

Hunterdon County Rediscover Hunterdon's Communities Grant Program **An 'Explore Hunterdon' Initiative**

Summary

Grant Type:	Municipal Community Day / Main Street Festivals
Grantor:	Hunterdon County
Total Annual Funding Amount:	Up to \$5,000
Eligible Applicants:	All Hunterdon County municipalities
Evaluation Criteria	Relevancy to restarting tourism activities which were otherwise suspended due to the COVID-19 Public Health Emergency

Purpose: The Hunterdon County Rediscover Hunterdon's Communities Grant Program (RHGP) provides funding to Hunterdon municipalities looking to re-explore, re-create, or re-implement Community Day Downtown Festivals or event to highlight small businesses within your community that have been negatively affected by the COVID-19 Public Health Emergency.

Allotment: The total amount available through the RHGP program is up to \$5,000; and will be determined by the Department of Economic Development and Tourism based upon financial need and application materials. The funds will be allocated on a first come, first serve basis, until the grant program has been exhausted.

Qualification: Any Hunterdon County Municipality is eligible for RHGP funding from Hunterdon County; upon sufficient documentation of adversely effected Community Events due to the Covid-19 Public Health Emergency.

Eligible Uses: Stimulating local economic activity that were operating prior to the pandemic and affected by required closures and other efforts to contain the pandemic.

Application: Municipalities wishing to apply for RHGP funding are asked to submit an official resolution adopted by the governing body, supporting the application for funding along with a letter of intent on official letterhead; to the Hunterdon County Office of Economic Development and Tourism with the following information:

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- Project description
- Outline of desired outcome
- Amount requested
- Project lead and/or entities
- Brief outline of the project process and implementation
- Timeline for implementation
- Description of follow-up and metrics, if relevant

Evaluation Criteria & Process: Applications will be reviewed by Hunterdon County Office of Economic Development and Tourism personnel. A recommendation will then be made to the Hunterdon County Board of County Commissioners, who will make any final funding decisions.

Follow-up: Municipalities receiving RHGP funds will be required to submit a post-project summary of any findings / results / outcomes. If there are any studies or reports due to the municipality as a project deliverable, a copy of these will also be provided upon completion. If there are previously agreed upon project metrics, an evaluation of the project outcome relative to these metrics must be provided. Timing for when this report should be submitted and agreed upon prior to GP funds dispersal.

Conditions:

- The County Economic Development staff may set project outcomes, metrics and deliverables as a condition for receiving the Grant.
- Project outcomes and deliverables are to be made available for the benefit of any other Hunterdon municipality upon project completion.
- Hunterdon County staff and public officials will have authority to publicly discuss the project at any time and for any purpose.