

2025 Leighton Award for Nonprofit Excellence

Community Foundation of St. Joseph County

Leadership

Please Note: If your organization serves multiple counties, please focus all responses on St. Joseph County.

Mission*

Describe your organization's mission or purpose.

Character Limit: 1500

Vision*

What does your organization intend to accomplish in the next three years and beyond?

Character Limit: 2000

Impact*

Describe what makes your contribution unique and the impact of your organization on 1) your constituency and 2) our community. In what ways does your organization set the standard for achievement in your field? Please include any quantitative data that supports your impact.

Character Limit: 3000

Partnerships*

List partnerships/collaborations in which your organization is engaged. Choose two as examples and describe them in some detail.

Character Limit: 2500

Promising Effort

What is the most promising effort in which your organization is now engaged?

Character Limit: 2500

Organization Information

If you consider any question in the application "not applicable," you may say so and, if you choose, explain why. Again, if your organization serves multiple counties, please focus responses on St. Joseph County.

Organization Name*

Character Limit: 100

Organization's CEO*

Please provide the name of the organization's CEO, including address, phone number and email address (if available).

Character Limit: 200

Organization's Board Chair*

Please provide the name of the organization's board chair, including address, phone number and email address (if available).

Character Limit: 200

Quality of Management

Budget*

1. Revenue: Please comment on your strategy to sustain your organization.
2. Expenses: Please explain how your use of resources reflects your plans, goals and values.

Character Limit: 2500

Leverage*

In what ways does the organization leverage other community resources?

Character Limit: 2500

Volunteers*

Please describe the organization's goals for and use of volunteers.

Character Limit: 2500

Technology*

Please describe the existing use of and plans for technology within your organization.

Character Limit: 2500

Quality of Programs

Programs*

List programs offered by your organization. Describe your best program(s) in some detail, including as much concrete information about scale, scope and effectiveness as possible (one is sufficient; choose no more than three).

Character Limit: 7500

Evaluation*

How do you evaluate your programs, both quantitatively and qualitatively and what does the data show? *The strongest responses will provide metrics used and specific data that informs your perspective on the effectiveness and excellence of your work.*

Character Limit: 5000

Attachments

Resume*

Please upload the resume of organization's CEO.

File Size Limit: 1 MB

Board Roster*

Please upload a current board roster including addresses, officer and leadership roles, and specific committees that members serve on, if applicable.

File Size Limit: 2 MB

Organization Chart*

Please upload an organization chart listing key staff positions.

File Size Limit: 2 MB

Agency Budget*

Please upload agency budget with a column for budgeted amounts and column for actuals of **most recently completed fiscal year**. Please explain any significant variances as well as any category that may not be easily understood.

File Size Limit: 2 MB

Financial Audit*

Please upload a financial audit conducted by an independent accounting firm completed within six months following the end of the organization's most recently completed fiscal year. If calendar year, we must have the audit from December 31 of the previous year. (Additional information may be requested.)

File Size Limit: 5 MB

Strategic Plan

You may upload a brief summary of strategic plan or comparable document (if available--not required).

File Size Limit: 2 MB