

# 2017 Ralph C. Wilson, Jr. Foundation Field of Interest Funds at the Community Foundation for Greater Buffalo

## Goals and Objectives

- I. **Caregiving** – Improve support for caregivers – whether paid or voluntary – through efforts that provide needed skills, resources, education and respite. Caregivers are those who look after dependent individuals such as children with special needs, disabled adults and older adults who require caregiving. Projects supported through this fund should have a direct impact on caregivers. Requests must address one of the following objectives:
  1. Provide respite to caregivers.
  2. Increase opportunities for caregivers to learn new skills and take advantage of resources.
  3. Provide emotional care and supportive services to cancer patients and their caregivers.
  
- II. **Community Assets** – Support significant cultural and historic assets and/or increase access to long term arts instruction for youth. Requests must address one of the following objectives:
  1. Increase access to long term arts instruction for children and youth living in under-resourced communities.
  2. Restore and leverage significant historic buildings and architectural landmarks, with a preference for sites that promote cultural tourism.
  
- III. **Design and Access** – Increase the health and quality of life of WNY residents of all ages by enhancing outdoor activities within the region. Requests must address the following objective:
  1. Support for pre-planning, development and/or construction costs. This may include projects related to increasing the walkability and bikeability of local communities, and improving waterways, greenways and recreation corridors.

It is a preference but not a requirement that these projects:

- Incorporate green design to be environmentally sustainable
- Incorporate universal access design to serve people of all abilities

Please note:

- Large sports facilities are not of interest
- Playgrounds may be considered only if they utilize universal design and are connected to larger recreation corridors within and between communities

**IV. Youth Sports** – Increasing access and affordability of all forms of physical activity for youth through organized or casual play with the aim of expressing or improving physical fitness and mental well-being. Requests must address one of the following objectives:

1. Increase access to underutilized physical spaces or upgrading highly utilized facilities.
2. Training coaches particularly in motivational techniques, sports skills and tactics, safety, and cultural competency.
3. Increase casual play through loosely structured play activities. This may occur in organized sports or after school and summer activities.
4. Increase access to recreational spaces that encourage usability by neighborhood children in under-resourced neighborhoods.

### Eligibility

- Grant requests should range between \$10,000 and \$25,000 for Caregiving, Community Assets and Youth Sports. Design and Access requests should range between \$10,000 and \$50,000. Funds will be released after grant requirements and obligations have been signed and returned.
- Requests may be for capital and programming. For Youth Sports, this may also include equipment requests.
- For Caregiving, Design and Access, and Youth Sports, 501(c)(3) nonprofit organizations that meet the guidelines described above and reside in Western New York may apply for a grant. Western New York is defined as Allegany, Chautauqua, Cattaraugus, Erie, Genesee, Niagara, Orleans and Wyoming counties.
- For Caregiving, government agencies may also apply. The intent is not to replace public funding but to augment and leverage it.
- For Community Assets, only 501(c)(3) nonprofit organizations that reside in Erie County may apply.
- There is a limit to one Letter of Intent per organization per funding category.
- Multi-year requests will not be accepted.
- Requests for endowments, religious purposes, attendance at or sponsorship of events, and for schools not registered with the NYS Education Department will not be accepted.