**Funding Goals**

Burns Memorial Fund (BMF) was established by a bequest of the late Senator Patrick Burns to support low-income children and youth in Calgary. Through the Community Grants program, the Fund works towards the following goals:

* Each child is healthy, safe and has access to optimal health care
* Each child is ready for school, experiences success in school and graduates
* Each child has the opportunity to participate in recreational activities which help them to discover their talents and develop their full potential

Burns Memorial Fund is committed to the implementation of a natural supports approach in the youth-serving sector. While a growing body of research clearly demonstrates the connection between positive natural supports (family, community and peer relationships) and healthy youth development, the practice of helping youth to identify, strengthen and extend their natural supports lags far behind. This funding is intended to help address that gap.

**Eligibility**

Applicants must be registered charitable organizations based in Calgary. Funded programs must align with at least one of the goals outlined above and must assist Calgary children under 21 years of age who encounter barriers due to lack of financial resources.

Successful applicants will demonstrate an existing commitment to implementation of the natural supports approach and will be working on an ongoing, intentional basis with vulnerable young people and their natural supports. For more information on the natural supports approach, see [*Working with Vulnerable Youth to Enhance Natural Supports: A Practice Framework.*](http://www.burnsfund.com/partnerships/working-with-vulnerable-youth-to-enhance-their-natural-supports/)

**Grant Amounts and Activities**

At the end of 2017, three multi-year grants will be awarded to support the operational costs of organizations implementing a natural supports approach in their work. Grants will not exceed $60,000 per year and will be awarded for a three-year period (2018-2020). As these will be multi-year commitments, this opportunity will not be available every year.

Grants are intended to cover operational costs related to implementing a natural supports approach. Funding may not be used to start a new natural supports “program” or cover service delivery costs. The intention is to build the capacity of organizations that have already demonstrated a commitment to this approach and require financial support for the organizational change processes involved in implementation. Eligible costs could include training, supervision, change management processes, policies and procedures review and implementation, revision of strategic plans, board engagement and similar expenses.

**Deadlines and Application Process**

The application deadline is September 22, 2017. Grant decisions will be made by the end of the calendar year.

Please note: applicants must discuss their proposal with Michelle Clarke, Executive Director at (403) 234-9396 ext. 4 or [michelle.clarke@burnsfund.com](mailto:michelle.clarke@burnsfund.com) before submitting an application.

Completed grant applications can be submitted to [communitygrants@burnsfund.com](mailto:communitygrants@burnsfund.com) and will be acknowledged via email. If you do not receive an email notice that your application was received, please contact Michelle Clarke.

**Multi-Year Funding Application**

**Implementation of a Natural Supports Approach**

**Community Grants Program**

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| *Organization Information* |
| |  |  |  |  | | --- | --- | --- | --- | | Name: |  | | | |  |  | | | | Mandate: |  | | | |  | | | | |  | | | | |  | |  |  | |  | |  |  | | Date Established | |  | Charitable Registration Number | |
| *Contact Information* |
| |  |  |  | | --- | --- | --- | |  |  |  | | Name |  | Phone | |  | | | | Address |  |  | |  |  |  | | Email |  |  | |

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| *1. Please describe your work with vulnerable children and youth (defined as individuals under 21 years of age who encounter barriers due to lack of financial resources.)* |
| 1. What are your major programs and activities? Do you focus on a specific population or target group? 2. How many children and youth do you work with each year? What is your average length of involvement with them? 3. Describe the measurable outcomes you achieve each year. Include information on both the outcomes achieved and the measurement methods. |

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| *2. How is your organization currently incorporating a natural supports approach in your work with vulnerable children and youth?* |
| In your discussion, include as many of the following topics as are applicable to your work:   * *Organizational policies that support a natural supports approach* * *Explicit practices that foster the approach (this could be anything from intake forms to norms regarding family involvement)* * *Staff skills and expectations of staff* * *Staff training* * *Caseload guidelines* * *Structured and intentional use of reflective practice* * *Supervision practices that support the approach* * *Focus on social-emotional learning and trauma-informed practice* * *Focus on identity and belonging as explicit goals* * *Partnerships and systems work* |

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| *3. How will this grant help you to strengthen your natural supports work?* |
| Be as explicit as possible about how the grant will be used. *(For example, how will it increase staff capacity, improve policies, procedures and practices, increase organizational commitment to, and adoption of, this approach? You may wish to use the list provided in question two as a guide.)* |

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| *4. Provide a timeline of major activities over the three years of the grant.* |
| *Applicants have the option of providing the timeline as an attachment.* |

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| *5. Outcomes* |
| What will success look like? What specific outcomes would you expect to see at the end of year one? Year two? Year three? Include the outcomes for your organization and staff, and for the youth with whom you work. *(We recognize that in the first year, your organization may focus on staff and organizational outcomes, with youth-related outcomes occurring in the second and third years.)*How will you measure those outcomes?c. How will you sustain this work at the end of the third year? |

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| *6. Budget* |
| Please attach:   * A budget that covers all three years of funding, including both revenue and expenses. Indicate which sources of revenue are confirmed and which are potential. * Your organization’s most recent audited financial statements and annual report.   Please note:  Grants are intended to cover operational costs related to implementing a natural supports approach. Funding may not be used to start a new natural supports “program” but rather to strengthen organizational capacity to incorporate this approach in current programs. Eligible costs could include training, supervision, change management processes, policy and procedures review and implementation, revision of strategic plans, board engagement and similar expenses. |

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For more information, contact:

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Burns Memorial Fund

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