

How We Work



Once established, Councils will meet quarterly to review grant requests from community groups, strategize future funding or community events, and hear from community and regional leaders on topics of interest. Each Council has unlimited membership but a maximum of 15 voting members. Voting members cast the final votes on funding decisions, though all community voices should be given weight and attention. It is up to each council to define the role of its voting members: functioning as traditional representatives, making decisions on behalf of the community, or simply ratifying the consensus reached by the larger group. Voting members serve three-year terms aligning with the calendar year(s) or until altered by a vote of the Community Council itself. Each year, the Community Council will nominate and elect new members as appropriate and as a course of its own business.

Councils will consider some grants at their quarterly meetings but may also conduct discussion and voting on requests that come between meetings and have more urgent timelines. Councils can fund a variety of initiatives and projects, with a few important guidelines. All recipient organizations must either: (a) be a 501(c) organization or other organization eligible for DRF funding; or (b) have an eligible organization serving as its fiscal agent. Councils cannot fund political or religious causes, or for-profit businesses. No single Community Council Grant can exceed \$6,000. If an organization needs more than \$6,000, they should seek the council's endorsement for a larger grant request to DRF.

POSSIBLE USES FOR COMMUNITY COUNCIL GRANT FUNDS:

- Community events that bridge gaps between residents and strengthen community bonds.
- Projects led by community members that directly benefit the community.
- Hiring consultants or professionals to support or do research on community assets.
- Small general operating support grants to critical community organizations.
- Matching funds for other grants being pursued within the community.

All funds must be linked to a community-based asset and be connected to the area of the Community Council providing the funding. Multiple councils can collaborate on a single request or may combine funds for projects or events that will include participation across multiple Community Council areas.

need to know



Meet quarterly

Unlimited membership with 15 maximum voting members decided by the group

Think strategically about community planning

Learn from local leadership

Review grants requests

Award funds