



Bozeman Schools Foundation



Client Case Study

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About

Established in 2004, the Bozeman Schools Foundation is a nonprofit 501(c)(3) educational foundation that awards grants to members of the Bozeman Public School District. Grants are mainly awarded to teachers, but are occasionally awarded to student organizations, parent counsel groups, staff members, and principals as well. A single staff member, Executive Director Mary Jo O'Donnell, is responsible for all foundation business.

Advantages of GLM

- Streamlined application procedures for grant applicants
- Saved time, money, and resources while being environmentally friendly
- Freed 2-3 hours per week of tedious tasks to be reallocated to strategic activities, such as fundraising
- Standardized the process for evaluating grant applications
- Increased participation and accountability for board and review committees
- Provided easy access to historical data for strategic analysis and planning

Previous Grant Process

Before adopting Foundant's Grant Lifecycle Manager (GLM), the school principal announced the grant cycle and sent a grant application via email to all members of the school system. Applicants followed a cumbersome process of filling out, printing, and mailing the grant application forms to the foundation. Upon receiving the applications, the executive director copied them all and created review packets for the fifteen members of her board and review committees.

In addition to a cumbersome distribution process, they also encountered other inefficiencies during their grant process, including:

- Paper Intensive—many applications copied many times
- Lost Applications—risk of sending applications via snail mail
- Inconsistent Evaluations—subjective decisions made at the last minute

Foundant GLM Implementation

The benefits of the new Foundant GLM implementation include:

- Time Savings—faster process, faster decisions
- Elimination of Paper—easier, more environmentally sound process
- Streamlined Process—simplified access to information and solid evaluation criteria
- Accountability—engaged evaluation team
- Archiving and Analysis—graphical views of historical data for strategic planning

Conclusion

The Foundant GLM software has transformed an overwhelming process into an easy to manage, time efficient grant program at the Bozeman Schools Foundation. Applicants have a simpler submission process, the executive director is able to focus on strategic issues, and the board of directors is more actively involved in application review while contributing fewer hours of their volunteer time.