April 10, 2013

MOTION: To establish a fund to support and encourage international immersion experiences

The Lawrence Central Rotary (LCR) establishes a fund for small grants to be awarded to support and encourage international immersion experiences for individuals or small groups.  Money will be set aside annually for this purpose at the discretion of the membership.  The dollar amount will be established during the budgeting process at the beginning of each fiscal year (July 1 through June 30).

Applications for these funds must be made in writing to the Vice-President.  Awards will be made at the recommendation of a review committee comprised of the LCR Vice-President, the chair of the LCR International Committee, and one other LCR member who agrees to serve.

Applications may be made at any time during the fiscal year. Money may be disbursed throughout the fiscal year until the designated funds are gone.  At the committee’s discretion, no awards may be made in a given fiscal year.

Availability of this grant pool will be publicized through appropriate media and on the LCR website.

Applications will include applicant resume(s), explanation of the international experience planned and its sponsoring organization, anticipated total costs for the experience and how they will be met, and letter of recommendation by a sponsor or advisor.

Criteria:

1. Extended time spent outside of United States in an immersion experience
2. Clear definition of how the international experience will benefit the recipient(s)
3. Bona fide agency sponsoring the experience
4. Clear intent to promote international communication and understanding
5. Qualifications of the individual(s)—e.g. academic record, knowledge of foreign languages, history of interest in international affairs, volunteer work

Applicants must agree to report back to Lawrence Central Rotary about the experience while away and again upon returning to the United States.

AMENDED: February 12, 2014

As an alternative to the selection process described in the original policy, the Vice-President and applicant review committee may designate that LCR funds be contributed to another organization that selects individuals or small groups for international immersion experiences. That organization, its program, and the individuals who receive LCR funds will meet the selection criteria established in this policy.