



The Greater Cedar Rapids
Community Foundation

Greater Cedar Rapids Community Foundation Flood 2008 Fund Guidelines

On Friday, June 13, 2008, Cedar Rapids and surrounding areas in Linn County, Iowa experienced the worst flooding ever recorded in the documented history of the county. With a crest of 31.1 feet (19.1 feet above flood stage) in Cedar Rapids, the Cedar River spilled into residential and business areas of Cedar Rapids and devastated more than 1300 blocks (9.20 square miles) of Cedar Rapids. More than 24,000 people were displaced with more than 5,000 homes and 50+ nonprofits damaged or destroyed by the flood.

The Greater Cedar Rapids Community Foundation has established the Flood 2008 Fund to respond to the extensive and massive devastation caused by this historic flood. The Foundation will coordinate with local providers and other funders to help meet short, intermediate and long-term needs that arise as a result of this catastrophe. The GCRCF continues to accept contributions toward this massive recovery effort; please contact the Foundation at (319) 366-2862 for more information on donating to the Flood 2008 Fund.

The GCRCF does not grant directly to individuals or families, but to the nonprofit organizations that serve individuals and families in Linn County, Iowa. Residents should contact local agencies for immediate help. The list of agencies receiving Flood 2008 Fund grants will be available on our website, www.gcrf.org.

Eligibility: Nonprofit 501(c)(3) and public agencies (e.g. community action groups, relief agencies, churches and faith-based organizations, clinics, schools, county or city human services departments, food banks, clothes closets, etc.) that fit the criteria described below are eligible to apply. Proposals must be implemented without discrimination or religious content.

Criteria: Funding is available to address needs that have developed as a result of the flood. Flood 2008 Fund money will be allocated to address short, intermediate and long-term solutions to the flood. Eligible organizations may apply for funding to address one or more Flood 2008 Fund priorities:

1. Assisting individuals and families with direct assistance *through non-profit organizations* (vouchers, in-kind contributions, cash assistance, etc.)
2. Addressing systemic issues resulting from the flood (e.g. mental health needs, housing needs, increased need for substance abuse counselors, etc.)
3. Rebuilding non-profit stability (This keenly competitive priority is intended for substantially devastated, highly effective organizations that provide a) vital human services impacting community flood recovery efforts, or b) key cultural offerings that impact community economic recovery. Requests in this category should target a specific, achievable need, and be clearly focused as to how this request helps organization carry out organizational mission.)

Grant requests should target activities that will not be reimbursed by public agencies or insurance.

Scoring: Applications will be evaluated according to their fit with community needs. The scoring tool is available on the www.gcrf.org and www.corridorrecovery.org websites.

Grant Size: Individual organizations may request funding from \$500 to \$25,000 per proposal. Collaborative efforts consisting of ten or more local organizations including representation from human service agencies, faith-based groups, city, and county entities working together in a coordinated, long-term effort to meet the unmet needs of individuals and families directly impacted by the flooding may apply for up to \$250,000. Applicants will be allowed to request proposal renewal for priority 1 & 2 proposals during the duration of the Flood 2008 funding program. Request for replenishment can be made when a) 75% of the initial grant funding has been expended, and b) a grant report has been submitted to the GCRCF. Organizations wishing to submit applications for multiple proposals should contact the Director of Programs.

Application Process: Applications may be submitted beginning August 12, 2008. Applications will be received and processed on a rolling basis until further notice. The Fund will award grants based on available resources. Agency applications may be using an online process. Please check back to the www.gcrf.org website soon for the details of the process.

Applications will be reviewed bi-weekly through October 31, and monthly thereafter. Some decisions may be postponed depending on funding availability and prioritization of need; staff will keep applicants apprised of the review process. Award/decline letters will be sent following each meeting; grants will generally be paid within a week of receiving the signed grant agreement.