



Okefenokee Rural Electric Membership Corporation Foundation, Inc., Guidelines

I. Purpose

To develop a grant selection and disbursement process for charitable purposes. All monies received from OREMC unclaimed capital credits, OREMC Round Up or other donations will be allocated through the Okefenokee Rural Electric Membership Corporation Foundation, Inc.

II. Goal

The goal of the Foundation is to address the charitable needs and provide financial assistance to improve the quality of life in the eight (8) counties OREMC serves.

III. Application Guidelines

The Foundation board will meet quarterly to review applications and award grants based on the funds available and in accordance with the following guidelines and bylaws of the Foundation.

- a. Organizations submitting a funding request must provide service to residents living in OREMC's service area: (Georgia) Brantley, Camden, Charlton, Glynn, Ware and Wayne counties; (Florida) Baker and Nassau counties.
- b. Applications must ask for a specific dollar amount and indicate the specific need to which the funds will be applied to.
- c. All funding requests must be made using the Foundation's completed application form, including requested supporting documentation. Incomplete applications will automatically be denied.
- d. Qualified applications will be presented to the Foundation Board for consideration. Some applicants may be asked to make a formal presentation to the Board.
- e. Applicants will receive notification from the Foundation of action taken within 30 days of the meeting at which the application was reviewed.
- f. When grants are made, the receiving organizations' publicity must indicate that funds were received from the Okefenokee Rural Electric Membership Corporation Foundation, Inc.
- g. Organizations receiving grants will be eligible to apply for another grant 12 months after the date that all grant funds have been disbursed.
- h. Organizations approved for grant funding will be required to sign a commitment contract before funds are disbursed.
- i. Grant recipients will provide a detailed report of the funds used and impact on the community improve quality of life. Failure to do so will make the organization ineligible for future grant funding.

IV. Eligibility

The following key focus areas will be considered for Foundation grants if the applicant demonstrates their project will strengthen the quality of life in the communities served by OREMC.

- a. **Community Service** related to overall quality of life with emphasis on public safety, health care, self-sufficiency and basic human needs.
- b. **Education & Youth** initiatives that promote scholarship, leadership, wellness/physical fitness and combat social problems such as literacy, emotional development and counseling.
- c. **Disaster Relief** projects providing food, clothing, shelter, medical care, clean-up repairs and reconstruction in an emergency following an accident, severe storm or other events.

V. Exclusions

The following **Do Not Qualify** for funding:

- a. Individuals
- b. Churches and religious organizations; however, requests for church-affiliated programs will be considered when there is a direct community impact involved and relates to one of the eligible funding areas mentioned above.
- c. Public & private schools and preschools. (Foundations and other organizations may apply for projects within public, private or preschools. No direct applications will be accepted from public, private or preschools.)
- d. Lobbying groups/political campaigns or organizations
- e. For profit organizations

VI. Grant Ranges

- a. The typical grant will be in the amount of \$2,500, but it is as the discretion of the Foundation board to determine final grant awards based on funds available and project program impact.
- b. Grants will not exceed \$5,000 for an organization in a 12-month period.

VII. Administration and Funding

- a. The Foundation board will operate in compliance with Section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code.
- b. Funding for the Foundation will come from, but is not limited to, OREMC unclaimed capital credits, OREMC Member contributions through OREMC Round Up and/or any other donation the Foundation may receive.