

## The C.A.R.E.S. Foundation Giving Guidelines

The Save Mart Companies believes that serving our communities goes beyond the four walls of our stores. We are truly committed to nourishing the communities we serve. That's why in 2000, it established The Save Mart Companies C.A.R.E.S. Foundation (The C.A.R.E.S. Foundation). With an independent board of directors, the foundation is able to guide investments to ensure maximum benefit of the available funds to the communities we serve. As such, thoughtful consideration is given to each organization's request and the potential it has to improve the communities that we serve.

The C.A.R.E.S. Foundation is a 501(c)(3) charitable organization. Its aim is in its name: Community, Arts, Recreation, Education, and Sports. The foundation seeks-out, considers and selects proposals from non-profit charitable groups and programs in the communities we serve (California, Bakersfield to Redding; and the Pacific Coast to Northern Nevada). Organizations funded must have a record of measurable results and contribute to the advancement of the Community, Arts, Recreation, Education, or Sports in the communities we serve.

- **Community** programs and organizations that foster civic involvement and improvement. Some examples are neighborhood clean-up campaigns; community beautification projects; cultural events that celebrate a community's diversity and common heritage; providing food, clothing, and shelter to those in need.
- **Arts** programs and organizations that foster an appreciation for all forms of art or that encourage the creation and presentation of art in all of its variety. Examples include exhibitions of local, regional, or national art; classes in the arts for disadvantaged youth; development of local arts initiatives; organizations that provide scholarships to outstanding young artists to further their education.
- **Recreation** that promotes recreational opportunities other than sports. For example, support might be given to dance classes; chess clubs; hunting and fishing clubs; gardening clubs, etc.
- **Education** is ranked as the foundation's most important area of interest and takes a broad view of its meaning. Examples of groups and programs that could be benefited are remedial reading programs; drug and alcohol awareness programs; after school programs; adult literacy classes; retraining programs; nutritional and other health classes; lecture series; mentoring; organizations that provide scholarships to outstanding scholars to further their education.
- **Sports** are an integral part of a healthy life. The foundation looks to support groups and programs such as: youth team sports; adult team sports; school team sports; organizations that provide scholarships to outstanding young athletes to further their education.

The C.A.R.E.S. Foundation does not provide funding for:

- Individuals, except to the extent selected non-profits' work supports them;
- Fundraisers. It will give to a group or program directly, but not to a fundraising activity that might support such a group or program;
- For-profit groups, professional associations, or similar groups;
- Any group or program that receives the majority of its funding from federal, state, or local government or related agencies.

- Staff costs or organizations that carry more than best-in class for overhead expenses in their operation, generally 10%.

The C.A.R.E.S. Foundation will review, among other things, the breadth of the audience served; the likely impact in the community; the importance of the need to be addressed in the community; and the community reputation, service history, and financial stability of the group or program seeking funds. No one of these or other factors will necessarily be weighted more heavily than another. Instead each group or program will be measured against all groups and programs seeking funding at the time. For example, a program serving a small segment of the community but that addresses a very important community need, and thus has the potential for a strong impact, would be favored over a group serving a wider clientele but that fills a less important community need.

Recipients that receive grants for more than one year must demonstrate meaningful outcomes for the previous investment made by The C.A.R.E.S. Foundation.