

NEW GRANT MAKING CRITERIA

Over the past year the Foundation has undertaken a major review of its grant making policy. This has resulted in statements of philosophy and criteria that expands and clarifies the previous criteria. Applicants should notice very little difference in the way the Trustees make decisions.

Philosophy

Changing communities is a process that requires a number of strategies that work together to form a whole. The Foundation recognises that its role is to support community organisations to both determine the nature of community that they aspire to and to implement changes. To do this requires a community development approach that respects the right of communities to determine their own futures.

It is recognised that a combination of strategies is often required that will contain elements of service delivery, public education, advocacy and working collaboratively with others. Projects or programmes that combine these elements will be given higher priority.

New Grant Making criteria

- The extent to which the project or programme is consistent with the purpose statement of the Foundation
- The extent to which the solution is effective and the organisation has the internal resources to deliver the project or programme effectively
- The extent to which the Foundation is prepared to commit to an ongoing expectation of funding
- The extent to which the organisation has a clear purpose and is able to articulate the manner in which the project or programme is consistent with overall strategy
- The extent to which the organisation has a commitment to working collaboratively and cooperatively with other organisations
- The track record of the organisation
- The number of people who will benefit. In general applications that will result in benefit to a greater number of people will have a higher priority. The foundation must ensure that this criterion does not disadvantage those in rural and smaller communities and will consider this criterion in association with the degree of disadvantage
- The length of time the community will benefit. In general applications for projects that will have a lasting benefit to the community will have a higher priority. Particularly this includes projects or programmes that will have a lasting benefit through promoting long term systemic social change.
- The ability of the organisation to raise funds from other sources. Where an organisation has the ability to raise funds from other sources, e.g. internal fundraising, applications to other funders etc., the Foundation will take that ability into account in making its decision. Where government funding could be available for the category of project but has been declined the Foundation will also decline, e.g. school buildings.
- The degree to which those who will benefit are a disadvantaged group. In general disadvantaged groups will have a higher priority. The Foundation will consider the access or lack of access to resources and facilities. Lack of access may be caused by there being a lack of resources or facilities or by a lack of knowledge or power to access those resources or facilities.