**Catalyzing Revitalization in Kansas City’s Marlborough Community**

**Criteria and Grant Application – Round 1**

**Supported by The Conservation Fund and U-Haul**

**Background:** [U-Haul,](http://www.uhaul.com/) the largest do-it-yourself moving company in North America, wanted to give its customers (renting equipment at more than 21,000 locations in the U.S., Canada and on [uhaul.com](http://www.uhaul.com/)) a simple way to make their move a little bit greener. Since 2007, donations from more than 1.5 million U-Haul customers have helped The Conservation Fund protect and restore forests, create parks and strengthen the green economy across the U.S.

In 2016, U-Haul and The Conservation Fund began an effort to support the development of “nature +play” amenities in Kansas City, Missouri at the city’s 12-acre *Smart Sewers* project located in the Marlborough neighborhood at 82nd Street and Troost Avenue. The city has constructed a large wetland detention basin at its 82nd and Troost site, designed to capture and clean storm water runoff before it enters the Blue River. The detention basin will alleviate flooding in the area known as the Marlborough community in south-central Kansas City.

Through its support of The Conservation Fund’s Parks With Purpose program, U-Haul is providing funding for the construction of community gathering spaces, playground areas, an outdoor amphitheater, recreational opportunities and native gardens at the 82nd and Troost site – all designed with extensive input from the Marlborough community. These amenities will provide people in Marlborough and beyond with the chance to come together to enjoy the outdoors, share fellowship and recreational activities and learn about the many health and economic benefits that natural features can provide.

**Objective:** In addition to the 82nd and Troost project, U-Haul and The Conservation Fund are catalyzing Marlborough’s revitalization through a small grants program supporting nonprofit organizations that contribute to Marlborough’s efforts by building upon the “green” projects that the City and the Marlborough Community Coalition have established in the Marlborough community. This small grants program will support nonprofit organizations throughout the Kansas City metropolitan area who focus their efforts on projects that catalyze economic revitalization through “green” opportunities in Marlborough.

There will be two funding rounds through this grant program. Round 1 will provide grants up to $5,000 each ($25,000 total) for projects in the Marlborough community with “triple bottom line” benefits – economic, environment and social benefits - that help to revitalize the Marlborough area. Round 2 will provide grants up to $5,000 each ($25,000 total) for projects directly related to the 82nd and Troost Site.

**Timing:**

The Round 1 application period will open Wednesday, December 13, 2017, with applications due by 5 pm January 31, 2018, and projects completed by October 31, 2018. **Note – access to the 82nd and Troost site will be very difficult due to ongoing construction at the site in the spring of 2018. Applicants for Round 1 grant funding are discouraged from planning activities at the 82nd and Troost site.**

Round 2 will provide grants up to $5,000 each ($25,000 total) for projects related directly to the 82nd and Troost site. **A separate Request for Proposals will be provided for the Round 2 application process.** The Round 2 application period will open February 26, 2018, with applications due by 5 pm March 30, 2018, and projects completed by December 31, 2018.

**Eligibility Criteria and Qualifications:**

All grants will be restricted to local qualified 501(c)(3) nonprofit organizations located in the greater Kansas City metropolitan area. The nonprofit organization must demonstrate a strong commitment to good stewardship of land, water and energy with a willingness to help The Conservation Fund and U-Haul measure and communicate the grant’s impact on the revitalization of Marlborough.

**This Request for Proposals relates to Round 1 only. Proposals are due by 5 pm January 31, 2018. A separate Request for Proposals for Round 2 will be released on February 26, 2018. Organizations may apply for either Round 1 or Round 2, or both.**

**Round 1 Areas of Focus:** The following types of projects, which must be completed within the geographic boundaries described below, will be considered for funding:

* Conservation education/water quality education projects
* Workforce development projects focused on urban parks and green spaces (design and/or maintenance), “green” stormwater planning or projects, healthy food options, small-scale agriculture or urban forestry
* Community revitalization of urban green space (trash pick-ups, park cleanups, addition of safety features to urban green space, etc.)
* Projects related to growing or otherwise providing healthy food options in the community
* Small-scale agriculture or urban forestry projects

**Use of Funds:** Applicants must present a budget demonstrating the proposed use of funds. A one-to-one match for funding is strongly preferred. Permitted uses include:

* Training and technical assistance;
* Planning, coordination with the city and/or Marlborough Community Coalition;
* Purchasing equipment or other items that expand green operations;
* Community engagement activities that increase educational opportunities while improving the local environment;
* Maintenance and upgrades at urban green spaces.

**Restrictions:** Funding cannot support the following:

* Refinancing or servicing existing debt
* Government agencies, departments, or municipalities
* Lobbying efforts or political groups
* Projects or activities carried out for religious purposes
* Purchase of property
* Scholarships

**Geography Served**: All projects must take place within the Marlborough community, which is defined as the area bounded by Gregory Boulevard on the north, 89th Street on the south, Troost Avenue on the west and 71 Highway on the east.

**Amount:** Applicants are encouraged to apply for support of $5,000 or less. Larger amounts may be considered, but must show significant leverage and additional partner support.

**Application**: See attached.

**Grant making oversight**: Grants will be reviewed and approved by The Conservation Fund. Final recommendations will be shared with U-Haul.

**Review of Applications:** Applications must be submitted by **email only,** and are due on or before 5 pm January 31, 2018. Awards will be announced by February 16, 2018. Grant activities must be completed by October 31, 2018. A final report will be required from all applicants.

**Applications must be submitted to:**

The Conservation Fund

ATTN: Ginny Moore

gmoore@conservationfund.org

Please include a copy of your 501(c)(3) letter along with your completed application.

**APPLICATION**

**Catalyzing Revitalization in Marlborough**

**ORGANIZATION INFORMATION**

Top of Form

|  |
| --- |
| Name of Organization: |
| Type of Organization: | Year Founded: |
|  |  |
| Address: | Phone: |
| City: State: | Zip: |
| Email: |  |
| Website: |  |
| Employer Identification Number (EIN): |  |
| Total Staff: | Full time:  | Part time: | Volunteer: |

Please attach a copy of the organization’s IRS tax exemption letter to this application.

organization to attach a copy of its IRS exemption letter organization to attach a copy of its IRS exemption letter Bottom of Form

**PROJECT INFORMATION**

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Name of Project: | Project Administrator:  |
| Brief Project Description (1 sentence): |  |
| Amount Requesting: | Proposed Timeline: |

**SOCIO-ECONOMIC INFORMATION of Organization**

|  |
| --- |
| Women-led (e.g. greater 50% leadership)? |
| Minority-led? |
| Veteran-led? |

**ADDITIONAL QUESTIONS**

*Project description including specific request (how will the money be used, leveraged?): (300-400 words)*

*Description of area (within Marlborough) served by project: (100 words)*

*Environmental benefits and outcomes: (100-200 words)*

*Economic benefits and outcomes: (100-200 words)*

*Social benefits and outcomes: (100-200 words)*

*Description of project timeline: (100-200 words)*

*Budget: (Line-item budget detailing how requested funds would be used. All budget expenses should be explained in the proposed project description).*

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Budget Line Items** | **Catalyzing Revitalization in Marlborough - funds requested:** | **Funds from other sources\*:** | **Total Project Cost** |
| 1. | $ | $ | $ |
| 2.  | $ | $ | $ |
| 3. | $ | $ | $ |
| 4. | $ | $ | $ |
| 5. | $ | $ | $ |
| 6. | $ | $ | $ |
| 7. | $ | $ | $ |
| 8. | $ | $ | $ |
| **TOTAL** | $ | $ | $ |

*\* Please indicate whether leveraged funds are potential (to be submitted/applied for), awaiting decision, or secured.*

**Per the grant criteria and qualifications outlined above, if the proposal is approved, the funds will be used as identified in this application.**

**APPLICANT SIGNATURE: DATE:**

**(position)**