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THE GERBER FOUNDATION

<http://www.gerberfoundation.org/>

Range of Grants: \$50,000 to \$250,000 per year

Deadline(s): Concept papers are due June 1 and December 1 of each year.

The Gerber Foundation provides funding for national programs having a significant impact on issues facing infants and young children, from pre-birth to age 3.

The Foundation's mission focuses on infants and young children. Accordingly, priority is given to projects that improve nutrition, care, and development of infants and young children from the first year before birth to three years of age.

The Foundation is particularly interested in fresh approaches to solving problems in our defined program areas. Research approaches should, if proven successful, generate long-term support from other sources, promote the health and well-being of infants up to the age of three, and lead to systemic change in practice.

Generally, competitive requests will be focused on particular projects in furtherance of the Foundation's mission and goals of supporting nutrition or health-related interventions to improve infant health and development.

Foundation grants are not typically ongoing. Supported projects should have beginnings and endings, reasonable periods during which measurable progress or outcomes are accomplished. The impact of Foundation funding should be detailed, so that the infusion of new or outside funding can be seen to have some positive influence on the progress or outcome of the project.

The Foundation gives priority to projects of national or regional impact. Projects should be sufficiently focused to make a felt difference in the field of interest.

MERCK FAMILY FUND

<http://www.merckff.org/grantguidelines.html>

Range of Grants: \$25,000 to \$100,000

Deadline(s): None – Initial Approach Letter of Inquiry

The Merck Family Fund has two areas of priority to help achieve a healthy planet. The first is the protection of vital ecosystems in the eastern United States. The second is supporting the shift towards environmentally sustainable economic systems, incentives, and behaviors.

Specifically, the fund is interested in programs that recognize the need for and practice of sustainable forestry; include the support and participation of people living in or near the impacted area; and protect and preserve ecologically valuable land.

The fund also welcomes proposals for initiatives that promote sustainable practice as it relates to buildings and design, and the production and use of paper; create policies at the state and federal level that promote green tax programs and challenge taxpayer subsidies that harm the environment; and encourage the acceptance and use of corporate extended producer responsibility.

New requests for support to the Merck Family Fund should be made by a letter of inquiry. The letter should not exceed two pages and should concisely describe the project, its purpose, likely impact, and the amount being requested. The letter should also briefly describe the organization and the overall budget. The Fund's staff will review the letter and decide whether to invite a full proposal. Letters of inquiry are acknowledged as soon as possible.

THE MONSANTO FUND

http://www.monsantofund.org/asp/Priorities/Main_Menu.asp

Range of Grants: The average grant size is \$22,000, but grants can range from \$250 to \$1,200,000

Deadline(s): Initial Approach Letter of Inquiry – referred to as a Preliminary Funding Request (PFR)– [click here for details](#). The PFR deadlines are: January 1 (For grants awarded in June) and July 1 (For grants awarded in December)

The Monsanto Fund was established in 1964, its philanthropic goal is to bridge the gap between people's needs and their available resources.

Monsanto Fund seeks to improve the earth's ecosystem—including clean water, productive land and thriving biodiversity—and the well-being of her people by supporting projects in four primary areas:

- * [Nutritional Improvement through Agriculture](#)
- * [Healthy Environment](#)
- * [Science Education](#)
- * [Our Communities](#)

Read more about the individual focus areas by following the links.

THE SARA LEE FOUNDATION

<http://www.saraleefoundation.org/funding/process.cfm>

Range of Grants: \$10,000 to \$50,000

Deadline(s): None – Initial Approach Online Letter of Inquiry

The Sara Lee Foundation was founded in 1981 to formalize Sara Lee's dedication to community service. Since then, the Foundation has grown and set a new standard for corporate giving, touching millions of lives, helping those in need, and fostering artistic expression. The Sara Lee Foundation takes great pride in the reputation it has built as a leader in corporate citizenship and will continue this role by providing philanthropic support to communities where its employees live and work.

To ensure the most effective use of its grant funds, the Sara Lee Foundation operates within guidelines that direct its support to nonprofit organizations working in the following areas: [food-related programs such as food insecurity, nutrition and healthy lifestyles](#), [women's self-sufficiency](#) and [diversity through highly visible cultural programs](#) (read more about the individual focus areas by following the links).

Complete the online Letter of Intent to be considered for invitation to submit a full proposal. The Sara Lee Bakery Group is located in Tarboro, NC. Projects involving the Tarboro community will be most competitive.

SURDNA FOUNDATION

<http://www.surdna.org/grants/grants-overview.html>

Range of Grants: \$50,000 to \$300,000

Deadline(s): None – Initial Approach Letter of Inquiry

Sustainable Environments

The Surdna Foundation seeks to foster just and sustainable communities in the United States - communities guided by principles of social justice and distinguished by healthy environments, strong local economies and thriving cultures.

Founded by John E. Andrus who was a former Mayor of Yonkers, NY, who in 1904, was elected as a United States Representative to the 59th United States Congress and to the three succeeding Congresses, serving from March 4, 1905 to March 3, 1913. In 1926, eight years before he died at the age of 93, Mr. Andrus announced the allocation of 45 percent of his estate to Surdna Foundation, which took its name by spelling the name Andrus backwards.

The Surdna Sustainable Environments program funds three related priority areas:

- * **Climate Change:** The program supports domestic efforts to inform the public and policymakers about how and why climate change happens, as well as economic and equity issues linked to the environment. The program favors programs that reduce greenhouse gas emissions and create economically competitive, sustainable and equitable communities;
- * **Green Economy:** The program focuses on demonstrating that climate change measures will not harm the economy and that jobs and businesses can be created which will revitalize communities and our manufacturing sector and create pathways out of poverty for low-income communities. It supports local and regional models across the U.S. and play a bridge-building role between those places of innovation and national policymakers;
- * **Transportation and Smart Growth:** Favors policy and planning that fosters sustainable and equitable development while addressing climate change and discouraging investments that "lock in" decades of future emissions.

SYMANTEC FOUNDATION

<http://www.symantec.com/about/profile/responsibility/community/index.jsp>

Range of Grants: \$1,000 to \$30,000

Deadline(s): None – Initial Approach Online Letter of Inquiry

Symantec supports four main philanthropic areas, all with the objective of creating a sustainable and diverse future for the technology industry.

- * Science, Technology, Engineering, and Math Education; Equal access to education
- * Diversity in Engineering
- * Environmental Responsibility
- * Online Safety

Education is Symantec's primary philanthropic focus. Special interest areas, include: providing equal access to a quality education for all students; encouraging more students to pursue careers in math and science; and increasing the diversity of their future workforce by helping to build a pipeline of women and minorities who are interested in and have access to quality programs in science, technology, engineering, and mathematics.

Building a sustainable future in technology not only includes educating a diverse and capable pipeline of workers, but also encompasses responsible and resourceful environmental practices. Thus, Symantec values those organizations working in resource conservation and promoting Green IT practices.

With security at the core of Symantec's business, they focus much of their effort on educating parents and students about safe and ethical practices on the Internet. Symantec support programs who work within the breadth of the education system, including the training of administrators, teachers, librarians, and counselors to be aware of Internet threats such as online predators and cyber-bullying and then teach students how to handle such situations responsibly.

Complete the online Letter of Intent to be considered for invitation to submit a full proposal. Symantec operates a facility in Cary, NC. Projects involving the Cary community will be most competitive.

NEXT STEPS:

1. Determine if the prospect is a good fit for your project by reading the information provided and visiting the organization's website.
2. Complete the attached Project Concept Form.
3. E-mail the Project Concept Form to Sharon Hamilton, CFR Director at hamiltons@ecu.edu and Patricia Reidinger, CFR Associate Director at reidingerp@ecu.edu.

We will contact you to arrange a strategy meeting to discuss your project in detail and assist you with the proposal development process.

The G.I.F.T. Center
Grants Information – Funding for Tomorrow

ARE YOU SEARCHING FOR A FUNDER FOR YOUR PROJECT? MAKE AN APPOINTMENT TO EXPLORE THE G.I.F.T. CENTER.

The mission of the G.I.F.T. Center is to provide access to research, training, and editing services to support and enhance the efforts of ECU faculty and staff members in obtaining corporate, foundation and other non-governmental grants.

The G.I.F.T. Center is located in the Greenville Centre. Appointments are required. Please call Tricia Reidinger at 737-1820 or email reidingerp@ecu.edu to schedule a convenient time for individual instruction.

Please forward this issue of CFR Connections to colleagues who may be interested in pursuing grant opportunities.

