

Testimonial: Virginia Foundation Healthy Youth

Written by: Donna Gassie, Director of Programs



“The turnaround time to get the proposals to reviewers was 3 hours! Much better than the previous 2-3 days it would take before we made the move to Foundant.” Donna Gassie

<p>Highlighted Results</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Streamlined, complete and timely proposal submittals• Significant reduction in turnaround time for reviewers to receive proposals• Online applications, online review and online grants management provides paperless environment - as possible for foundation• Migration of historical data for consistent and long range reporting• The ability to print out summaries of reviewers' comments for the review teams was very helpful
--------------------------------	---



Challenges with Previous Processes

We wanted a comprehensive system that provided online applications, online review and online grants management once grants are awarded. We wanted to go as paperless as possible. Previously, our biggest challenges were finding a system that met our needs (usually too many bells and whistles were offered as part of the package) since we award a small number of grants annually. Also, price was a large factor and often put online systems out of our reach. Our two most painful activities were: 1) receiving, logging, and organizing grant proposals, and 2) coordinating mailings of paper proposals to reviewers around the state and collecting their responses.

Benefits from Implementation of Foundant Grant Lifecycle Manager

Proposals submitted were streamlined and complete and submitted on-time. The turnaround time to get the proposals to reviewers was only 3 hours! Much better than the previous 2-3 days it would take before we made the change.

Most Welcome Surprises from Grant Lifecycle Manager Solution

Definitely the reduced turnaround time to get proposals to reviewers was great – took much less time than anticipated. Also, the ability to print-out summaries of reviewers' comments for the review teams was helpful and appreciated by the reviewers.

Conclusion

Our overall experience with Foundant has been extremely positive. Foundant staff is always available when new questions come up. We are currently,

working with Foundant to migrate our historical data to the new system. We

will also start using GLM for grant reporting as we enter the grants management phase with our new grantees that applied through the system this year.

About the Virginia Foundation for Healthy Youth & the Author

The Virginia Foundation for Healthy Youth (formerly the Virginia Tobacco Settlement Foundation) was founded in 2009 and currently has 14 full-time staff. Our mission is to promote tobacco use prevention and cessation programs with youth in Virginia and we accomplish our mission with a comprehensive approach, through grant awards for classroom programs, marketing, research and enforcement.

Donna L. Gassie, Director of Programs

Donna's primary focus is in management of program department grants with approximately 100 grants per year. There is an average of \$4 million awarded each year in program grants, with an average award of \$75,000. Donna has been with VFHY/VTSE for nine years and in the grants field for over 20 years.