient will be required to submit a final report on or before December 31, 2026.

For more information or if you have any questions, please contact Julie Hitchins, Executive Director, by phone at 641-758-3028 or email at director@cfmarshallco.org