



# Hennepin Youth Sports Program RFP 2012

## Hennepin Youth Sports Capital Grants

### **Background**

Hennepin County is seeking local units of government interested in developing facilities for amateur sports or recreation. Legislation authorizing the building of Target Field allows Hennepin County to grant up to \$2 million dollars each grant cycle to Hennepin County communities to assist with developing these facilities. These grants will be made through the Hennepin Youth Sports Program.

### **Purpose**

The purpose of these grants will be to allow municipalities, park districts or school districts to create, expand or improve sport or recreational facilities to enhance opportunities for athletics and recreation.

No grant awards may be used for ongoing expenses, such as programming services or operating and maintaining the facilities. Charter schools and youth sports organizations must enlist a local unit of government to submit an application.

### **Criteria**

These criteria will be among those considered in evaluating grant applications:

- Need for the facility
- Population and number of people served
- Partnerships among local units of governments and between local units of governments and non-profit sports organizations
- Leveraging non-Hennepin County funds and in-kind contributions
- Sustainability, including ongoing operating funds
- Inclusion of environmental improvements
- Equitable distribution throughout the county

## **Examples**

The following are examples of potential projects:

- Baseball and softball fields
- Soccer, football and lacrosse fields
- Playgrounds
- Tennis courts
- Hockey rinks
- Disc golf courses
- Skate parks

## **Partnerships**

Hennepin County will favor proposals that support, create and enhance partnerships both between public entities as well as those with private organizations. Operating agreements that expand hours and programs, bring new users to the facility, and provide opportunities that do not currently exist in the community will be preferred.

## **Grant Amount**

Awards will range from \$10,000 up to \$325,000. Respondents are required to provide matching funds or in-kind contributions. Matching fund amounts will be a criteria considered in grant awards.

## **Hennepin Youth Sports Equipment Grants**

### **Background**

In 2011, the Hennepin County Board of Commissioners approved a small equipment grant program, which allows local Youth Sports Organizations (YSO) to apply for grants to purchase equipment relating to youth and amateur sports activities.

### **Purpose**

The purpose of these grants will be to sustain and improve playability of sports facilities and promoting stronger relationships between local units of government and local youth sports organizations. Grant funding will allow local youth sports organization to purchase equipment relating to youth and amateur sports activities.

No grant awards may be used for ongoing expenses, such as programming services or operating and maintaining the facilities. Charter schools and youth sports organizations must enlist a local unit of government to submit an application.

## **Criteria**

These criteria will be among those considered in evaluating grant applications:

- Population and number of youth served by the organization
- Organizations should be in good standing with their communities and have a tradition of providing quality sports programming
- To the extent possible, grants will be awarded to a mix of various sport activities and distributed to communities throughout the county

## **Examples**

The following are examples of the types of equipment covered by the grant program:

- Field maintenance equipment
- Pitching machines
- Goals
- Backboards
- Nets
- Marking equipment
- Football dummies
- Training aids

## **Partnerships**

A youth sports organization must have the endorsement of a Local Government Unit (LGU), such as a city, school district or park district. The LGU pledges to act as a fiscal agent for the grant and agrees to ensure the grant is used for its intended purpose.

## **Grant Amount**

Awards will range from \$1,000 up to \$10,000. A local match is encouraged, but not required. Funds will be granted for up to the full amount of equipment.

## **General Information**

### **Grant Administrator**

The Hennepin County Board of Commissioners will make the grant awards to respondents. The Board has contracted with the Minnesota Amateur Sports Commission to administer the application process.

### **Updates**

The latest updates can be found at [http://www.mnsports.org/grant\\_program.stm](http://www.mnsports.org/grant_program.stm).

## Contact

Prospective responders who have questions regarding this RFP may contact:

Minnesota Amateur Sports Commission, 1700 105<sup>th</sup> Ave NE, Blaine, Minnesota 55449

Stephen Olson, Program Director	<a href="mailto:solson@nscsports.org">solson@nscsports.org</a>	763-785-3639
Lynda Lynch, Grant Administrator	<a href="mailto:llynch@mnsports.org">llynch@mnsports.org</a>	763-785-5631
Mark Erickson, Program Manager	<a href="mailto:merickson@mnsports.org">merickson@mnsports.org</a>	763-785-5662

## Deadline

All proposals must be received by MASC by 4:00 PM on Friday, October 14, 2011 at the address above.

## Twins Community Fund Grants

Additional grant funding for baseball and softball projects is available from the Twins Community Fund. The Twins Community Fund has a separate application and award process for these grants. Potential applicants should review the criteria at the Twins Community Fund website at <http://www.twinsbaseball.com/community>.