



Building a Legacy of Community
Grantmaking since 1998

2017 Grant Application Guidelines

Nina Mason Pulliam Charitable Trust

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History of the Trust

The Nina Mason Pulliam Charitable Trust was established upon the death of Nina Mason Pulliam on March 26, 1997, to support for 50 years the causes she loved in her home states of Arizona and Indiana. For more information about Mrs. Pulliam, please visit the Trust's website at www.ninapulliamtrust.org

Mission

The Nina Mason Pulliam Charitable Trust seeks to help people in need, especially women, children, youth and families; to protect animals and nature; and to enrich community life primarily in metropolitan Indianapolis and Phoenix.

Geographic priorities

The Trust accepts requests only from nonprofit organizations located in and serving the metropolitan areas of Indianapolis, Indiana, and Phoenix, Arizona, with the exception of environmental requests. For environmental requests, the Trust will consider requests from local and national nonprofit organizations working in Arizona and Indiana.

Program areas

The Nina Mason Pulliam Charitable Trust provides grants to nonprofit organizations that focus on the philanthropic interests and causes Nina Pulliam supported during her lifetime. Further, the Trust seeks to embody her values by encouraging people to take advantage of opportunities that enhance the quality of their lives. The Trust especially is interested in funding nonprofit organizations that can demonstrate and measure the impact of their work.

The Trust makes grants only to tax-exempt organizations whose purposes are described in Section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code that are either public charities described in Sections 509(a) or private operating foundations described in Section 4942(j)(3).

Helping People in Need

Mrs. Pulliam valued giving people experiencing difficulty a hand-up and firmly believed that education was essential to reaching one's full potential.

The Trust supports:

Self-sufficiency

- Programs that provide adult education or training with accompanying social supports for individuals to obtain and maintain gainful employment.
- Programs that focus on economic self-reliance through micro-lending, small business development and entrepreneurial efforts for low-income individuals.

Crisis Intervention

- Programs that assist vulnerable families, women and children to help move them from crisis or instability to greater functioning.
- Programs that provide basic needs, such as food, clothing, emergency shelter or transitional housing.

Foster Care

- Programs that increase the number of licensed foster families and kinship providers.
- Multigenerational programs that help prevent children from entering the system.
- Programs that support young adults ages, 18-25 who are aging out of the system, with post-secondary educational attainment, job training and financial self-sufficiency.

Education and Literacy

- Programs that provide mentoring and tutoring to disadvantaged youth.
- Out-of-school time programs and projects for underserved children.
- Programs that improve literacy skills of adults.
- Programs that work with children (0 – 5) and their families to improve literacy, reading and language acquisition.

Protecting Animals and Nature

Mrs. Pulliam loved animals - domesticated and wild - and the natural environment. She sought ways to encourage human bonds with both.

The Trust supports:

- Programs that provide humane and wellness services for domestic animals, including shelter, rescue, spay/neuter and adoption.
- Programs that promote conservation of natural habitats and ecosystems that advance preservation, protection and restoration of land, water, wildlife and plants.
- Programs that promote environmental awareness to connect people to the natural world, promote personal stewardship, or offer knowledge and tools for addressing current and future problems.

Enriching Community Life

Mrs. Pulliam appreciated the importance of having vibrant communities that benefit all residents, while ensuring that nonprofit organizations fulfill their missions at a level of excellence.

The Trust supports:

- arts and cultural organizations whose program offerings primarily reach children and adults who might otherwise have limited access to participate.
- organizations and programs that add to the overall civic and cultural vitality of the community.

What the Trust will not consider funding

The Trust will not consider grants for international activities, academic research, sectarian purposes, or programs that promote religious doctrine or political campaigns.

The Trust will not consider grants for health-related programs, except for those related to the visually impaired.

The Trust will not consider requests for programs that target those currently incarcerated, exiting the criminal justice system or recently released. Within this area, programs that target children of incarcerated individuals or address youth in foster care will be considered.

The Trust will not accept operating or capital requests from colleges and universities. (The latter includes endowments for professorial chairs, faculty training and research, scholarships and building campaigns.) However, the Trust will continue to accept requests through its regular grant cycles for support of projects that link higher education institutions to their communities.

Also, the Trust will not consider grants to individuals.

Scope of funding and type of support

Generally, the Trust prefers to disburse funds as a one-year grant but not for a period longer than three years. Requests for funding are limited to one request per organization per calendar year. (For these purposes, an “organization” generally refers to that entity to which the IRS has issued a Section 501(c)(3) determination letter.) **If an organization received a previous grant, a final evaluation report must be submitted and reviewed by Trust staff prior to requesting another grant.** For more detailed information and examples, please refer to the [Frequently Asked Questions](#) section posted on our web site.

The Trust awards grants for operating support, program support and capital needs in three program areas. Qualifications for each type of grant are:

- The Trust will consider **operating support** for former Trust grantees that can document major changes in income generation that threaten their current and/or future existence.
- The Trust will consider **program support** for organizations that seek to create, expand or enhance proven, effective programs.
- The Trust will consider **capital support** for organizations that seek immediate capital improvements to continue or expand services.

Consideration process and how to apply

The Trust requires that a representative from your organization consult with grants program staff at least **two months** prior to the application deadline. (*See Funding Cycle Deadlines.*)

Before submitting an application:

Step 1: Read the Grant Guidelines and [Frequently Asked Questions](#) to determine what the Trust will and will not fund, including our program funding interests and priority areas.

Step 2: Consult with Trust staff. The Trust **requires** that a representative from your organization consult with grants program staff at least **two months** prior to the application deadline.

Step 3: If grants program staff determines the project has potential for funding, your organization will be asked to complete an online *Letter of Intent(LOI)* describing the project in detail, as well as the proposed grant activities and outcomes.

Step 4: Upon approval of the LOI, the Trust will notify the organization and provide instructions for completing an application.

Funding cycle deadlines

Applicant submits an application	Trust notifies applicant of the status of its application	Trust notifies applicant regarding funding decisions
January 25, 2017	March 17, 2017	June 30, 2017
May 31, 2017	August 11, 2017	November 10, 2017

All materials must be received online no later than noon the day of the deadline.