



Request for Nominations: Muskegon LEAD Giving Circle

The Muskegon LEAD (Leading Efforts Against Discrimination) Giving Circle was organized to collectively fund initiatives in Muskegon County specifically and intentionally focused on diversity, equity, inclusion and justice. The circle is comprised of 40 young community members with a shared vision of creating a vibrant community with great opportunities for all. This fall, the Muskegon LEAD Giving Circle will **highlight, support and encourage further action** for an organization in our community doing exemplary work around justice, equity, diversity and inclusion (JEDI).

Who can apply?

Any nonprofit, religious organization, or unit of government who will use the award to further their JEDI work

What is the nomination process?

Organizations should submit a compelling, one-page summary that makes the case for investment in your organization as a LEADer. An excellent summary would include much of the following:

- Mission and vision of the organization and how that mission and vision compel your organization to work and lead toward JEDI.
- Existing programs and activities that highlight work related to JEDI.
- Internal work done on organizational culture and staff/board learning and growth, as it relates to JEDI.
- Future plans and dreams for work that will create a just, diverse, inclusive and equitable community. You are welcome to share possible ideas for how a grant of \$5,000 - \$7,000 would be put to work.

The nomination should be in Microsoft Word or PDF format and should be sent electronically to grants@muskegonfoundation.org with the subject "Muskegon LEAD Giving Circle." Nominations must be received by noon on October 20.

How will winners be selected?

Community Foundation staff and the Giving Circle's steering committee will narrow the nomination field to a minimum of three organizations. Selected organizations will be invited to give a brief presentation to the full Giving Circle. Giving Circle members will vote on the final recipient of the grant. Selected nominees will be notified by October 26, and further details will be provided at that time.

How much is available?

A total of at least \$7,000 will be awarded.

Timeline:

- **Request for nominations released late September 2020**
- **Nominations due Tuesday, October 20 by noon**
- **Finalists will be notified by October 26**
- **Presentations to the Muskegon LEAD Giving Circle the week of November 2**
- **Decision announced the week of November 9**

Questions? Contact the Community Investment team at grants@muskegonfoundation.org or 231-722-4538