

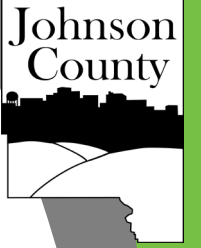


Quality of Life Grants

Applicant Webinar

FY27 funding opportunity

*Presented by: Genevieve Anglin, Grants Manager
Ryan Fosmark, Grants Specialist
Peter Fegley, Compliance Specialist*



Today's Plan

A quick walk-through of the grant opportunity and application expectations

1 Program Purpose

What Quality of Life funding is intended to support

2 Funding Structure

Two tiers, award ranges, eligibility, and allowable uses

3 Application Guidance

What to include and how to strengthen your proposal

4 AmpliFund Demo

Ryan Fosmark will walk through the application platform

5 Review Process

Scoring, timeline, and next steps

6 Q&A

Time for applicant questions



Program Purpose

Quality of Life grants support projects that help residents connect, participate, and experience their communities in meaningful ways.

01

Bring People Together

Events, activities, programs or shared experiences that strengthen community connection.

02

Support Creative and Cultural Life

Projects that expand access to arts, culture, history, local identity, or community traditions.

03

Improve Shared Places

Efforts that activate, improve or increase use of public or community spaces.

The goal is a balanced portfolio of projects that reflects the diversity of communities across Johnson County, including smaller communities and rural areas.



Funding Structure

One RFP, two application tiers. Choose the tier that fits the size and complexity of your request.

Tier 1: Small Projects and Events

\$1,000 to \$4,999

Best fit for discrete events, sponsorship-style requests, or smaller projects with limited scope.

Smaller / simpler

Tier 2: Larger Programmatic Projects

\$5,000 to \$30,000

Best fit for more developed projects with a fuller work plan, budget, and measurable outcomes.

Larger / more detailed

Tip: The best tier is not the highest amount you might request. It is the tier that matches the project scope and the level of detail you can provide.

Funding Priorities

Applications should connect clearly to one or more Quality of Life priorities.

Arts, Culture, History, and Identity

Projects that support creative expression, cultural celebration, local history, or shared community identity.

Access and Inclusion

Projects designed to reduce barriers and reach residents who may not otherwise be able to participate.

Community Connection

Projects that create welcoming opportunities for people to gather, participate, volunteer, or build relationships.

Shared Spaces and Community Assets

Projects that improve, activate, or increase access to places used by the public or broader community.



Eligibility and Allowable Uses

Keep the request project-specific and connected to the public benefit

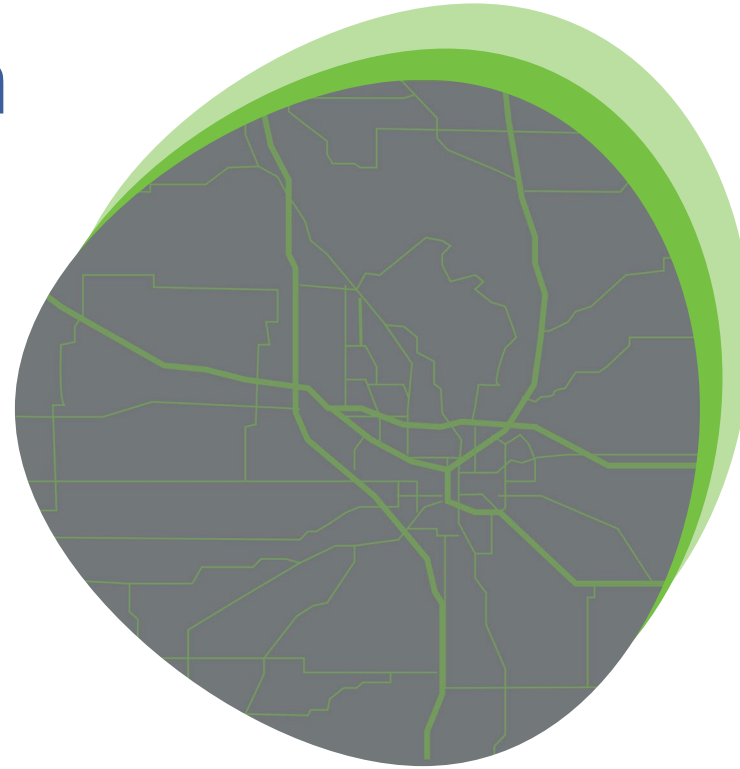
- Eligible applicants include nonprofit organizations and local governments/public entities.
- Requests must be for a specific project, program, activity or event – not general operating support.
- Projects or events must be open to the public, accessible, and include a free component
- Events cannot be primarily fundraising in nature.
- Costs should be reasonable, necessary, and directly tied to the project.

Applying through Amplifund

Johnson County is using AmpliFund for the Quality of Life grant applications.

Ryan Fosmark will provide a brief walkthrough of the platform during today's webinar.

For access or technical questions, please contact grants@johnsoncountyiowa.gov



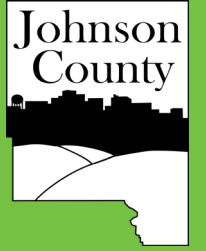
Before you submit

Make sure your account access works, your attachments are ready, and the application is submitted before the deadline.

What Ryan will demonstrate

How to access the opportunity, complete the application, upload materials, and submit through AmpliFund.





What Makes a Strong Application?

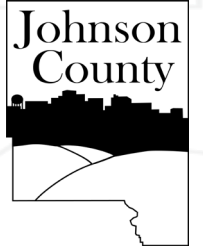
Project basics

- What will happen?
- Who will benefit?
- When and where it will happen?
- How people will access it?
- What will the funds pay for?

Review criteria

- Clear description of activities
- Defined audience or participants
- Realistic budget and timeline
- Connection to funding priorities
- Reasonable way to measure success

The budget should tell the same story as the narrative.



Performance Measures and Reporting

One clear measure is better than several vague ones.

Applicants should identify a practical way to show what happened and what changed because of the project.

Tier 1: Small Projects and Events

Describe one basic output or result

Examples: attendance, number of free tickets or participants served, number of event activities, or brief participant feedback.

Tier 2: Larger Programmatic Projects

Describe at least one primary performance measure that fits the project.

Include the target, how it will be tracked, and what the County should expect to see in the final report.

Final reporting should connect back to the application: what was proposed, what happened, who was reached, what was learned.

Review Timeline and Final Reminders

Before submitting:

- Confirm your organization is eligible.
- Choose the correct tier and request amount.
- Make sure the project is open, accessible, and includes a free component.
- Review the budget, attachments, and scoring criteria.

Important Dates:

May 27th – Applications due in AmpliFund by 4 pm.

June 19th – Awards announced

July 1st – Projects begin

October 30th – 1st quarterly reports due



Thank You