

## Purpose of the Neighborhood Small Grant

Healthy neighborhoods result from residents who are acquainted with neighbors and work together to achieve a common goal. The City of Champaign believes that every neighborhood should have the opportunity to be organized. In an attempt to assist neighborhoods with their organizing efforts, and project goals, the City provides funds through the Neighborhood Small Grant Program.

The purpose of the Neighborhood Small Grant Program is to:

- Encourage citizens to take an active role in organizing their neighborhoods
- Increase the number of small neighborhood improvement projects completed in the City
- Prioritize neighborhood needs to ensure the best use of City resources through small neighborhood based projects and events



## Neighborhood Small Grant Program



Neighborhood Services Department  
102 N Neil Street  
Champaign IL 61820  
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CGTV-Cable Channel 5

City of Champaign  
Neighborhood Services Department  
Neighborhood Coordination Division  
102 N Neil Street  
Champaign, IL 61820  
(217) 403-7070

## Neighborhood Small Grant Program

### Applications

Grants are awarded continuously throughout the year as long as funds are available.

**Applications** may be obtained from the City of Champaign's Neighborhood Services Department. Grants may be used for any small-scale neighborhood improvement project, activity or event with a public benefit such as:

- Neighborhood Fun Days
- Flower Gardens and/or Tree Planting
- Mini-Neighborhood Cleanups
- Playground or Park Equipment
- Neighborhood Block Parties
- Resources to support association organizing and start up cost
- Other projects, activities and events that bring neighbors together in a positive activity

## Grant Guidelines

### Who Can Apply

Any neighborhood group/association that is registered with the City of Champaign Neighborhood Services Department can apply for a Small Grant.

### Grant Amounts

Grants are made in increments of \$100 to \$5,000. Groups may apply for a single grant or multiple grants each year, as long as the total does not exceed \$5,000 during any year. The City of Champaign fiscal year runs from July 1 to June 30.

### Volunteer Hours

Grants are based on a combination of volunteer hours, neighborhood contributions and City funds; each portion determined by the total amount of the grant request. Certain restrictions apply to each of the two grant levels. Neighborhoods are required to contribute 25% of the project's value in the form of documented volunteer hours, calculated using the current rate scale titled "Dollar Value of Volunteer Hours in the State of Illinois", which changes annually.



## Grant Levels

Level I: \$0-\$1000

- No \$ match required
- Neighborhood contributes 25% of the dollar amount requested in volunteer hours
- Neighborhood-wide public benefit
- Project must be completed within 12 months

### Example: Level I

**Grant Amount Requested: \$1,000**

**Value of Volunteer Commitment: \$250**

**Minimum Volunteer Hours Pledged: 13 hrs.**  
**\*\*\$19.51 (2007 rate) X 13 = \$253.63**

Level II: \$1,001—\$5,000

- 1:1 \$ match required for funds requested above \$1,000
- Match may be in dollars or in-kind contributions; or a combination of dollars & in-kind.
- In addition, the neighborhood must contribute 25% of the dollar amount requested in volunteer hours
- Neighborhood-wide public benefit

### Example: Level II

**Grant Amount Requested: \$5,000**

**Matching Funds/In-kind Required: \$3,750**

**Value of Volunteer Commitment: \$1,250**

**Minimum Volunteer Hours Pledged: 64 hrs.**  
**\*\*\$19.51 (2007 rate) X 64 = \$1,248.64**