



County of Marin Community Service Fund Program Application Form

Application Date September 13, 2016

Fiscal Year July 1, 2016 - June 30, 2017

Organization Information

Full Legal Name: Close Up Foundation

Organization URL: www.closeup.org

Mission/purpose of your organization:

Close Up is a non-profit, non-partisan organization driven by a mission is to inform, inspire, and empower youth to exercise the rights and accept the responsibilities of citizens in a democracy. We fulfill our mission through weeklong, experiential education programs in and around Washington, D.C. We see the role of the Close Up experience as complementary to classroom civic learning; our part is to take learning out of the book and place it in the lived experience of the student. For over 45 years, students participating on Close Up’s civic education programs have learned the basic tenants of how America’s government works and the importance of being an active participant in our democracy. Students return home with the tools and knowledge to make sustained change in their communities. Close Up’s teaching methodology prepares students to advocate on issues directly affecting them and gives them the skills needed for a lifetime of civic engagement.

Grant Request Information

Program/Project Name: Tomales High School Close Up Civic Education Program

Amount Requested Dollar: \$3,000.00

Total Project Cost: \$21,956.00

Description of the proposed project/program, including the proposed project's goal(s), and the nature of the costs in specific terms, i.e. materials, labor costs, etc. Specifics of how the requested County funds will be used.

Tomales High School has participated on Close Up since 1994, and despite the fundraising challenge, teacher Ellen Webster values the strong academic experience Close Up provides students from this rural school. In order to ensure no student is precluded from participation due to cost, Close Up has partnered with Tomales to aid their overall fundraising effort. On Close Up’s program, students participate in a variety of hands-on activities such as small group workshops, seminars with D.C. insiders, Q&A sessions with lobbyists, and meetings with members of Congress and their staffs. Students learn how to deliberate and debate respectfully and how to cooperate with others who may have different opinions. The overarching goal of Close Up’s program is to equip students with the knowledge and skills necessary for effective and responsible participation in a democratic society. Citizenship in a democracy demands a readiness and capacity to act. Close Up’s role in helping students develop that readiness and capacity lies in direct exposure to the historical foundations, institutional structures, and day-to-day practices that underlie reasoned discourse, debate, and cooperative decision-making. Finally, teachers who attend have the opportunity to participate in the Close Up Teacher Program, providing professional development so teachers return to California with tools to use in the classroom, positively impacting future students. Close Up program tuition per participant is \$1,996 and is all-inclusive: \$1,428 for program tuition (curriculum and instructional staff, meals, hotel accommodations, in-town transportation, supplemental insurance, entrance fees, access to Georgetown University Hospital for medical care, security, and night monitors) and \$568 for round-trip airfare to Washington, D.C. One-hundred percent of county funds would support Close Up program tuition for Tomales students who qualify for the Federal Free and Reduced Lunch Program.

List of all community interests that will be affected by the proposed project/program and the public benefit to be derived from it:

Although Close Up’s programs are based in and around the D.C. area, with a deeper understanding of the levers of power and decision-making processes, students strengthen their ability to affect changes in their local communities. It is essential to Close Up’s mission to serve students who would otherwise not have a chance to take part in powerful civic learning opportunities. Meaningful educational experiences enable young people to overcome personal circumstances, become active and engaged citizens, and develop the skills needed to become community leaders. Given the increased polarization we see among both elected officials and voters, our youth need to learn the importance of informed dialogue and the art of compromise to find lasting solutions for the issues facing the

nation. The impact of Close Up’s program would go beyond the 10 Tomales students hoping to participate in spring 2017. The perspective they provide on program influences the overall learning and experience of their peers from across the nation. In turn, these 10 students return home with a broader perspective and strengthened civic knowledge, which they share with their classmates. Additionally, the teachers participating in Close Up’s Teacher Program attain resources and best practices to leverage in the classroom, impacting future students. Ellen Webster has been coordinating Tomales High School’s participation for over 20 years. When asked why she continues to organize the trip, Ms. Webster noted: “Close Up is an extraordinary program for both teachers and students; it is by far the best student travel program I have ever seen. My students benefit so much: meeting students from all over the country, meeting our Representative, and experiencing how our government works. Everything I learn here, I use in my classroom; I also share with my colleagues. This program has profoundly affected how I teach—including a more hands-on approach.”

This organization has never received Community Service funds.

No County funding was received for this project or others.

Project/program can be completed if amount received is less than requested amount of Community Service funds.

Applicants are encouraged to leverage funding from other non-County sources, and priority will be given to requests that represent no more than 50% of total project cost. To demonstrate all sources of project funding, including other County sources, please provide a project/program budget below. Please fill in as applicable, and round to the nearest dollar.

Project Funding Sources	Funding Agency	Funding Requested	Received	Notes
County CSF		\$3,000		
Federal Grant				
State Grant				
Individual Contributions			\$15,906	<i>Individual and group fundraising by Tomales studen</i>
Other Local Agencies				
In kind services				
Other		\$1,000	\$2,050	<i>Rotary, Lions, Lucas Foundation, Close Up</i>
Total Sources		\$4,000	\$17,956	
Project Expenses		Budgeted	Spent to Date	Notes
Personnel Costs				
Services and Supplies				
Capital				
Other		\$21,956	\$0	<i>CU program tuition + airfare (10 students/1 teache</i>
Total Expenses		\$21,956	\$0	