



## **KIDS Initiating a Difference in Society, (“KIDS”) A District 181 Foundation Student Grant Program**

The District 181 Foundation is dedicated to supplementing and enriching the educational experience of each child in the district. Education, of course, takes many forms and more and more, we have seen kids in our community on their own initiative, develop new ideas, organize fund raisers, conduct food, clothing and toy drives and engage in all kinds of service activities for the benefit of others. We applaud these efforts and believe that involvement in community service helps kids grow and develop into good public citizens. That is a goal we all share and the Foundation wants to help support and be a part of these endeavors. Therefore, the District 181 Foundation is proud to announce **Kids Initiating a Difference in Society, (“KIDS”)**, a new student grant program for kids in the district. By offering small seed grants, KIDS provides a great opportunity for students to put their ideas into action and make their neighborhoods, communities, state or world a better place to live. Kids, be creative. Focus on your strengths and passions to drive your ideas and actions and see what a difference you can make.

### **The following rules and guidelines apply to KIDS grants:**

1. The purpose of your grant proposal must be to benefit the public, community, and/or environment. Some examples of the kinds of proposals that could be accepted include “green” projects that encourage recycling or promote ways to save energy or otherwise help the environment, events to raise money for medical research to cure disease or drives to collect and provide relief supplies to victims of natural disasters like hurricane Katrina. Other things such as cleaning up public parks or streams, helping out at food pantries or local shelters or raising awareness about a particular cause such as endangered species or homelessness would all be acceptable. We encourage you to be creative and innovative with your proposals because the Foundation wants to serve a variety of interests through a number of different grants. However, because the purpose of KIDS grants is to encourage community service, volunteerism and social awareness, the Foundation would not be able to support any proposal that results in direct personal gain for you or any of the participant(s). For example, if you applied for funds to help start a business where you would be paid to cut grass, baby-sit, walk dogs, shovel snow, etc, that would be outside the scope of the KIDS grant program.
2. The maximum amount that the Foundation will fund for any single grant proposal is **\$150.00**. We believe this amount should be sufficient seed money to cover the cost of supplies for student initiated and managed projects. Also, keeping the amount reasonable allows us to fund more grants and help more kids with their projects.
3. You must fill out a Grant Application Form and there must be appropriate adult sponsorship. We recommend at least one adult sponsor for every 5 students participating. There is no limit on the number of adults and/or students that can be involved.
4. You must include an estimated budget with your application setting out what you expect the project to cost. The expenses should be listed separately for all items included such as transportation, supplies, copy charges, postage, whatever you expect to spend. Remember to keep your receipts. You must turn them in to receive the grant money for reimbursement of your expenses. Funds are limited and distributed on a first come-first served basis for approved grant applications so get your proposals in early.

If you have any questions, please call Jan Janes (630) 734-0867 or e-mail her at [janjardin@comcast.net](mailto:janjardin@comcast.net).  
We look forward to receiving your applications.

