

Researching Potential Funders

Researching potential funders in advance is an excellent way to prepare for writing your grant proposal. Below are a few websites that you can use to search for organizations that have provided funds in the past and search current funding opportunities.

<http://grants.gov>

<http://fdncenter.org>

<http://www.npguides.org/>

www.guidestar.org

www.foundations.org

Instructions Use the questions below to identify potential funders for future grant proposals.

Potential Funder

Name _____

Address _____

Phone _____

1. What is their mission?

2. How many grant awards have they made in the last year and what were they?

3. Do they align with your program goals? Y/N

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Identifying Community Assets

We often think about community needs but it is important to identify assets in our communities as well.

Instructions: Brainstorm assets in the community in which you would like to propose funding.

1. List 5 assets that your community has to attribute to health needs. (e.g. public parks for walking groups)

2. Draft 2-3 sentences that describe the assets that the community contributes to your proposed project.

Crafting Your Story

Crafting your story is a multi-step process. You can begin crafting your story in the cover letter and continue all the way throughout the proposal ending with your appendices. This activity is designed to help you think through how you will tell your community's story.

Instructions: For each proposal section listed below, practice writing your story. Use the example in the power point slides to help identify what type of information needs to be included.

I. Needs Statement

Outline what you would include in a needs assessment section of a grant proposal. Remember to use (or leave placeholders) for national, state, and local data.

II. Organizational History

List your organization's top 3 accomplishments (try to relate these to your proposal)

Using one of the accomplishments that you listed, draft 2-3 sentences communicating your accomplishment to a potential funder.

III. Project Description/Methods

List one goal for your project and 2-3 SMART objectives.

In 1-2 sentences, describe what you want to do.

In sentence 2-3 sentences draft a rationale for why you want to do this (remember innovation).

Partnership Plan

1. List 3 organizations with which you could partner.

2. List 3 organizations that already serve as your partners.

3. List 3 organizations that you would like to re-engage.

4. Which proposal sections will you highlight your existing partnerships? _____

5. Draft 2 sentences that describe your partners' potential role in your proposed project.
