



Phoenix Suns Charities Competitive Grant Cycle

Available: January 15, 2018

Close Date: 5:00pm, March 30, 2018

Introduction

Phoenix Suns Charities was founded in 1988 with the mission to assist the needs of children and families in Arizona. Due to the generosity of fans and sponsors, and underwriting by the team, Phoenix Suns Charities has experienced steady growth and now distributes more than a million dollars annually to hundreds of local charities. Since its inception, Phoenix Suns Charities has donated more than 20 million dollars to worthy Arizona organizations.

Phoenix Suns Charities was the vision of original Phoenix Suns Chairman and CEO Jerry Colangelo. Upon his purchase of the team in 1987, he began to assemble a board of community leaders to oversee the formation and operation of a charitable effort that would reflect the Suns mission to be a constant leader in improving the quality of life in our community. Current Suns managing partner, Robert Sarver, has extended the reach of the charity by involving additional community stakeholders who work in partnership with Phoenix Suns Charities to further leverage and steward the donations that come in to the foundation.

Funds are raised during the NBA season through special events such as The Jump Ball, the Suns Golf Classic; Suns Charities 88, the SLAM DUNK street party, through scoreboard messages presented at Suns home games; game night auctions and sales; Suns Assist Employee Campaign; and through special projects such as Suns license plates. Finally, many generous fans and community organizations designate Phoenix Suns Charities as the recipient of their giving, this is a special group of donors known as Playmakers who pledge \$100,000 over four years to the charity.

Phoenix Suns Charities will accept one proposal that benefits and supports children and families in Arizona from the following areas:

- Health/Human Services
- Education
- Sports/Recreation

In addition, organizations that have received funding from PSC in the past will be permitted to submit one *additional* proposal for a \$50,000 or \$100,000 **Playmaker Grant**. (See **Playmaker Grant, Phoenix Suns Charities** while applying online.)



For consideration of a Playmaker Grant (\$50,000 or \$100,000), the requesting non-profit needs to have received a grant from Suns Charities in the past. In addition, we are looking for an IMPACT grant that can be brought on-line within the year of receiving the grant. The Suns or Suns Charity brand should be able to accompany the delivery of the program/improvement. We typically don't want to be part of a generic capital campaign, but will look at a specific building project within the campaign. Also, a large single-day event would typically NOT be sponsored through the Playmaker Grant. The Suns Charities Board along with the donor group of Playmakers make the grant decision for these large awards.

Funding Request Range

Phoenix Suns Charities will accept only **ONE** proposal for the focus areas of: Health/Human Services, Education, and Sports/Recreation. Proposals may be submitted for a **maximum of \$15,000. The total granting pool depends on fund availability at the time.**

Phoenix Suns Charities will accept one **additional** proposal to the Playmaker Grant from qualified organizations.

Eligibility Requirements

- Arizona 501(c)(3) organizations that operate with fiscal accountability and responsibility.
- Organization has been an established 501(c)(3) for at least 3 years.
- Project cannot be a summer camp. Phoenix Suns Charities is a collaborative funder for the Summer Youth Program Fund which sole funds summer camps. To learn more about applying for summer camp funding, please visit www.azfoundation.org/grants.
- Project must serve 100% of residents within the Arizona geographic boundaries.
- Phoenix Suns Charities does not sponsor tables or events.
- Organization must have a complete and visible profile on ACF's website: www.azfoundation.org (See "How to Apply Online" below). Organizations without a complete organizational profile by the application due date will be declined.
- Organization must demonstrate a non-discrimination policy regarding staff, employment, governing board and service based on race, ethnicity, religion, gender, sexual orientation, gender identity, age, disability or national origin, and provide evidence of the policy.
- Organization must serve children/youth 18 years of age and under or families.
- Phoenix Suns Charities will accept one proposal that benefits and supports children and families in need in Arizona.



Timeline for 2018 Grant Making

- Grant cycle opens **January 15, 2018**
- Applications are due by **5:00 pm on March 30, 2018**
- Grant awards and decline letters out in **November 2018**
- If awarded, final report due **October 31, 2019**

Grant Deadline

Proposals must be submitted online by **5:00 pm on March 30, 2018. No exceptions.**

Review and Evaluation Process

All proposals will be reviewed through a competitive evaluation process. The reviewers will be reading the applicants' online profiles on the ACF website to obtain information on the organization. Please be sure to update your organization's profile before submitting your proposal.

- Proposals are reviewed and evaluated by grant committee panels, comprised of volunteer Phoenix Suns staff members who assess proposal strengths and weaknesses according to evaluation criteria.
- Evaluation criteria consists of a point system awarded for impact on community need, measurable benefits, plan for sustainability, alignment with the funding criteria, partnerships, goals and objectives clearly stated, measurable outcomes, population served, reasonable budget, and whether the project/organization enhances collaboration with other community organizations and/or agencies.

How to Apply Online

If your organization has an ACF profile:

Go to the Arizona Community Foundation's grants page on their website at www.azfoundation.org. Sign in with your login credentials to begin the application process. Be sure to update your organizational profile by clicking on your organization's name and ensuring the data entered is current. To begin an application, click "Start New Application" and select the grant program you are applying to.

If your organization does not have a registered ACF profile:

If your organization needs to be registered, please go to www.azfoundation.org and select "Grantee Login" to sign up. Once you are registered, you may begin the LOI or application process by starting a new application. You may also edit organizational information once you have logged in and attached your organization to your profile.

For assistance with technical questions regarding the online registration and application, please contact our Competitive Grants Management Team at grants@azfoundation.org or 602-381-1400.



Tips for Submitting

All users will be required to update and complete their organizational profile **before** being able to submit any grant application. If an incomplete organizational profile is submitted before the grant due date, your application will be declined.

- **Do not wait until the deadline date to set up your organization's profile and apply.**
- During the last week of any grant cycle's duration, due to the volume of inquiries, you will likely have limited access to ACF technical support so working in advance is strongly advised.
- It is recommended that the application be prepared offline in a text editor such as Microsoft Word to ensure a duplicate exists.
- There are new fields in the organizational profile to complete. Be sure to update and complete the profile before submitting your proposal.
- Narrative responses are limited to the maximum word count. You do not have to use all the words. Only provide information that is pertinent.
- Be sure to review applications for spelling and grammar errors.
- Be sure to check for an email notification indicating that your application has been submitted.

How to Get Help

Please contact ACF staff to discuss any part of the grant application process. Due to the high volume of calls and inquiries as the deadline nears, organizations are encouraged to contact staff well in advance of the deadline with any questions! During the last week of any grant cycle's duration, you will likely have limited access to ACF technical support.

For technical assistance with the web site, including organizational profile and the online application, please email grants@azfoundation.org or call (602) 381-1400.



Pre-Qualifying Questions

- Is the applicant organization (or fiscal sponsor, if applicable) an Arizona 501(c)(3) organization that operates with fiscal accountability and responsibility?
- Applicant organization understands that Phoenix Suns Charities will not fund summer camp programs through this grant cycle. Phoenix Suns Charities is a collaborative funding partner for the Summer Youth Program Fund (for more information visit www.azfoundation.org/grants)
- Are 100% of those served by the project residing within the Arizona geographic boundaries?
- Has the applicant organization been an established 501(c)(3) for at least three years?
- Have you downloaded the latest guidelines and question document, available by clicking on the Preview button above?
- Have you updated your browser? (We recommend using Google Chrome or the most updated version of Firefox. Please check the grant guidelines, which you can download by clicking on the Preview button above, for more information. It is not recommended that you use Internet Explorer.)
- Can the applicant organization demonstrate a non-discrimination policy regarding staff, employment, governing board and service based on race, ethnicity, religion, gender, sexual orientation, gender identity, age, disability or national origin, and provide evidence of the policy?
- Does the applicant organization (and fiscal sponsor, if applicable) have a completed, up-to-date, and visible profile on this website? The organizational profile being used to submit the application has been fully updated to reflect the most current information about the applicant organization including a current up to date annual budget.
- Does your organization serve children/youth 18 years of age and under or families?
- Applicant organization agrees to upload a current signed and dated W-9 with the application.
- Does the applicant organization understand that missing or incomplete W-9's will result in immediate declination?