



MHC Grant Application

April 2023

The Minnesota Horse Council uses the revenue from operating the Minnesota Horse Expo to offer grants to charitable/non-profit equine-related organizations in Minnesota. Grants of up to \$7,000 are given as "seed money" to inspire new projects or capital improvements, or expansion of existing projects or services.

Application Schedule

- By October 1st, all applications are due (received or postmarked)
- By December 1st, grants will be chosen by the Minnesota Horse Council and all applicants notified.
- During December, grant recipients will receive a Letter of Award signed by the MHC Treasurer.\
- At the MHC Annual Meeting in January, the grants will be formally announced.
- Monies will be paid only when the project is completed or in progress. This will be arranged between recipient and the MN Horse Council Grants Committee Chair. Funds must be used within the year.

Eligible Organizations

- Equine related.
- Operating within the State of Minnesota.
- Non-profit Organization - Federal 501(c) 3 or State of Minnesota registered charity.
- Not breed specific.
- Non-discriminatory practices followed, with equal opportunity for all.
- Not a previous MHC grant recipient in the past 3 years.
- Recipients are expected to conform to the Welfare Code of Practice (see page 3), and have it signed and returned to receive their Grant.
- Operations congruent with MHC Goals & Objectives:
 1. Improve communication with the general public for all horse related activity.
 2. Provide expertise, consultation, and advice in horse related matters.
 3. Promote and support equine educational activities.
 4. Gather information of value for horse related activities and disseminate that information to horse owners.

Sample Equine-related Topics:

Trails, Public & Private Legal Concerns of Horse-Owning
Veterinary Health Legislation
Zoning Regulation Humane Treatment
Vehicle of Stable Safety Etc.

Eligible Proposals

- For Capital expenditures for owned facilities.
- New projects or services.
- Expansion of existing projects or services.
- Research projects.
- NOT for day-to-day operating expenses!
- NOT for normal maintenance & upkeep!
- NOT for year-end awards, Royalty or high-point awards!
- NOT for permanent improvements to privately owned property.

MHC Grant Application (Continued)

Applying for a Grant:

Please send the following information directly to:

MHC Grants Committee
4309 30th Ave So.
Minneapolis, MN 55406-3710
Phone: 612/721-1007
Grants@MnHorseCouncil.org

1. A 1-page application letter, which must include:

- a) The full name & address of your organization.
- b) The name, address, phone number, and email of a contact person in your organization.
- c) A short summary of the project you are proposing.
- d) A short description of the people served by this project (who & how many).
- e) Dollar amount of the grant that you are requesting.

2. Detailed information about your organization:

- a) A description of the organization's current activities, including an indication that they are equine related and not breed-specific. Indicate if you are a member of the Minnesota Horse Council. (Not required, but we would welcome you as a member!).
- b) The location of the facilities where you conduct your activities.
 - c) Description of these facilities, including whether they are owned or leased (from whom & how long a lease).
- d) A short summary of the organization's history, including a statement of goals and objectives.
- e) A copy of your most recent operating budget or financial plan.
- f) A list of your officers, directors, and managing employees.
- g) Proof that your organization is non-profit/charitable; such as a copy of your IRS 501(c)3 Tax Status or your Minnesota Sales Tax exemption approval or your MN Secretary of State Registration for Business Corporations (MN-SS1) indicating a non-profit charter number. (If not yet received, send a copy of your application.) Grant awarded upon MHC receipt of a copy of the letter granting your status.
- h) Proof that your activities are available to all people regardless of race, religion, age, gender, disability or sexual orientation; for example, a copy of publicity describing your activities which includes such a non-discrimination statement.

3. Detailed information about your proposed project:

- a) A clear and specific description of the project (not more than 3 pages).
- b) A proposed schedule for the project.
- c) A detailed budget giving expenditures to start the project.
- d) A description of anticipated operating and maintenance costs for future years, AND details of what income you will use to meet these costs.
- e) A clear statement as to who will own and operate this project.

Please include all this information, so we can give your proposal our full consideration. We will attempt to notify you if some required information is missing, but our volunteer time is limited, so it is your responsibility to include all this information. Please feel free to contact us if you have any questions about this grant application.

Welfare Code of Practice - American Horse Council

Code of Conduct: The Minnesota Horse Council has signed on to the Welfare Code of Practice created by the American Horse Council. We encourage all equine organizations in the state to also support this. ~~Any individual or organization receiving funding of \$500 or more from the MHC should also sign on to this code. Please sign below and submit along with your request for funding.~~

Introduction: American society has grown away from its agrarian roots of only a few generations ago. The horse, which was once a staple of American agriculture and general transportation, is now used primarily for breeding, competition, sport, recreation and entertainment, although there are still many horses used for work on farms and ranches, and in urban areas and exhibitions. The horse industry is committed to the safety, health, care and welfare of all horses and to always "Put the Horse First." We address equine welfare and responsible care (1) by supporting a uniform Code of Practice regarding the responsible breeding, training, competing, care, use, enjoyment, health, transportation, and retirement of horses; and (2) by initiating communication with the public, the media, federal and state officials and within the horse community regarding these issues.

Our Commitment to all Horses and the Horse Industry: We are committed to the principle that the welfare and safety of the horse is the guiding principle in the decision-making process for all owners, service providers, organizations, events and activities.

WE ARE COMMITTED to the dignity, humane care, health, safety and welfare of horses in all our activities and care. These are our highest priorities. We are the stewards of our horses and must be firm in the standards and practices that guide us. Our first principle is:

The welfare, safety and stewardship of the horse is the guiding principle in the decision-making process for all segments for the horse industry.

WE ARE COMMITTED to promoting responsible breeding practices and to produce better horses, not just more horses.

WE ARE COMMITTED to responsible training techniques. All training should be done with the maturation and ability of the horse considered. Horses should be prepared for competition with proper training and conditioning methods. Excessive disciplining methods, whether in stables, training areas, or during competition, will not be tolerated.

WE ARE COMMITTED to educating owners, trainers, veterinarians, competitors, exhibitors and recreational riders to ensure that they know and respect their horse's abilities and limits, and their own, so as to not push the horse or themselves beyond their ability level.

WE ARE COMMITTED to making all competitions fair and ensuring all competitors an equal opportunity to succeed. Performance-enhancing drugs, practices or equipment have no place in competitions or exhibitions. Effective drug testing by accredited laboratories is essential to the safety and welfare of our horses and the public support of competitions, with appropriate penalties levied for violations.

The welfare of the horse must take precedence over the demands or expectations of owners, breeders, trainers, sellers, buyers, organizers, sponsors, officials, or spectators.

WE ARE COMMITTED to the welfare of the horse as paramount during competition. The horse industry should invest in the infrastructure, environment and facilities to provide a safe environment for all horses in all activities, whether breeding, competing, or simply riding. Any facilities that house horses should be committed to the appropriate care and treatment of all horses while in their facility, and should be designed with the environment and the intended use of the horse in mind.

WE ARE COMMITTED to minimizing injuries to horses during training, competition, use, or work. Whenever possible injury data should be collected, documented and reported to the governing body of the competition or any other injury database for analysis in order to ensure a safer environment.

WE ARE COMMITTED to the continual review, evaluation and improvement of all rules, regulations, policies and practices in all equine activities, based on science (where indicated). When warranted, they should be refined or changed. This includes existing practices to ensure they are not being perceived as acceptable, particularly if new research has called them into question.

WE ARE COMMITTED to providing continuing education on all activities involving horses and eliminate inhumane practices as well as strengthening sanctions for non-compliance.

WE ARE COMMITTED to educating all people who own or work with horses to ensure they are knowledgeable in the proper husbandry, care, and handling of horses. Each horse should be observed frequently to ensure that they are healthy. In consultation with a veterinarian, all such individuals should develop a sound health care program, appropriate to the facilities, environment and needs of the horses.

WE ARE COMMITTED to providing an environment in which anyone aware of equine cruelty or neglect is willing to report it to the proper local, state or federal authorities. Should an incident occur at an event it should be reported to judges, stewards, responsible authorities or the sanctioning organization.

WE ARE COMMITTED to improving the health and welfare of horses through scientific research, collaboration, advocacy and the development of appropriate rules. The industry should continue to support and work with the many individuals, universities, veterinarians and foundations doing and funding equine health and welfare research in order to reduce injuries and improve health.

WE ARE COMMITTED to horse owners and caretakers ensuring horses in their care are current on vaccinations and following best practices to minimize infection and disease. When a disease outbreak occurs horse owners and events must act quickly and responsibly, monitor the horses, report the outbreak to, and cooperate with, veterinarians, authorities, facility management and all stakeholders to bring a rapid resolution to the outbreak.

WE ARE COMMITTED to ensuring that our horses will have an opportunity to transition to additional careers, uses or activities as the need arises. When necessary, owners and veterinarians may have to consider end-of-life decisions. The welfare, safety and dignity of the horse must continue to be the guiding principle in deciding how and when to provide a humane death.

WE ARE COMMITTED to being transparent about our activities in order to ensure the public, the media, federal, state and local officials and the various segments of the horse community understand what we do, why we do it, and support it.

Signed: _____ (Name and Title)

For: _____ (Organization)