

SCHLECHT FAMILY FOUNDATION GRANTS



People of the Midwest are known for their grit and tenacity, capacity for growth, and willingness to break new ground. These are the traits Steve and Marianne Schlecht have demonstrated in their successful business ventures and through the Schlecht Family Foundation. In 2000, Steve purchased the Duluth Trading Company, a mail-order catalog business. Later retail stores were added to the mix, allowing the business to grow, while staying true to their original intent of offering quality products that solved real problems.

Over the years, persistence, an attitude of constant learning, and taking risks instead of following the herd paid off. These are the attributes the Schlecht Family Foundation now seeks to cultivate. The Foundation funds endeavors that align with Steve and Marianne's values: work that adds meaning to people's lives; education in the broadest sense of sharing knowledge for life and work; and connecting with nature, hearkening back to the tranquility they both experienced growing up in the farmlands of the Midwest.

The Schlecht Family Foundation established a donor advised fund within the Community Foundation of North Central Wisconsin to help address the needs of rural north central Wisconsin.

FUNDING FOCUS

The Schlecht Family is looking for instigators – people and organizations bringing fresh ideas and approaches to the complex issues facing our communities. Grant awarding supports organizations in the following focus areas:

- Meaningful work
- Education for life and work
- Connections to nature

Grants awarded will generally fall into four types of support:

- Capacity building grants
- Seed grants
- General operating
- Impact investments

Questions

If you have questions prior to submitting an application, contact Stephanie Schlecht, executive director of the Schlecht Family Foundation, via email stephanie@schlechtfamilyfoundation.org or call (415) 405-6690.

SNAPSHOT

FUNDING FOCUS

Inquiry form: Prior to completing an application, you must complete an inquiry form, found on the Schlecht Family Foundation website at: <https://www.schlechtfamilyfoundation.org/grant-guidelines>.

Application: If your project or program qualifies for consideration, you will be asked to complete an application.

APPLICATION DEADLINE

Rolling deadlines

QUALIFYING ORGANIZATIONS

Your organization must be classified as a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization with the IRS or have a fiscal sponsor that meets that criterion.

Your organization serves the rural areas of north central Wisconsin.

Your organization is not going to lobby or influence an election.

APPLICATION REVIEW & NOTIFICATION

Once your application is electronically submitted, you will receive an email notification that it has been received. The proposal will then be forwarded to the Schlecht Family board of directors for review.

You will be notified once a decision has been made. Generally within one month of the application deadline.

FOLLOW UP REQUIREMENTS

Recipients are asked to acknowledge the gift as a grant from the Schlecht Family Foundation Fund of the Community Foundation of North Central Wisconsin. Stephanie Schlecht will be in contact with you periodically regarding the progress of your project or program.