

Stolte Family Foundation

Request for Proposals for 2017 Program Year Summer Learning Loss

MISSION AND FOCUS OF THE STOLTE FAMILY FOUNDATION

The Stolte Family Foundation (SFF) was established in 2015 with the goal of supporting three critical human and environmental areas of focus: narrowing the achievement and opportunity gaps in education, addressing climate change, and supporting global issues affecting women and girls. SFF's education focus currently centers on the needs of King County, Washington. SFF hopes to increase achievement for all students by working to improve education, both inside and outside the classroom. The Foundation's founders, Chris and Heidi Stolte, believe that effective philanthropy requires listening, relationship-building, and investing in communities to identify and implement solutions.

For the funding year of 2016, SFF will focus on culturally competent efforts addressing summer learning loss and early learning. Other areas of interest include parent and family engagement and supporting efforts to strengthen the education system in King County.

We believe in starting strong and addressing inequities early, before gaps are further widened. Our goal is to significantly increase the number of students in our region who are on track to earn a postsecondary credential, and to give these students more opportunities to reach their full potential.

CURRENT EDUCATION FOCUS: SUMMER LEARNING LOSS

Research has proven that every summer, children and youth lose 1–3 months of what they learned in school the previous year. In addition to learning loss, we understand that different learning styles affect a young person's ability to learn at a traditional pace. Children and youth who are living in poverty are disproportionately affected: not only might they lack access to opportunities for youth development and enrichment experiences, but their learning loss cumulates over time, creating an uneven playing field and significant barriers for success long-term. SFF is interested in supporting programs that utilize best practice and culturally competent approaches to decreasing summer learning loss. We agree with research that quantity is a critical component to success, so we will prioritize programs that are offered during multiple weeks of the summer. We will support programs that incorporate diverse staff, provide accessible programming, and operate with low student-to-staff ratios. We will look favorably at opportunities that allow successful organizations to scale proven models of success.

2016-2017 SUMMER LEARNING LOSS GRANT FUNDING AVAILABLE: \$250,000

Minimum Funding Request: \$5,000

Maximum Funding Request: \$50,000

Type of Funding Available: General operating, program support & capacity building.

Stolte Family Foundation

GRANT PERIOD

Funding is available for the planning and delivery of 2017 summer programs. The grant period is September 2016 – August 2017. A grant agreement and final report will be required of each grantee.

SUMMER LEARNING LOSS FUNDING PRIORITIES

The Stolte Family Foundation invites proposals from 501(c)(3) nonprofit organizations focused on providing accessible, direct service programs that address issues of summer learning loss for low-income families in the King County area.

In order to support the academic growth of young people, SFF seeks to fund programs that meet the unique needs and strengths of the young people and families they serve.

SFF will give priority to programs that:

- work strategically with populations impacted by the education achievement and opportunity gaps;
- have expertise in providing services based on best practices in education and youth development;
- offer multi-week programming with multiple hours of academic content each day;
- provide opportunities for hands-on or experiential learning that combine academics with fun;
- include outreach and engagement of parents and family;
- center around a personalized approach to individual student needs; and
- demonstrate proven outcomes through established—or developing—systems of program evaluation.

SCHEDULE

Interested organizations can contact the SFF team with questions regarding fit and general guidelines from April 15 to April 29. SFF is partnering with Seattle Foundation, and we encourage you to contact Christine Stansfield (c.stansfield@seattlefoundation.org) to discuss your eligibility and proposal ideas.

All proposals and back-up materials must be received by 5:00 p.m. on Friday, May 13, 2016.

Heidi Stolte, SFF President, and team will review proposals and will contact organizations for more information as needed. **We will conduct site visits to selected organizations in July and August.** Final grant decisions will be made in late August and recipients will be notified in early September.

REQUIRED INFORMATION

- Complete electronic grant application via Wells Fargo Private Bank. **APPLICATION LINK SENT SEPARATELY AT A FUTURE DATE UPON REQUEST**
- Complete a Financial Snapshot Attachment.
- If applicable, please include a short financial narrative explaining any shifts in fundraising strategies.
- Documentation of 501(c)(3) tax-exempt status or fiscal sponsorship status.

Stolte Family Foundation

ELIGIBILITY – BY INVITATION ONLY

- Applications will be accepted through invitation only.
- Applicant organizations must be located in King County and must qualify as tax exempt under the Internal Revenue Service Code or have a fiscal sponsor agreement in place.
- Programs eligible for funding must work strategically to address the needs of individuals who are disproportionately affected by the education opportunity and achievement gaps. Organizations should demonstrate a commitment to equity, work with diverse audiences, and have culturally competent staff.
- SFF will NOT consider grant requests for the following: individuals; organizations that discriminate on the basis of age, race, national origin, ethnicity, gender, disability, sexual orientation, political affiliation or religious belief; fundraising events such as walk-a-thons, tournaments, auctions and general fundraising solicitations; conference or seminar expenses; or scholarship or endowment funds.

PROGRAM NARRATIVE (MAXIMUM LENGTH: 5 PAGES)

1. How does your organization address SFF's Summer Learning Loss funding priorities?
2. What are your goals for students engaged in your Summer Learning work? Describe your approach, including a detailed outline of your Summer Learning Loss program objectives, implementation plan, and timeline of what you hope to accomplish during the funding period.
 - If helpful, please feel free to articulate your approach, goals, and timeline in a table format.
 - Please describe program dosage including number of weeks and hours a day.
 - Please include at least three specific actions your organization will take in order to achieve these results.
3. How does your organization measure student academic success? What criteria does (or will) your organization use to evaluate the success of your Summer Learning Loss work?
4. What key partnerships enhance your Summer Learning Loss work? Describe specific results leveraged through these partnerships.
5. How does your Summer Learning Loss approach strategically address student achievement and opportunity gaps in your community? What features of your work make it successful and engaging? Please highlight use of best practices, research, and applicable curriculum.
6. Describe the population served. What is your recruitment strategy and how do you ensure that you serve a high-need population? How many students received services in 2015? How many students do you anticipate will receive services in 2016, and 2017 as a result of SFF funding?
7. How do you train and develop your staff to ensure program quality?
8. Please describe the specific purpose for which any grant funds awarded from SFF will be used.
 - With SFF funding, how might your Summer Learning Loss work evolve in 2017 or beyond?

PROGRAM BUDGET

Please prepare a three-year snapshot of expenses and revenues, using the Financial Snapshot Attachment, delivered by Seattle Foundation.

Applications must be received by 5:00 p.m. on Friday, May 13, 2016 by electronic application:

APPLICATION LINK SENT SEPARATELY AT A FUTURE DATE