



YOUNG WOMEN FOR CHANGE®

2009 REQUEST *for* PROPOSALS

*For non-profits serving women and girls in Kalamazoo County, Kent County,
Metro Detroit, Traverse City Area, Washtenaw County*

Our Purpose

Michigan Women's Foundation is an organization that is committed to women and girls by providing leadership training, inspiring emerging leaders, and empowering young women through philanthropy and grant-making opportunities. We help young girls and women become successful, fiscally responsible and socially responsive members of their communities.

MICHIGAN WOMEN'S FOUNDATION™ has championed the cause of social justice for women and girls through education, advocacy and leadership development. Our work is rooted in the three principles of women's rights:

- economic self-sufficiency,
- freedom from violence, and
- access to quality health services and information.

As the only statewide foundation specifically dedicated to improving the lives of girls and young women, the Michigan Women's Foundation is a powerful force for change. Since 1986, the Foundation has awarded more than 510 grants totaling over \$3.1 million to hundreds of organizations serving women and girls.

YOUNG WOMEN FOR CHANGE® (YWFC) is the Foundation's girls-as-grantmakers leadership program that prepares high school girls on ways to give back to their communities. Through YWFC, girls learn about philanthropy and grant-making.

Since 1995, YWFC has been working to meet the needs and improve the futures of girls and women in their local communities with committees of 15-20 young women from diverse backgrounds. In 2008, the girls granted \$115,000 to 35 organizations that provide services to women and girls.

All submissions must be postmarked by Saturday, February 28, 2009 and mailed to:

Michigan Women's Foundation
18530 Mack Avenue, Suite 562
Grosse Pointe Farms, MI 48236



MICHIGAN
women's
FOUNDATION

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FUNDING PRIORITIES

Because granting resources are limited, the committee's intention is to utilize these resources in ways that will leverage the most change by supporting programs for girls and young women that address the funding priorities in the communities listed below:

EXAMPLES INCLUDE:

Reproductive health care for teen pregnancy prevention; outreach and education series; supporting teen mothers.

Support Services for girls and young women impacted by critical situations including substance abuse, self-harm, suicide, violence, domestic and family values, homelessness, neglect.

Program that provide access to physical and mental health services including peer pressure, bullying, suicide prevention, depression, self-image, self-harm.

FUNDING CRITERIA

YWFC provides one year funding with the average grants ranging from \$1,000 to \$5,000 and awarded to:

- Grassroots organizations with operating budgets of less than \$150,000
- New organizations (less than 5 years old)
- Established organizations starting a new service to an underserved population

YWFC will fund under certain conditions:

- Organizations with budgets over \$150,000; however, the priority is to fund community-based, grass-root organizations with smaller program budgets and limited access to other funds
- Public schools, health departments or colleges/universities if they partner with other non-profit service providers
- Projects not listed as a funding priority but demonstrating an emerging need of girls/young women

YWFC does NOT fund:

- Organizations headquartered outside of the state of Michigan
- Individuals, endowments or staff attendance at conferences
- Capital campaigns, building projects or campaigns to elect candidates to office
- Scholarships

All grant requests must:

- Be headquartered in the state of Michigan and tax exempt under IRS code, section 501(c) (3)
- Serve girls and women with priority given to low-income and diverse/underserved populations
- Meet at least one of the YWFC funding priorities

Priority will be given to projects/programs that:

- Clearly articulate the role of gender and the needs of girls/young women
- Address root causes of problems and effect positive social change
- Provide clear connection with the goals of YWFC and the mission of MWF
- Affect a critical mass of girls/young women
- Show collaboration with program participants and other community organizations.

Grantee Accountability: Grant recipients will be expected to report twice in writing, mid-year and end of year, using forms provided by MWF. Grantees are also expected to have an evaluation component to all proposed projects.

Committee Review: Proposals are reviewed by the YWFC committee in the region where the proposed project will be rendered. Each YWFC committee will conduct site visits and make their funding recommendations to the Foundation's Board of Trustees.

Board of Trustees Approval: The MWF Board of Trustees make the final grantmaking decisions at the June 2009 meeting. Organizations will be informed of the outcome within five (5) business days of the Board meeting.

Young Women for Change® and Michigan Women's Foundation™ will only provide support to organizations whose mission, policies and practices demonstrate sensitivity and inclusivity to women of any race, class, sexual orientation, age, disability, political affiliation, national origin, ethnicity or religious belief.

GRANT APPLICATION INSTRUCTIONS

All applicants must complete and submit the grant proposal in the following order:

- I. YWFC Grant Application Cover Page
- II. Narrative
- III. Demographics
- IV. Attachments:
 - A. Copy of organization's IRS Determination Letter
 - B. Copy of organization's most recent 990 or audited financial statement
 - C. List of organization's board members with affiliations

An electronic version of this application may be obtained by sending your request to info@miwf.org

The original copy of your proposal application must be submitted with the required attachments plus five (5) additional copies of grant application to the Michigan Women's Foundation and postmarked by Saturday, February 28, 2009. **Sorry, absolutely NO incomplete, faxed, emailed or hand delivered applications will be accepted.**

Michigan Women's Foundation
18530 Mack Avenue, Suite 562
Grosse Pointe Farms, MI 48236
Telephone: (313) 640-0128, extension 204
Email: info@miwf.org