



Matthews Children's Foundation Grant Application FAQs

Updated December, 2015

The following are frequently asked questions and helpful answers regarding the Matthews Children's Foundation grant application process.

What charitable organizations qualify for Matthews Children's Foundation grants?

Organizations must be registered 501(c)3 nonprofit, charitable organizations which directly benefit children.

Who should complete the grant application?

The grant application should be completed by the nonprofit organization requesting the grant. The sponsoring Funeral Home must be listed on the grant application where indicated, including contact information.

What is the Funeral Home's role in the grant application process?

Participating Funeral Homes may solicit local children's-focused nonprofits in its community to apply for grants. By including its contact information and other required information (see next question) where indicated, the Funeral Home acts as the sponsoring organization for the charity's application.

How does a Funeral Home sponsor a charitable organization?

Sponsoring a charity's grant application is simple. The Funeral Home must provide a letter on the Funeral Home's letterhead stating (1) why this organization deserves the grant; and (2) how this organization helps kids in the community.

The grants may be requested for any purpose related to providing benefits for children, but preference will be given to requests seeking to fund programming which directly benefits children. For example, a grant application requesting funds to create a reading program will be given preference over an application to purchase furniture or fund operational expenses.

How many charitable organizations can a Funeral Home sponsor?

A Funeral Home can sponsor as many charities as it would like, provided that the charities are 501(c)3 charitable organizations directly benefitting children.

How does a charity request a Grant Application?

A grant application can be obtained from a participating Funeral Home or via Matthews' website <http://matw.com/memorialization/our-company/matthews-childrens-foundation>. Participating Funeral Homes may also obtain grant applications via the website or from its Funeral Sales Consultant.

How does a charity know if it qualifies for a grant?

As stated in the 'Grant Application' form the organization must be tax exempt. They must provide: (1) a copy of the 501(c)3 letter from the IRS stating that the organization has been approved as a 501(c)3 organization; and (2) a completed IRS Form 990 or 990EZ. In addition, the grant application must be completed in full. Incomplete applications will be rejected, and the organization may reapply during the next grant period.

Matthews Children's Foundation's goal is to provide grants to small, community-based children's nonprofit organizations who are often overlooked in the distribution of federal funding and large corporate contributions.

Will the Foundation call me if my application is incomplete?

No. If the application is incomplete, it will be rejected and the charity may reapply with a complete application during the next grant period.

What other documents should the charity attach to the application?

Only the information requested on the grant application is necessary. Please include a thorough explanation regarding the intended use for the requested funds where indicated on the application.

How often may a charity apply for a grant?

A charity may apply every grant period if it chooses. However, only one application per organization per grant period will be considered. A new application must be submitted each grant period.

If my charitable organization is involved in activities other than supporting children's groups, can we still receive a grant?

Your organization may qualify if its primary purpose is to benefit children. Additionally, MCF does not provide grants to organizations that influence legislation, support political candidates, or intervene in political activities.

What are the grant application periods for this year?

April 30, 2016

August 30, 2016

December 31, 2016

What are the possible amounts of the grant awards?

Effective January 1, 2016, all grants are awarded in the set amount of \$1,000 per grant.

What happens when a charity is awarded a grant?

The check is distributed to the Matthews Aurora Funeral Sales Consultant, who will contact the sponsoring Funeral Home to advise it of the award. The FSC will work with the Funeral Home to schedule a check presentation with the winning charitable organization. The charitable organization is also notified by mail of its award so it may follow up with the sponsoring Funeral Home. The sponsoring Funeral Home receives a copy of this letter.

Charities not receiving grants will also receive a letter notifying them they were not selected. The sponsoring Funeral Home receives a copy of this letter.

What tools does Matthews provide to help the Funeral Home and charitable organization gain local recognition for the award?

Matthews provides a free media relations tool kit to its participating Funeral Home customers. Request one from your Funeral Sales Consultant today.