



2022 1st Cycle Direct Effect and Priority Impact Quality of Life Grant FAQ Sheet

Contents (*link brings you to question/answer section for each header*)

- [Accessing the Online Grants Portal](#)
- [Multiple Applications Submissions](#)
- [Letters of Intent](#)
- [Eligibility](#)
- [Allowable Expenses](#)
- [Application Questions](#)
- [Budget Questions](#)
- [Program Questions](#)
- [# of People Living with Paralysis](#)
- [Program Evaluation](#)
- [Review Process](#)
- [Sponsorships](#)
- [Application Feedback](#)

ACCESSING THE ONLINE GRANTS PORTAL

Question: What is the link to the Reeve Foundation online grants portal?

Answer: <https://www.grantinterface.com/Home/Logon?urlkey=christopherreeve>

Question: I need assistance making a change to my organization's address and other information. How do I get help on this?

Answer: Please email QOL@ChristopherReeve.org to update your organization's information and contacts.

Question: I am a new grant writer for our organization. I tried to register my organization on the online grants portal, but I got a pop-up message that said our Tax ID is already in your system. How do I access our organization's existing account? Do I proceed with account creation anyway?

Answer: Please DO NOT create a duplicate organization account. Please email QOL@ChristopherReeve.org with your organization's Tax ID and we will help create your new login.

Question: I know I've applied for grants in the past, but I can't remember what email address I used. How do I get help on this?

Answer: Please Email QOL@ChristopherReeve.org with your organization's Tax ID and we will either help retrieve your old account or create a new one.

MULTIPLE APPLICATION SUBMISSIONS

Question: Can my organization apply for both the Direct Effect and Expanded Impact Quality of Life grants?

Answer: According to Reeve Foundation Quality of Life guidelines, organizations are only able to apply for one grant at a time, regardless of tier. Please submit only one application.

Question: Can I apply to more than one tier or project type for this grant cycle?

Answer: No, The Reeve Foundation does not permit more than 1 application per organization at a time, regardless of grant tier or project type.

LETTERS OF INTENT

Question: Is a letter of intent (LOI) required?

Answer: No, the Reeve Foundation does not require letters of intent to apply for any Quality of Life grants.

ELIGIBILITY

Question: When does the five year wait between funds for tiers start? Is it based on the start date of the old grant or the closeout date of that grant?

Answer: It begins with all grants made as of July 1, 2021.

Question: Are new nonprofits eligible to apply?

Answer: Yes, but you must have received your 501(c)(3) tax determination approval prior to applying.

Question: We are currently awaiting our 501(C)3 status from the IRS but have not yet received it yet. Are we eligible to apply?

Answer: No, your organization will not be eligible until it receives its official 501(C)3 nonprofit determination.

Question: I received a grant last year from the Reeve Foundation. Am I eligible to apply for this grant cycle?

Answer: No, you would not be eligible to reapply for a Quality of Life grant yet. Due to recent changes in the Reeve Foundation Quality of Life Grants policies, the standard waiting time between applications for grant recipients is one year following the close of your grant. The 2021 2nd Cycle grant period will start on January 1, 2022; therefore, prior grantees who have received notification of grant closure for their past award by January 2021 are eligible to apply.

Question: We applied for a grant last spring but were denied. Is there a limit on how many times an organization can apply each year?

Answer: There is no limit for how many times an organization can apply for Quality of Life funding, and you are encouraged to reply as often as possible. Many grants have been awarded to organizations after multiple declinations.

Question: if I have received a direct impact grant in the past, could I request another, or is it recommended to do the expanded grant. Growth is local but numbers are sig. higher and costs are greater to perform same adaptive activity

Answer: You certainly can request another Direct Effect.

Question: Are local governments eligible to apply for the Quality of Life grant program?

Answer: Yes. Applications are welcome from nonprofit organizations with IRS 501(c)(3) status, municipal and state governments, school districts, recognized tribal entities, and other institutions such as community or veterans' hospitals.

Question: I see that municipalities are eligible. We are also a local political subdivision as a park district. Are we eligible?

Answer: Yes, local park districts are eligible to apply.

Question: Can a municipality apply and contract with a non-profit to run a program?

Answer: Municipalities are eligible to apply on their own. If funded the municipality would be receiving the funding, and therefore must be the organization running the program. Subcontracts are not allowed.

Question: Our municipality has a 501C3 organization associated with the parks dept. If we apply for a grant for a project within a park should we use the 501-c-3 or apply as a municipality?

Answer: You would apply as the municipality.

Question: Can a project be representative of a collaborative group of non-profit organizations with a single org serving as the lead?

Answer: Yes, but it must be made clear that the single organization serving as the lead has complete oversight of the project and must show that they are not a "pass through" for funding to the other organizations. The lead organization may contract out a small, appropriate amount of funds to the other organizations for some services but cannot subcontract out a majority of the funding so that another organization can do the work and receive the money. It would also be helpful to include letters of support from the other organizations indicating their collaborative efforts.

Question: May universities apply? If so, do you want the university to apply through the 501c3 university foundation or Research office?

Answer: Yes, colleges/universities are eligible. The Reeve Foundation has no preference as to which office the application is submitted through; please review your university's grants procedures and submit the application through whichever office campus policy dictates.

Question: Can different departments within one university apply? Or is only application per university accepted?

Answer: Separate campuses or schools within a university (ex. School of Medicine, School of Law, etc.) are eligible to apply, however multiple departments from the same campus would be ineligible.

Question: Are 1070b institutions able to apply?

Answer: No.

Question: Can you clarify eligibility for Reeve Foundation grants? We are not a 501(c)3 but do have a foundation willing to serve as our fiscal sponsor. Is this allowed?

Answer: No, the Reeve Foundation is unable to fund fiscal sponsors.

Question: Could a partnership between a for-profit and non-profit partner together to apply for this grant?

Answer: No, we are only able to fund non-profits. You are welcome to partner for the project however the application would need to be submitted by the nonprofit and all funding would need to go to and be used by the nonprofit.

Question: Can local educational agencies (tax exempt school districts) apply?

Answer: Yes.

Question: Are international nonprofits eligible for a Quality of Life grant?

Answer: No, the Quality of Life grants program is only open to U.S. based organizations.

Question: Are people living in late stages of Parkinson's and their family care partners an eligible target population for Reeve Foundation funding?

Answer: Yes.

Question: Would the loss of a limb or multiple limbs during active military duty be included in the definition of paralysis for the foundation?

Answer: Grants are awarded to organizations that address the needs of people living with paralysis caused by spinal cord and other injuries, diseases or birth conditions, including (but not limited to) stroke, spina bifida, multiple sclerosis, cerebral palsy and amyotrophic lateral sclerosis (ALS). We also support initiatives that are focused on caregiving and improving the quality of life of family members who are caring for a loved one living with disability.

Question: We are a nonprofit organization, but the idea would be to use the Quality of Life grant funds

to offer to as many local businesses in our rural community as the money will allow, namely, a 90% subsidy (per business) on the installation of a power-operated door opener for their front entrance (with the owner paying 10%). Though we are a nonprofit, if we are offering this subsidy to for-profit businesses, would that still be allowable?

Answer: No, this would not be eligible for Quality of Life funding because it is providing sub-awards to for-profit businesses.

Question: I work with people living with Dementia, many of whom are unable to leave their beds. Does this qualify?

Answer: No, Dementia does not fall under the umbrella of paralysis-causing conditions eligible for funding.

Question: Are SILC's eligible to apply?

Answer: Yes.

Question: I represent a 501c3 that operates a wheelchair sports/social program for young adults with physical disabilities and in addition operates an independent living residence for 14 young adults with physical disabilities. I understand the sports program would qualify to apply but is there any opportunity for support for the residence portion of our organization?

Answer: You may, but it must be in line with program eligibility such as facility modifications or assistive technology, etc.

ALLOWABLE EXPENSES

Question: What about providing a modem or internet service connectivity to individuals -- can funding be used for this?

Answer: If the modem or internet equipment were to be a part of a loan program, it would be eligible. The Reeve Foundation is unable to fund any equipment that would be permanently given to an individual, as it would be considered a gift.

Question: We pay for our clients' home internet services directly to the internet vendor. Is this allowable?

Answer: No. This is considered a gift to an individual.

Question: Is compensation for time of an individual with a disability for subject matter expertise and guidance in the form of a gift card considered a "gift"? or compensation?

Answer: Yes, that would be considered a gift and therefore ineligible.

Question: If the grant leads to providing medical supplies to people with SCI, would those also be considered gifts and be prohibitive?

Answer: If the medical supplies are permanently given to those with SCI, unfortunately they would be considered gifts and therefore ineligible.

Question: Is funding available for our organization to partner with a wheelchair transportation company

to assist

individuals with paralysis with transportation to our outpatient therapy program?

Answer: Yes

Question: Are educational programs allowed that train SCI persons, care givers, and families in a method that has been previously developed and has intellectual capital?

Answer: Yes

Question: Would partial and full scholarships for a respite care program for persons with disabilities be applicable for this grant opportunity?

Answer: Yes

Question: What about funds for services - for example paying a person with SCI who is doing the workshop? is this still considered an individual "gift"?

Answer: If the person is being paid as a consultant, program staff or teacher (such as an adaptive art or yoga teacher), that would be eligible. But if they are a program participant they cannot be paid.

Question: We do home modifications for families who have children and young adults with disabilities. For instance, roll in showers, hard floor installation, widen doorways, roll under sinks. Are these things considered a gift?

Answer: Yes, these are considered gifts, and are therefore ineligible.

Question: Within your list of Funding Restrictions you state, "Projects that utilize contractors or vendors outside of the United States." If the vendor is US based, but the product we are considering is made abroad, would we still be eligible to apply?

Answer: Equipment purchased from non-U.S. based companies are not eligible for Quality of Life funding. Because the vendor is U.S. based, the products are eligible even though they are made abroad. All equipment, products, etc. purchased should come from a U.S. based company.

Question: Is equipment eligible?

Answer: Equipment is eligible, however there are some restrictions. Please see our eligibility criteria for further information about applying for equipment: [Eligibility Criteria and Funding Restrictions](#)

Question: For allowable equipment, would you consider partial funding of an item (i.e., the remainder of the funding would come from other sources)?

Answer: Yes.

Question: If we are providing equipment for adaptive sports and/or field upgrades, are those permitted?

Answer: Yes.

Question: Would park equipment qualify? Inclusive playground equipment to promote independence at

City-owned public parks. Ramps to play structures, for example. Or universal design surfacing.

Answer: Yes, this would be eligible.

Question: Is pour-in-place surfacing for an all-inclusive playground or Miracle League field eligible?

Answer: Yes.

Question: Is sports equipment that requires staff assistance allowable?

Answer: Equipment that requires staff assistance is eligible.

Question: Can grant funding be used to fund exercise equipment for a physical therapy clinic which commonly treats individuals with SCI?

Answer: If the equipment is being used in a physical/occupational therapy capacity, it would not be eligible. However, if the equipment is used for exercise and wellness purposes, it would be eligible.

Question: Regarding the construction/major construction, if applying for a piece of playground equipment and there currently is a playground would you still fund if the playground will be moved?

Answer: We cannot fund any aspects of the construction; however, we are able to fund specific items such as playground equipment or pour-in-place rubber surfacing. If the playground were being moved within a similar vicinity that would be allowable, but not if it were to be moved to an entirely new location.

Question: Would building a 1-mile long ADA accessible walking trail be considered major construction?

Answer: No. The fixing, regrading or creation of accessible trails and pathways are eligible for funding.

Question: Would the building of a 300 ft. pier be considered major construction?

Answer: Yes, and would therefore be ineligible

Question: Is widening a restroom doorway (along with other smaller restroom renovations) allowable, or would that be considered major construction?

Answer: No, widening a restroom doorway would not be considered major construction.

Question: Would grading a field to allow for greater accessibility to an existing structure be considered construction?

Answer: No. This would be eligible.

Question: Is a 30-year old elevator modernization/upgrade allowable?

Answer: Depending on the type of modernization, potentially. But the Reeve Foundation would not be able to fund any construction aspects of the project. We are able to fund lifts & elevators which are generally simple plug-in devices that help people get up a few stairs or from one floor to another. Most elevators generally fall under construction. We cannot fund the excavation or construction of the elevator or shaft, as that would be considered major construction.

Question: The creation of an elevator is considered a major construction?

Answer: Yes, the creation of an elevator is considered major construction.

Question: Can we apply for an elevator to get to the second floor of our building?

Answer: We are able to fund lifts & elevators which are generally simple plug-in devices that help people get up a few stairs or from one floor to another. Most elevators generally fall under construction. We cannot fund the excavation or construction of the elevator or shaft, as that would be considered major construction.

Question: Could funds be utilized for an evidence-based caregiver assessment tool?

Answer: Yes.

Question: Is caregiver training eligible?

Answer: Yes.

Question: Can a nutritious food delivery program based around providing caregivers and family members respite by distributing prepared meals qualify?

Answer: The Reeve Foundation's cooperative agreement with Administration for Community Living (ACL) prohibits us from funding any food items. You may request funds for non-food items if there are other facets of the program that require funding.

Question: Is making sidewalk curbs accessible downtown eligible?

Answer: Yes, this would be eligible.

Question: Would coverage of participation fees for a group of hand cyclists be allowable?

Answer: Yes, this would be allowable.

Question: Can we apply for a vehicle for program use? We were thinking of adding a mobile office so we can meet consumers where they are, especially in rural areas.

Answer: Vehicles for program use are eligible.

Question: Can we apply for materials for ramp re-construction?

Answer: Yes

Question: Can the cost of ice time for a sled hockey team be requested?

Answer: Yes, ice time is eligible.

Question: Can I use funds to train people with Partial paralysis in becoming safety Trainers to help them become more independent and self-supporting?

Answer: Yes.

Question: Is installing universal changing stations into pre-existing bathrooms or modifying pre-existing bathrooms to be able to accommodate changing stations allowed?

Answer: Yes, if the equipment were to be used for the organization building / as a part of a loan closer. The equipment cannot go to an individual.

Question: Is outdoor wheelchair prototype development eligible for funding when the wheelchair is open sourced and not patented intellectual property?

Answer: Prototype development is not eligible for funding.

Question: Would modifications like regrading a sidewalk and curb into a physical therapy space qualify?

Answer: Any modifications that increase access to public buildings such as sidewalk and curb regrading are eligible for funding.

Question: Would staff training in an exercise program be allowable?

Answer: Yes.

Question: Can Employment funds be used for tutors, note takers and or personal assistant hours?

Answer: Yes, those are eligible expenses.

Question: Are wheelchair/scooter ramps permissible?

Answer: Yes, they are eligible for funding.

Question: For a wheelchair track and field program, would travel and/or registration costs for regional and national competitions be a fundable expense?

Answer: Yes.

Question: Does the Reeve Foundation fund programs that provide communication support to non-speakers?

Answer: If the communication devices you're requesting will serve a majority of nonspeaking individuals with paralysis and can also benefit others with disabilities they are eligible for funding. However, if the focus of your project is not on serving people with paralysis it will not be eligible.

Question: Are we allowed to use any funds for marketing/promotion of our program?

Answer: Yes.

Question: When developing a new program, we work with community members with disabilities – seeking their input and having them test pilot the program. We generally provide stipends out of respect for their time and contribution to the program? Is this eligible?

Answer: No, stipends to individuals are not eligible.

Question: Wheelchair batteries and wheelchair cushions are so expensive--what if there are pleas for the funding of those? Can those be considered?

Answer: We unfortunately cannot fund items that would be gifted to individuals.

Question: Would we be excluded if licensed OT, PT and SLP therapists work with children throughout the summer (not billed and in conjunction with school-based support)?

Answer: We would not be able to fund salaries of OTs, PTs, or their related therapies, however funding requests unrelated to these positions or therapies would be eligible.

Question: Under restrictions, would scholarship support for individuals who are uninsured or underinsured be included in this?

Answer: Yes, scholarship support for program participants is eligible.

Question: Is an individual registration fee for an online virtual competition (ie Veteran online horseshow) an allowable expense if it is a goal of their participation in an equine assisted services program?

Answer: Yes, registration fees are eligible.

Question: If our main function is to help supplement clients (quadriplegics) with funds for additional in-home care hours, are we not eligible, even if our project is separate from the funds. This is essentially a reimbursement to them for their attendants.

Answer: The Reeve Foundation is unable allow funds to go to clients (i.e., individuals) to fund reimbursements for services, so this project would not be eligible for funding.

Question: What about a Speech Pathologist to help ALS Patients?

Answer: This would be eligible.

Question: Would the purchase, training and initial medical costs for service animals for veterans who are paralyzed considered allowable costs?

Answer: Yes.

Question: Are trainings and capacity building permitted?

Answer: Yes.

Question: Could an Equicizer to use for therapeutic riding, saddles/pads, and materials to make a sensory riding trail be eligible?

Answer: Yes.

Question: Are lifts for horse therapy programs eligible?

Answer: Yes.

Question: Could this grant cover community center memberships? For example, scholarships at the YMCA.

Answer: Yes.

Question: Is Paratransit (accessible transportation) an eligible request?

Answer: Yes, under Direct Effect (Tier 1).

Question: We are hoping to switch our volunteer scheduling and managing from paper to software. Can we apply for a grant for the technology set up and a year of the subscription?

Answer: Programmatic expenses directly related to serving individuals with paralysis and their families are considered more favorable than operational expenses.

Question: Does neurological fitness & wellness fall into Direct Effect?

Answer: Yes.

Question: Would adding ADA compliant surface structures (lowered hand rails, edge protection for wheel chairs, etc.) to a newly constructed fishing pier constitute a modification to the existing structure? The pilings and deck would be funded and constructed through another funding source.

Answer: Yes.

APPLICATION QUESTIONS

Question: Does the character count in the application include spaces?

Answer: Yes.

Question: Is there a cut & paste option to use from our previous grants? (Address, ED, history of organization, etc.)

Answer: When you go to the application, all your organization's information such as address, telephone number, etc. will appear at the top of the application pre-filled out. Anything that requires a written response, such as history of your organization, can be cut or copied from a Word document and pasted in the field.

Question: Does the application form allow the use of formatting like bullets or bolding? Can the completed application form be printed or saved to our electronic files while in progress or after completion when submitted? Can we review the completed form and make further edits before hitting the final submit button?

Answer: Unfortunately, the system does not allow bulleting or bolding. It can be saved as a PDF/be printed and will be available after submission on your grant portal. You can save and return to the application any time prior to submission.

Question: I see that any reports that have been previously submitted for other grants are required to be uploaded or this grant proposal may not be reviewed. What if we do not have access to previous reports? Is the Reeve Foundation able to provide previous reports submitted?

Answer: Please contact QOL@ChristopherReeve.org to receive historical copies of previous

applications and/or submitted reports.

Question: Do we need to have an audit to apply?

Answer: No.

Question: Do we need to upload our organization's (a) W-9 Form or (b) our Non-Discriminatory Policy to the application?

Answer: No, the Reeve Foundation does not require W-9 or Non-Discriminatory Policy uploads to the application.

Question: Should Medicaid funds that are received through states be reported/included in our total of federal funding received/ as we calculate the percentage of gross revenues?

Answer: No, you do not need to include Medicaid funds in your total federal funding received

Question: Do Military and Veterans' programs require a separate application?

Answer: No, it is the same application. You can select Military Service Members and/or Veterans and any other underserved population groups that you serve in the "Underserved Target Population to be Served" section of the application.

Question: How do you define low-income / poverty populations?

Answer: The Reeve Foundation does not have specific requirements as to the definitions of low-income and poverty populations and areas. However, in your proposal please include census information and other geographical data to affirm your organization's programming is serving these populations.

Question: Is it helpful to have conducted a survey on the need for the program?

Answer: Any additional information like this is helpful, but not required.

Question: Which is more useful anecdotal information or survey results in describing the need for a program?

Answer: Both are helpful.

Question: What counts as a Rural Underserved Population?

Answer: As we state in our Rural Unserved and Underserved Populations Quality of Life Grants Program Rationale and Description, the Foundation bases its definition from National Geographic, "A rural area is an open swath of land that has few homes or other buildings, and not very many people. A rural area's population density is very low." We have opted for a similar simple definition of rural: a sparsely populated area in which the absence of services is prevalent.

BUDGET QUESTIONS

Question: We have just begun our 2022 grant making; we don't have a lot of committed money yet because it is early; by May or June we would have most commitments; should we still apply? Does last

year's funding and prior year funding matter?

Answer: We look at funding to assess if a project will be able to be implemented and completed. If it is a large budget, we need to see the Reeve funding is supported by other funds to ensure project completion.

Question: For equipment purchases: what would be a measurable form of evaluation you would be looking for?

Answer: It depends on the equipment. If it were durable medical equipment such as an examination table at a health center, it would be the number of patients living with paralysis that access the table. If it were an eye gaze unit, it would be the number of loans or the number of people that used the eye gaze for the stated period of time. If it were a piece of playground equipment, that gets a little trickier and it would be mostly based on number of children in the area living with paralysis or by observation of children/family members (grandparents who are using mobility devices due to stroke, etc.). One could even do surveys to see how many people are accessing the equipment.

Answer: No.

Question: Best way to present financials?

Answer: When filling out your budget sheet, be as precise as possible. Be very specific with the funds you are requesting and include any invoices, vendor quotes, or agreements you have along with the budget.

Question: What do we do if the budget template does not have enough lines in one section but too many in another?

Answer: You can insert additional rows in any section necessary – just make sure the SUM formula for the section isn't affected and calculates the correct amount.

Question: Are there any budget restrictions for an organization applying?

Answer: Please see our [eligibility criteria and funding restrictions](#) to view a complete list of eligible vs. ineligible budget requests.

Question: How should rideshare usage be described in the budget? We usually use those apps to help transport handcycles to races or parks for training.

Answer: Input the requested amount for rideshare travel under the "travel" section of the budget template.

Question: on an accessible playground, I have a design that has been put together by a company we are working with. First, it is preliminary-- we expect to make changes when the designer is coming to the area in late October. Can I submit the preliminary design and ask for a dollar amount to go toward this structure?

Answer: The Reeve Foundation requires a specific ask vs. a general ask. You should request a specific piece of playground equipment in the design instead of a general dollar amount.

Question: On the budget template do we put the cost for inter program or just what we are asking the Reeve foundation for?

Answer: The budget template should only include the line items requested from the Reeve Foundation.

Question: For a piece of assistive technology that costs \$100, 000, can a grant request be made for \$30,000 along with descriptions of the other funding sources that will support this purchase? Is a single, large piece of equipment permissible for this grant award, or does the foundation prefer smaller purchases of multiple items?

Answer: Yes, you can request up to \$30,000 for Assistive Technology under the Priority Impact Tier 2 opportunity. Other sources of funding are required on the budget template. The Foundation does not have a preference of one piece of equipment versus multiple item requests.

Question: If we're asking for a portion of funding for a large project do we need to include vendor quotes for ALL budget lines or just the items that we are specifically requesting funds from Reeve for?

Answer: Only include budget-line items for the funds you are specifically requesting from the

Reeve Foundation. If you would like to provide additional vendor quotes to give additional insight into what your program will be purchasing, that is OK but not required. Vendor quotes (valid within 3 months of application submission) for requested budget items are highly encouraged.

Question: We are donating our staff time to do our project. Should we include that as support of the application? Thinking we would list the cost and amount requested as ZERO. Is that helpful?

Answer: You can list it, but it is not necessary. You can also mention staff time donation in your application rather than the budget template.

Question: Would transportation expenses go under travel expenses in the budget?

Answer: Yes.

Question: If we are asking for funding for an accessible playground, are we better off to ask for money towards the entire project or for an individual piece of equipment?

Answer: A request that details specific pieces of equipment, supplies, etc. with vendor quotes would be favorable to a nonspecific request.

Question: If applying for an accessibility project, if items such as electronic door openers are being installed by the same company that we purchase them from, should we enter the install cost separately (e.g. contractors) from the purchase cost (equipment)?

Answer: It is not necessary to separate purchase and installation costs if the door openers are being installed by the purchasing company. If you do not separate the two line-items, please indicate that the door openers will be installed by the purchasing company in the application and/or budget narrative. This should also be reflected in the accompanying vendor quote.

Question: Should I list all other funding sources for the agency, or just the other funding sources related to this project on the budget sheet?

Answer: List all other funding sources relevant to the project only.

Question: If we do not have other sources of funding, does that count against us?

Answer: No.

Question: Would the cost of a horse be best put under Equipment, Supplies, or Other?

Answer: Horses can be listed under the 'Other' category of your budget.

Question: How does one budget for anticipated cost increases for equipment (e.g. electronic door openers) that our vendor has indicated will take place?

Answer: If possible, please have your vendor propose the estimated cost increase for the equipment and apply with as much information as possible. If changes were to occur after the grant is made the budget can be revised to accommodate those changes.

Question: Do you allow administrative/overhead/indirect costs? If so, what is the administrative

rate?

Answer: Yes. We do have a maximum allowable indirect cost rate of 10%. However, if your organization has a Negotiated Federal Indirect Cost Rate Agreement (NICRA) you may include indirect costs at the federally negotiated rate. Please note that a copy of your current NICRA will be required if your application is approved for funding.

Question: Can the costs of outreach and engagement be included in the project budget?

Answer: Yes.

Question: Are the airfare (\$500) and hotel (\$225/night) limits per program, or would that be per participant? For example, if I had 5 participants in a program, would each participant be covered for a \$500 flight or is it just 1 for the entire program?

Answer: These limits are per person/participant.

Question: Should a vehicle purchase for the organization's services be listed under the "Equipment" or "Travel" budget category?

Answer: Equipment.

Question: Are we allowed funding from additional organizations to fund the same project

Answer: Yes.

PROGRAM QUESTIONS

Question: Can the proposed project be shorter the 12-month grant period?

Answer: Yes.

Question: Could work on a project begin a little bit before the funding cycle begins or does it need to wait and start after the funding cycle begins to be funded?

Answer: If the funds requested are for a part of the project that would begin after the initial start of the project begins that would be acceptable. However, if funds were requested for a part of the project that has already begun that would not be allowable.

Question: What is the average funding amount for successful Tier 1 (Direct Effect) grants?

Answer: The Reeve Foundation strives to fund all projects at full funding of the request. Requested funds generally range from \$5,000 to the maximum \$25,000.

Question: Does the Reeve foundation partially fund requests, or are requests funded as "all-or-nothing?"

Answer: The Reeve Foundation does consider partial funding when evaluating applications.

Question: Does your foundation tend to support in-person programs vs. web-based programs, or is

there a preference?

Answer: The Reeve Foundation has no preference of in-person vs. web-based programming for Quality of Life grant applications.

Question: Our support groups meet monthly and are ongoing. Is there any drawback to asking for funding for a program that is ongoing vs. one that is new?

Answer: The Reeve Foundation has no preference of ongoing vs new programming for Quality of Life grant applications.

Question: Is funding available for expenses associated with support groups for people living with ALS, caregivers, families, etc.?

Answer: Yes.

Question: Does our proposed project need to only include those living with paralysis, or if approved could it be open to those living with all types of chronic health challenges?

Answer: The Reeve Foundation is paralysis focused, and as such, grant funding must be targeted to programs and services that impact individuals living with paralysis, their families and caregivers. The Reeve Foundation uses a functional definition of paralysis: difficulty and/or inability to use arms and/or legs due to neurological conditions including (but not limited to) spinal cord injury, traumatic brain injury, stroke, cerebral palsy, spina bifida, ALS, post-polio syndrome, etc. While we will consider supporting programs that include people living with other types of disabilities (cross-disability) as well as inclusive community projects, your project must serve a majority of people with paralysis, though cross disabilities are also encouraged. Reeve Foundation Quality of Life grant projects must serve at least three individuals with paralysis (as defined above) and/or their families and caregivers to be considered for a grant.

Question: and I understand that **rehabilitative therapy itself is not a fundable line item. I am wondering if we still could apply, but for a different service (i.e. equipment in a Loan Closet). Or, does the rehabilitative therapy restriction mean organizations which provide rehabilitative therapy are ineligible to apply?**

Answer: The Reeve Foundation recognizes that organizations can have multiple programmatic offerings, some eligible for funding and some not. Programs such as rehabilitative therapies are ineligible but the organization itself remains eligible for alternative projects and programs if they serve the paralysis community. Since the loan closet would not be providing rehabilitative therapy it is an acceptable request.

Question: I understand we cannot fund **physical or occupational therapists, but can we request funding for someone with a BS in Exercise Science to teach our group classes?**

Answer: Yes, personnel/consultants with a bachelor's degree in Exercise Science are eligible.

Question: We are aware that the Foundation does not fund **therapeutic programs. However, if the caregiver program were to include an art therapy element - for caregivers - to help them cope with caring for loved ones with paralysis - would this be an acceptable program element for funding?**

Answer: Yes, art therapy for caregivers would be eligible, because it is not considered physical or rehabilitative therapy.

Question: Would the delivery of pediatric recreational and/or palliative care activities be eligible? (ex. Play therapy, music therapy, art therapy)

Answer: Yes.

Question: Would a pool lift be eligible if one of the services provided in the pool is Rehabilitation Therapy, as well as aquatic fitness / exercise?

Answer: Yes, it would be eligible.

Question: Our nonprofit's focus is on helping SCI individuals get into a recovery program where we directly give to the program rehab center for the individual's recovery. Is this eligible?

Answer: This program is not eligible because it would be funding the rehabilitative therapy of those individuals. The Reeve Foundation is prohibited from funding anything that would be considered rehabilitative therapy, including any treatments using certified occupational or physical therapists.

Question: I am noting that you do not fund hospice care. We are a pediatric palliative care facility providing respite to patients with paralysis who have life limiting illnesses. We also provide end of life care as a separate program but are not a Hospice facility. Should I clarify this in the proposal?

Answer: On the "Organizational Information" section of your application you can describe the programs offered by your organization and clarify the facility type.

Question: Can we apply for equine-assisted programs for individuals with paralysis?

Answer: Equine-assisted programs are eligible for funding under Direct Effect (Tier 1).

Question: We want to apply for an adult changing table, but also have funding needs for our equine-assisted therapy program. Is it possible to include both pieces in one proposal?

Answer: Yes, you can apply for multiple projects/programs within the same application, as long as the amount requested does not exceed the maximum \$25,000.

Question: Can I apply for funds to provide safety training programs for family members of those living with paralysis?

Answer: Yes.

Question: Hi, is funding allowable for the personnel staffing who can do home evaluations for ALS patients to assist and support caregivers on how to improve the accessibility in the home environment. Would this staff be allowed to be a PT or OT in this case?

Answer: This is not quite the aim of our caregiving program – which is to provide respite or relief to caregivers.

Question: Would support for a care coordinator/program that assists children with spina bifida transitioning to adult healthcare settings be eligible?

Answer: Yes.

Question: Would it be worth applying for a public library to purchase a lift so people living with paralysis can get to the children's room and to the bathroom, etc.? (I know you can't pay for construction costs.)

Answer: Yes, that project would be eligible for funding.

Question: Can we apply for technology for use in the home that will provide ACCESS to our remote exercise program, such as iPads, iPad carts, joysticks, modems?

Answer: The equipment is eligible if it is a part of a loan program or if it is being purchased for programmatic use. If the equipment were permanently given to individuals, it would not be eligible because it would be considered a gift.

Question: Can a grant application submit a budget for funding two different types of service activities such as emergency transportation and case management services?

Answer: If they are a part of the same application, yes. Organizations are not able to submit multiple applications per cycle, so if they are not able to be included together you will have to apply for one.

Question: Does it have to be a respite and caregiving program, or can we apply for just a caregiving program?

Answer: You can apply for a caregiving program.

Question: It is stated that expenses for caregiving is an allowable expense. Would payments need to be made directly to a health service organization?

Answer: Yes. Payments must be made directly to the caregiving agency to be eligible for funding. Reimbursements to families after they pay for respite/caregiving is not eligible.

Question: Do you provide funding for pilot programs?

Answer: Yes, the Reeve Foundation considers requests for new/pilot programs.

Question: We offer hippotherapy for youth who are living with spinal cord injury, brain injuries and cerebral palsy but we use different methods and sometimes we have physical and occupational therapists on staff. Does this make us ineligible for a grant request?

Answer: Program eligibility is not affected if they are not providing physical or occupational therapy.

Question: If we apply for a program that includes travel for the future, but COVID still has travel restrictions, will we lose the grant?

Answer: No, you will not be asked to return funding for lack of travel. Generally, when organizations cannot fully expend funded line-items we work with that organization to authorize a budget change and direct the unspent funding to another aspect of the project/program.

Question: Once awarded, do you conduct audits?

Answer: We do conduct site visits which are a form of an audit. In addition, we do ask for detailed

financial reports (interim and final) throughout the grant cycle. We do not generally conduct an audit unless mismanagement of the program funds is in question.

Question: Is there a match requirement to apply?

Answer: No.

Question: Through the review process, do you restrict the number of grants which may be addressing the same type of project? For example, playground equipment? It seems this is a common request and the reviewers may wish to distribute the funds across various types of programs despite the scores. Does this impact the scoring and ranking?

Answer: No, we do not restrict the number of grants awarded by project type.

Question: We recycle donated used durable medical equipment and do not purchase new items. We typically loan items for at least 6 months but sometimes longer. Is this allowable?

Answer: Loans must be on a short-term basis (9-12 week maximum with the potential of one renewal if there is no waiting list for the equipment).

Question: Are there any special contractual obligations/requirements (e.g. prevailing wage, disadvantaged business enterprise, etc.)?

Answer: No. All loans must be on a short-term basis (9-12 week maximum with the potential of one renewal if there is no waiting list for the equipment).

Question: We would like to add Voyageur Ceiling Lifts to our loan closet for people with ALS. Would this loan be limit to a short-term period?

Answer: Yes.

Question: Can projects be regional (recruit participants across several counties) to align with catchment areas from community-based organizations or at broader levels (recruit participants from state or national level)?

Answer: Yes.

Question: Do you ever allow projects to extend beyond the project end date?

Answer: All grant proposals must fit within the grant year. If changes or delays happen during the grant year that affect the end date of your project, Quality of Life staff will work with you to authorize a no-cost extension.

Question: What are the reporting guidelines? When is final report due? Do you have to give funds back if you haven't spent them by the end date?

Answer: We require an interim and final report. The interim report is due at the 6-month mark of your grant year, and the final report will be due one month following the close of your grant year. If you are unable to complete spending before the grant year ends, Quality of Life staff will work with you to authorize a no-cost extension. Funding is only returned in extreme circumstances or if spending is out of compliance with the grant agreement.

Question: As far as rehabilitation therapy - if OTs are providing Assistive Technology evaluation and training but not medical rehabilitation is that still restricted?

Answer: No, that would not be restricted because they would not be providing physical/rehabilitative therapy.

Question: My organization is seeking an accessible van for our organization to provide/exchange/transport DME and supplies to our constituents across the state. Does this sound like something that could be funded?

Answer: Yes, this would be eligible.

Question: Are mental health services such as support groups allowable?

Answer: Yes. Paying for things such as individual therapy sessions would be considered gifts and therefore would not be eligible.

Question: Can tier 5 be adding a new component to a successful program. For example expanding a loan closet that wants to add an educational component to better support caretakers using equipment?

Answer: Yes.

Question: My organization owns and operates a fully accessible and absolutely free campground. Can funding be used to market the existence of this facility to promote its use by those with paralysis, their families, and caregivers?

Answer: Yes.

Question: When is the spring cycle anticipated?

Answer: We anticipate it opening in February 2023 with applications due in March.

NUMBER OF PEOPLE LIVING WITH PARALYSIS

Question: What percentage of the population we serve must be people with paralysis? We serve individuals with disabilities which includes CP, brain injury, etc. but many don't have paralysis. Is there a percentage needed for you to fund a project?

Answer: There is no specific percentage requirement of serving people with paralysis for your project. Your project must serve a majority of people living with paralysis with a minimum of 3 people living with paralysis, their families, or their caregivers. Grants are awarded to organizations that address the needs of people living with paralysis due to neurological conditions including spinal cord and other injuries, diseases or birth conditions, including (but not limited to) stroke, traumatic brain injury, spina bifida, multiple sclerosis, cerebral palsy and amyotrophic lateral sclerosis (ALS).

Question: The majority of people served by the grant must be people living with paralysis and their families/caregivers? Our project is significantly modifying an existing dock to make it universally accessible for community boating. Therefore, the majority of the people served will not be people living with paralysis. Is this project automatically not fundable?

Answer: This project would be eligible.

Question: How do you verify the number of people the grant will service?

Answer: We trust our grantees to report accurate service numbers.

Question: If the organization has a community building and is asking for accessibility can the number of individuals living with paralysis that would be using the building be estimated?

Answer. Yes

Question: What if a municipality has a longstanding policy of not quantifying its employees who are paralyzed/use a wheelchair. This will keep the municipality from giving an actual number of those affected. Will it hurt the application?

Answer: Quality of Life applications require a quantified number of individuals with paralysis, their family members and caregivers to be served through the proposed project; you will need to indicate the target number of individuals to be served on the application, and if awarded, report exact numbers of those served on interim and final reports.

Question: How can schools, parks, or playgrounds that want to become more inclusive estimate the number of children in wheelchairs that will be served (i.e., 3 or more) and what statistics can be used?

Answer: We recommend that organizations start with the Census data. In addition, some regional chapters of organizations such as ALS orgs or Muscular Dystrophy Associations might have regional or local data.

We would also recommend:

- [Disability Counts Data Finder](#). This is an online tool that lets you view and download disability data for every county in the United States. The data includes disability rates, types of disability, whether the county is classified as rural or urban, and population.
- [Map Series: Disability in America](#). This is a set of maps that show information about disability. The maps show the rates of disability for every county in the United States. There are maps for many topics, including veterans, poverty, and employment. There are also maps for different kinds of disability including hearing, seeing, waking, cognitive, self-care and independent living.
- [Rural Health Grants Eligibility Analyzer](#) from the Health Resources and Services Administration (HRSA).

Question: How do I evaluate the impact of the project when I have no baseline for outputs or outcomes?

Answer: As we state in our Rural Unserved and Underserved Populations Quality of Life Grants Program Rationale and Description, the Foundation bases its definition from National Geographic, “A rural area is an open swath of land that has few homes or other buildings, and not very many people. A rural area’s population density is very low.” We have opted for a similar simple definition of rural: a sparsely populated area in which the absence of services is prevalent.

PROGRAM EVALUATION

Question: How do you evaluate a grant program that is continuing (not new)? Do you consider how innovative the program is if it’s ongoing?

Answer: We evaluate programs at the same level as new programs. Innovation is considered in each application, whether the program is new or ongoing.

Question: The program must include evaluation indicators (e.g., assessment, etc.) so potentially it might be a research study. How do you define "research" to exclude it? Would you please clarify?

Answer: The grant application requires you to describe evaluation indicators you will use to measure success of the project. The indicators must be a combination of both input and output indicators and must be measurable. You'll also be asked to describe the evaluation methods you will use (surveys, interviews, focus groups, review of program documents, etc.). These types of indicators are really about outcome measures, looking at the number of people served through the project, etc. Please review our Quick Guide to Establishing Evaluation Indicators to learn more: <https://www.christopherreeve.org/get-support/grants-for-non-profits/a-quick-guide-to-establishing-evaluation-indicators>.

"Research" is basically defined more in terms of medical research or part of broader studies used to inform medical practice, etc.

Question: What type and level of evaluations should be used to assess the proposed project? What type of outcome measures (if any) is expected to be measured and reported upon?

Answer: Here is a link to our evaluation indicators information page:

<https://www.christopherreeve.org/get-support/grants-for-non-profits/a-quick-guide-to-establishing-evaluation-indicators>

REVIEW PROCESS

Question: For the final evaluation process, can you tell us a little more about the university/organization visit that would happen and how that would be conducted?

Answer: Unfortunately, not every awarded organization receives a site visit. Those are based on various events in the area, the progress of the grantee, and staff/board members available to travel. If one does occur – it is set up in advance and an agenda is planned with goals of the visit discussed. Each site visit is its own unique experience.

Answer: Our review process can be viewed here: <https://www.christopherreeve.org/get-support/grants-for-non-profits/quality-of-life-grant-review-process>

SPONSORSHIPS

Question: Does the Foundation do sponsorships? If yes, how should sponsorship requests be directed?

Answer: The Reeve Foundation does provide sponsorship opportunities, however not through the Quality of Life Grants Program. To apply for sponsorship, please email your proposal to QOL@ChristopherReeve.org and the proposal will be submitted to our review committee.

ADDING EMAILS ADDRESSES TO APPROVED LISTS

Question: Should we add @grantinterface.com to our list of approved email addresses?

Answer: Please add administrator@grantinterface.com and gol@christopherreeve.org to your accepted list of email addresses.

APPLICATION FEEDBACK

Question: Do we get feedback/notes from the review panel?

Answer: In accordance with a federal cooperative agreement with Administration for Community Living, the Reeve Foundation is unable to provide individualized feedback on applications.