

**CITY OF TAKOMA PARK, MARYLAND
SMALL COMMUNITY GRANT PROGRAM
APPLICATION**

GENERAL INFORMATION

Organization Name Takoma Park Play Committee

Organization Address: [REDACTED]

City/State/Zip: Takoma Park MD 20912

Program Name (if different): _____

Contact Person/Title: Mary Hanisco

Telephone Number: Day: [REDACTED] Evening: [REDACTED]

FAX Number: _____

E-mail Address: [REDACTED]

Use of Grant Funds:

Maintain Existing Program Expand Existing Program Start New Program

Fund Discrete Project

We, the authorized representatives of the applicant organization, have completed or directed the completion of this application for the City of Takoma Park Small Community Grant Program and confirm that the information contained herein is true and correct to the best of our knowledge, information and belief.

Mary Hanisco 2/12/2010
Signature/Date

Signature/Date


Mary G. Hanisco Member
Printed Name/Title

Printed Name/Title

Rec'd 2/12/10

A. ORGANIZATIONAL STRUCTURE

1. Number of current officers or board members 8

<u>Name</u>	<u>Title</u>	<u>Term</u>	<u>Address</u>
Pat Rumbaugh	Founder		
Mary Hanisco	Member		
Judy Jaffe	Member		
Roz Grigsby	Member		
Colleen DiPaul	Member		
Sandy Littlejohn	Member		
Melanie Pipes	Member		
Phil Shapiro	Member		

2. In what year did the organization begin operating? 2009

3. In what year did this program begin operating? 2009

4. Is the organization incorporated? No If so, in what state?

5. Is the organization qualified under Internal Revenue Code and regulations as a tax exempt organization? If so, under what section of 501(c)? No

Federal Identification Number (if any):

6. Is this organization in compliance with all applicable federal, state and county laws and regulations? Yes

7. Staffing Profile: Identify the number and position/title of staff used to administer this program or project: The eight people on the committee complete projects on a volunteer basis. We also recruit students whenever possible, who earn community service for working with us.

List Positions/Titles: No official titles

How many volunteers are used to administer this program? In addition to the eight volunteers who make up the committee, we hope to recruit 5-10 additional volunteers to carry out our programs.

B. FUNDING SUMMARY:

1. Grant request: \$1,000
2. Funds secured from other sources (include status of funding/amount/source): We currently have around \$600 raised entirely by the committee via yard sales and sales of t-shirts; we held a yard sale benefit which totaled over \$600 last year and are hoping to do the same this year. We are also applying for a grant from the Takoma Foundation.
3. Additional funds yet to be secured: \$1100
4. Estimated number of volunteer hours (provide number of hours x \$20.25): 80 hours at \$1640.00
5. Value of other in-kind donations (provide details):
6. Total program revenues: We project around \$800 in revenues this year, depending on what grants and donations we can secure.

C. OVERVIEW OF PROGRAM OR PROJECT FOR WHICH YOU ARE REQUESTING FUNDS:

1. Need Statement:

Identify the issue or need that this program or project will address in Takoma Park.

Identify the target recipients.

Identify the number of Takoma Park residents to be directly affected or served (if applicable).

The Play Committee is sponsoring two events this year that are intended to bring the community together, make residents more aware of city parks and play spaces, and encourage investment in those spaces. Our programs benefit all residents, from small children to the elderly, but particularly families and those with lower incomes. Since our committee was founded last year, we have worked to reach out to people living in apartments (particularly those on Maple Ave near the community center).

2. Program/Project Summary: Briefly describe the purpose of the program or project and the services or activities to be provided.

The Play Committee's broad purpose is to bring the community together by means of playful, free activities. We strive to engage citizens with their city and with each other, and to work together to improve our city's play spaces. This year we seek funding for two free events:

1. Play Day 2010: Takoma Park's second annual Play Day, which provides free activities for Takoma Park residents of all ages and backgrounds. Play Day's other component is to find ways to work together to improve our city's play spaces. We plan to survey residents about parks and playgrounds, solicit ideas and help for their improvement, and work together to secure funding to do so. To kick this off, we will recruit volunteers at this year's Play Day to clear a path linking Ed Wilhelm field and the Middle School.
2. Traveling Playgroups: A summer event, featuring structured playgroups at each of the city's playgrounds. Residents learn more about the city's play spaces, families meet each other, and the committee can get feedback about the playgrounds.

3. Address how the program or project fits within the Strategic Plan and Council Priorities.

- *Livable Community* Play encourages healthy, vibrant lifestyles, and play brings together people from all ages and backgrounds. Improving our playgrounds makes them safer and brings more people to them; when playgrounds are frequented by families and people who care about them, they are less likely to become trashed or to become hangouts for vagrants or other unsavory types.
- *Sustainable Community* Green spaces are vital to keeping a community environmentally sustainable. Having residents engaged in their play spaces helps ensure that money to maintain them is spent wisely, because we will learn what is deemed valuable to people and what is not. Empowering the Play Committee will

allow it to get the information it needs to seek alternative funding for play spaces that the city's budget may not allow for.

Engaged, Responsive, and Service-Oriented Government The city can only do its job when it knows what its residents need and want. The Play Committee's major goal this year is to find out from residents, including those with low incomes and those whose first language is not English, what they want in their green spaces and playgrounds. The Play Committee can use this information to work with the city to meet those needs.

Program/Project Impact: List the anticipated outcomes. What will change as a result of this program or activity? How will the community benefit?

All residents can benefit from Play Day and the Traveling Playgroups. They are free, fun activities that will bring the community together, from toddlers to seniors (in the case of Play Day). They encourage outdoor, healthy play. One of the city's green spaces will be immediately improved by means of our path-clearing plan, and the information we gather from these events will help us come up with ideas for improving our play spaces. We also hope that Play Day will benefit local businesses by having them carry out activities at the event. Residents will benefit by being provided with free activities; the businesses will benefit by making the community more aware of what they have to offer.

4A. Will this program or activity increase community engagement? Explain.

Yes; as explained above, all of these activities bring the community together in play, but also encourage people to take a stake in their community. Our hope is not only that people will learn more about our city's play spaces, and invest in them, but that by getting to know each other better we can knit together a stronger community.

4B. Will the program result in the formation of a new neighborhood or tenant association or will it be done in partnership with an existing association?

All of these events will be done through the Play Committee. We would love to partner in a more formal capacity with the city at some point, for our mutual benefit.

5. Action Plan: Briefly describe each activity to be conducted to meet the desired outcomes. If applicable, identify the average number of days or hours per month each activity will be provided to program participants. Be specific.

Play Day: This is a one-day per year event, taking place in September at Takoma Park Middle School. It will include games suitable for all ages, tot tennis lessons, music and dance, and many other activities. Like a festival, but with a more playful focus, it will be open to all Takoma Park residents.

Traveling Playgroups: This will run for several weeks throughout the summer, perhaps twice a week for two hours each time.

6. Program Evaluation: Identify and describe the methods to be use to evaluate this program or project (questionnaire, interview, survey, observation)? How will you know if it is successful?

Play Day: Part of our evaluation of last year's Play Day (the first) was observation and interviews, both by committee members and by local media. Traveling Playgroups will be evaluated by means of observation and by surveys distributed to each week's participants and collated at the end.

7. Organization Evaluation: Briefly describe one or two similar programs or projects your organization has undertaken and provide an assessment of their effectiveness. If the organization has not undertaken programs or projects, you may respond to this question by addressing the experience of the officers or project leaders.

Please see answer to question 6; we have already conducted a Play Day, which was very successful (over 200 participants). Mary Hanisco was involved in successful Traveling Playgroups in Massachusetts. Pat Rumbaugh is a physical education teacher at Washington International School who organizes the school's annual Sports Day and is writing a book on the importance of play to all people.

8. Collaboration: Is this a collaborative program involving other organizations? If so, please provide further information.

We are operating alone at present but welcome the chance to collaborate and plan to investigate that this year. We would be interested in collaborating with the city Rec Department, and with neighborhood associations.

D. BUDGET

Provide a detailed budget for the program or project. Include revenues and expenditures.

Please see attached budget. Note that our budget is somewhat fluid; if we receive more money via grants and donations than anticipated, we can provide more activities at our Play Day, do more advertising and outreach, and so on.

E. TIME LINE

Provide a detailed time line for completion of the program, project, or activity. Funds must be used within the fiscal year.

All funds received through the grant would be used by September 25, 2010. The bulk of the funds would be used for the Traveling Playgroups July-August 2010; the remainder for Play Day on September 25, 2010.

Takoma Park Play Committee 2010 Budget

	Expenditures	Amount	Revenues	Amount	Volunteer Hours
Traveling Playgroup	Playgroup leader hire (4 hrs/week for 8 weeks)	\$500			40 hours (or \$820)
	Fliers to advertise playgroups	\$50			
	Playgroup supplies (bubbles, games, paints, etc.)	\$100			
	Translation services for fliers	\$100			
			Sales of T-shirts	\$100	
Play Day	Supplies (bubbles, paints, chalk, etc.)	\$100			40 hours (or \$820)
	Advertising in local media	\$100			
	Fliers to advertise	\$50			
	Translation services for fliers	\$200	Sales of t-shirts	\$200	
	Snacks (fruit, lemonade)	\$100			
	Equipment rental to clear path near school	\$500			
Other Revenues					
			Revenue from 2009	\$600	

	Total Expenditures	\$1700	Total Revenues	\$900	Total Volunteer Hours
					40 at \$1640.00