

## I. Program Overview

Through the Community Development Grant Program, First National Bank of Omaha (which also operates as First National Bank, First National Bank Fremont, First National Bank North Platte and First National Bank Southwest, and hereinafter referred to as "Bank" or "the Bank") supports the implementation of community development activities in communities where the Bank operates and serves.

## II. Program Goals

The goal of the Bank's Community Development Grant Program is to build strong and successful communities. Applicants requesting a Community Development grant must currently be implementing or planning to implement a program, service, or initiative that will achieve one of the following community development goals for the benefit of low or moderate income individuals, families, and/or communities:



### Stable Housing:

Increase access to safe, affordable, and quality housing through construction, site development, housing rehabilitation, homeownership education, and foreclosure prevention programs and services.



### Strong Local Economies:

Grow local economies through small business and entrepreneurship development and job creation by supporting training, technical assistance, education and microfinance.



### Vibrant Neighborhoods:

Stimulate revitalization that attracts or retains individuals and/or businesses to blighted, underserved, and distressed communities.



### Educated Workforce:

Strengthen individual core competencies that will improve personal economic self-sufficiency, including financial education, adult basic education, and vocational and employability training.

## III. Program Eligibility

- **Community Development Purpose:** Grants are awarded to support the four grant program goals outlined above: stable housing, strong local economies, vibrant neighborhoods, and educated workforce.
- **Tax Status:** Eligibility is limited to 501(c)(3) nonprofit organizations that are currently implementing or planning to implement programs, services, and initiatives that are consistent with the community development goals identified above.
- **Geography:** Organizations eligible for a Community Development grant must serve a county listed in Table 2 on page 3.
- **Program Beneficiaries:** The majority (51 percent or more) of the beneficiaries (individuals, families, and/or census tract(s)) of any grant funded program or service must be low or moderate income. Low or moderate income is defined as 80 percent or below the area Median Family Income. Grant applicants must demonstrate that a majority of the grant funded program beneficiaries are or will be low or moderate income.

## IV. Funding Parameters

Grants can support the direct implementation of programs, services, and initiatives of eligible non-profit organizations, consistent with the grant program goals. Funds can be used to support program related expenses, including: personnel, supplies, materials, and sub-contracts. Grants may be used for funding multiple programs or general operating expenses if the organization's mission and overall activities are consistent with the Community Development goals and a majority of the organization's beneficiaries are low or moderate income. Grants should cover a period of

one year; multiyear grant awards will be considered on a case-by-case basis, at the discretion of the Bank. Grant funding should be expended within one year of the award, and grant renewals are not guaranteed.

Funding will not be provided to organizations or programs for the following purposes:

- Organizations that are not tax-exempt defined by 501(c)(3)
- Capital or endowment campaigns
- Expenses for travel or for the benefit of an individual(s)
- Political organizations or those that lobby as a primary area of focus
- Health or disease specific programs or organizations
- Religious organizations for religious purposes
- Organizations outside of the Bank’s geographic footprint
- Fundraising events or sponsorships

## V. Grant Application Requirements

Organizations applying for a Community Development grant must complete an online grant application and submit supplemental documentation.

Community Development grants will be awarded twice per calendar year, and each cycle is dedicated to one or more specific goal areas, as indicated in Table 1. Only grants related to the specified goal area(s) will be accepted during each application period. Applications must be completed online and received within the time frame indicated below. Applications submitted outside of the designated goal area and/or time period will not be considered, and will not be retained for future rounds.

**Table 1: Grant Cycles and Goal Areas**

2017 Grant Cycle	Applications Accepted	Goal Area
Grant Cycle 1	January 23 - February 27	Stable Housing Strong Local Economies Vibrant Neighborhoods
Grant Cycle 2	June 5 - July 17	Educated Workforce

Applicants may be required to submit the following documentation:

1. Audited or review grade financial statements – most recent or within past 12 months
2. Completed W9
3. Program Budget – current year and forecast
4. Board of Directors – Directors names, organizational affiliation; and term of directorship

Questions regarding Community Development grants should be directed to: [communitydevelopment@fnni.com](mailto:communitydevelopment@fnni.com)

**Table 2: Geographic Eligibility**

Organizations must be located in and/or serve one of the following counties:

Nebraska and Iowa	Colorado	Texas
Mills Pottawattamie Douglas Sarpy Lancaster Hall Beatrice Butler Colfax Madison Platte Polk Hooker Lincoln (County) McPherson Box Butte Dawes Morrill Scotts Bluff Sheridan Sioux Buffalo Dawson Kearney Phelps Dodge	Larimer Boulder Weld Adams Broomfield Jefferson	Collin Denton
	Illinois	
	DeKalb Kane Boone Kendall McHenry	
	Kansas	
	Johnson	
	South Dakota	
	Beadle Bon Homme Clay Davison Hutchinson Sanborn Yankton	

## Frequently Asked Questions

- 1. My program does not fit within one of the four grant goal areas, but does fit within another area of support listed on the First in the Community page. May I apply?**
  - Programs outside of the four identified grant goal areas will not be considered for a Community Development grant. We invite you to learn more about how we support our communities, as well as other opportunities to request support by visiting our website. Examples of programs we have supported through the Community Development grant program are listed on page 5.
  
- 2. What are the minimum and maximum grant awards?**
  - In an effort to maximize impact, the minimum award is \$10,000. In some cases, grants will be awarded for a lesser amount. The majority of grant awards are less than \$50,000, with the average size around \$20,000.
  
- 3. My organization operates in and serves a county that is not listed in Table 2. May I still apply?**
  - Community Development grants are awarded to eligible programs within the areas we operate and serve, listed in Table 2, on the previous page. If the organization's headquarters are not within the eligible counties, but it primarily serves individuals within the counties listed, the organization is eligible to apply. If the organization's headquarters and geographical service area are both outside of the counties listed in Table 2, the organization is ineligible.
  
- 4. We are looking for funding for technology such as ipads/smartboards/computers/laptops. Does that align with this program?**
  - No. The Community Development Grant Program supports programs, services and initiatives, and not items specifically. Our focus is to help individuals exit poverty through targeted service and program delivery.
  
- 5. When will I be notified of a decision?**
  - Decisions will be communicated by June 1 for Round 1 applicants and by November 1 for Round 2 applicants.
  
- 6. Why do you need information on income status of the clients we serve?**
  - As part of our commitment to serving our communities, the Community Development Grant Program is limited to organizations serving those most in need. We are required to prove that the majority of beneficiaries served are low or moderate income as defined by 80% or below of the Median Family Income.
  
- 7. Can I submit multiple applications for my organization?**
  - Organizations are encouraged to prioritize requests and submit only those that are closely aligned with the outlined funding goals. Organizations are limited to one grant award per calendar year.

## Examples of Programs Supported with a Community Development Grant



**Stable Housing:** Increase access to safe, affordable, and quality housing through construction, site development, housing rehabilitation, homeownership education, and foreclosure prevention programs and services.



**Vibrant Neighborhoods:** Stimulate revitalization that attracts or retains individuals and/or businesses to blighted, underserved, and distressed communities.

- Affordable housing construction, renovation, repairs, and predevelopment expenses.
- Down payment assistance programs
- Homebuyer education
- Remediation of home health hazards



**Educated Workforce:** Strengthen individual core competencies that will improve personal economic self-sufficiency, including adult basic education, and vocational and employability training.

- Career education and support
- Computer coding and programming summer academy
- Low interest auto loans for transportation to/from work
- College and career readiness programming
- Financial education, budgeting, coaching and cash flow management
- Pathways to help out-of-school and unemployed young adults connect to the workforce
- Workforce training for near-homeless youth, homeless veterans
- Adult basic education, literacy and GED instruction
- Vocational training



**Strong Local Economies:** Grow local economies through small business and entrepreneurial development and job creation by supporting training, technical assistance, education and microfinance.

- Technical assistance, and training for small businesses, start-ups and entrepreneurs
- Microlending
- Education, asset and credit building, peer support and network development