Share Your Story to Create Compelling Grant Proposals

- Park County Community Foundation
- Location: Shane Lalani Center for the Arts
- Livingston, Montana
- January 21, 2020

Introductions

Please share:
- Your name &
- What will make your time spent here worthwhile?
Invisage & Mary: The Short Story
invisageconsulting.com

• We have over 50 years of combined experience in serving the nonprofit, public, & private sectors in striving to reach greater impact;
• We believe non-profits provide the heart & soul of a community and contribute considerably to its health and stability;
• We work to help people find their voices and tell their stories;
• We bring people together; and
• We can honestly say that our experience has reached around the world.

January 31, 2020
Sharing Your Story to Create Compelling Grant Proposals

Community Vision

1. We will continually strive to improve the well-being of all our residents. (Health, Safety, and Education)
2. We will support development of diverse and viable economic opportunities consistent with the character of our community. (Economic Performance)
3. We will support good solutions that address affordability for all who choose to live and work here. (Housing and Affordability).
4. We will embrace and nurture our sense of community. (Small Town and Rural Lifestyle)
5. We will remain one of the most beautiful places to live on earth. (Landscapes and Natural Beauty)

WeWillParkCounty.org
Grants: First Things First

- Proposed projects should be for the benefit of Park County residents.
- Applicants must be:
  - A qualified 501(c)(3) organization, or have a fiscal sponsor that is a 501(c)(3) organization
  - A public entity located in Park County or with projects and programs in Park County, Montana.
- **NOTE:** As was established during the 2019 grant cycle, the Grants Committee will not review applications from organizations that have an outstanding final report from a previous grant cycle. All final reports for 2019 awards are due on **February 24, 2020.**
Your Questions for today:

• What is your most pressing issue regarding grant writing?
• What questions may you have at this time?

Parking Lot

Questions are welcome along the way.

"The Scientist is not a person who gives the rights answers, he's one who asks the right questions."

~ Claude Levi-Strauss
Story-Telling Time

1. Write down the 1-3 questions you want to answer in your 3-minute story.
2. Take 3 minutes to create or review your 3-minute story.
3. Find a new friend to share your story.
4. Find another friend and listen to their story.
5. Quickly write down what you learned from your friend’s story.

“The proper aim of giving is to put the recipients in a state where they no longer need our gifts.”
- C.S. Lewis

“Good stories surprise us. They make us think and feel. They stick in our minds and help us remember ideas and concepts in a way that a PowerPoint crammed with bar graphs never can.”
- Joe Lazauskas and Shane Snow, The Storytelling Edge

What have we learned?
THINGS TO PONDER:

- What is your greatest success?
- What is most misunderstood about your mission or your work in the community?
- What is your most impactful story to date?
- As a new potential donor, what are you expecting me to learn?
- What is unique about your organization, program, or project?
- How did you determine your method?
- What’s special about how your group collaborates?

Grants: What Is Funded

- **Community Grants**
  - Provide support for community projects or general operating costs.

- **Collaborative Grants**
  - Provide support for two or more nonprofit or local government agencies applying for a common-purpose program or project;
  - Successful applications clearly demonstrate a community need and a focused collaborative effort to creatively address that need.
  - Require true collaboration on a project or program. The Community Foundation defines collaboration as organizations with different resources, knowledge and skills working together to create innovative solutions.

- **Multi-Year Grants**
  - Provide support for up to three years.
  - Designed to support the evolution of a community initiative
  - Supports a necessary initial investment for the organization to better fulfill its mission
  - Organizations must be in existence for a minimum of 3 years, with an executive director in the position for a minimum of one year
& More About Multi-Year Community Grants

• **Additional Notes:**
  - Organizations may submit both a Community and Multi-Year Grant application for the same grant cycle, however the Grants Committee will only fund one of the proposals.
  - Organizations awarded the Multi-Year Grant are not eligible to apply for Community Grants during the Multi-Year Grant funding period. However, Collaborative Grant applications that include Multi-Year Grant recipients will be considered.
  - Multi-Year Grant recipients will receive awarded funds through annual installments, contingent upon receipt of satisfactory progress reports.

• **Multi-Year Grants are NOT intended to fund:**
  - Existing programs year after year
  - General operating support
  - Staffing support

**If you consider a multi-year grant:**

- You must have a history of successful completion of grant reporting and grant objectives.
- Indicate your interest in this funding opportunity by emailing our program director at Barb.Oldershaw@pccf-montana.org

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Creating A Story to Remember

• **WHO:**
  - Mission & Vision (Results of what you practice)
Creating A Story to Remember

WHAT:
- Programs
- Services
- Share how it’s working and what is getting results

WHEN & WHERE

January 21, 2020
Sharing Your Story to Create Compelling Grant Proposals
Creating A Story to Remember

• HOW: (Things to consider: Strategic Thinking, Ethos of Transparency, Results-Oriented, Intentional Practices, Revitalization, Sustaining Resources)

• BUDGET
Roundtable Conversation

If your organization worked in a large fishbowl, what might you do differently?

Roundtable Conversation: Let’s Talk Collaboration

Are you the chicken or the pig?

"Coming together is a beginning, staying together is progress, and working together is success." – Henry Ford
Another Chapter

1. Write down the 1-3 questions you want to answer in your 3-minute story.
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4. Find another friend and listen to their story.
5. Quickly write down what you learned from your friend’s story.

“Find a group of people who challenge and inspire you, spend a lot of time with them, and it will change your life.”
– Amy Poehler

NOTES TO SELF

1. Write 1-3 actions you’d like to complete in the next 30 days that will help you create an exceptional grant request.
Parking Lot
Revisiting some of our questions.

LAST CALL!
1. Questions?
2. What’s next for you?
3. Today’s Evaluation
   Your thoughts on today’s program is appreciated.

Thank You!

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