

# Prairie Meadows 2009 Community Betterment Grant Application Guidelines

## **APPLICATION DEADLINE**

Grant applications must be submitted to the Prairie Meadows Community Relations Department by August 15, 2009. No exceptions to this deadline will be made. Any application received after August 15, 2009 will not be considered.

## **MISSION**

Prairie Meadows has been a vital part of the central Iowa community since it began operations in 1989. Throughout the years, our mission has remained the same: to promote economic development, agriculture, jobs, tourism and entertainment, to provide financial contributions to programs and organizations that improve the quality of life for all Iowans and, in general, to promote social welfare.

## **OVERVIEW**

Through our Community Betterment Grant Program, Prairie Meadows seeks to benefit as many qualified organizations as reasonably possible with the funds available. Community Betterment Grant awards generally range from \$5,000-\$25,000. Requests exceeding \$99,999 will not be considered.

Prairie Meadows also supports a limited number of large-scale, signature projects in the central Iowa area through its Legacy Grant Program. The Legacy Grant Program is designed to provide funding in the range of \$100,000 to \$1 million for larger scale projects. Legacy Grant applications are available on the Prairie Meadows website at [www.prairiemeadows.com](http://www.prairiemeadows.com), and are due on October 1, 2009.

## **FUNDING PRIORITIES**

Funds are awarded in the following four categories:

- o Arts & Culture
- o Economic Development
- o Education
- o Human Services

Because funds are limited, Prairie Meadows is unable to act favorably on all requests received. Each request is carefully evaluated on overall community impact and compliance with Prairie Meadows guidelines and availability of funds.

Prairie Meadows looks favorably upon applications from organizations that:

- o Administer effective programs or projects
- o Provide measurable and meaningful results
- o Demonstrate financial stability and accountability

## **FUNDING PRIORITIES, continued**

Prairie Meadows prefers the following types of proposals for consideration of Community Betterment Grant funding:

- Proposals that will allow the recipient organization to introduce new services or expand existing services to central Iowans
- Proposals between \$5,000 and \$25,000
- Projects with multiple funding sources, most of which are already identified and secured
- Projects that will have an impact on a measurable number of central Iowans

## **LIMITATIONS**

Prairie Meadows does not accept applications for the following:

- Organizations, projects or programs outside of the United States or mainly international
- Political parties, campaigns, candidates or partisan organizations
- Private foundations
- Individuals

Prairie Meadows will not ordinarily consider the following:

- Conference or seminar attendance for professional employees
- Courtesy or goodwill advertising in benefit publications
- Organizations/Associations redistributing funds to other tax-exempt groups (with the exceptions of United Way, Greater Des Moines Community Foundation and the Iowa College Foundation)
- Endowments
- Memorials
- Fellowships
- Ongoing operational expenses
- Requests exceeding \$99,999

## **ELIGIBILITY**

Applicants must be non-profit, tax-exempt organizations that have received a 501(c)(3) or 501(c)(4) designation from the Internal Revenue Service (applications pending will not be considered) or must be a unit of political subdivisions or other such non-profit organizations organized exclusively for the promotion of social welfare as determined by Prairie Meadows at its sole discretion.

Organizations applying for a Prairie Meadows Community Betterment Grant must provide programs and services to the central Iowa area.

Organizations associated with school districts, cities and counties (parent/teacher organizations, schools, booster clubs, city or county departments, etc.) need to refer to the Prairie Meadows Community Betterment Grant Program Resolution for School Districts, Counties and Cities. All organizations associated with a school district, city or county must submit their Prairie Meadows Community Betterment Grant Application to their appropriate party for approval of submission to Prairie Meadows.

Prairie Meadows may provide, at its discretion, funding to organizations or agencies that fall outside of the stated guidelines or funding dates as the result of unforeseen events such as natural disasters, changes in the Iowa gaming tax rate, regulatory changes reported by the

**ELIGIBILITY, continued**

Iowa Racing and Gaming Commission or other state or federal agencies, or other such unanticipated events.

**PERFORMANCE MEASUREMENT**

Grant recipient organizations will be expected to communicate with the Prairie Meadows Community Relations Department regarding the use of their grant award. This will include a signed grant agreement between the organization and Prairie Meadows that outlines requirements and expectations for superior performance.

Recipient organizations will be asked to present a detailed recognition plan outlining how Prairie Meadows will be recognized for its contribution.

In addition, recipient organizations will be required to complete a grant evaluation report detailing the use of the funds received from Prairie Meadows, reporting on project progress and documenting outcomes and results.

**GRANT REVIEW TIMELINE**

Grant applications must be submitted to the Prairie Meadows Community Relations Department by August 15, 2009. No exceptions to this deadline will be made. Any application received after August 15, 2009 will not be considered.

Organizations that provide an email address on their application will receive a confirmation once their application has been processed.

All grant applications and required documents may be sent to:

Prairie Meadows Racetrack and Casino  
Community Relations Department  
One Prairie Meadows Drive  
Altoona, IA 50009

If you are requesting funding for more than one project, you must complete a separate grant application for each request.

The Prairie Meadows Grant Advisory Committee will review all grant applications. After evaluation by the Grant Advisory Committee, the recommended applications will be forwarded to the Prairie Meadows Board of Directors for approval. Applicants will receive notification of the board's decision in early January 2010 and grant funds will be distributed in the first quarter of 2010.