



2016 Neighborhood Partnership Grants Application Questions

In addition to providing general contact information of the neighborhood group and fiscal agent, grant focus area, project name, dollars requested, and a detailed budget and narrative, applicants must answer the following questions on the online proposal form. Please note word limits as you prepare your draft.

- How long has your group been in existence? (100 words)

The Merion Village Association was founded in 1985 by a group of active and concerned residents of Merion Village. In The Association's 31st year, the group continues to grow with the dedication of a diverse group of concerned and active residents of our Historic Neighborhood. The Association meets monthly and also hosts regular activities and events where we engage residents and strive to improve the lives of those within the neighborhood while encouraging friendships and goodwill among members and neighbors.

For the following two questions, applicants must indicate the project name, the date of the award, the funding amount (when applicable), and any results you'd like to share with the review committee.

- Please list any neighborhood partnership grants your organization has received in the past, and briefly describe the project they supported. (75 words)

The MVA is very appreciate for the several NPG awards we have received past. A full list is below:

2008 \$2,150 Historical Marker Southwood
2008 \$4,200 Community Outreach & Empowerment
2009 \$5,000 Community Outreach
2010 \$5,000 Community Outreach
2011 \$2,500 Safety Outreach and Data
2011 \$7,500 Gateway Signage and Art
2012 \$1,800 Outreach Workshops
2014 \$1,997 Buy Local Key Card Program
2015 \$3,300 Merion Village Safety Education Program
2015 \$3,875 MVA Neighborhood Beautification

- Please list any other grants received in the past five (5) years. (75 words)

NONE

- What is the name of the neighborhood the project will serve?

Merion Village and Southside, Columbus, OH

- Describe the project's street boundaries (ex. Livingston to Main and Hamilton to College Ave). Please describe the conditions or characteristics of the neighborhood: (100 words)

Merion Village is a diverse and blended neighborhood, combining historical structures with modern architecture and vehicle accessibility with walkable attractions.

- NORTH from the Scioto River EAST on Greenlawn Avenue to South High Street, then EAST on Thurman Avenue, to SOUTH on South Pearl Street, to EAST on Nursery Lane, to NORTH on North on Blackberry Alley, to EAST on Whittier Street, to Parsons Avenue;

- SOUTH from the Scioto River, along Frank Road, to NORTH on South High Street, to EAST along the alley south of Morrill Avenue, to Parsons Avenue;
- EAST from Parsons Avenue;
- WEST from the Scioto River.

- Describe how the project is resident driven. Who will be involved in project planning and implementation? (150 words)

The Information Center was established by residents over 20 years ago, and has seen a few updates since that time. Many residents are eager to see the Merion Village Association improve the location and continue using the space for regular meetings and events. The MVA Board will work with its members, committees and other local groups to gather a pool of volunteers who will help with general repairs and ascetic improvements. We will also work with local businesses and contractors or to facilitate in-kind donations of supplies and labor to be used during the restoration. The board will oversee the entire project from start to finish and will be responsible for monitoring the available project budget. The project is expected to begin in June 2016.

- Describe your project. Be careful to explain WHO, WHAT, WHERE, WHEN, and HOW. Include a description of your target audience (i.e. age, gender, economic level, etc.), and describe in detail how residents are engaged in the project. (500 words)

The primary goal of this restoration project is to revitalize the current Merion Village Information Center which is centrally located within our neighborhood. The MVA currently shares this space with a local business who will be moving to a new location late spring. This space is utilized for monthly Association and Block Watch meetings which are vital in our outreach to the neighborhood. Given the long history of our use of this location, many members and residents are eager to see the space updated and improved.

Now that the Association will have sole control of the Information Center again, we plan to completely revitalize this space to aid in expanding and improving our outreach efforts. We are going to start this process by repairing failing utilities such as the water heater and thermostat. Additionally, weatherproofing needs to be updated surrounding the AC unit and doors. Unfortunately, we had an attempted break in this past fall, so as we look to add artwork and additional furnishings, a security system will be needed to protect our center. In addition to utilities and security, we plan to make several aesthetic improvements. These improvements will be finalized by our membership but are likely to include window clings, fresh paint, white boards and similar items to provide an exciting and comfortable space which will host a variety of uses.

The updates will be made with volunteer help except when we need licensed contractors with special skills and certification to help us. We have a great relationship with several contractors and anticipate their assistance in completing plumbing, weatherproofing, and heating/cooling upgrades. We are very grateful for the volunteers in our neighborhood for their help on projects such as this. We are proud to say that our residents and neighbors come together to form great teams!

The space will serve the community as a location for meetings and small events, and will continue to act as a facility to keep residents informed about local happenings as previously mentioned. To engage the space when not in use for meetings, the MVA will use the interior of the space to display works created by local artists. This public art gallery will be a new feature that will enhance our relationship with local residents and will keep the space active between meetings or other events.

Upon completion, we will engage residents through a reopening event, during other local events, farmer's markets, meetings and via printed and electronic advertisements. The target audience for the Information Center includes all residents of and around Merion Village regardless of age, gender or economic level.

- List the collaborators or partners involved in the proposed project. Please indicate their specific contributions (monetary, in-kind, etc.), and whether they represent support from within the community or from outside the community. (150 words)

Most contributors to this project will be local residents who volunteer to complete repairs and updates based upon their various skills, abilities and certifications. We will engage companies, contractors and certified professions within the neighborhood and surrounding when available,

- What improvements will this project/program achieve in the neighborhood? How will you measure the success of the project? (250 words)

The restoration of the Merion Village Information Center will provide an accessible, updated and centralized community space available for community meetings, events and other shared workspaces. The art gallery aspect will create a place for local artists and designers to publically display their works. The community bulletin and announcement boards will help to raise awareness of local events, concerns and initiates. Overall, the space will work to bring our community together, encouraging communication and active neighborhood involvement.

- Timeline – List the key activities and/or events as they relate to the planning and execution of the project. Provide dates whenever possible. (250 words)

We plan to initiate restoration of the space in June of 2016. We will work in the space regularly for 2-3 months completing the plans repairs and replacements. Following the completion of the restoration projects, we will host a reopening event and immediately resume hosing monthly block watch and MVA meetings in the space. We will also regularly use the space to host the meetings for our MVA committees and special event groups. Finally, we will make the space available to other establish local groups in need to a public space for meetings and neighborhood projects.

In addition to the above questions, a complete proposal includes:

- 1 letter of support from a collaborator/partner involved in the project.
[Coming from Joanne...](#)
- A complete budget and narrative form.
[Attached.](#)
- IRS Letter of Designation to confirm 501(c)(3) status.
[Attached.](#)
- If an organization is using a fiscal sponsor, a signed authorization letter from senior leadership (e.g. CEO/President, Executive Director, CFO, COO or Board Leadership) of the sponsoring organization, along with that organization's IRS Letter of Designation is required with the application.
[Not Needed.](#)

2016 Neighborhood Partnership Grants

Fiscal Agent:	The Merion Village Association
Neighborhood Org:	The Merion Village Association
Project Name:	The Merion Village Info. Center Restoration Project
Dollars granted:	\$3,133.00
Contact:	Jessica Norman (JNorman@MerionVillage.org)

Revised Project Budget

Complete the project budget detailing the use of NPG funds and matching or in-kind contributions.

Item	NPG Funds	Match	Total
Stipend	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
Facility Rental	\$800.00	\$0.00	\$800.00
Utilities	\$200.00	\$0.00	\$200.00
Telephone	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
Copying/Printing	\$100.00	\$450.00	\$550.00
Postage	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
Construction Costs	\$400.00	\$1,100.00	\$1,500.00
Supplies	\$200.00	\$400.00	\$600.00
Materials	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
Fiscal Agent Fees	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
Other (Utilities and Fixtures)	\$1,033.00	\$800.00	\$1,833.00
Other (Meeting Furniture and Tools)	\$400.00	\$0.00	\$400.00
Total	\$3,133.00	\$2,750.00	\$5,883.00

Revised Budget Narrative

Referencing each line item in the project budget, provide a descriptive narrative which clearly states how Neighborhood Partnership Grants (NPG) funds will be used, how costs were determined, and any other information you'd like to share. The table will expand to fit the text

Item	NPG Funding Description	Match Description	Total
<i>Example: Copying/Printing</i>	<i>ABC Printing will provided 200 home-repair education pamphlets @ \$3/each. NPG Request: \$600</i>	<i>ABC Printing provided color copies for valued at \$100 Match: \$100</i>	<i>\$700</i>
Stipend	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
Facility Rental	Funds to cover 2 months of space rental while restoration occurs and the space cannot be opened to the public. \$800.00	\$0.00	\$800.00
Utilities	Funds to cover 2 months of utilities while restoration occurs and the space cannot be opened to the public. \$200.00	\$0.00	\$200.00

Telephone	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
Copying/Printing	Announcements and other printed items related to the Info. Center and hosted events. \$100.00	We anticipate further participation from local businesses who have supported the association by providing printed materials in the past. \$450.00	\$550.00
Postage	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
Construction Costs	Labor and/or hard costs related to the replacement of the water heater, replacement of the exterior sign, replacement of the thermostat and any other unforeseen challenges requiring a certified contractor or repair service. (IE: plumbing or electrical work) \$400.00	The MVA will work with local businesses and contractors to commission installation and construction services at a reduced cost or on a volunteer basis. \$1,100.00	\$1,500.00
Supplies	Paint and painting supplies for the interior of the space. \$200.00	We will work with local improvement businesses to facilitate donated or reduced costs supplies and renovation materials. \$400.00	\$600.00
Materials	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
Fiscal Agent Fees (not to exceed 5%)	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
Other (Utilities and Fixtures)	(1) New water heater to replace a failing unit. (2) Window treatments and clings. (3) Weather-proofing treatments for the existing AC unit. (4) Security system and monitoring for 12 months. (5) New thermostat to replace failing unit. (6) Restoration or replacement of existing exterior Info. Center sign. \$1,033.00	We will work with local businesses to facilitate donated or reduced costs utilities and fixtures. \$800.00	\$1,833.00
Other (Meeting Furniture and Tools)	(1) New folding chairs for meetings and events. (2) Folding chair rack/dolly. (3) Interior cork and dry erase boards for meetings, events and announcements. \$400.00	\$0.00	\$400.00
Total	\$3,133.00	\$2,750.00	\$5,883.00
Anticipated volunteer hours: 300-350			

Revised Program Activities:

We continue our plans to initiate restoration of the space during the summer and early autumn months of 2016. We will work in the space regularly for 2-3 months completing the plans repairs and replacements. Following the completion of the restoration projects, we will host a reopening event and immediately resume hosing monthly block watch and MVA meetings in the space. We will also regularly use the space to host the meetings for our MVA committees and special event groups. Finally, we will make the space available to other establish local groups in need to a public space for meetings and neighborhood projects.

Revised Program Outcomes:

The restoration of the Merion Village Information Center will provide an accessible, updated and centralized community space available for community meetings, events and other shared workspaces. The art gallery aspect will create a place for local artists and designers to publically display their works. The community bulletin and announcement boards will help to raise awareness of local events, concerns and initiatives. Overall, the space will work to bring our community together, encouraging communication and active neighborhood involvement.

Brief program summary

Please help us track our grant records by providing an abbreviated, 3 - 4 sentence description of your funded project (i.e. *The Main Street Young Leaders Academy will engage 35 youth, ages 14-18, in leadership development activities including: 3 public speaking workshops, a peer-to-peer mentoring program with area elementary students, and the planning and execution of a neighborhood festival*):

The Merion Village Info. Center Restoration Project will improve the space utilized by the association to engage residents, neighbors and local businesses in discussions and efforts to strengthen and improve our community, as a whole. This results of this project will create a space to hold meetings and events, distribute neighborhood information and showcase local art in location central to our community, for years to come.