



ImpactAlamance

healthier • smarter • stronger

Spring Grant Award Cycle Funding Opportunities

Impact Alamance is pleased to announce funding opportunities for non-profits in Alamance County.

Healthy Eating Active Living will focus on building a healthier environment where children live and play. The goal of this funding is to increase access for families to healthy foods and make equipment for physical activity more accessible. This is one time funding up to \$50,000. **Interest email is due on February 20.** Specific funding interests and requirements are detailed in the **Healthy Eating, Active Living Proposal Guidelines on page 2.**

Impact in Action funding is designed to meet health needs outside of our priority areas. This is one time, non-operational funding up to \$50,000 to bring about new ideas that improve community health or to enhance current programs. **Interest email is due on February 20.** Requirements and guidelines can be found in the **Impact in Action Guidelines on page 3.**

Organizational Assessment and Capacity Building program is designed to build the capacity of local non-profits to further support the services they offer to our community. There will be five awards available in 2015. Impact Alamance supports organizations to strengthen and enhance core infrastructure so they can deliver quality programming more effectively and efficiently. Such support enables the organizations to focus on how they must operate in order to achieve their mission. Impact Alamance will offer an organizational assessment free of charge to those organizations that qualify. Upon successfully completing the organizational assessment and identifying the top capacity issue for the organization, Impact Alamance will then provide technical assistance for capacity building that addresses that specific issue. **Applications are due by February 20. Requirements and guidelines can be found on page 5.**

Grant Writer Assistance program is designed to build the capacity of local non-profits to further support the services they offer to our community. Recent surveys of local non-profits identified capacity building as a top need for organizations. Many non-profits lack the time, skills and resources to be able to focus on grant writing. Therefore, many grant opportunities that could improve and enhance health opportunities in our community are not pursued.

In response to this need, Impact Alamance offers grant writing services free of charge to those organizations that qualify. If you are interested in this service please click on the link below to fill out an application. **Applications will be accepted year round, however there will only be seven awards available in 2015 and requests will be handled on a first-come, first-served basis.** Please email the application to ImpactAlamance@conehealth.com. An Impact Alamance staff member will follow up with you within 2 business days. **Requirements and guidelines can be found on page 8.**

Healthy Eating Active Living

In order to receive funding from Impact Alamance, an organization must be:

- A current 501(c)(3) organization, as classified by the IRS, or a governmental agency;
- Located in Alamance County or serving a significant number of Alamance County residents.

Guidelines:

- Proposed programs should focus on building a healthier environment where children live and play with the goal of increasing access to healthy foods and access to physical activity.
- Grant funding is for non-operational expenses and for one time only.
- Grants requests should not exceed \$50,000.
- Funding decisions will be made by the board of Impact Alamance. Chosen proposals may not be granted the full amount requested due to the number of requests and availability of funds.
- Examples of requests could include (but not limited to):
 - Playgrounds in areas that do not have easy access to safe play areas
 - Community Gardens in areas that do not have adequate access to fresh fruits and vegetables
 - Development of or expansion of walking or biking trails in public areas
 - Physical equipment in public areas that encourage healthier choices (for example, a refrigerator that displays healthy options at a concession stand, free standing exercise equipment near a walking track)
 - Physical equipment where children play that would increase their activity (for example, bikes or tricycles for use on playground, pedometers, and other active play equipment)
 - Development or expansion of a farmer's market or mobile market in an area that has limited access to fresh fruits and vegetables

- Indoor physical equipment where families regularly gather

To enable us to determine eligibility, please answer the questions below and send an email titled Healthy Eating Active Living to ImpactAlamance@conehealth.com . Interest email is due by February 20.

1. Are you a 501(c)(3) organization?
2. Are you located in Alamance County and do you serve Alamance County residents?
3. Briefly describe in two paragraphs or less your proposed project. How will this project increase access for families to healthy food or to physical activity equipment?
4. What outcomes do you hope to achieve?
5. What amount of funding will you be requesting?

We will review your email to determine your organization's eligibility and whether your proposed project fits within the Healthy Eating, Active Living guidelines. If so we will notify you no later than March 2 to fill out and submit an electronic application. Applications are due on April 13. Applicants will be notified of funding decisions no later than June 15 .

Impact in Action

In order to receive funding from Impact Alamance, an organization must be:

- A current 501(c)(3) organization, as classified by the IRS, or a governmental agency;
- Located in Alamance County or serving a significant number of Alamance County residents.

Guidelines:

- Funds are to be used for community health needs and must benefit communities or neighborhoods.
- The project must clearly define how, what and why the effort will have community benefits.
- Grant funding is for one time only.
- Impact in Action funding can only be awarded to an organization once per year (either spring or fall).

- Priority will be given to projects that can demonstrate strong potential for sustainability.
- Grant requests should not exceed \$50,000 and can only be used for non-operational expenses.
- Funding decisions will be made by the board of Impact Alamance, with input from the Grant Advisory Committee and the staff of Impact Alamance. Chosen proposals may not be granted the full amount requested due to the number of requests and availability of funds.
- Examples of requests:
 - Provide physical activity and nutrition programs at a local community center or church
 - Creation of an outdoor library learning center.
 - Enhancement for summer camps, child care centers or after school programs (purchase of art supplies, puppets, or other materials).
 - Summer art programs for low income children.
 - Workshops/Professional Speakers to promote health and social issues (family literacy, education, senior safety, domestic violence, crime prevention).

Impact in Action Funding Not Supported:

- Impact in Action DOES NOT fund general core programs or operations because of budget shortfalls and cuts;
- Grants to individuals, dinners, fundraisers, or faith-based institutions for religious purposes;
- Grants that supplant or substitute existing funding;
- Broad, unfocused requests;

To enable us to determine eligibility, please answer the questions below and send an email titled Impact in Action Request to ImpactAlamance@conehealth.com. **Interest email is due by February 20.**

1. Are you a 501(c)(3) organization?
2. Are you located in Alamance County and do you serve Alamance County residents?
3. Briefly describe in two paragraphs or less your proposed project.
How will this project enhance health and benefit our community?
4. What outcomes do you hope to achieve?

5. What amount of funding will you be requesting?

We will review your email to determine your organization's eligibility and whether your proposed project fits within the Impact in Action guidelines. If so we will notify you no later than March 2 to fill out and submit an electronic application. Applications are due on April 13. Applicants will be notified of funding decisions no later than June 15.

Organizational Assessment and Capacity Building

Guidelines and Application Eligibility:

- 501 (c)(3) nonprofit organization and in operation for at least 3 years;
- Local organization located in Alamance County.

Requirements for Organizational Assessments:

- Must be conducted by an outside professional consultant who is skilled and experienced in implementing an effective organizational assessment process.
- Must involve board leadership as well as staff in the assessment process.
- Must assess each of these six key areas of organization infrastructure to identify strengths and challenges/areas for improvement:

Mission, Vision and Strategy - Does the organization have a clear mission, and are strategies in alignment with this mission?

Governance and Leadership - Does the organization have strong governance and foster leadership?

Resource Development - Is the organization financially sustainable?

Strategic Relationships - Does the organization have strong and positive relationships with external stakeholders?

Internal Operations and Management - Does the organization have a strong and sound core infrastructure?

Program Delivery and Impact - Is the organization effective in its delivery of programs and services, and is evaluation of impact integral to the organization?

- The assessment must include a review of organizational documents (legal documents, financial statements, and other important management documents) in addition to gathering key stakeholder input.
- Consultant produces a written document that describes the process completed and recommends areas for improvement and defined focus for future capacity building work including:

Short-term and/or no or low-cost improvement and activities - These include one-time activities that have a self-contained purpose, or preparation or planning activities that must be done to prepare for more complex capacity building work.

Long-term and/or high-cost improvements and activities - These include capacity building activities that are complex in nature and will require a significant investment of time and/or financial resources to undertake.

Duration of Assessment Process:

We expect that most organizational assessment grants will be completed within four months. Funding for this request is expected to be about \$5,000. The consultant will contract directly with Impact Alamance.

Approved Consultants:

Impact Alamance will supply the awarded non-profit with a list of approved consultants. The consultant directory is available through our office, please call us at 221-0011.

Criteria for consultants that are conducting organizational assessments through Impact Alamance funding:

- Complies with State of NC regulations and licensure requirements as applicable
- Minimum of three years nonprofit experience (as staff, board, volunteer, or consultant)
- Minimum of two years recent experience in a nonprofit consulting role
- Demonstrated skill in conducting comprehensive organizational assessments for nonprofits
- Demonstrated effectiveness in working in a consulting role with nonprofit clients

Expectations of Grantees:

An underlying philosophy that informs our consideration of applications is that nonprofit capacity building work is not easy work; there are no magical solutions and the level of benefit to organizations directly correlates to the level of time and effort invested by organizations. We expect that non-profits approach this work with the understanding that, even with the use of a consultant, staff and board members should be adequately prepared for their role and responsibilities to ensure the work has value.

At the end of the assessment process, the non-profit must be able to submit a final written report. If the assessment process is completed successfully, the non-profit is eligible to receive technical assistance on the top identified issue (for example - governance leadership, internal operations and management) in the organizational assessment.

To respond to this funding opportunity, you must fill out the attached application.

Review Criteria:

An organizational assessment grant review process is competitive. Proposals that are in line with the criteria below will receive priority consideration in our grant review process.

- Applicant organization meets all eligibility criteria and any other requirements specified in this RFP.
- Applicant organization has a mission and primary programs, services, and/or activities that strongly align with Impact Alamance's mission which is - *We strategically invest in our community for hope, health, and prosperity.*
- Applicant organization has a compelling reason for wishing to engage in a comprehensive organizational assessment.
- Applicant demonstrates intent that assessment will serve as a springboard to capacity building work while maintaining an open mind as to what capacity building needs will be identified through the organizational assessment process.
- The application reflects on recent or expected economic, political, or social changes and their potential impact on the organization and the assessment process.

Application Process

Please submit the organizational assessment to **ImpactAlamance@conehealth.com** by **February 20, 2015**. The application form can be found at <http://www.impactalamance.com>. A staff member will follow up with you to determine next steps in the application process.

Grant Writer Assistance

Impact Alamance offers grant writing services free of charge to those organizations that qualify. In order to receive grant writing assistance from Impact Alamance, an organization must be:

- A current 501(c)(3) organization, as classified by the IRS, or a governmental agency;
- Located in Alamance County or serving a significant number of Alamance County residents.
- Pursuing a grant of \$50,000 or more.

Application Process

To enable us to determine eligibility for grant writer assistance, please email your application to ImpactAlamance@conehealth.com . The application form can be found at <http://www.impactalamance.com>. We will review your application and get back with you as soon as possible. There is no deadline for this application, but requests will be handled on a first-come, first-served basis.

Frequently Asked Questions

Do you accept applications from non-profits that are not located in Alamance County?

Most of our applications will only be accepted from non-profits that are located in Alamance County. However, if you are a non-profit and most of the clients you serve are from Alamance County we would consider accepting your proposal.

Can a non-profit apply for more than one type of funding or assistance?

Yes, non-profits can apply for each of the opportunities currently available. If an non-profit is awarded Impact in Action funding during the spring cycle, they will not be eligible to apply in the fall.

Who makes the funding decisions and how are grants reviewed and scored?

Impact in Action Funding

For those organizations that are invited to submit a full proposal, the grant will be initially screened by staff and then forwarded to the Community Grant Advisory Committee. This committee, made up of community leaders familiar with our non-profit sector, will review, score and make funding recommendations to staff. Staff will then make their recommendations to the Impact Alamance Board of Directors. The full board will make the final decision regarding which organizations will be awarded funding.

Healthy Eating, Active Living Funding

For those organizations that are invited to submit a full proposal, the grant will be reviewed and scored by staff. Staff will present funding recommendations to the Program Committee. This committee is made up of Impact Alamance board members who are responsible for overseeing the foundation's program areas. After reviewing staff recommendations, the Program Committee will make their recommendations to the Impact Alamance Board of Directors. The full board will make the final decision regarding which organizations will be awarded funding.

Organizational Assessments and Capacity Building Technical Assistance

Impact Alamance Staff will review applications and make award decisions based on need, opportunity and proposed impact of the assistance.

Grant Writer Assistance

Impact Alamance Staff will review applications and make award decisions based on need, opportunity and proposed impact of the assistance.

Can we call the foundation if we need any type of clarification or have questions regarding funding opportunities?

Yes. Please call us at 221-0011 for any questions you may have. You can also send an email to ImpactAlamance@conehealth.com