**Adams Veterans & First Responders Assistance Fund**

**Through the United Way of South Sarasota County**

**Grant Application Guidelines**

**Applications and Eligibility:**

* Grant requests may be requested from individual Veterans or First Responders who have housing assistance or other related needs in South Sarasota County, **OR**, 501(c)(3) organizations which provide housing assistance or other related services to Veterans or First Responders in South Sarasota County.

**Grant Cycles:**

* We offer grant cycles as needed.

**Funding Focus | Our Mission Statement:**

* The Adams Veterans & First Responders Assistance Fund is committed to improving lives in South Sarasota County by providing funds for housing assistance and needs of Veterans and First Responders, including, but not limited to, shelter, sustenance, education, a path to self-sufficiency, **OR,** by providing funds to organizations that provide assistance to such individuals.

**Awards:**

* The suggested maximum for a grant is $2,000.00, **OR**, in any greater amount as may be deemed appropriate by the Advisory Board on a case by case basis. Any and all distributions shall be made to the Third-Party provider of the service, **NOT**, directly to the individual Veteran or First Responder Recipient.
* The award of any grant requires the affirmative vote of at least 2/3 of all Advisory Board Members. Attendance of and voting upon any Advisory Board matters may be done by either physical attendance at a Board Meeting, email or telephonic communication.

**Each application will be reviewed based on the following criteria:**

* Does the grant request support the mission of the Adams Veterans & First Responders Assistance Fund, which is to improve the lives of individuals and organizations we serve in South Sarasota County in alignment with our Funding Focus/Mission Statement as described above.
* In granting assistance it is clearly evident that the recipient of funds will become self sustaining.
* Does the individual or organization meet the eligibility criteria?
* Is the individual or organization’s purpose/mission clear?
* Quality of Application: Is the grant clear and concise? Were the grant guidelines followed? Are the requested documents provided and well prepared? (Please be certain your email address and phone number are correct and legible).

**Please note that grants are NOT awarded for the following uses:**

* General Funds.
* Sponsoring special events (i.e., fundraising, scholarships).
* Fundraising campaigns, such as endowment, capital or annual campaigns.
* Foundations giving to other foundations.

**Review Process:**

* All applications will be reviewed and determined by the Advisory Board of the Adams Veterans & First Responders Assistance Fund.

**Administration:**

* All funds raised and allocated shall be administered by the United Way of South Sarasota County (“UWSSC”). Individual donations will be applied 100% , no administration expenses incurred, EXCEPT:

1. For Grants written and submitted by the United Way and approved, a 5% reimbursement from the Fund shall be provided to the United Way upon receipt of the funding. If the written grant is unfunded or declined no reimbursement will be made to the United Way.
2. Any third-party vendor expenses created for the administration of the Fund and as may be requested by the Advisory Board are reimbursable to the United Way.