



# **2015 DRIVING FOR A CAUSE GRANT APPLICATION GUIDELINES**



**APPLICATION DEADLINE**

July 31, 2015

**GRANT AWARD NOTIFICATIONS**

Sept. 1, 2015

Thank you for your inquiry regarding Driving for a Cause's grant-making guidelines. Below is some helpful information you will need to prepare your grant proposal. Please carefully read all information.

Homestead-Miami Speedway's Driving for a Cause Foundation is a 501(c)(3) charitable outreach program of the NASCAR Foundation. The goal of the Driving for a Cause grant program is to fund nonprofit projects and programs that align with our mission.

In partnership with the NASCAR Foundation, our mission is to raise funds to support charitable causes in South Florida communities that focus on youth and education.

The Driving for a Cause Grant Program awards funds once a year ranging from \$500 - \$10,000. The Foundation may authorize grants in excess of \$10,000 at the discretion of its review committee. The Foundation does not make loans or grants to individuals or gifts to endowment funds.

The Driving for a Cause Foundation will consider **one** grant request from the same organization in a 12-month period. Priority is given to organizations that have been invited to apply for a grant. However, requests that meet our eligibility requirements will be considered for funding. All requests must be post marked by July 31, 2015 at 5 p.m. Requests will be reviewed and all applicants will be informed of grant decisions by Sept. 1, 2015. Due to the volume of support requests we receive, not all applications will be approved for funding.

On behalf of the Driving for a Cause Foundation, thank you for what you do to serve the needs of youth and for providing educational opportunities in South Florida.



## **GRANT-MAKING PRINCIPLES, PRIORITIES AND GUIDELINES**

The following guidelines are provided to help your organization prepare a successful grant application. Please review the eligibility questions before beginning the application process. If you do not meet the eligibility requirements and choose to submit an application, the Driving for a Cause Foundation reserves the right to not review or respond to your funding application.

## **ELIGIBILITY AND SELECTION CRITERIA**

- The Foundation's primary objective is to help meet the needs of economically and socially disadvantaged youth and to fund educational opportunities in South Florida.
- In making grant decisions, the Foundation seeks to support initiatives that foster significant lasting values beyond the funding period.
- Organizations seeking support should attempt to build on the strengths of low-income or disenfranchised youth, families, neighborhoods and local communities, helping to nurture sustainable skills, leaders, programs, and facilities. In their efforts, organizations should involve these populations in identifying and solving their own problems, such as by enhanced participation of parents, legal guardians, and mentors.

To be eligible, you should be able to answer **"Yes"** to the following questions:

- Is your organization an IRS qualified 501(c)(3) charitable organization?
- Is your program located in the United States?
- Is your organization non-discriminatory in policies and practices with regard to physical abilities, gender, race, sexual orientation, ethnic origin and/or creed?

To be eligible, you should be able to answer **"No"** to the following questions:

- Are you seeking support for an individual person or family?
- Are you seeking support for a political candidate or organization?
- Are you seeking funding for religious activities, in whole or part, for the purpose of promoting religious doctrine?
- Are you seeking support for a brick and mortar project?
- Are you seeking support for a capital campaign?



## LIMITATIONS

- Organizations that have been declined for funding by the Foundation must wait at least one year before being eligible to reapply.
- Organizations currently being funded by the Foundation that wish to apply for funding for a different program, must wait to submit an application until the grant period for the currently funded program has ended.
- Organizations currently being funded may apply for continuation of the program being funded, if applicable. In general, multi-year grant support for an organization will not exceed three consecutive years. We encourage organizations to leverage funding received from the Driving for a Cause Foundation to obtain other funding in concurrent and future years. Consideration may be given by the Foundation for additional funding in subsequent years, i.e., in the form of challenge grants.



**ORGANIZATION INFORMATION**

Enter information in the fields below as it pertains to your organization.

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Organization Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Legal Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Annual Budget: \_\_\_\_\_

Organization Mission/Overview (250 words maximum): \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_ Postal Code: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ Fax: \_\_\_\_\_

Website Address (if applicable): \_\_\_\_\_

Enter information in the fields below as it pertains to the Chief Executive Officer of your organization.

First Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Last Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Title: \_\_\_\_\_

Office Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Email: \_\_\_\_\_

Complete the following fields as they apply to your organization's budget.

Beginning Date of Current Year Fiscal Year: \_\_\_\_\_ End Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Budget Amount: \_\_\_\_\_

Beginning Date of Last Year's Fiscal Year: \_\_\_\_\_ End Date: \_\_\_\_\_



Budget Amount: \_\_\_\_\_

If your organization has an endowment, please list the amount: \_\_\_\_\_

### PROPOSAL INFORMATION

Enter information below as it pertains to your project/proposal.

Project Title: \_\_\_\_\_

Proposal Overview (250 word maximum): \_\_\_\_\_

Total Request Amount: \_\_\_\_\_ Project Budget: \_\_\_\_\_

\*\*If you are asking for \$5,000 or more, please submit your latest third-party audit.

Project Start Date: \_\_\_\_\_ Project End Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Geographical Area Served: \_\_\_\_\_

Socio-Economic Population Served: \_\_\_\_\_

Age Group (check all that apply):

\_\_\_\_\_ Adults (18+)

\_\_\_\_\_ Young Adults (14-17)

\_\_\_\_\_ Children (6-13)

Enter information in the fields below as it pertains to the primary contact for this proposal.

First Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Last Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Title: \_\_\_\_\_

Office Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Email: \_\_\_\_\_

Are you, any members of your organization or any individuals that support your organization affiliated with Homestead-Miami Speedway? (Please explain).



## **PROPOSAL NARRATIVE**

Distinctly outline the program for which you are seeking funds and why this project is important to your community. Your response should make clear who will be doing what, when, and for how long. Specific populations to be served should be clearly identified as well as organizations that will be involved as collaborators.

Describe the population or community served.

### **PROJECT GOALS**

In the fields below explain your specific goals (up to 10 goals) for the program and how they will be objectively monitored and measured. Please be specific and list how you will determine whether the program has demonstrated success.

Goal #1 (Provide answers for each goal up to 10)

Outcome: What do you hope to achieve?

Process: What do you do? (Action steps/activities)

Measurement: How do you measure the outcome and process goals?

### **PROJECT DETAILS**

Respond to the questions below as they pertain to your project/proposal.

Purpose of the Project (250 words maximum).

List what you consider to be the top 3 beneficial aspects of the project as it relates to serving disadvantaged youth:

List what you consider to be the top 3 potential concerns or obstacles of the program as it relates to serving disadvantaged youth and how you plan to address each one:

What do you anticipate your organization will learn from this program that will assist others in future programs? How will the program and what is learned from it enhance your organization's ability to serve youth and families after the grant period and how it will be assist other organizations?

How does this program for which you are seeking funds meet the needs of the community it intends to serve and what evidence is there that the program leaders have engaged the interest and support of the community?



If you have applied for funding from other sources, list these potential sources, amounts you are seeking, and when you expect a decision to be made on these requests:

**Board Financial Commitment**

Describe your agency's policy regarding expectations for board members to personally contribute financially and/or raise financial contributions for your organization:

What percentage of board members personally contributed financially (cash, not in-kind) last fiscal year? What was the total amount personally contributed by the board last fiscal year?

What percentage of board members secured financial contributions (cash, not in-kind) from other sources? What was the total secured from other sources by the board last fiscal year?



On behalf of Applicant Organization, I as an officer or other authorized individual of such organization (“Submitter”), submit this Application. I have truthfully completed the Application to the best of my ability and hereby agree to the following in the event Applicant Organization is awarded a grant:

- a) Applicant Organization must repay the Driving for a Cause Foundation any amounts not used for purposes of the grant;
- b) Applicant Organization, if requested by the Driving for a Cause Foundation, shall submit report(s) to the Foundation regarding the manner in which the funds are being utilized and/or provide a progress report in accomplishing the purposes of the grant;
- c) Applicant Organization will keep records of receipts and expenditures in connection with the grant and make its records available to the Driving for a Cause Foundation at reasonable times; and,
- d) Applicant Organization will not use any of the grant funds to influence legislation or the outcome of elections or to undertake any nonexempt activity in connection with such funds.

Submitter: \_\_\_\_\_

Title: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_



**DEADLINE for 2015 applicants is July 31, 2015.**

Thank you for your application. Applicants will be informed of the committee's decision by Sept. 1, 2015.

**Application checklist:**

- ✓ Original application and six hard copies of application and other materials listed below mailed to:

Homestead-Miami Speedway  
Attn: Driving for a Cause Foundation Grant Review Committee  
One Ralph Sanchez Speedway Blvd.  
Homestead, FL 33035

- ✓ Completed Grant Proposal Form
- ✓ Specific Program Budget
- ✓ IRS 501 (c)(3) Tax-Exempt Determination Letter
- ✓ IRS Form 990

If you have any questions or need clarification regarding any of our guidelines, please call (305) 230-5000 or [driveforacause@homesteadmiamispeedway.com](mailto:driveforacause@homesteadmiamispeedway.com)

Good luck!