

TOURISM DEVELOPMENT GRANT

The Visitors Center works to promote and grow the Bartholomew County tourism industry in order to strengthen and diversify the local economy.

Objective of Visitors Center Tourism Development Grant: To build and enhance Bartholomew County's place-based assets in order to create an appealing travel destination and enhance quality of life for residents.

Tourism Development Grant Strategies:

- Incentivize the creation of new tourism attractions and programs.
- Enhance current tourism attractions and programs.
- Encourage collaboration in the creation and enhancement of tourism attractions and programs.

Tourism Development Grant Criteria and Procedures:

- **Tourism Development Grant Applications will be reviewed as received** by a committee established by the Visitors Center. Applications will be accepted on a first-come, first-served basis until funds are exhausted.
- Only tax-exempt organizations located in Bartholomew County may apply.
- Qualifying projects must meet the objectives set forth by the Tourism Development Grant. The committee has the right to refuse an application due to explicit or inappropriate content.
- Projects must fall within the legislative requirements defined in Indiana Code 6-9-18-1 for the use of County Innkeeper's Tax.
- Tourism Development Grants must be used exclusively for the project described in the application and within time frame agreed upon between Visitors Center and applicant. Any modifications to program dates, times, etc. must be provided to the Visitors Center in writing.
- This is a competitive process. The number and dollar amount of awards are determined by availability of funds. Tourism Development Grants are awarded based on expected economic impact and sustainability of projects.
- Additional information or clarification may be requested by the review committee.
- Grants may not be used for salaries nor ongoing overhead expenses of the applicant.
- Tourism Development Program recipients are required to recognize the Visitors Center by using the approved Visitors Center logo on all program/project promotions, if applicable.
- **Proof of insurance will be required prior to disbursement. Please have agent forward COI to rgray@columbus.in.us, after adding Visitors Center, Inc. as an additional insured certificate holder.**
- **The Tourism Development Grant may not exceed 50% of total program/project cost.**
- **Award recipients are required to submit a Tourism Development Grant Report no later than 45 days after program/project completion. Failure to do so will disqualify grantee from future funding.**

Email completed Tourism Development Grant Application to Ashton Barrett-Kelsay at abarrettkelsay@columbus.in.us.

TOURISM DEVELOPMENT GRANT APPLICATION

Date of Application _____

Organization Requesting Funds _____

Address _____

Grant Application Contact _____

Phone _____ Email _____

Name of Project for which Support Requested _____

Total Cost of Project \$ _____

Amount of Project Support Requested (1 to 1 cash match required)

Up to \$10,000 for art, architecture, or design infrastructure or installations \$ _____ +

Up to \$10,000 for creation of or improvement to sports tournament facilities \$ _____ +

Up to \$20,000 for capital projects that create space for public gatherings \$ _____ +

Up to \$20,000 for infrastructure or installations in a Destination Neighborhood: \$ _____ +

Exit 76, Air Park Columbus, Hope Town Square, Downtown Columbus, Nexus Park

Up to \$10,000 for new initiatives or organizations that will attract/host visitors \$ _____ =

Total Development Request: \$ _____
*up to 50% of project/program cost only***Source and Amount of Matching Funds***Tourism Development funds must be matched 1 to 1. Please list sources and donors individually.*

_____	\$ _____
_____	\$ _____
_____	\$ _____
_____	\$ _____
_____	\$ _____
_____	\$ _____

*Attach additional page if needed.***Total Matching Funds:** \$ _____***Please attach the following documents:***

- Grant Narrative (included here)
- Project Analysis and Budget
- List of Organization's Board Members
- Most Recent Audited Financial Statement
(or Independent Accountant's Report)
- IRS Tax Exempt Determination Letter
- IRS Form W-9



TOURISM DEVELOPMENT GRANT APPLICATION NARRATIVE

Please provide project name and brief description of the project for which support is requested.

How does the project relate to tourism? _____

To what specific project component(s) will this grant be applied? _____

What is the exact geographic location(s) of the project? _____

What are the key goals for the project and measurements of success? _____

Please provide a detailed timeline of the project and anticipated completion date. _____

What is the anticipated number of out-of-county visitors annually? _____

Please describe the geographic and demographic visitor targets. _____

Attach additional pages if needed.