

# NCEP GRANT APPLICATION PREPARATION TIPS

### 1. Give yourself enough time

 Although this grant has been created to be simple, it still takes time to write a neat, organized, well-thought-out, and complete grant. Answer each part of the application, using the template found on our website.

# 2. Make sure your project meets the guideline requirements of NCEP

• NCEP will not award any grants that do not fall under our Grant Making Priorities. If you question whether your idea falls under our priorities, please contact us.

## 3. Meet the deadline – February 15, September 15

• Late applications will not be accepted and will waste your valuable time and effort.

## 4. Follow application instructions

- It is important that you follow all the instructions, including submitting five copies of your proposal.
- All instructions can be found on the first page of the grant application.

### 5. Make it easy to read

Please use a standard type size, no elaborate bindings or covers.

#### 6. Use clear, simple language

• A simple style and direct style, free of acronyms and jargon, communicates best.

#### 7. Don't overdo the supporting letters and other materials

- Meaningful letters of support are helpful, but too many can clutter the application.
- Newspaper clippings (copied and standard-size paper) and brochures can provide good supporting information.

### 8. Craft your goals and objectives carefully

 Clear objectives (and accompanying evaluation plan) are a strong selling point for your project. The process of developing your objectives helps you think through your plans; the finished objectives are your blueprint for your project when it's funded.

# 9. Proofread, spell-check and proofread again.

• Errors detract from your message.