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## **Foundation to Announce Changes to Grant Application Procedures**

The Wayne County Foundation will outline a number of changes to its grant application process in two meetings to be held on February 24 and 26. Representatives of local organizations who anticipate applying to the “Improving the Quality of Life” grant cycle this spring are strongly encouraged to attend one of the two sessions.

A new, online system for receiving and processing applications represents the biggest change to be announced. The Foundation is also implementing a number of small, but significant policy changes and making some procedural changes in the application process. The most significant procedural change will involve submitting some materials in advance of the full application.

“Our goal is to improve the process, for both applicants and our reviewers,” said Steve Borchers, the Foundation’s executive director. “We also want to encourage stronger proposals that represent the very best ideas for moving our community forward.”

Last year, the Foundation awarded more than \$430,000 in its two traditional grant cycles and the Challenge Match Initiative. The Foundation expects even more money to be available this year. According to Borchers, the overall structure of the Foundation’s grant-making calendar will not change. There will still be two traditional grant-making cycles in April and August, and a Challenge Match program in November.

The meeting on February 24 will be held from 11:30 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. at the Innovation Center in downtown Richmond. The meeting on February 26 will be held at the Boys and Girls Club at 1717 South L Street, Richmond. Cost for the workshop is \$5, which includes lunch. Reservations are required and may be made by contacting Lori Johnson at [lori@waynecountyfoundation](mailto:lori@waynecountyfoundation) or 962-1638.