



LEAD

Lee Co. Empowering, Advancing, and Developing



LEAD Night for Nonprofits Grant Application Overview

Event Date: Tuesday, October 7, 2025

Application Due: Tuesday, September
23, 2025

Night for Nonprofit Fund Objective

To support individuals overcoming immediate problems, misfortunes, and handicaps to become productive citizens.



Grant Amounts

- Available Awards:
- \$10,000
- \$5,000
- \$2,500
- Participation Incentive:
 - \$250 for each qualifying applicant

Grant Priorities

- Focus Areas:
 - New special projects by existing nonprofits
 - Startup nonprofits
 - Expansion of services or project aspects
 - Lee County
- Not Funded:
 - Regular operating budgets

Project Types

- Promoting charitable giving
- Assisting economically disadvantaged individuals
- Food pantries/kitchens
- Aid/shelter for abused women and children
- Upward mobility initiatives
- Economic opportunity preparation
- Community betterment

Applicant Eligibility

- 501(c)(3)
- Under umbrella of The CREATE Foundation (Special Projects)
- Under the umbrella of another nonprofit
- Must serve Northeast Mississippi (priority to Lee County)

Favorable Consideration Factors

- Broad population impact
- Matching funds secured
- Community/collaborative support
- Financial commitment from applicant
- Long-term sustainability plan
- Startup or expansion projects preferred

Funding Restrictions

- Not funded typically:
 - Salaries
 - Ongoing operating costs
 - Existing projects with no change or expansion
 - Projects benefitting those outside of Lee County



Application Requirements

1. Introduction – *Brief nonprofit history (new or established?)*
2. Project Start/End Dates
3. Funding breakdown
How much requested, total budget, money from other sources
4. Description: *why is the project needed? What is the goal?*
5. Project impact: *who does it benefit and where?*
6. Detailed budget for this specific project wanting funded
7. Partners involved
8. Publicity plans
9. Reports & Accountability commitment

Final Requirements

- Financial and Completion Report (within 1–6 months): How did you spend the funds? Is the project completed?
- Photos (if applicable): no photos of minors
- 90 second project summary at the event (“Your Pitch”)
- Attend and set up an organization info table at the event



- LEAD Executive Director: Annabeth Wyatt
- Email: leadleeco@gmail.com

DO NOT FORGET

September 23, 2025: Submit applications and questions

October 7, 2025: Night for Nonprofits

Cadence Bank Conference Center at 5:30 pm