March 18, 2016

Dear Potential Grant Applicant,

I’m writing to you on behalf of YouthInspire, a wholly youth-run and youth-initiated foundation in Lincoln, to invite you to apply for a YouthInspire grant.

The mission of YouthInspire is to better the community we live in through youth serving youth with their time, talents, and treasures. The purpose of this grant is to fund opportunities for youth to serve youth, give youth a voice in our community, and encourage positive social and community involvement. **The focus of the 2016 YouthInspire grant is to fund nonprofit organizations who serve youth by providing developmental services to foster care youth and youth in early childhood.** However, all are welcome to apply, as the grant is not limited to these areas.

This year’s grant will be for the amount of $500-$800. Previous applicants have received grants to support the following youth-initiated and youth-facilitated projects:

* YMCA of Lincoln—Elliott Elementary School Community Learning Center
* YWCA’s Young Women’s Circles
* Junior League of Lincoln’s reBOX program
* Kids Against Hunger
* Lincoln Youth Volunteers
* Start up supplies for a community garden at the Clyde Malone Community Center to be used by both youth and intergenerational programs.
* New recording equipment for the Academy of Rock a youth-focused music program.
* Providing educational supplies for Lancaster County high school Red Cross clubs.
* Updating of the Resource Library at the Clyde Malone Community Center.
* Camp Fun-A-Lot for underprivileged youth in the community.
* YWCA “Free Night” dances for middle school students.
* Irving Recreational Center Fun Night fundraiser for the Lincoln Humane Society.

We are looking forward to learning about meaningful youth-initiated and executed projects that Lincoln has to offer.

YouthInspire is continuously searching for opportunities to be involved in the community. For additional information about this correspondence or YouthInspire, please contact any of the following:

1. YouthInspire Board of Directors (youthinspirefoundation@gmail.com)
2. Laura Uridil, Programs Coordinator, Leadership Lincoln (402) 441-4661

Sincerely,

YouthInspire Board of Directors

**YOUTHINSPIRE GRANT APPLICATION INSTRUCTIONS**

**Mission Statement**

*The members of YouthInspire are dedicated to bettering our community through youth serving youth with their time, talents, and treasures.*

**YouthInspire Aims To:**

* Instill the value of service within youth
* Create a better quality of life, especially for underrepresented youth
* Aid in building the next generation of outstanding citizens

To accomplish these goals, YouthInspire would like to administer grants to organizations that address one or more of the following needs of youth in Lancaster County.

The 2016 YouthInspire grant is focusing on, but not limited to, nonprofit organizations who serve youth through:

* Providing services to foster care youth to ensure successful transitions into adulthood
* Projects and services that help enhance early childhood development and learning
* Projects that address demonstrated needs of Lincoln youth
* Opportunities for youth to help benefit other youth
* Ways to give youth a meaningful voice in Lincoln
* Positive involvement of youth, both socially and through community service

To apply for a YouthInspire grant, please type your replies to the grant application questions, limiting your application to five pages or less, and return a copy of your complete application postmarked no later than **Friday, April 15, 2016** to:

YouthInspire

Leadership Lincoln, Inc.

920 O Street, Suite 300

Lincoln, NE 68508

In keeping with the mission of YouthInspire, special consideration will be given to the level and role of youth involvement in each project submission, including but not limited to conception, application and execution. Within the application we are requesting you provide contact information for a youth who is or will be involved with the project and the contact information for the proposed grant administrator.

The YouthInspire Grantee will be notified by e-mail and written correspondence by Friday, May 27, 2016 with payment to follow within two weeks.

**YOUTHINSPIRE GRANT APPLICATION**

Instructions:

* Please use electronic means to prepare this form.
* Provide the information in the order requested; number and restate the headings.
* Please limit your completed application to five pages.
* Do not put proposals in binders, notebooks or other presentation packages.
* Please do not send additional materials (articles, brochures, letters, etc.) unless they contribute to our understanding in an important way.

Please call, write or email if you have any questions. Submit completed application to:

YouthInspire

Leadership Lincoln, Inc.

920 O Street, Suite 300

Lincoln, NE 68508

402-441-4661

youthinspirefoundation@gmail.com

**I. ORGANIZATION INFORMATION**

|  |
| --- |
|  |
| Organization Name |
|  |  |  |  |
| Address | City | State | Zip |
|  |  |  |
| Phone |  | Website |
| What kind of organization are you? Check all that apply: |
|  | Not for profit—501(c)(3) | Please include your federal tax identification number and confirmation of your 501(c)(3) statusTax ID: |
|  | Corporation |  |
|  | Student |  |
|  | Religious |  |
|  | Other, please explain |  |
|  |  |
| Organization Contact(proposed grant administrator) | Position with organization |
|  |  |
| Phone | Email |
|  |  |
| Youth Contact | Position with organization |
|  |  |
| Phone | Email |

**II. PROJECT DESCRIPTION**

1. Describe your project. Why does your group want to do this project? Who, what age groups, and how many will the project serve (be specific)?
2. What is the timetable of your project (be specific).
3. Will there be a cost to participants? If so, how much?
4. Include the name and contact information of a reference who can speak on behalf of your organization and project’s mission and goals.

**III. GRANT REQUEST**

1. What is the predicted total cost of your project?
2. How would the funds you have requested from YouthInspire be used (be specific)?
3. Please list funding received, pending and/or scheduled requests specific for this project.
4. What is the long-term impact of your proposed project? How do you plan to sustain the project beyond the grant?