

Guidelines and Restrictions

People Helping People's Sharing Success Community Grants Program

As a member-focused organization, People Helping People (PHP) is most effective when its efforts are centered around helping people in need and providing support to community organizations that have achieved near universal or unquestionable support among cooperative members.

Community Grants Funding Source

PHP's Sharing Success Community Grants are financed solely from funds received from a matching grant program through cooperative lender CoBank¹.

1. Randolph EMC requests approval from its board of directors for a donation of up to \$10,000 to be used for the Community Grants program.
2. Once approved, Randolph EMC applies for matching funds from CoBank.
3. If approved, Randolph EMC then donates the total amount granted by both CoBank and the Randolph EMC Board of Directors to PHP.

Application Process

- Each year funding is received, PHP accepts applications for funds between March 1 and May 31.
- The community grants are reserved for local nonprofit agencies in Randolph, Moore, Montgomery, Alamance and Chatham counties.
- Qualifying organizations may apply for up to \$2,000 to:
 - a) Implement programs, or
 - b) Purchase needed equipment to facilitate a program that will help make a positive impact in the communities where Randolph EMC member-owners reside.

Projects should:

- Positively impact a significant number of community members
- Address an unmet need that has the potential to benefit the community at-large
- Contain measurable short-term outcomes within 12 months

¹ Funding is not guaranteed from year-to-year and Randolph EMC reserves the right to apply for funds in support of alternate charitable programs.

Restrictions

In an effort to ensure the money is being used for its highest purpose, the following restrictions apply for the community grants program:

1. Grant funds will generally be made only to non-profit organizations that have been granted tax-exempt status under IRS Code Section 501(c)(3).
2. Grant funds will not exceed \$2,000 to a group or organization.
3. Grant funds will not be made available for:
 - Lobbying or politically partisan programs or organizations
 - Religious organizations for religious or evangelical purposes
 - Veteran, fraternal and labor organizations
 - Fund-raising dinners, raffles and other events
 - Individuals seeking personal help or scholarships
 - Capital fund campaigns
 - National fund drives
 - Advertising or marketing materials
 - On-going operational expenses (i.e. maintenance, repairs, supplies, wages)
 - Organizations that do not serve residents within Randolph, Moore, Montgomery, Chatham or Alamance Counties in North Carolina
 - Organizations outside the United States

Evaluation Process

The People Helping People Board of Directors, along with Randolph EMC staff, evaluate each application to ensure each funding request supports PHP's core mission, the cooperative's set of corporate values and the best interests of the cooperative membership.

The following factors will be considered in the evaluation of all funding requests:

- Potential benefit to area residents and the entire community
- Level of community support for the program or project
- Administrative capability of the organization to deliver quality service or program
- Results that are predictable and can be evaluated
- Photos and diagrams of specific requests
- Appropriate use of previous funding