

Mo Co Village Gathering 2016 Fundraising - Grants

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Silver Spring Village

www.silverspringvillage.org

Why Grants

- Original Planning Group identified potential grant opportunities pre-launch
- Initial development plan followed all categories of VtV Fundraising Tool Kit
- Board member previous experience with grants in non-profit settings

Our Experience With Grants

- Sought only general funds
- Limited options for start up organization (too small, inexperienced for most)
- Initial success with two – MoCo County Executive; Cafritz (mission match)

What Has Worked/Not

- Clearly show congruence between organization mission/strategy and donor mission/focus
- Address questions asked – avoid extraneous
- Talk to project officer/attend pre-meetings for better understanding of requirements; process – and follow what learned
- Use donor on-line form (try cut-paste option to minimize errors) – easiest for donor review

What Has Worked/Not

- Follow directions; proof-read; be on time (at least one day early)
- Be clear on expected performance and have plan for getting information/reporting it
- Report on time – budget and program performance
- Be realistic on time/effort it takes to complete a solid proposal

References

- MoCo DHHS Resources for Active and Developing Villages
- MoCo Volunteer Center/ProBono Consultants, Workshops
- Washington Regional Association of Grantmakers, Common Grant Application
- The Foundation Center (not grantmakers directories)
- Guidestar
- National Center for Charitable Statistics
- MoCo Community Foundation
- Free webinars – Boomerang, Network for Good, Pursuant, others
- Non-profit Montgomery, Maryland Nonprofits
- VtV Network, WAVE