

## 2019 Grant Application Form

Date of Application: 8/14/2019

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### ORGANIZATION INFORMATION

**Legal Name of Organization:** Kinnickinnic River Land Trust, Inc. (KRLT)  
as fiscal agent for the Kinni Corridor Collaborative, Inc. (KinniCC)

**Tax ID Number:** 39-6593121

**Address/City/State/Zip:** 265 Mound View Road, Ste C (PO BOX 87) River Falls, WI 54022

**Telephone:** 715-425-5738

**Email:** info@kinniriver.org

**Executive Director Name:** Charlene Brooks

**Grant Contact Name:** Charlene Books and Judie Babcock (651-303-7487)

**Organization Description:** (Provide a brief description of the organization including its mission/purpose and goals)

KRLT is an established [nonprofit land trust](#) with this mission: *We work with the community to conserve and protect the beauty and health of the Kinnickinnic River and its watershed.*

KRLT works diligently as a leader and partner within our community to ensure the Kinnickinnic River is clean, cold, and free flowing with a healthy watershed and accessible places to be enjoyed by everyone. KRLT's service area is the entire Kinnickinnic Watershed. KRLT is acting as the fiscal sponsor and partner with KinniCC based on mission alignment in support of the community's desire to see the Kinni be an accessible, free-flowing river.

KinniCC is a new nonprofit, community-based development association formed in April 2019 with the purpose of working collaborative within the community to assemble the technical and financial resources needed to implement the [Kinnickinnic River Corridor Plan](#) (Corridor Plan) while preserving the ecology and beauty of the Kinnickinnic River. KinniCC's service area is within the boundaries of River Falls, WI covering 7 of the 22 miles of the Kinnickinnic River within the watershed.

**Previous RFCF Grants:** (Include dates and amounts) None in the last 5 years.

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### PROGRAM OR PROJECT INFORMATION

**Program or Project Title:**

Kinni River Stewardship Initiative 2019-2024 – a community led effort to ensure healthy and safe river recreation

**Grant Amount Requested:** \$1,200

**Detailed project/program description:** Facilitate long-term, community developed solutions for minimizing conflict over river usage. Pursue funding and resources for river management and amenities within the Corridor Plan boundary to support handicapped accessible activation points such as landings, docks, bridges, trails.

Since no single governmental entity has enforcement responsibility on the Kinni River and there are multiple individual and business interests, a facilitated community engagement strategy is expected to bring out better

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# The River Falls Community Foundation

solutions. This approach has worked in other communities and watersheds. [The Corridor Plan](#) identifies locations and amenities desired by the community.

**How was the need for this project/program identified?** As part of the multi-year, [award winning Corridor Planning Process](#), the community identified a jumpstart initiative to bring recreational users of the Kinni together to develop guidance and solutions for safe and healthy use of this Wisconsin DNR designated Class I Trout stream.

**What other organizations are collaborating on this project/program? Describe their roles. Include their help as possible funding sources on the budget sheet.**

The following resources are significant, financial and in-kind capacity support for the program.

- **City of River Falls – Scot Simpson, City Administrator** - local government entity and owner of access points and trails/paths used to activate the Kinni – providing administrative support to KinniCC through a Memorandum of Understanding. Departments like Planning, Park and Rec will provide resources.
- **River Falls Country Inn – Scott Eichschen** - local business that provides lodging for tourists and visitors to River Falls. Providing general operating support for KinniCC.
- **Falls Theatre – Michelle Maher** - local business that support the community dialog – providing a location for meeting and sharing visuals of comparable projects and progress on the Initiative.
- **Bye, Goff and Rohde – Steve Goff, esq.** – providing pro-bono legal services to KinniCC to support Corridor Plan implementation. In-kind donation of professional services.
- **Lommen Abdo– Brent Johnson** – provides pro-bono legal services to KRLT to support land conservation, stewardship and conservation easement acquisition. In-kind donation of professional services.
- **Kiap-Tu-Wish – J Scott Wagner, President** local chapter of Trout Unlimited – knowledgeable and experienced in river restoration and management strategies local and can tap into national TU resources and expertise.
- **Friends of the Kinni – Michael Page, President** - local nonprofit organization – has 2019 WI DNR planning grant secured to support river restoration and amenity development work.
- **Kinni Watershed Partnership/UWRF** – an established coalition of government agencies and nonprofits led by the University of Wisconsin at River Falls Crop Sciences associate professor, Veronica Justen. Providing technical and research support through UWRF system resources.
- **River Falls Chamber of Commerce, Tourism Committee – Scott Eichschen, Chair** – engaged in Pierce County Tourism and Recreation study and co-sponsor of an economic impact study (EIS) for Kinnickinnic River. Other EIS sponsors are City of River Falls and KRLT.

Additional stakeholders and partners will be engaged by implementing the program.

**Who will be principally responsible for implementing the project/program?**

Kinni Corridor Collaborative, Inc. – Judie Babcock, President

**If you receive this grant, when do you anticipate that you would spend the funds?** Q4 2019 through mid-2020 for the initial phase of research and community engagement.

**How will this project/program make a tangible difference in meeting a community need?**

By engaging with stakeholders in the community to develop their own solutions and proposed approach to recreation on the Kinni to prevent overuse, significant damage to the natural habitat and personal injury or death of watercraft or float recreation users, particularly on the South Fork, Rocky Branch and Lower Kinni reaches. The

# The River Falls Community Foundation

community will own the outcomes, rather than looking to the City or WDNR for rule setting and enforcement as the primary solution.

As determined by the River User Community, specific activities are expected to include:

- Negotiated proposals for river usage to be presented to the Counties, City of River Falls and other regulating entities for support. Additional regulation and legislative action may be pursued as relevant.
- Coordinated clean up, shoreland and stream condition management and clearing of excess woody debris to improve aesthetics and safety on the Kinni
- Development of handicapped accessible access, portage from upper to lower Kinni and other recreation amenities as identified in the Corridor Plan. Separate funding will be secured for these amenities.

## How will you measure the effectiveness of your activities?

Economic Impact Study and Pierce County Recreational Survey will supplement the base line data previously gathered by the City of River Falls on river use and benefits. Repeating some or all of those studies in 3 to 5 years will measure success on a macro level. We'll reference studies like the US Department of Agriculture<sup>1</sup> report.

On a more intimate level – river property owners and outfitter business feedback is predominantly negative regarding current usage (overuse) of some parts of the Kinni. Feedback and engagement with those partners will be gathered during the facilitated discussions to determine how they would measure success and we'll track those metrics – including water quality, clarity, crowded conditions, level of natural and trash or refuse debris.

## What specifically will the funds from the River Falls Community Foundation be used for?

The grant is to engage a skilled urban planning facilitator and mediator to work with KinniCC, KRLT and other stakeholders to identify workable solutions that can be supported community wide. The facilitator will assist us in a series of stakeholder meetings to develop tactical solutions and funding proposals.

## Additional information that may be helpful to the Board of Directors as they consider this request for funds:

KinniCC will be filing an application for non-exempt status before Nov 2019. Until the IRS determination letter is received, KRLT will be the fiscal sponsor for the program operated by KinniCC.

## AUTHORIZATION

Signature of person submitting this application:

Charlene Brooks, Executive Director

Date: 8/14/2019

Signature of Organization's Board Chair:

Alison Page, Chair

Date: 8/14/2019

<sup>1</sup> The Pinchot Institute for Conservation: Report on *The Role Local Communities Play in Developing Stewardship Contracts* at <http://www.pinchot.org/uploads/download?fileId=249>

# The River Falls Community Foundation

**Attachments:** The following attachments must be submitted with this application:

- A copy of your organization's IRS 501(c)(3) status (**W-9 and IRS Confirmation letter**)
- A current annual operating budget for KRLT organization (**FY20**)
- A current list of business and foundation donors with contribution levels (**KRLT 2018 Annual Report**)

## Attachment A: Program Budget FY20

Year 1 of program operations will include community engagement and organizing around key issues and amenities desired by the river recreation users and stakeholders.

Fiscal Year (FY) July 1, 2019 to June 30, 2020

Kinnickinnic River Land Trust, Inc. fiscal agent

Kinni Corridor Collaborative, Inc. - Program owner/facilitator

FY 2020		Program Budget proposal for Kinni River Stewardship Initiative	
Revenue (Board dedicated or restricted funding)			
Public Funding			
Indv & Biz	\$3,500	In-kind value estimate	
NGOs/NFPs	\$5,000	In-kind value estimate	
Govt Funds (City RF)	\$1,500	In-kind administrative support	
Private Foundations			
Trav Grant	\$500	(secured)	
RFCF	\$1,200	(requested)	
<b>Total Revenue</b>	<b>\$11,700</b>		
Expenses			
Professional Fees	\$2,700	Facilitator and pro-bono legal	
Meetings	\$2,500	City or Country Inn meeting space	
Communications	\$2,500	Media and signage	
Project Supplies	\$4,000	In-kind donations	
<b>Total Expenses</b>	<b>\$11,700</b>		

*Expenses reflect expected use of in-kind value provided by partners and stakeholders  
Budget will be revised as specific amenity projects are identified and funded*

**Attachment B : Board of Directors & Officers  
as of July 1, 2019**

**KRLT**

Alison Page – Chair  
Cline Hickok – Vice-Chair  
Chris Bye – Treasurer  
Deb Wulf – Secretary

**Directors-at-Large**

Jeff Bump  
Charles Rader  
David Sienko  
David Gregg  
Holly Davis

**KinniCC**

Judie Babcock – Chair & President  
Duke Welter – Vice-Chair  
Michelle Maher – Vice President  
Nate Pachl – Treasurer  
Katelyn Meyer – Secretary

**Directors-at-Large**

Benjamin Blauert  
Matt Johnson  
Scott Eickschen

*The*  
River Falls  
Community  
Foundation

Letter of Agreement Between  
River Falls Community Foundation, an affiliate of the St. Croix Valley Foundation  
And  
Kinnickinnic River Land Trust  
(hereinafter referred to as "the Grantee")

**This Agreement is hereby entered into by the River Falls Community Foundation and the Grantee as part of the River Falls Community Foundation's Grant program to support the project titled, "KinniCC Kinn River Stewardship Initiative" as described in the Grantee's proposal submitted to the Foundation.**

**River Falls Community Foundation** hereby agrees:

1. To provide the Grantee with funds totaling \$1,000 to implement the project outlined in the Grantee's proposal. Checks will be issued upon receiving a signed copy of this Letter of Agreement.

**The Grantee** hereby agrees:

1. To implement the project to meet the intent, goals, and purposes outlined in the grantee's proposal.
2. To expend all funds in accordance with the grantee's proposal and must be used within 1 year. Should any changes be required, the Grantee agrees to receive prior approval from the River Falls Community Foundation.
3. To acknowledge the Foundation on materials listing donors using the following language: "This project received funding from the River Falls Community Foundation".
4. To provide the Foundation with a final report on the form provided by the Foundation by **June 30<sup>th</sup>, 2020**. Please include a copy of any written materials. Pictures are appreciated for use in our annual reports. This report is required to be considered for future grants.
5. That any legal responsibility, including any employment condition or other liability relating to this project, will remain the responsibility of the Grantee and will in no way revert to the River Falls Community Foundation.
6. That this project has been duly approved for implementation by the Grantee and that the undersigned official is authorized to execute this agreement on behalf of the Grantee.

The River Falls  
Community  
Foundation

This agreement is hereby entered into this 2<sup>nd</sup> day of October, 2019

[Signature] Date: 09/16/19  
For/St. Croix Valley Foundation

[Signature] Date: 10.2.19  
for River Falls Community Foundation

[Signature] Date: 10/4/19  
for the Grantee (name and title, if applicable)

Judie J. Babcock (Kinick-Dun) 10/4/19

Please Note: RFCF must receive this signed form prior to granting the check.  
Scan and email: [RFCF@scvfoundation.org](mailto:RFCF@scvfoundation.org)

OR

Mail:  
River Falls Community Foundation  
516 Second Street, Suite 214  
Hudson, WI 54016