

Mielke Family Foundation

- Website: <https://www.cffoxvalley.org/grants/mielke-family-foundation/>
- Total Assets: \$9,887,277 Year End 2017
- 5% Payout: \$493,864
- Link to 990: <https://www.guidestar.org/FinDocuments/2017/396/074/2017-396074258-0ee7f429-9.pdf>

The Mielke Family Foundation has a history of giving to organizations such as the Appleton Education Foundation, Boys and Girls Club of Green Bay, Community Early Learning Center of the Fox Valley. All these organizations are like the Building for Kids (BFK) in that they all involve children and education. In 2016 the Mielke Family Foundation gave \$60,000 to the Boys and Girls Club of Green Bay and nearly \$28,000 to the Early Learning Center of the Fox Valley. The Appleton Education Foundation also received \$17,500.

The website for the Mielke Foundation lists the range of grant making as unspecified but previous sizes of gifts ranged from \$7,000-\$60,000. The foundations funding interests include education and the arts. Since the BFK has educational programs that involve the arts, the BFK fits right into the foundations interest areas which they have funded before.

There are two application cycles for grants, a spring and a fall cycle. The deadline for the spring cycle is February 1st for the inquiry. The decisions will be made in mid-May. The fall cycle inquiry deadline is August 1st with the decisions being made in mid-November. Before applying you should read over the Community Foundations general grant policies. Then if you think that your organization's idea which needs funding fits the Mielke Family Foundations focus you need to contact Carolyn Desrosiers, who is the Community Engagement Manager at the Community Foundation for the Fox Valley. Since the Mielke Family Foundation does not have a specified range for grant making you should request the amount you need for the programming, exhibit, or project. Do not request any less than the amount needed for the project. In the proposal you should emphasize the educational aspects of the project and how it will impact the community. You should also address how your project fits with the organizations interests of health, youth and aging, and the arts.

Green Bay Packers Foundation

- Website: <https://www.packers.com/community/packers-foundation>
- Total Assets: \$29,594,387 Year End 2016
- 5% Payout: \$1,479,719
- Link to 990: <https://www.guidestar.org/FinDocuments/2017/391/577/2017-391577137-0eebe4c-F.pdf>

The Packers Foundation supports organizations that contribute to one of the following: perpetuates a community environment that promotes families and the competitive value of athletics; contributes to player and fan welfare; ensures the safety and education of children; and/or prevents cruelty to animals. Organizations which they have funded in the past which are like the BFK include the Children's Museum of Green Bay, Discovery World in Milwaukee, and the Manitowoc County Historical Society. In 2016 the Children's Museum of Green Bay received a grant of \$1,500, Discovery World received a grant of \$4,500, and the Manitowoc County Historical Society received a grant of \$2,500. These organizations are like the BFK because they provide educational programming opportunities for all types of young children. It says on the Packer's Foundation website that the grants awarded are between \$3,000 and \$10,000. I noticed that two of the grants I listed did not fall between that range and some of the others listed on the 990 were for over the \$10,000. This made me wonder if that information has yet to be updated on the website or if those larger amounts were contributions.

The Packers Foundation has a three-year grant cycle and an organization may submit a maximum of one grant within those three years. Each year has a specific focus. An example of this would be 2018's focus is on the arts and culture, education and athletics. If your organization falls into those focuses then you may apply for that year in the three-year cycle. Before applying you must make sure that your organization's project aligns with either the foundation's mission or one of the focuses in the grant cycle. The Packers then advise that you learn how to use the online application system. Then you may fill out and submit your grant proposal by the deadline of June 1st. The application opens on March 1st. Trustees will then review your application and may contact you for an interview from July-October. In November the decision will be made for grant recipients. Since grants are awarded between \$3,000-\$10,000 on the Packer Foundation's website the amount you should request should be no lower or higher than the range they specified.

Wisconsin Public Service Foundation

- Website:
<https://accel.wisconsinpublicservice.com/company/wpsfoundation.aspx>
- Total Assets: \$24,077,798 Year End 2015
- 5% Payout: \$1,203,890
- Link to 990:
<https://www.guidestar.org/FinDocuments/2015/396/075/2015-396075016-0c907e72-F.pdf>

Areas of interest for the Wisconsin Public Service (WPS) Foundation include arts and culture, education, community development and human services. Organizations which they have given to in the past that are like the BFK include the Children's Museum of Green Bay, National Railroad Museum and the Northwoods Children's Museum. Size of gifts given to organizations like the BFK from the WPS Foundation range from \$1,500 to \$5,000. In 2015 the Children's Museum of Green Bay received \$1,500, and the National Railroad Museum and Northwoods Children's Museum received \$5,000 each. These organizations serve their communities by providing educational experiences like the BFK does.

To apply for a grant from the WPS Foundation you must complete the online application. Their website did not list the grant application deadline and phone calls made to the foundation to find out the deadline were not returned. The WPS Foundation says that they give priority to organizations which are in their service area, are judged effective by the community, promote volunteerism, increase the public's awareness of important issues and cooperate rather than compete with similar organizations like theirs. These should be emphasized in your organizations grant application to be given priority. The WPS Foundation's website also did not give a grant award range, so you should therefore request the amount needed to fulfill you project.

Schneider National Foundation

- Website: <https://schneider.com/about-schneider/corporate-social-responsibility>
- Total Assets: \$84,952 Year End 2016
- 5% Payout: \$4,248
- Link to 990: <https://www.guidestar.org/FinDocuments/2016/391/457/2016-391457870-0dce1fea-F.pdf>

Interest areas of Schneider are programs that involve community health, well-being and positive change. In past years the Schneider National Foundation has donated to the Children's Museum of Green Bay and National Railroad Museum which are like the BFK in that they serve the children of local communities. In 2016 the Schneider Foundation gave \$5,000 to the National Railroad Museum and \$1,500 to the Children's Museum in Green Bay. Schneider has also given to the BFK including in 2016 when they gave \$5,000 to the BFK. Schneider says on their website that they only give to organizations where there are large numbers of Schneider employees. Since Schneider has offices in Northeast Wisconsin, I am confident that there are large numbers of employees living in the Fox Valley.

There is an online application which the organization requesting the money needs to fill out. There was no deadline listed and the application but the decision for funding would be made around four months after the application was submitted. There was also no limit on how much money to request, so you should therefore request the estimated amount needed for your project.

Community Foundation for the Fox Valley Region

- Website: <https://www.cffoxvalley.org/>
- Total Assets: \$470.4 Million According to Their Website
- 5% Payout: None, since it is a public foundation.
- Link to 990: <https://www.guidestar.org/FinDocuments/2017/391/548/2017-391548450-0ee1f42e-9.pdf>

This foundation has a history of giving to a wide range of organizations. Organizations they have given to involve education, art museums, children's museums, theater, autism, youth development and healthcare. This funder is a good prospect for my organization because they have donated to causes like the Building for Kids. These causes include education and museums.

The size of the gift depends on the grant you are applying for. The grant which The Building for Kids would be applying for is the Bright Ideas Fund Spark Grants. Those grants range from \$2,500 for events to \$5,000 for longer-term programs and exhibits.

Organizations which they have given to which are like The Building for Kids include the Madison Children's Museum, various School Districts including: Appleton, Seymour and Pulaski, and the Birch Creek Music Performance Art Center for which the grant was given for arts education. These organizations all promote education and learning for children just as the BFK does. In 2016 the Community Foundation gave \$5,000 to the Madison Children's Museum and \$32,000 to the Appleton School District.

Both the inquiry and grant application must be submitted 60 days prior to event date or project start date. You must register for the online grant portal in order to find the spark grant. Once your portal registration is approved you must log in and click on the grant applicant tab. Under that tab you must click on available grants. There you will find the spark grant. You need to complete the basic inquiry page. The inquiry page will include information about your event or project. Foundation staff will review your organizations inquiry and let within five days if you should continue the grant application process. You should request \$5,000 for longer-term programming and exhibits.