



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Foundation to Announce Changes to Grant Application Process

The Wayne County Foundation will review its grant application process in two meetings to be held on February 25 and March 1. Representatives of local organizations are strongly encouraged to attend one of the two sessions.

The Foundation will continue a schedule of two grant cycles and its Challenge Match Program in 2016. This year, however, it is placing a new emphasis on applications to field-of-interest funds. It will also continue to explore ways in which it might have a greater impact around Wayne County.

“We expect most of our traditional grantmaking will occur in the Spring Cycle,” said Steve Borchers, the Foundation’s Executive Director. “There will be very few changes to the Challenge Match, but our Fall Cycle may look very different than it has in the past. We want to outline those changes as best we can and help everyone understand how to apply for the kind of support that will bring the most benefits to our community.”

Pre-applications for participating in the Spring Cycle are due to the Foundation by March 18, 2016. The Foundation expects to award up to \$100,000 from its unrestricted funds, and more than \$115,000 from various field-of-interest funds in this cycle.

Field-Of-Interest Funds support applications that address needs and opportunities related to: animal welfare, the arts, education and literacy, the environment, human service assistance, and youth programs. The Foundation will also accept human service-related applications to specific funds that benefit the Hagerstown and Western Wayne communities.

Meetings will be held at the Innovation Center in downtown Richmond on February 25 from 8:00 a.m. to 9:30 a.m. and March 1 from 11:30 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. The cost for either session is \$5, and will include a light breakfast or lunch. Nonprofit representatives need only attend one of the two meetings. Reservations are required and may be made online through www.waynecountyfoundation.org.

Last year, the Foundation awarded more than \$477,000 in its two traditional grant cycles and the Challenge Match Initiative.