



Tri-College NEW Leadership Development Institute Patty Johnson Seed Grant FAQ

- **What is it?**

In 2006 Patty Johnson Seed Grants were developed in order to provide seed money for starting projects while also encouraging the participants to help each other. The Patty Johnson Seed Grant was established in memory of Patty Johnson, who participated in the first Tri-College NEW Leadership Development Institute in 2004, while she was a student at Fond Du Lac Tribal and Community College (FDLTCC). Patty passed away in 2005 after completing her education at FDLTCC. She planned to earn a bachelor degree in social work from University of Wisconsin Superior and then go on to a Ph.D. program.

Patty worked extensively with persons with developmental disabilities, mental illness, and alcohol/drug dependency. In her institute biography, Patty wrote of her dream of seeing Together for Youth, a program for gay, lesbian, bisexual, and transgender youth, grow to include a chemical health component. In these aspirations, she drew upon her own life challenges, “having known first-hand how alcohol and drugs can become an avenue to turn toward to deal with your self-esteem, and sexual orientation.”

- **What is a seed grant?**

By definition, typically a seed grant awards funds for initializing a new project or an organization. These funds are provided to finance the initial stages of a new venture. Seed grants are sometimes also known as ‘start-up money.’

- **How it is funded?**

All of the money for the fund is donated by current participants during the Institute, and is thus another important way in which we can support each other after the Institute ends.

- **How can I get started?**

After the institute, select an issue that is affecting people in your community. Prepare a proposal for a real action that you plan to take on the issue. The action project proposal will give you the opportunity to create a plan to practice and further develop your leadership skills through a project that includes public speaking, organizing, publicity, budget management, negotiation, networking, coalition building, and time management.

- **What is the deadline to submit my grant application? And other important dates?**

June 20, 2011	Submission deadline for feedback to Deb White (<i>optional</i>)
June 30, 2011	Application submission deadline
July 2011	Patty Johnson Seed Grant committee reviews applications
Early August 2011	NEW Leadership Steering Committee approves grants
August 15, 2011	Notification letters mailed
September 1, 2011	Signed grant agreements due
September 15, 2011	Processed checks mailed
September 15, 2011	Anticipated project start date
August 15, 2012	Report update submission due (if seed grant award)

- **What happens after I'm awarded a grant?**

If your proposal is accepted, you will need to submit a one-year follow-up report by August 15, 2012 explaining how the funds were utilized and the outcome of your proposal. (A document outlining what is expected will be sent by mail and/or email in addition to that information is also currently available on the NEW website.)

- **Is there mentoring for recipients?**

Yes. You will be assigned to work with a committee member from the Tri-College NEW Leadership Patty Johnson Seed Grant Committee. This person will periodically follow up with you, but is also a resource to contact throughout the process if additional guidance is needed/appreciated. This relationship between your mentor and you will greatly depend on your specific needs, as you will be setting the tone of how little or how much the mentor will be involved with advising your project.

- **How much money is rewarded?**

These grants are typically \$500 or less. The intention of the seed grant is to help you to obtain some initial start-up materials or supplies to get started on the project. The seed grant will not likely cover all project expenses.

- **What were the previous recipients' plans? And outcomes?**

In the past, submissions have had a wide-range of focuses, content, and direction, such as: organizing day at the capitol for Bemidji State students; sexual health awareness week at Concordia College that aimed to inform and motivate students to seek education and resources related to their sexual health; development and distribution of an FM transgender resource directory; establishing a microloan program to promote Maasai women's economic development; establishing a Ten Percent Society/SafeZone program at Lake Region State College; and organizing meetings between local East African college students and East African refugee youth to help youth master English and adapt to living in the USA, just to name a few.

- **Is there more information on the NEW Leadership website?**

*Documents can also be downloaded at: http://www.tri-college.org/new_leadership_institute/
→ Click on "Patty Johnson Seed Grant" button*

- **Have additional questions?**

*Contact the Tri-College NEW Leadership Patty Johnson Seed Grant Committee at:
→ newleadership.seedgrant@gmail.com*