



COMMUNITY GRANT GUIDELINES

IMPORTANT DATES FOR 2012

Applications Accepted January 15 thru February 15

Grants Announced April 2012

Online Applications Encouraged



A Touchstone Energy Cooperative

BEMC
PO Box 826
Shalotte, NC 28459
910.754.4391
800.842.5871
Shalotte · Whiteville
Southport/Oak Island

Overview

The BEMC Community Grants Program provides assistance to organizations and community service agencies benefiting people within the BEMC service area; Brunswick, Columbus and parts of Bladen and Robeson Counties. Awarded grants are intended to enhance the quality of life for the citizens of our community. Grants range from \$500 to \$2,500 for any one project.

Eligibility

Community Grants are made to agencies and programs, not individuals, that provide help for individuals or groups in the BEMC service area. Organizations and community service agencies are encouraged to apply. Recommended areas for grant consideration, including but not limited to:

- Family Service Programs**— to benefit children, families and elderly
- Civic and Community Programs**— to provide recreational, historic, educational, environmental, technology programs or special events
- Cultural and Arts Programs**— to provide education and exhibition of the arts
- Emergency Services**— to provide or enhance services of the fire, police, EMS, and especially for natural disasters
- Development**— activities contributing to the economic health of the BEMC service area

Criteria

- Grants must clearly identify solid benefits to the BEMC service area (Brunswick, Columbus and parts of Bladen and Robeson Counties).
- Grant Applicants must be directly involved in the project.
- Grant Application Projects must be clearly defined.
- Grant Applications must be complete with all required information. Incomplete applications will not be considered or returned.
- Grants must provide clearly defined, measurable goals and allow ready access to this information upon request.
- Grant funds are generally expected to be expended within one year, without expectation of further support.
- Grant Applicants should have an active Board of Directors or Management with demonstrated competency in sound financial management and/or qualify as a Tax-Exempt (501[c]3) organization.



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Exclusions

Grants will not be made for political or religious activities, payment of utility bills, coverage of operating expenses, debt retirement, loans or investments; or for projects or programs that already have funds allocated by governments or municipalities. Grants will not be made to organizations that discriminate on the basis of race, color, creed, sex, marital status or handicap; or to organizations or programs that might in any way pose a conflict with the goals, programs or employees of BEMC.

Application Process

- Application information is available at any BEMC office or by visiting www.bemc.org.
- Online applications are strongly encouraged. If unable to complete online, applications may be delivered to a BEMC office or mailed.
- All applications must be submitted, either electronically or postmarked, by the due date. Faxed applications will not be accepted.
- Incomplete or late applications will not be accepted.
- All applications **must** be typed.

Applications may be submitted to:

Community Grants
c/o BEMC
PO Box 826
Shallotte, NC 28459

If you have any questions during the application process, please contact Linda Thomas at 910.754.4391 or via email at linda.thomas@bemc.org.

Grant Application Checklist

Is the application complete?

Are narrative answers 100 words or less?

Check for typos (proofread).

Print a copy for your records.

Does your organization meet all criteria?

**Have you listed and included your attachments
(maximum of 3 attachments)?**