



Martin V. & Martha K. Smith Foundation

A Support Organization of the Ventura County Community Foundation

The Martin V. and Martha K. Smith Foundation is pleased to provide the following information regarding its grants program. ***Mission Statement:*** *To enhance the quality of life for the residents of Ventura County, with a preference for serving the Oxnard Plains.*

FUNDING PRIORITIES & ELIGIBILITY CRITERIA

The Foundation's has chosen to focus current grantmaking in the following areas of interest:

- **Basic Needs/Safety Net Services** such as food, shelter, clothing, access to health care, support for former foster youth (housing, job/life skills, education, etc.), mental health services for homeless individuals/families, and information & referral services
- **Beautification of Oxnard** such as open space preservation, parks, community gardens, planting trees and community clean-up projects.
- **Practical Higher Education** including business leadership, business education, entrepreneurship, and career & technical training (such as nonprofit trade schools, regional occupational programs and community college programs)

Funding will be provided only for services and programs that directly benefit Ventura County residents, with a strong preference given to programs serving the Oxnard Plains region. Special Community Development projects with countywide impact will be considered from time to time.

Grants are made only to organizations that are tax-exempt under Section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code or to public agencies. Grants are not made for (1) political or partisan purposes; (2) religious or sectarian purposes; (3) budget deficits, or (4) organizations that discriminate on the basis of race, religion, sex, age, national origin, or disabilities. One application per agency per 12-month period will be accepted. We anticipate that grants for ongoing programs will be in the range of \$10,000 to \$50,000 per year. One-time project grants may be larger. Funding may be requested for up to 3 years.

APPLICATION & NOTIFICATION PROCESS

1) Submit a Letter of Inquiry by the 5:00 p.m. January 13th deadline, using the LOI Application Form. Late and/or incomplete LOIs will not be accepted. Letters of Inquiry may be submitted electronically (in pdf or Microsoft Word formats only) to Tina Knight at tknight@vccf.org, or may be mailed to:

! Mailed/delivered applications must be received in the VCCF offices by the deadline. Postmarks are not accepted.

Martin V. and Martha K. Smith Foundation
c/o VCCF
1317 Del Norte Road, Suite 150
Camarillo, CA 93010

2) Those organizations invited for full proposals will be notified by March 10th. Invited organizations will be sent the full proposal application form electronically. **Full proposals will be due April 16th.**

3) Organization's invited for full proposals will be notified of funding decisions in mid-June. Grant notification & contracts will go to the organization's Executive Director, or primary authorized signer on file.

For further information, call Tina Knight at (805) 988-0196, ext. 120 or e-mail tknight@vccf.org.