



Program Description

DowGives is The Dow Chemical Company’s giving program that encourages volunteerism, employee engagement and community involvement. The program currently has three components that consist of iGive, weGive, and companyGives. Dow is adding another component to the program known as communityGives.

The communityGives component of DowGives creates an opportunity for Elementary, Middle and High School age groups, sports teams, and service clubs in the Great Lakes Bay Region to earn funding for priority projects through volunteerism. This is accomplished through the giving of grants to K-12 aged groups that complete a preapproved community volunteer activity and meet grant requirements.

Impact:

By promoting volunteerism amongst today’s Elementary, Middle and High School aged youth, communityGives emphasizes the importance and value of community engagement to our region’s youth, and promotes a sense of community, along with a desire to give back.

Partnership:

Dow is providing the base funding of \$150,000 per year for the Great Lakes Bay Region, with \$50,000 designated for each community foundation partner (Bay Area Community Foundation, Midland Area Community Foundation, and the Saginaw Community Foundation) for grant administration and implementation.

Eligible Groups:

Groups will include Elementary, Middle and High School students (K through 12) from the following:

- School Groups (Bands, Student Councils, French Clubs, etc.)
- Sports Teams (Football, Cheerleading, Hockey, etc)
- Service Clubs (Boy Scouts, Girl Scouts, Church Youth Groups, etc.)

Affiliation:

- Must be affiliated with a 501(c)(3) or school district (public or private).
- Must be located in Bay, Midland or Saginaw Counties.
- Grants are not made to individuals.
- Requests for support of programs presented by religious organizations will be considered if a general need is being met and the program for which the grant is to be awarded does not promote the teachings of a particular church or denomination

County-Wide and Regional Programs:

Program awards will include 10 grants of \$1,000 and 80 grants of \$500 per county. The breakdown of these awards is as follows:

Grant Amount	Number per County	Number per Region	Impact Range	Total Group Hours	Minimum Hours per person
\$500	80	240	County-wide	50	2
\$1,000	10	30	Region	100	2

Examples:

1. **County-Wide Program:** Applicant organization will complete its community volunteer activity and awarded funds will benefit the organization within a single county in the Great Lakes Bay Region.

Example: The ABC school band needs new uniforms (the program). The band members will volunteer to clean-up the Riverwalk/RailTrail on the group clean-up date.

- Twenty (20) members of the band show up the day of the community volunteer activity. These members must work a minimum of 2.5 hours each to reach the required 50 total group volunteer hours.

OR

- Thirty members of the band show up the day of the community volunteer activity. These members must still work a minimum of 2 hours each to reach the required 50 total group volunteer hours. In this case the thirty members will support their community with a total of 60 volunteer hours.

2. **Regional Program:** Eligibility for the regional program is met through either the membership make-up of participating organizations or the scope of the project the organization will be completing.

Examples:

- A high school band from a single county in the Great Lakes Bay Region plans to spend time serving meals at soup kitchens in all three counties in the region (e.g. Bay, Midland and Saginaw); having planned and executed at least 100 hours in service; the band would qualify for a regional award.

OR

- A non-profit bicycling club with members that reside in all three counties in the region (Bay, Midland and Saginaw) plan also to spend time serving meals at a soup kitchen; having planned and executed at least 100 hours in service; the bicycling club would qualify for a regional award.

Volunteer Requirements:

- Volunteer activity must have community impact. The “community volunteer activity” must be outside of the organization’s normal activities. Example – Youth volunteer to clean-up the Riverwalk/RailTrail, work with a nursing home on a special program, serve meals at a soup kitchen, etc.
- Community volunteer activity must be preapproved as part of the application process.
 - Regional projects must:
 - Consist of 100 hours of service, whereby each member completes 2 hours;
 - Either:
 - Take place in all three counties in the Great Lakes Bay Region or,
 - Have membership whose residency spans all three counties in the Great Lakes Bay Region.
 - County-wide projects must:
 - Consist of 50 hours in service to their community, whereby each member completes 2 hours (minimum).

Application Process:

- Review the application form on the Saginaw Community Foundation website: www.saginawfoundation.org
- Contact the Saginaw Community Foundation to discuss the “program” for which the funds are being raised. For example: new team uniforms, playground equipment, etc.
- Receive a grant application number and application form. If your organization is eligible for a regional award (See Eligibility); apply to the Community Foundation in the county in which the organization is based (e.g. address of record)
- Complete and submit grant application electronically.
 - Note: An organization may receive up to two awards per year. A second grant will not be awarded for the same project.
 - Example – An organization receives a grant to support “band uniforms”. In the same year, the same organization submits another application to support “band uniforms”. This second request will not be considered. If however, the same organization applies for funding for “band instruments,” this would be considered."
- Grant applications will be accepted at any time and will be reviewed in the order they’re received. Grants will be awarded as long as funds are available.

Grant Award Requirements:

- If your organization is approved for a Dow communityGives grant award, the community volunteer activity must be completed within 12 weeks of grant approval.
- Wear Dow communityGives Volunteer Shirts (if applicable) when completing the community volunteer activity. Shirts will be supplied when the grant is approved.
- Verify completion of the community volunteer activity within 2 weeks of completing the activity.
- Grant funds will be awarded by the community foundation within 2 weeks of verification of the completion of the community volunteer activity.



Gives

communityGives



Saginaw

community foundation

Grant Application

For elementary, middle and high school non-profit and education organizations interested in applying for a grant, please answer the following questions:

- Will the community volunteer activity benefit Saginaw County residents?
- Is your organization a federal 501(c)(3) tax-exempt organization or a school district? Note - Grants are not made to individuals.
- Requests for support of programs presented by religious organizations will be considered if a general need is being met and the program for which the grant is to be awarded does not promote the teachings of a particular church or denomination.
- Will the funding be used for a charitable purpose?

If your organization is able to answer "yes" to the questions above, please contact the Saginaw Community Foundation at 989.755.0545 to discuss application requirements.

Grant
Application
Number

Grantee Contact _____

Organization _____

Address _____

Phone _____ Tax ID _____

Email address _____ Website address _____

Amount requested _____ Total project cost _____

On **NO MORE THAN TWO (2)** attached sheets of paper, answer the following questions:

- What will the grant funds support? Provide a Statement of Need: The need for and importance of the program or need for funding. What factors contribute to the need?
- What is the community volunteer activity to be done?
- How will community volunteer activity benefit the community and what is the intended impact?
- How many K-12 students will volunteer on the project?
- How many hours will each K-12 student volunteer?
- How do you plan to evaluate your success?
- Where else are you receiving or seeking funding for this project or need?

Return cover sheet and application electronically to kendra@saginawfoundation.org

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