OBCF Grants:
COVID-19 and Beyond!

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In This Slide Deck

- Overview of the Community Foundation
- Overview of Our Four Grant Programs
- COVID-19 Rapid Response Grants
- Community Enrichment Grants
Outer Banks Community Foundation

- Manage charitable funds (mostly endowment)
- Award local scholarships and grants
- Provide tailored philanthropic services for donors
By the Numbers

• $20 million foundation
• 180 diverse charitable funds
• 3 full-time + 2 part-time staff
• 12 volunteers on our board
• $1.2 million awarded in 2019 in grants and scholarships
• Over $10 million awarded since 1983
Supporting Nonprofits

- Trainings and workshops
- Endowment funds
- Planned giving support
- **GRANTS!**
Four Types of Grants

Application-Based Grants:
1. Community Enrichment
2. Special Focus
3. Rapid Response

No Applications:
4. Donor-Advised Grants
Application-Based Grants: Geography

- Benefit all or a portion of our service area, which includes:
  - All of Dare County
  - All Outer Banks communities, from Corolla to Ocracoke

- Usually NOT mainland Hyde or mainland Currituck (exception: some Special Focus Grants)
Application-Based Grants: Who’s Eligible

- **501c3 public charities**
- Other tax-exempt groups for charitable projects with a direct public benefit
- Schools and gov’t agencies: Usually not, with some exceptions
- Religious and faith-based groups: Only for projects serving wider community; never for projects with religious content
- Never individuals
Application-Based Grants: What’s Not Eligible

1. Regular operating expenses
2. Lobbying — direct or grassroots
3. Stuff that’s already happened
4. Organizations with a current, outstanding App-Based Grant

EXCEPTIONS to 3 and 4: Rapid Response!
Rapid Response Grants

• To support nonprofits when urgent community needs arise

• **2019: Hurricane Dorian: $70,000**
  – Primary Focus: Help NPs provide immediate Dorian relief to OBX
  – Secondary Focus: Help NPs repair or replace their assets post-Dorian

• **2020: COVID-19: $90,000 So Far**
  – Focus: Enable NPs to expand, initiate, or adapt vital services to OBX in response to COVID Crisis: either medical or economic
COVID-19 RR Grants

- Medical Needs
- Food and Nutritional Assistance
- Economic and Housing Assistance for Unemployed or Underemployed
- Child Care for Essential Workers?
- Continuation of Critical Services Despite Virus (e.g., remote learning)
- Emphasis: Most People in our Community, and Most Vulnerable in our Community
Rapid Response Grants

• Easy Application
  – One or two page letter
  – Project budget only if needed
  – 501c3 letter if you’d be a new grantee
  – All in PDF format, pretty please!

• Flexible Grant
  – Can apply even if you have another grant
  – No publicity required
  – Matching funds not required
  – Occasionally we pay in advance
  – Can be for expenses already incurred

• Quick Decisions
  – Biweekly application deadline (for now)
  – Decisions in less than 5 days

PLEASE CALL LORELEI: 252-455-1404
Community Enrichment Grants: The Basics

- Help meet local needs and enrich quality of life for Outer Banks people
- Award $250,000 Each Year
- Competitive
- Open, Online Application
- Four Cycles Each Year
  - Deadlines: Last Fridays of January, April, July, and October
  - Decisions: Early March, June, September, and December
CE Grants: Scope

- Animal welfare
- Arts and culture
- Children and youth
- Education
- Environment
- Disaster relief and prevention
- Health
- Historic preservation and interpretation
- Other human services

**BOTTOM LINE:** If it’s “charitable” and benefits the OBX, we’re interested
CE Grants: Types

• **Project Grants**
  o Pay for the direct costs of a charitable project or program (e.g., supplies, equipment, materials, program staff)

• **Capacity-Building Grants**
  o Enhance a NP’s effectiveness, stability, program quality—its ability to meet its mission and sustain its programs

• **Program Scholarship Grants**
  o Enable a NP to offer program scholarships (i.e., program fee subsidies) to people with need
I want to apply for a CE Grant. How do I begin?

- Verify that all your past CE grants are fully paid and closed *(with final report submitted)*.
- Review all of our online materials.
- Gather your ideas and budget figures.
- Call Lorelei (261-8839) before starting.
Ideas for Your Grant Budget

• “How much should I request?”
  – Ask for what you need.
  – Review our other grants.

• Matching funds.
  – “Pending” is okay.
  – In-kind donations count! (FMV)
  – Expanding your frame.

• Program staff wages.
Grants for Staff Wages

• **Eligible:** Wages for Program Staff
  – **Wages:** Actual hourly rate plus Social Security and Medicare taxes
  – **Program Staff:** Staff that implements programs and services that fulfill your nonprofit’s charitable mission

• **Note:** This can include staff that divides time between program and other work (e.g., executive directors)
Grants for Staff Wages

• **Not Eligible:**
  
  – Wages for fundraising, administration, and management for the general organization
  
  – State unemployment tax
  
  – Fringe benefits (e.g., retirement, health insurance, paid time off)
  
  – Overhead

• Paid on a reimbursement basis, based on actual hours worked (*timesheets*)
Special Focus Grants

- We have dedicated funds for:
  - Animal Welfare
  - Aviation Education
  - Organizations Supporting People with Disabilities (*including Currituck!*)

- Usually more flexible than Community Enrichment Grants

- Same application, same process

- Annual deadline: Last Friday of April

- Requests for $1,000 or less: One-page letter in lieu of full application
I Got a Grant! Now What?

• Congratulations!
• Save your award letter and payment guidelines
• One-year grant period
• Publicize your grant
• Please send us photos
• Final report
Application-Based Grants: Payment Guidelines

- Paid on a reimbursement basis
- Payment requests should include:
  1. Expense substantiation:
     - Third-party documents (e.g., receipts, invoices, statements)
     - Timesheets (staff wage grants only)
     - Special EMMG and PSG forms
  2. Cover sheet to summarize, with total request amount
  3. Narrative is NOT needed to request payment
Application-Based Grants: Payment Guidelines

- We don’t pay sales tax
- We **can** pay in installments
  - *But please, no more than monthly*
  - *And please, not for amounts less than $500*
- We cut checks every two weeks
- Checks are payable to your nonprofit, not to your vendors
- Contact us re: significant budget or timeframe variances
Application-Based Grants: Final Report

- Did you accomplish your goals?
- How did it benefit the community?
- Did you raise your matching funds?
- What did you do to publicize?
- Photos, client testimonials
- No set deadline; just submit it when you have something to report
- However, report is required before you can apply for another grant
CARES Act Volunteers!

Do you need assistance with your CARES Act application? We can connect you to a volunteer!

Bob Muller
Chris Sawin
Craig Merrill
Loretta Michael
Noel Preston
Rick Gray

Email Lorelei to get connected: LCosta@obcf.org
Thank You to Our Presenters!

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