

2018 Letter of Inquiry: Human-Animal Connection

Application Deadline: March 1, 2018 at 5 PM

Funding Priorities and Eligibility

At CFT, we believe that a thriving community is one in which all people feel cared for, invested in, nourished and valued, and have an equitable opportunity to contribute to the well-being and growth of themselves, their families, and their communities. CFT's Letter of Inquiry (LOI) process supports programs that address needs across the North Texas region and which:

- train/educate/engage on an issue or topic relevant to the community
- utilize best practices, data, or proof-points of success
- provide or expand direct services or access to resources like transportation, education/schooling, housing, healthcare, and work opportunities to an area of the community with substantiated need

Additionally, we look to fund programs that either:

- address a particularly timely need
- are strategic and data-informed
- offer innovative or creative solutions to a key community challenge
- collaborate in a way where the whole is greater than the sum of its parts, or
- demonstrate ability to create measurable impact

To apply to CFT's Letter of Inquiry process, your organization must meet the following eligibility requirements:

- have a 501(c)(3) tax-exempt designation from the Internal Revenue Service that has been active for at least two years as of September 1, 2018.
- at least 50% of the population served must reside in Dallas, Tarrant, Denton, Collin or Rockwall Counties.
- church and religious organizations' programs that are focused on evangelism are not eligible.

Human-Animal Connection Letter of Inquiry Criteria

In 2018, CFT will support programs that recognize that our relationship with pets and animals can enhance the health and quality of life of individuals, families, and communities. LOIs are requested that focus on innovative approaches to increase or measure the impact of animals on human well-being:

- *therapy*: animal-assisted therapy for individuals including physical, mental, emotional, and trauma-related
- *mental health and emotional support*: animal-human interaction programs to support mental health, well-being, and overall therapeutic benefit for people
- *assistance animals and facilitation of learning/skill building*: companion animal training and/or interactions that facilitate learning, skill-building, rehabilitation or assistance with disabilities
- *quality of life*: the positive influence of animals on the value, meaning, and self-worth of individuals and families, improving their overall life satisfaction

Application Process

Please email your completed Letter of Inquiry (LOI) to grants@cftexas.org by 5 PM on March 1, 2018. If it is helpful, you may mail (or drop) the LOI to CFT Offices at 5500 Caruth Haven Lane, Dallas, TX 75225. All applications must be received by 5pm on March 1, 2018. Applications received after the deadline will not be considered. Applications submitted by facsimile will not be accepted.

LOIs are initially reviewed by a staff subcommittee. Applicants will be notified if more information is needed regarding the funding request. The Foundation's Board of Trustees makes all final decisions regarding approval of grant recipients. All agencies will be notified about Human-Animal Connection discretionary grants by August 2018. If you have questions about the LOI application process, please contact grants@cftexas.org or 214-750-4229.

Please complete the following two-page LOI. Please do not use a font smaller than size 10 to fill in the form. No additional attachments or narrative is necessary.

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Organization Name:	
Contact Name:	Contact Title:
Contact Phone:	Contact Email:
Mailing Address:	Site Visit Address (if different from mailing):
Organization Mission Statement: 100-word/600-character limit	
Background/History: Please describe your organization, including a brief description of your organization's history, major accomplishments, experience and expertise. 300-word/1,590-character limit	
Problem Statement: What is the problem or issue the project will address? Why is this work important to pursue at this time? 300-word/1,590-character limit	

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Project Description: Please describe the project that will be considered for a grant. Please include the following information if it is available: Number of unduplicated individuals served by the project; Demographics of the community being served by the project; Geographic area served; Timeline of project; Project partners including other funders or nonprofits. 300-word/1,590-character limit

Project Goals: Please describe the intended outcomes of the project and strategies you will employ to achieve them. How will success be measured? Goals can include outputs (#'s you expect to serve or expected milestones) and outcomes (long-term impact on the community). 200-word/1,100-character limit

Alignment: How does your program include at least one of the Human-Animal Connection LOI criteria? 200-word/1,100-character limit

Project Budget: \$	Project Budget Raised to Date: \$	Total Agency Operating Budget: \$
Executive Director's Signature:		Date:

Note: Electronic signatures are accepted.