Grant Making Information Sheet

Our Development Approach

West Coast Community Foundation (WCCF) uses an Asset Based Community Development (ABCD) or Citizen Led Development Approach for grant making and capacity building. The ABCD approach offers an alternative to the needs based approach. The approach focuses attention on the strengths and capacities that communities already have and builds from there. ABCD is inherently optimistic and is based on an understanding that:

- meaningful and lasting community change always comes from within
- every person has capacities, abilities and gifts
- local residents are experts and key change agents

✓ **What are Community Assets?**

Assets refer to skills, knowledge, associations, networks and resources embedded within a community that add value to community life. There are 5 main kinds of assets:

- Social assets like social networks, and relationships of trust and reciprocity
- Human assets like skills, knowledge, labour and health
- Natural assets like land, water, fertile soil, animals, etc
- Financial assets like cash, livestock, grain stores, savings, pensions, cash
- Physical assets like roads, bridges, clinics, schools, transport, shelter, water supply and sanitation.

✓ **Why is Community Assets Important?**

External support and funding for community development is difficult to obtain and may just not be available. Resources for change may need to come from within, before donors see the value of investing in the work being done. Identifying and mobilizing community assets encourage people to gain control over their lives and be proactive (rather than just waiting). WCCF's focus is to support citizens to mobilise and build their assets - which may then attract and leverage more resources from outside. In this way, one is building communities from inside-out rather than outside-in.

What we Fund

WCCF work with a variety of organisations within communities to build and strengthen their asset base to become self-reliant and sustainable. The six focus areas:

- Youth Development
- Women Empowerment
- Community Development
- Environment Management and Tourism
- Health
- Skills Development and Education

Grants will range from R1000 – R5000 per approved applicant.

- ✓ **Assessment and Approval Process**

The next period for submissions is from the **10th of October 2011 to the 28th of October 2011**. Please send your application within the submission period. **Late applications will not be considered.** An acknowledgement email will be sent to you within 5 working days of receipt of your application. If you have not heard from us within this time, please call us on 022 482 1993. Assessments and approval of grants will be done by 11 November 2011. The grants will be awarded during our Annual Conference at 17 November 2011.

Once you have completed the application form, email them to info@wccf.org.za or fax to 022 482 1994 before the 28th of October 2011.