Request for Proposals
2027 Grants for "Basic Needs"

JILL HEIMAN VISION FUND – OREGON COUNTRY FAIR

The Oregon Country Fair honors the memory of Jill Heiman by granting funds to tax-exempt organizations in Lane County. Jill Heiman was an attorney who was instrumental in establishing the Fair, purchasing the site, and obtaining the Fair's nonprofit tax status. Although she passed away in 1991, the Oregon Country Fair remembers her vision for philanthropy and the positive impact our organization can have on our community.

In 2027 the Jill Heiman Vision Fund (JHVF) will target grants and projects related to ***basic needs***. Grant proposals of all amounts will be considered. Typical grants in the past have been in the range of $4,000 - $6,000, if the impact can be demonstrated and funds are available. The precise amount of money to be allocated will not be known until September 2027 (after the Fair).

The JHVF is comprised of donations made by the thousands of Oregon Country Fair participants who make the Oregon Country Fair possible. The Board of Directors matches these donations with a portion of the Fair's revenue. By selecting projects in advance, potential donors to the fund will know how their donations will be spent. This encourages giving. Unfortunately, it also means there is a risk that a selected project will not be fully funded if donations are less than anticipated.

Proposals must be <u>received</u> no later than Monday February 1, 2027, 5:00 pm. Please email a .PDF, .txt or .doc formatted proposal to: office@oregoncountryfair.org.

Who can apply?

Any tax-exempt organization [501(c)(3) for example] or a program that is sponsored by a tax-exempt organization. Applications must include the Tax ID number and an IRS determination letter may be requested if funded.

Who will select the winners?

A committee of volunteers reviews the requests and makes a recommendation to the Board of Directors in the spring of 2027.

Is there a geographic preference?

Funds must be allocated to projects/programs in Lane County, Oregon. The selected project must have a direct local impact.

Are there any restrictions on the type of proposals to be funded?

Projects must be related to basic needs, including but not limited to shelter, food, health, and transportation. The committee will consider a broad range of ideas. The committee may give preference to a proposal that demonstrates a longer term benefit and impact to the community.

When will the funds be available?

Funding will be available during the fall of 2027. Selected applicants will be issued grant contracts after the funding is secure. Once contracts are signed, grant checks will be available.

Publicity & Accountability

The Oregon Country Fair wishes to honor Jill Heiman's name and her vision by having each of the selected applicants announce receipt of the grant. After spending the grant, recipient organizations must submit an article to the Fair Family News (the OCF newsletter) to report on how the funds were used and highlight the grant's accomplishments. The Fair Family News publishes monthly; email ffn@oregoncountryfair.org.

Application

Cover Page: On the very top page of your submittal, on letterhead (if available) provide only the following information in the order requested

a. Organization Name
b. Project title and brief (several sentences) synopsis of the request.
c. Contact person
d. Address
e. Email
f. Phone
g. Amount of funds requested. This may include a range, if supported in the budget.

Budget: Please attach a budget that itemizes sources and uses for this proposal.

Additional Pages:
Please respond to the following in short paragraphs. Please limit your responses to a total maximum of three typed pages in a font and type size similar (not smaller please!) to the one used in this document (Times New Roman, 11 point). Additional materials, including support letters, may be appended but are not required.

1. **Describe the project you wish to fund and the target community that you serve. (150 words or fewer)**

2. **Why is this particular project a priority? Is it identified in any adopted community plans or strategies?**

3. **Describe the experience and organizational capacity of your organization.**

4. **How will you raise the other funds needed (if any) to complete this project? What are the specific areas you have identified? How much funding is in hand, if any, and what are the sources of those funds?**