Librarian's Shelf by Karen Connell

Your Library is a Funding Information Network Partner

Did you know that 90% of domestic foundations don't have a website?

The Columbus Public Library has become a Funding Information Network partner with the Foundation Center and can now provide access to these hard to find funders through the Foundation Directory Online.

Also available through the Foundation Center are the most effective tools to organize and manage your nonprofit organization or foundation.

As a Funding Information Network partner, the Columbus Public Library is able to provide vital information and training with tools that can help the user become a successful grant seeker.

Located throughout the country and around the world, Funding Information Network partners offer free access to Foundation Center's detailed information on grant makers and applying for grants. Foundation Center's core collection of resources includes Foundation Directory Online, profiling more than 140,000 U.S. grant makers, Foundation Grants to Individuals Online, Foundation Maps, print directories, and proposal writing guides.

Foundation Directory Online includes a database of over 140,000 foundations, corporate giving programs, and grant making public charities in the U.S.; a database of over 4,000 sponsoring companies, offering a quick pathway to corporate funders; a database of over 5 million recently awarded grants; and a keyword-searchable database of over 1 million recently filed IRS Forms 990 and 990-PF.

Foundation Grants to Individuals Online assists individuals seeking scholarships or research funding by providing grant writing and proposal writing guides, as well as nearly 10,000 foundation profiles that provide scholarships, fellowships, and more.

These databases are available in the Columbus Public Library so stop by with your laptop or tablet and use our Wi-Fi, or use one of our public access computers.

Online training is also available through the Foundation Center. Free and paid webinars and self-paced e-learning opportunities are available through the Foundation Center's public site www.foundationcenter.org, and www.grantspace.org. Others can be found through the Foundation Center databases. Topics include Introduction to Finding Grants, Introduction to Proposal Writing, Building a Social Media Strategy, and many more.

The Foundation Center also provides resources directly to foundations, such as building a website for them free of charge. If you know of a local foundation that could use these resources visit www.foundationcenter.org to contact them.

Stop by or call the Columbus Public Library at 402-564-7116 if you have any questions about the Foundation Center Directory Online, Foundation Grants to Individuals Online, or any of our other Foundation Center resources. Visit our website www.cplconnect.us to access these or other online resources, but keep in mind, the Foundation Center databases are only available in the library.