

*****Mini-Grants Now Available*****

2016

The NRO is pleased to announce the availability of 14 **Neighborhood Mini-Grants**. **All applications will be date stamped and processed as they arrive.**

The Neighborhood Resource Organization Neighborhood Mini-Grants program provides funding that helps resident-driven neighborhood groups engage more residents in their efforts and strengthen their organizations as they plan and complete community improvement projects.

Neighborhoods that have citizens who are actively involved in shaping their neighborhood's future are most likely to attract other people and investments to their community.

Applications for the NRO Neighborhood Mini-Grant Program will be accepted from any neighborhood organization within Erie County.

Competitive mini-grants of up to \$1,000 will be awarded for projects or activities. In order to encourage resident-based groups from separate neighborhoods to work together on joint projects, two or more neighborhood organizations that work together on a single project may submit one grant application and request a maximum of \$2,000 for that joint project.

We understand that most neighborhood groups have never prepared a funding application, so we want to remove as much fear and uncertainty from this process as possible by offering technical assistance to help organizations understand the program and navigate the application requirements. NRO staff will provide assistance with thinking through, designing, and implementing proposed projects. Staff can also review your application and budget before it is submitted to help you put the best application forward. During implementation, staff will make routine phone calls to ensure successful grant management.

APPLICATIONS ARE DUE TO THE NRO OFFICE NO LATER THAN APRIL 29TH, 2016

You can contact John Villa for assistance, 572-0755, jvilla@mercyhurst.edu

NRO MINI GRANT APPLICATION

2016

This is the NRO Mini Grant application. No other applications or formats will be accepted. **Mini Grant projects must be completed within 3 months.** Projects still have to demonstrate a benefit to the community that the neighborhood serves. All projects must benefit and be open to the public and cannot benefit any individual or private entity.

The applications must:

- a. Represent a geographic area that the watch group covers.
- b. Demonstrate fiscal accountability by having a current checking account in the name of the organization.
- c. Demonstrate the capacity to complete the project.
- d. Produce a project budget.
- e. **Submit a Project Completion letter with pictures and provide receipts of all purchases within 30 days of completion. We need receipts not invoices.**
- f. Maximum mini grant is for \$1,000.00.

Examples of past projects:

- a. Dumpster Days. (dumpster, trash bags, gloves, safety vests)
- b. Neighborhood Watch Group t-shirts (used for advertisement of group)
- c. Vacant lot improvements. (Flowers, mulch etc.)
- d. Community Gardens. (vegetable plants, top soil, wood for garden beds)
- e. Community art projects. (paint for Murial, paint to cover graffiti)
- f. Advertisement of project.

Ineligible projects:

- a. Interior repairs or improvements.
- b. Neighborhood picnic/cookout
- c. Purchase of food and/or beverages

NAME OF ORGANIZATION:

ADDRESS:

REQUESTED MINI GRANT AMOUNT:

CONTACT PERSON:

ADDRESS:

PHONE NUMBER:

EMAIL:

LIST OF NEIGHBORHOOD WATCH GROUP'S OFFICERS:

Officers

- a. Chair:
- b. Co-Chair:
- c. Secretary:
- d. Treasurer:

PROJECT NAME AND LOCATION:

LIST ANY COMMUNITY PARTNERS (CHURCHS, SCHOOLS, BUSINESSES):

SHORT NARRATIVE OF THE PROPOSED PROJECT:

LIST PROJECTED EXPENSES:

ITEM	AMOUNT

Name: _____

Signature: _____ Date: _____