

CALL FOR PROPOSALS

2008 Nonprofit Sector *Collaborative Research* Minigrant Program

The Helen Bader Institute for Nonprofit Management at the University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee (UWM) announces a collaborative research minigrant program designed to promote research on nonprofit organizations and the nonprofit sector. Proposals are invited on any research topic with a focus on the nonprofit sector, nonprofit organizations, nonprofit management and leadership, or philanthropy. A strong application will propose research that advances understanding of nonprofit organizations or the nonprofit sector, makes a contribution to the growing literature on nonprofits, and produces knowledge of the sector with implications beyond specific organizations studied. The goal of the program is to support and enhance the quality of research on the nonprofit sector being undertaken in the greater Milwaukee community.

Who can apply? A research team that includes (a) a university faculty or staff member and/or staff at a research-focused organization, and (b) staff at one or more nonprofit organizations that will participate in and contribute to the research endeavor. The purpose of the partnership is to enhance the ability of individuals and institutions in the greater Milwaukee area to conduct research on nonprofits and the nonprofit sector.

Award levels. Grant award amounts can be individually tailored to fulfill the needs of a specific research project, but in no case shall exceed \$5,000. Grant awards may be used, among other things, for salaries and benefits, purchase of data sets, payments to subjects/focus group participants, contracts for research services, purchase of materials to support research, and travel for research purposes or to attend professional meetings to present research findings.

Applications shall consist of the following:

- A. *Cover Page.* The cover page should include the following:
 1. Project Title
 2. Project Leader Information: name, title and affiliation for each project leader along with mail, phone and email contact information
 3. Project Abstract not to exceed 150 words
- B. *Project Narrative.* The narrative shall not exceed three single-spaced pages and shall include:
 1. Introduction/Background: statement of problem within the context of current knowledge.
 2. Research Methods and Plan.
 3. Research Outcomes: what are the intended scholarly and/or practical implications of this research for the nonprofit sector, nonprofit management or philanthropy?
 4. Plans to disseminate research findings
- C. *Literature Citations*
- D. *Detailed Budget* (not to exceed \$5,000)
- E. *Resume or Vita* for each project leader

Criteria for Proposal Evaluation. Proposals submitted for this grant program will be evaluated on the basis of: (1) an identified contribution to the overall and growing body of knowledge on nonprofit organizations and the nonprofit sector; (2) clarity and soundness of the research design; (3) the relevant expertise of the research partners to conduct the proposed research; (4) reasonableness of budget; and (5) feasibility of project completion by December 31, 2008.

Obligations of Grant Recipients.

1. It is expected that grant recipients will complete research projects and products no later than December 31, 2008. No later than February 1, 2009, grant recipients shall prepare and submit a final report that describes research conducted, findings, dissemination plans, and budget expenditures. A copy of articles, monographs, and/or reports shall be appended to the final report.
2. All publications—articles, reports, monographs, newsletters—shall acknowledge support from the Helen Bader Institute for Nonprofit Management at the University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee.
3. All grant recipients shall participate in the Helen Bader Institute’s Nonprofit Research Colloquium series.

Application Procedure. The deadline for receipt of mini-grant applications is **5:00 p.m., Friday, November 16, 2007** (either email receipt or postmark.) Applications shall be submitted electronically to bduffy@uwm.edu or by campus or U.S. Mail to:

Barbara J. Duffy
Helen Bader Institute Knowledge Management Program
c/o Center for Urban Initiatives and Research
University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee
Engelmann Hall B50
P.O. Box 413
Milwaukee, WI 53201-0413

Proposal Review Process. All mini-grant proposals will be reviewed by a panel composed of the following: (1) the Executive Director of the Helen Bader Institute for Nonprofit Management at UW-Milwaukee (or designee); (2) the Director of the Center for Urban Initiatives and Research at UW-Milwaukee; (3) two UW-Milwaukee faculty members with research expertise in the relevant research topics; and (4) two representatives of Milwaukee-area nonprofit organizations with an interest in the relevant research topics. No member of the panel will be submitting a proposal in the current grant cycle.

Award recipients will be notified of their awards in mid-January of 2008.

For information on the Helen Bader Institute for Nonprofit Management at UWM see the Institute’s website at <http://www.helenbaderinstitute.uwm.edu> . For information on the Nonprofit Research Minigrant Program, including resources for research and prior grants awarded, visit: <http://www.nonprofitmilwaukee.org/research/Minigrants.php>.

For additional information or questions on the mini-grant program, contact Barbara Duffy at (414) 229-2924 (bduffy@uwm.edu).