

Cook It Forward 2016

A CulinaryCorps Micro-Grant Program for Alumni

Is this a CulinaryCorps outreach trip or something totally different?

Totally different! In an effort to grow our mission footprint, this initiative invites individuals who have participated as a CulinaryCorps chef-volunteer to receive a small grant to create and launch a project of their own. Here's a snippet from our mission statement that laid the foundation for this program:

“Through our culinary-focused volunteer service objectives, each team member creates a unique and powerful connection to the community served. Witnessing the impact they can make in just one week, our chef-volunteers come to more fully realize their leadership potential both in the kitchen...and outside of it. In the interim between yearly trips, our ongoing challenge to the CulinaryCorps alumni community is to “cook it forward” as best they can in their own communities.”

What do you mean by “project?”

We define a “project” as a culinary-related outreach initiative that helps a community through food and cooking. Think of it like what a CulinaryCorps team would do on one day of our itinerary. For example, launching a Top Chef contest with the 3rd graders of Edible Schoolyard NOLA or helping to create and test new recipes for Bill's Kitchen in Puerto Rico. We are not expecting recipients of this grant to create a full-blown CulinaryCorps trip! We encourage alumni to think of an achievable and important way to engage in their own community, nationally or internationally.

Who can apply?

This grant program is currently limited to individuals who have participated as a chef-volunteer on a previous CulinaryCorps trip.

What is the amount of the grant?

\$555. And while this may not seem like a whole lot, it has the potential to be mighty. We know this from experience. In 2006, CulinaryCorps got its start with a micro-grant of \$500 from the Geoffrey Roberts Foundation. With the help of each and every one of you, this small grant snowballed into an organization that has helped hundreds of people by feeding, teaching, and sharing good food.

How many grants will you be giving out?

We hope to distribute 5 grants but it is applicant dependent. We may give out less. We may give out more. Our current board members will be reviewing the applications on a rolling basis.

What types of projects are you funding?

We are open to all ideas but every project must fit the following criteria...

- Its core mission involves food and/or cooking
- The project must involve outreach to people in the community you want to serve (in other words, we won't find projects that don't see the light of day i.e: grant writing, curriculum review, research trips, etc.) Projects can be domestic or international in scope.
- Due to our bylaws limitations, we cannot fund religious activities or any program that is politically affiliated.

What does this grant cover?

There is a lot of flexibility here but here are some examples of ways you can spend the funds to help offset your overall budget:

- Cooking equipment
- Ingredients and culinary supplies
- Printing of curriculum and handouts
- Space rental for event

Due to bylaw restrictions, this grant cannot be applied to:

- A salary for yourself or others
- Donations to other organizations
- Honorariums
- Personal travel

If I receive a grant, what are my responsibilities?

This list is simple but important...

- Successfully complete your proposed project within 6 months of receiving the funds.
- Send us your receipts and an itemized list on how the \$555 was spent.
- Write a wrap-up report including an overview of your project and its deliverables along with pictures and a short video of your impact. (Don't worry, we'll send you a template.) A summary of your work will be posted on our blog, newsletter, and other social media feeds.

Can I join forces with another CC alum?

Yes, absolutely! However, we will only be funding two alums per project for a total of \$1110.

Will you help me spread the word about my project?

Yes! We're happy to help you post any volunteer opportunities on our Facebook page and Twitter/Instagram.

If I receive a grant and have questions while developing/launching a project, can I use CulinaryCorps as a resource?

Most definitely. We are here to help guide you as best we can so your project is a success. Plus, we have a host of proven curricula in the archives that you can access for ideas and inspiration.

CLICK [HERE](#) FOR THE ONLINE APPLICATION. APPLY TODAY!