



# Bemidji Rotary Club

## Local Community Service Grants

*Bemidji Rotary Club provides support for local, community service projects. We do this by accepting applications for financial support, evaluating the requests, and recommending distribution of funds to non-profit organizations that work toward improving the quality of life within the Bemidji area.*

Revised, Feb 2015

### GUIDELINES FOR GRANT APPLICATION

*Grants will be considered on an ongoing basis, as funds are available.*

*See Grant Application Guidelines for more information.*

*Complete applications can be submitted at any time.*

**Note: Beginning in 2015, Bemidji Rotary Club is committed to substantial, multi-year financial investment supporting the construction of the inclusive Paul Bunyan Playground at the redesigned waterfront park on Lake Bemidji. This may limit available grant funds for other projects.**

**1. The Bemidji Rotary Club generally favors:**

- a. Organizations that deal with “basic human needs,” especially those that help socially or economically disadvantaged people become more self-sufficient.
- b. Projects or programs that are demonstration in nature, and preferably could be carried on by others at the conclusion of Rotary support (i.e., a “pilot” program, start up, or special need). We are not adverse to high-risk programs with potential for significant leverage.
- c. Grant requests for small, identified capital improvement or special purpose. We will consider funding requests for local capital campaigns, but have generally not funded large, national campaigns.
- d. Grant requests that would benefit many individuals, rather than a few.
- e. Programs that serve the Bemidji area.

**2. The Bemidji Rotary Club generally has \$10,000 or \$15,000 per year to distribute; grants typically range from \$100 to \$2,000.**

**3. The Bemidji Rotary Club supports numerous international, educational and humanitarian programs through its Foundation, Youth Exchange Programs, World Community Service Committee and other programs.** Consequently, organizations requesting support from Rotary for projects dealing with international issues should make application for grants directly to Rotary International. Contact us for information or refer to [www.rotary.org](http://www.rotary.org)

**4. The Bemidji Rotary Club has historically non funded grants to:**

- a. Individual persons
- b. Religious organizations for purely religious purposes
- c. Organizations primarily engaged in lobbying or political activity
- d. Basic or applied research.

**5. The Bemidji Rotary Club has generally not favored, but will consider grants to:**

- a. Support travel by groups
- b. Fund the operating budget or an ongoing program of an organization
- c. Special events, tickets, or benefits.

**6. Be advised that Rotarians encourage their members to be involved and provide hands on service to support important community projects.** Our club hosts a variety of expertise, capacity for physical labor and more. Feel free to include non-cash contributions to further support your project.

All grant requests must be submitted on the Bemidji Rotary Club grant application form. Additional information may be attached, if necessary. *Other formatted requests will be returned.*

You may be asked to make a brief presentation to the Bemidji Rotary Club Board of Directors.

Final decisions are general made within 30 days of the application.

**Grant Applications should be mailed to:**

Bemidji Rotary Club  
PO Box 1321  
Bemidji, MN 56619