

# COUNCIL GROVE AREA FOUNDATION

## APPLICATION FOR GRANT

1. Organization Name:

Council Grove, KS (CGKS) Chapter of the Rural Youth Golf Association (RYGA)

2. Address:

128 W Main St., Council Grove, KS 66846

3. Organization's Officers:

Cody D. Catlin, President

4. Contact Person, Title, Phone:

Cody D. Catlin, President – (785)556-2580

5. Is this a tax-exempt organization? If so, date tax exempt status received:

Yes. Exemption received December 28, 2014.

6. Title of Project and Brief Description:

The CGKS Chapter of the RYGA serves a mission to provide youth in rural communities the opportunity to learn and play the game of golf while broadening their skillset and growing the game.

7. Geographic Area to be served:

Council Grove, KS/Morris County area

8. What group will be benefited?

All Council Grove/Morris County area youth ages 7-18

Size of Group:

In our first two years of programming, we have had approximately 30 youth participants each year attend one of our clinics, the annual camp, or participate through the RYGA sponsored youth membership program. It is our anticipation in 2018 that our numbers

will increase as we explore collaboration opportunities with the Council Grove Recreational Department.

9. Anticipated Project Period: May 2018 to April 2019

10. Is this a request for Capital, Operating Support, or a Special Project?

Our request is for programming, CGKS Chapter operational support.

11. Total Project Cost: \$2,850.00

(Golf clinics - \$1,500.00, annual camp - \$750, anticipated sponsored youth memberships - \$600)

12. Amount Requested from Foundation: \$2,850.00

13. Amount and Source of Pledges or Commitments to Date:

None to date in 2018. We conduct an annual fundraising golf tournament at Council Grove Country Club to benefit the CGKS Chapter of the RYGA. Our 2018 tournament is scheduled for Saturday, May 5<sup>th</sup>. In the previous two years, we raised approximately \$1,500 at each tournament.

14. Other Grant Applications or Funding Requests made for this project:

None to date in 2018. In 2016, we applied for operating funds from this foundation.

15. What action has been taken on the other applications or requests?

We were awarded \$1,000 in 2016 from the Council Grove Area Foundation.

16. What is the purpose of this project; what specifically will it accomplish?

Traditionally, accessibility to the sport of golf has been limited more to youth in rural areas than it has to their peers in a metropolitan setting. Unless one has a family member, or close friend, that understands the game, it is not always readily available due to various barriers of entry. Access – generally speaking, rural communities have no driving ranges, smaller par three courses, or golf clubs where residing youth can pay to play without being a member. Cost - golf equipment can be very expensive ranging into the thousands of dollars and no rental opportunities typically exist at smaller golf clubs. Wherewithal – youth may not even understand the game, or how it is played, and no

instruction is available voiding any potential interest to develop. The RYGA, through its affiliates, seeks to combat these barriers with its mission.

The number one issue facing rural America is poverty. When some families are only able to budget the necessities, allowing their child to participate in an activity that comes with a cost, let alone multiple activities throughout the year, some doors stay closed. Golf is a phenomenal sport teaching important values that should be used throughout life such as honesty, integrity, and accountability. It is also a lifetime sport building self-confidence and encouraging exercise, outdoor recreation, and camaraderie amongst playing companions.

Creating an avenue where rural youth can experience the game free of obstacles is what the RYGA seeks to accomplish. As we all know, opportunities for youth in our small communities tend to be limited in comparison to their metropolitan peers, but through initiatives such as those of the RYGA, they don't have to be.

17. What are the problems this project will attempt to solve?

As previously mentioned, the number one issue facing rural America is poverty. Eliminating barriers for rural youth involvement in the sport, regardless of socioeconomic status, is the sole focus of the RYGA. The RYGA strives to create a fun environment where juniors can experience the game free of charge and without burden.

18. How will this project be implemented?

Periodic golf clinics and an annual two-day camp will be held at Council Grove Country Club free of charge for any Council Grove/Morris County area youth ages 7 – 18. Additionally, RYGA sponsored youth golf memberships will also be offered at Council Grove Country Club to those 11 – 18 years of age.

19. What local support is there for this project?

Our chapter operates in large support from the members of the Council Grove Country Club. As general community support grows, the members of the Council Grove Country club have provided the foundation for our chapter to establish itself and succeed. We also receive support from the area business community during our annual golf tournament.

20. Who else in the community is working on this problem?

Through sport participation opportunities at the high school level, USD 417 provides seasonal access to game for high school students that join the girl's and boy's golf teams.

21. How will you coordinate with others working on this problem?

The CGKS Chapter of the RYGA will work closely with USD 417 coaches and staff to provide the resources and availability needed for youth to experience the game. The Council Grove Country Club and other community members provide support via volunteerism and gifting. This year we are also anticipating a collaborative effort with the Council Grove Recreational Department to promote the program.

22. If awarded, how will the grant you are requesting be used?

Funds garnered will be used specifically for programming in the conduction of our youth golf clinics, two-day annual camp, and the RYGA sponsored youth membership program at Council Grove Country Club.

23. Is there any additional information you would like to be considered in our determining whether to make this grant?

The CGKS Chapter of the RYGA is still in its infancy. We have successfully operated for two years making the game more accessible to juniors. Our golf clinics, annual camp, and RYGA sponsored memberships will continually work to encourage sport involvement with the ability to impact the lives of young people.

Coupled with fundraising initiatives conducted on our own, funds granted by the CG Area Foundation will help us serve the Council Grove and Morris County area with an enduring youth development opportunity. We appreciate your consideration.

Signature



Date

5/1/2018

(PLEASE RETURN APPLICATION TO FARMERS & DROVERS BANK, P.O. BOX C, COUNCIL GROVE, KS 66846)