

Resolution 2008-51
Resolution to Adopt Procedures for Awarding
Community Services Grants

WHEREAS, many Monroe County citizens selflessly donate their time, effort and skills through various social and community organizations in order to improve the quality of life throughout Monroe County and beyond; and

WHEREAS, the Monroe County Council wishes to support and encourage the work and goals of private social and community organizations; and

WHEREAS, the Monroe County Council has taken over from the Monroe County Commissioners the responsibilities of granting dollar support to social agencies, and has established a budget line titled "Community Services" in recognition of the all-encompassing purpose of the support programs the County Council wishes to support; and

WHEREAS, the County Council understands that Community Services funding has been, and is, discretionary funding in the spirit of good governance through fair and empathetic recognition of those vulnerable in our community; and

WHEREAS, the County Council recognizes that the Community Services funding line is entirely separate from those funding lines which we have established because of statutory requirement and/or dedicated levies, including those for Options, Inc., Stonebelt ARC, local mental health services, Juvenile Justice, etc.; and

WHEREAS, the Community Services line is not to be confused with the grants nearly every County Government Department utilizes and proactively seeks for their missions and operations; and

WHEREAS, the Community Services Grant Award Process is a reflection of the Monroe County Citizens' and taxpayers values and priorities, reflecting their recognition of the neediest in our community, and the innovation of those who serve the needy, through the fair representation of the citizenry through their County Council officials, comprised of district and at-large members; to that end, transparency of the governmental process will guarantee fairness and demonstrate how frugally, prudently, and wisely the monies are managed; and

WHEREAS, the outreach to Community Service partners by Monroe County Government's County Council will adhere to the best practices of working with local corporate, independent and volunteer-based and operated media outlets; and

WHEREAS, Monroe County Council will implement best practices in providing all histories and information about Community Services funding awards and application process online and in hard copy available to all citizens;

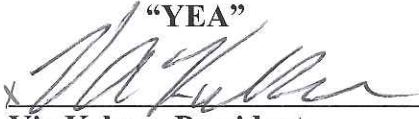
NOW THEREFORE, be it resolved that:

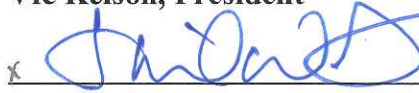
1. The Monroe County Council shall focus on the following areas when considering grants from its Community Services Fund:
 - A. Food, Security, Shelter and Health
 - B. Transportation
 - C. Climate Change
 - D. Emergency Shortages
 - E. First Responders
 - F. Veterans
 - G. Excellence in Government
2. The President of the Monroe County Council shall appoint a Review Committee of five (5) persons to review grant applications and make recommendations to the County Council for awarding grants. Three (3) members of the committee shall be members of the Monroe County Council; two (2) additional members shall be drawn from the community at large, based on experience or expertise in community services.
3. The Review Committee shall focus on the following criteria when reviewing grant applications:
 - A. Programs must primarily serve Monroe County residents.
 - B. Likelihood of success of the proposal (i.e., will the dollar amounts sought likely accomplish the professed goal of the proposal?).
 - C. Partnership or leverage—whether the funds will serve to bring other partners or funding to the project?
 - D. Operational expenses such as travel, conference costs, ongoing supply or expense costs, maintenance costs, etc., shall be given low priority in award decisions, but shall not be necessarily excluded from consideration.
4. In development of actual application forms, agreements and other documentation, the excellent work of the City of Bloomington's Jack Hopkins Fund shall be used as guidelines.
5. The County Council shall encourage transparency throughout the acceptance, review and award of applications. In addition to maintaining hard copies of all application information, timeline and deadline information, historical and fiscal information regarding the funding, all such information shall also be available to the public through the County's website.

Adopted this 9th day of September, 2008.

MONROE COUNTY COUNCIL


"YEA"

x 
Vic Kelson, President

x 
Michael Woods, Vice President

x 
Sophia Travis, Member

x 
Marty Hawk, Member

x 
Jill S. Lesh, Member

x 
Warren Henegar, Member

x 
Charles Newmann, Member

"NAY"

Vic Kelson, President

Michael Woods, Vice President

Sophia Travis, Member

Marty Hawk, Member

Jill S. Lesh, Member

Warren Henegar, Member

Charles Newmann, Member

Attest:

Sandra M. Newmann, Monroe County Auditor