

Men & Boys Fund now accepting grant applications from area organizations

Published: Tuesday, 27 July 2021 12:57

@brianjohnsonBP

BRISTOL – The Men & Boys Fund at the Main Street Community Foundation is now accepting grant applications from area nonprofit organizations and programs.

Grants are being accepted from organizations and programs based in Bristol, Burlington, Plainville, Plymouth, Southington and Wolcott. The deadline to apply is August 27.

Samantha Rajotte, scholarship and program officer with the Main Street Community Foundation (MSCF), said the Men & Boys' Fund was established five years ago by a group of concerned residents, and is still overseen by an Advisory Board of residents.



Past recipients of grants from the Men & Boy's Fund included Bristol Youth Services, Bristol Hospital's Parent & Child Center, the Boys & Girls Club of Bristol Family Center and the Environmental Learning Centers of Connecticut. -FILE PHOTO

“The Men & Boys Fund was established at MSCF by a group of local, committed men who were concerned about the specific, critical needs of men and boys that are not being met,” she said. “The goal of the grant-making program is to provide funds for programs that make it possible for men and boys to improve the quality of their lives, increase self-sufficiency and make a positive difference in their community.”

Since 2016, nearly \$23,000 has been awarded in program grants from the Men & Boys' Fund, while over \$5,500 has been awarded from the Men & Boys' Immediate Response Fund to assist local men and boys who are in need of immediate financial assistance.

Director of Grants & Programs at MSCF Kate Kerchaert said it is “unique” to have a fund dedicated to supporting the distinct needs of men and boys.

“In this 5th anniversary year, the fund continues to make an impact in the community by supporting organizations that help men and boys to better themselves and prepare for a successful future,” she said.

The Online Grants Center can be accessed through the foundation's website, mainstreetfoundation.org, and includes the application, the full guidelines and eligibility criteria.

Interested organizations are encouraged to email Kate Kerchaert at kate@mainstreetfoundation.org or call her at 860-583-6363 for a preliminary discussion of their proposal at least 7 business days prior to the deadline.

Brian M. Johnson can be reached at 860-973-1806 or bjohnson@bristolpress.com.