



The Mission of the Women's Giving Circle, a fund of the Eau Claire Community Foundation, is to raise money and distribute contributions to projects and initiatives that improve life for women and/or children in the Eau Claire Area.

**Eligibility/Restrictions:**

- The applicant must have a 501(c)(3) IRS tax exempt designation or be a governmental, educational, or religious organization
- The applicant's proposal must address the needs of women and/or children
- The applicant's proposal must serve the Eau Claire area
- The applicant's proposal must not discriminate on the basis of race, ethnicity, or religion, and must demonstrate cultural sensitivity in the implementation of the project
- Because of limited funds The Women's Fund will generally not support the following:
  - Endowments and debt reduction
  - Ongoing operating expenses or building funds
  - Capitol campaigns
  - Projects with a religious focus
  - Political parties, candidates, or partisan activities
  - Scholarly research
  - Annual fundraising drives
  - Travel grants
- Allocated fund must be used during the specified grant cycle.

**Evaluation Criteria:**

The Women's Fund favors projects that:

- Propose practical solutions to current community problems in a way that will make a tangible difference in meeting an important community need
- Are innovative and will make a significant, positive impact on the individuals described by the applicant
- Fulfill the applicant's mission statement

- Promote volunteer involvement
- Establish measurable goals and have an evaluation process for reviewing and promoting best practices
- Promote cooperation among agencies without duplicating services
- Show collaboration with other community resources
- Emphasize collaboration between The Women's Fund Giving Circle and the recipient to ensure the positive outcomes of the program can be sustained

## **Application Process**

Grant Applications will be available April 1, 2009.

Grant Applications must be delivered to The Eau Claire Community Foundation Office, 306 S. Barstow, Suite 104, Eau Claire or mailed to The Eau Claire Community Foundation, P.O. Box 511, Eau Claire, WI 54703-0511.

Application materials should include a cover letter, the original and eight copies of the Grant Application (3-hole punched) and all required attachments. These materials must be delivered to or received by the Eau Claire Community Foundation Office by 4:30 p.m. on July 31, 2009.

Proposals sent via e-mail or fax will not be accepted.

Awards will be announced in November 2009 for funds to be used between January 1, 2010 and December 31, 2010.