



Picture It Painted Program Grant Guidelines and Procedures

About the Picture It Painted Program

Southern Minnesota Initiative Foundation (SMIF) supports community beautification and restoration in projects throughout southern Minnesota. Free paint is provided for volunteer efforts aimed at improving communities, neighborhoods or nonprofit centers.

Priority Considerations

SMIF will give priority consideration to collaborative efforts that further early childhood education or economic development, assist in community branding, or engage elders, youth or new immigrants in the project.

Projects should demonstrate:

- ◆ visual impact
- ◆ public benefit to the community
- ◆ volunteer participation and support
- ◆ current and/or intended use of the structure
- ◆ benefit to those in need

Some projects that might qualify include but are not limited to:

- ◆ historic buildings, structures, or landmarks
- ◆ facilities for senior or disabled citizens
- ◆ community or nonprofit child care centers or other public buildings
- ◆ murals or other visual impact projects

Projects not in the scope of this program include:

- ◆ denominational churches
- ◆ city maintenance
- ◆ school projects with the exception of mural projects
- ◆ privately owned facilities that do not meet any of the above criteria

All facets of eligibility must be met, including the use of volunteers. Projects using a contractor to actually complete the work are not eligible. Muralists/artists who assist in the design and application are acceptable.

The application process is not intended to be tedious; however, it is important that you read and follow instructions precisely. Incomplete applications will not be considered. If any part of the application is not clear, please contact Jennifer Heien, Organizational Associate, at 507-455-3215 or jenniferh@smifoundation.org for clarification.

Application Guidelines

Geographic Area

Southern Minnesota Initiative Foundation considers applications from organizations with main or branch offices located in the 20-county area or from organizations dedicated to serving within the area. The counties are:

Blue Earth	Fillmore	Le Sueur	Olmsted	Wabasha
Brown	Freeborn	Martin	Rice	Waseca
Dodge	Goodhue	Mower	Sibley	Watsonwan
Faribault	Houston	Nicollet	Steele	Winona

Eligible Organizations

Tax exempt 501 (c) (3) organizations
Units/agencies of local, state or federal government

Requirements

- ◆ Applications must be received in our office by 5:00 p.m. on March 2, 2009 or postmarked by March 2, 2009 with two (2) copies of materials including at least two (2) set of photos. *Photos must be affixed to a sheet of paper or inside of a plastic sleeve and properly identified. Do not send loose photos and do not send slides.* (Please note that the photos will not be returned.)
- ◆ Recipients are required to attend an orientation session at SMIF scheduled for mid-April to order paint and for technical advice.
- ◆ Recipients are required to provide transportation for materials awarded as well as labor. Paint must be picked up by recipients in the Twin Cities.
- ◆ **This grant provides paint products for architectural coatings only.**
- ◆ All projects must be completed in 2009.
- ◆ Documentation of the completed project must be provided to Southern Minnesota Initiative Foundation as soon as the project is completed, but no later than December 1, 2009.
- ◆ Site visits may be conducted prior to an award and may be conducted during and after project completion.
- ◆ Public announcements will be issued highlighting the project on behalf of the recipient and other recognition events may also be planned.

Application Process

Applications are available at www.smifoundation.org, click on “Events and RFPs.” For further information, call the Foundation at 507-455-3215, or email Jennifer Heien at jenniferh@smifoundation.org.

For grant award consideration, submit a completed application by March 2, 2009 via email to jenniferh@smifoundation.org, or mail to:

Grants Administrator
Southern Minnesota Initiative Foundation
PO Box 695
Owatonna, MN 55060

After approximately three weeks, applicants will receive a written response. An internal committee then reviews the full applications.

SMIF is a member of the Minnesota Council of Foundations and adheres to the Council of Foundation's Statement of Principles and Practices. SMIF's annual report is available on-line at www.smifoundation.org