

# Grants-in-Aid Outlook

June 1, 2011

## From grantsTX Digest

### **American Library Association Fundraising Kit – Deadline: None**

It's important to remember that grants from private foundations make up just a small percentage of philanthropic giving in the U.S. Donations from individuals make up 75% of all annual giving. Direct donations from library supporters can be an important source of unrestricted revenue to meet your library's most basic needs. ALA has just published the Frontline Fundraising Toolkit, which is available online at

[http://www.ala.org/ala/issuesadvocacy/advocacy/advocacyuniversity/frontline\\_fundraising\\_toolkit/fft.pdf](http://www.ala.org/ala/issuesadvocacy/advocacy/advocacyuniversity/frontline_fundraising_toolkit/fft.pdf)

The document walks you through identifying and approaching potential donors, setting up an Annual Fund, and building relationships with donors. An initiative of current ALA President Roberta Stevens, the workbook offers commonsense tips and best practices to help get a new fundraising program started, no matter what the size of your library, and no matter what your level of experience with fundraising. Fundraising isn't as scary as it seems, and this book gives you some important tools, and even some sample scripts and letters, to guide you through the process. This resource may be useful for other organizations, too.

## from Grant Station Insider

### **American Legion Child Welfare Foundation – Deadline: June 1, 2011**

The American Legion Child Welfare Foundation will award funding for projects that contribute to the physical, mental, emotional and spiritual welfare of children and youth through the dissemination of knowledge about new and innovative organizations and/or their programs designed to benefit youth; or, through the dissemination of knowledge already possessed by well-established organizations, to the end that such information can be more adequately used by society. Grants are not made for any of the normal, day-to-day operating expenses of the grantee or expected special operating expenses connected with the grant. The 2010 awards may be viewed at <http://www.cwf-inc.org/cwf/news/current>. Grants must have the potential of helping American children in a large geographic area (more than one state). Grants are not awarded for more than one year. All grants awarded must be started and completed between the period of January 1 and December 31. Grants are made only to tax-exempt organizations and agencies and will not be given for construction of any type. Application details are available at <http://www.legion.org/documents/pdf/grantapplication.pdf>.

### **Best Buy Community Grants – Application Period: July 1 through August 1, 2011**

Through the Community Grants Program, Best Buy teams across the United States select non-profit organizations that provide positive experiences to help teens to excel in school and develop life and leadership skills. This year, Best Buy Children's Foundation will give \$2 million in Community Grants to organizations that have current 501(c)(3) tax status and are serving a diverse population of young teens in the areas of learning, life skills and leadership. Special consideration will be given to programs that provide youth with access to opportunity through technology. Additional criteria include: (1) Serving a diverse population in local or regional communities; (2) Building social, academic, leadership and/or life skills in early adolescents (primarily ages 13-17); (3) Providing positive results against a demonstrated community need; (4) Reaching at-risk children in working families. Grants will average \$4,000-\$6,000 and will not exceed \$10,000. Non-profits located within 50 miles of a Best Buy store or Regional Distribution Center may apply. See the store locator at [www.bestbuy.com](http://www.bestbuy.com) and include the Best Buy location number in your grant application. (Both Kerrville and Karnes City were just within 50 miles of a store, so I assume the whole Alamo Region qualifies.) For more information visit:

[http://www.bestbuy-communityrelations.com/community\\_grants\\_rfp.htm](http://www.bestbuy-communityrelations.com/community_grants_rfp.htm).

### **Good 360 – Continuous Availability of Donated Items**

No matter your organization's product needs, Good360 can help. Each week hundreds of nonprofits receive product donations from Good360, but due to overwhelming inventory, we still need more. Whether it's Post-It Notes, software, paper towels, diapers, furniture, art supplies, or even DVDs, we're sure to have something that will help you with your mission. Membership is absolutely FREE and our inventory changes every day, so visit:

[http://good360.org/grantstation/?utm\\_source=grantstation+5-23&utm\\_medium=newsletter&utm\\_campaign=66,000units](http://good360.org/grantstation/?utm_source=grantstation+5-23&utm_medium=newsletter&utm_campaign=66,000units).

**Schmidt Family Foundation Environmental Education & Research Grants – Deadline: Open Submission**

The Schmidt Family Foundation supports efforts to transform the world's environmental and energy practices. The Foundation's mission is to create an increasingly intelligent relationship between human activity and the use of the world's natural resources. Foundation emphasis is on meaningful efforts to change public perception and promote the transition from an oil-dependent society to one that operates on a renewable and sustainable energy platform. The Foundation funds research and other activities to ensure the availability of high-quality unbiased data on global warming and potential solutions. In addition, the Foundation supports public education about energy and the environment to promote public understanding of the science of climate change. Please visit <http://www.theschmidtfamilyfoundation.org/site/grants/index.html> to begin the application process with a Letter of Inquiry. After review of the LOI, you will be notified whether to submit a complete application.

*from Philanthropy News Digest*

**Tom's of Maine 50 States for Good Program – Deadline: June 21, 2011**

Tom's of Maine has launched its 3rd annual "50 States for Good" program, which supports community nonprofit organizations around the United States in completing volunteer-driven projects. Any qualifying 501(c)(3) in good standing with an organizational operating budget under \$2 million is eligible to apply. Organizations must work on projects, with the help of community volunteers, that relate to "environmental goodness, healthy human goodness, or animal goodness." Following the application phase, a panel of experts will select twenty finalists based on a range of criteria, including use of community volunteers, ability to get the project completed, and community impact. The six winners will be determined by a public online vote starting in early August 2011. The organization with the most votes will receive \$50,000 in sponsorship funding; five additional organizations will each receive \$20,000. Each finalist, along with its project, will be showcased at the Tom's of Maine Web site during the voting phase. Projects must be completed within six months of receiving funding. Complete program guidelines and the online application are available at <http://www.tomsomaine.com/community-involvement/living-well/project-sponsorships>.

**Health Care Service Corporation Grants for Children's Health – Deadline: August 15, 2011**

Health Care Service Corporation (HCSC), a customer-owned health insurer, has launched a three-year initiative called "Healthy Kids, Healthy Families" to improve the health of children in the four states where the company operates Blue Cross and Blue Shield plans (Illinois, New Mexico, Oklahoma, and Texas). To foster greater community health improvement, HCSC is seeking alliances with local nonprofit organizations that offer sustainable, measurable programs designed to strengthen and enrich communities in any of the four states. The initiative will fund and partner with nonprofit organizations working to provide nutrition education, promote physical activity, prevent and manage disease, and/or support safe environments for children. Grants will be provided to 501(c)(3) organizations whose missions align with Healthy Kids, Healthy Families criteria. Funding may be used to enhance ongoing activities or create new programs. Complete program guidelines and the application are available at <http://www.hcsc.com/grants.html>.

*from Rural Assistance Center*

**Harry Chapin Self-Reliance Awards – Deadline: July 1, 2011**

The Harry Chapin Self-Reliance Awards program provides economic resources and networking opportunities to outstanding community-based organizations for their creative and effective approaches to fighting hunger and poverty in the United States. Cash grants of up to \$7,000 are awarded to ten community-based organizations to support innovative programmatic work in the fields of hunger and poverty. Applicants must provide a detailed description of the work they wish to fund, a plan for implementing their work, and a description of how the work will directly benefit the local community. Organizations must be community-based, located within the United States, have their own 501(c)3 tax exemption or a fiscal sponsor with 501c3 status, and identify a specific project or program with a budget of \$500,000 or less that will benefit from the award money. Application details may be found at <http://www.whyhunger.org/programs/grassroots-action-network/272.html>.

**Jenny's Heroes Community Improvement Grants – Deadline: Open Submission**

Talk show host and philanthropist Jenny Jones will donate an additional \$1 million to continue the Jenny's Heroes community grant program to award up to \$25,000 to the best ideas for tangible, lasting community projects. Through the 50 grant recipients so far, funds have been used to provide items and services such as library books, school computers, firefighting gear, nursing home upgrades, sports equipment, free dental services, wheelchairs, coats for children in domestic violence shelters, and a running track at a women's prison. The program's focus is primarily on smaller communities where fundraising can be difficult. Applications are made online at [http://www.jennysheroes.com/application\\_form.shtml](http://www.jennysheroes.com/application_form.shtml).

**Robert Wood Johnson Foundation Pioneer Proposals – *Deadline: Open Submission***

The Pioneer Portfolio makes awards in response to unsolicited proposals for projects that suggest new and creative approaches to solving health and health care problems. Pioneer welcomes proposals for unsolicited grants at any time and issues awards throughout the year. There are no deadlines. The Pioneer Portfolio aims to support novel, high-return ideas that may have far-reaching impact on people's health, the quality of care they receive, and the systems through which that care is provided. Applications should discuss: (1) the problem or issue that the innovation will address and the activities that will be conducted during the project, (2) how the innovation will lead to breakthroughs in health care and health outcomes and the vision for how this project might change health and health care in the future, and (3) potential next steps that might follow completion of the proposed project. Application details are available at <http://www.rwjf.org/pioneer/submission.jsp>.

**Walgreen Community Improvement Grants – *Deadline: Open Submission***

The Walgreen Company is interested in supporting community initiatives that seek to improve: (1) Access to health and wellness in their community, (2) Pharmacy education programs and mentoring initiatives, (3) Civic and Community outreach, and (4) Civic and Community outreach. Only 501(c)(3) non-profits are eligible. Amount of funding available is not specified. To submit an application, visit <http://www.walgreens.com/marketing/about/community/guidelines.jsp>.