GOOD SAMARITAN GRANT PROGRAM
2021 Grant Guidelines

As an urban center undergoing significant economic change, Cleveland has some of the highest poverty rates in the nation. From day to day, families and individuals in our community struggle to meet their basic needs as they strive to climb out of economic poverty. The devastation of poverty is magnified by the inequitable impact of COVID-19 on communities of color. While the Sisters of Charity Foundation of Cleveland devotes most of its resources to achieve long-term change in health, housing, and education, it cannot ignore the magnitude of this daily struggle for food, shelter, clothing and other basic needs.

The Good Samaritan Program responds to our community’s challenge of ensuring that its residents can meet their basic needs. Inspired by the parable of Jesus calling us to be good neighbors, this program’s particular purpose is to support non-profit organizations for which a modest grant would make a difference in continuing to provide necessary and immediate goods and services to individuals living in poverty. The program expresses the important value of the Sisters of Charity of St. Augustine of respecting the dignity of every individual.

Grant Amount: Grant requests are for $5,000 (partial funding will not be awarded). Please note, this is a competitive grant program and funding requests always exceed the grant program budget.

Eligibility: Organizations must be tax-exempt, nonprofit organizations that primarily serve residents of Cuyahoga County. Priority is given to organizations to organizations who meet the following criteria:

- Annual budgets under $1 million.
- Organization who are located in the central community (zipcodes 44104, 44115, 44103)
- Organizations whose services and goods primarily target populations in (zipcodes 44104, 44115, 44103)

Final reports for all previous Sisters of Charity Foundation of Cleveland grants must have been submitted for a new grant application to be considered. If an organization has an active Good Samaritan Grant at the time of application, it must submit a Final Report or a Progress Report (if grant funds have not been fully spent) with its application for the new grant.

An organization is eligible for up to three consecutive Good Samaritan Grants. The organization must then take a one-year break before applying for a new Good Samaritan Grant.

Type of Support: Good Samaritan Grants are to be used to provide for the basic needs of individuals living in poverty. Good Samaritan grants may not be used for operating and salary support, endowments, capital campaigns, fundraising campaigns (including annual appeals), membership drives, debt retirement, construction, or individual scholarships.
Guidance on basic needs: Basic needs generally encompasses food, clothing, emergency shelter, identification and transportation to access these services. In addition, necessary goods associated with the basic needs, such as utilities & hygiene products, stipends, etc. will be considered. Necessary goods associated with being able to find employment or to attend school may also be considered a basic need. The program may fund emergency, short-term medications or medical supplies, recognizing that the program is not intended to address systemic and substantial funding gaps in health care. The program also supports requests that deter the spread of the COVID-19. These requests could include resources to support vaccinations, or PPE.

Engaged Learning: Ten award recipients will be selected to participate in a program evaluation learning group. The learning group will work with Sisters of Charity Foundation team to evaluate program outcomes.

Review: Site visits may be conducted as part of the review process, particularly if you are a new applicant or are seeking funding for a new program.

Funding Decision: The rapid response team, which consists of SOCF staff, residents, and members of the Board of Directors will make funding decisions on a bi-weekly basis. Once a decision is made applicants will be notified in writing.

Grant Period: Applications will be accepted on a rolling basis starting April 1st until funds are exhausted.

How to Apply:
Good Samaritan Grant applications will be submitted through an online proposal submission system and can be accessed at https://www.grantinterface.com/Home/Logon?urlkey=socfcleveland.

If you have any questions, please contact Ursula Craig at ucraig@socfcleveland.org