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**Request for Proposals  
to  
The LIFE Center Fund of The Oregon Community Foundation**

The LIFE Center Fund of The Oregon Community Foundation (OCF) was established in 2005 to help provide food, clothing, household items and other basic support to people who are in critical need. The Fund was created to continue the legacy of the Low Income Family Emergency (LIFE) Center, which closed in 2005. The LIFE Center was a nonprofit organization that provided these services to families from the North, Inner Northeast, and Southeast Portland areas. Rather than simply distributing these basic need items, the LIFE Center also honored each individual's dignity by providing opportunities for self-improvement and personal empowerment to enhance his or her situation.

The LIFE Center Fund invites proposals to provide food, clothing, household items, prescription and hygiene assistance, and school supplies to people in critical need in North, Northeast, and Southeast Portland areas. Grants may range in size from \$7,500 to \$10,000. OCF will accept applications from organizations that are tax-exempt under Internal Revenue Code Section 501(c)(3). Grants cannot not be made directly to individuals.

Proposals will be accepted from organizations outside the Portland city limits as long as the proposal narrative and project budget specifies that grant funds will be allocated specifically for North, Northeast and Southeast Portland residents.

**Priority is given to the following:**

- Applications that clearly describe how this grant will help to provide services that will continue the LIFE Center legacy, and how it would help to meet gaps in current services
- Organizations with smaller operating and project budgets where a \$7,500 - \$10,000 grant from the LIFE Center Fund will have a clear impact
- Organizations who haven't received LIFE Center funding in the previous grant year
- Applications that offer specifics about the site(s) and location(s) where services will be provided, the target population to be served, and how that fits the criteria of the LIFE Center Fund

*General requests for support of an organization's overall operating budget will not be competitive.*

Applications should include a project budget that details specifically how a grant from the LIFE Center Fund would be applied.

Funded projects should be completed by December 31, 2017.

**The LIFE Center Fund application summary and narrative forms may be accessed on the LIFE Center Fund webpage on OCF's website, [www.oregoncf.org](http://www.oregoncf.org), or by request to OCF.**

**The application deadline is 5:00 p.m. on Tuesday, November 15, 2016.** Decisions on the applications will be made in December 2016. For more information, please contact:

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