

**NEWS RELEASE
FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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HUBBARD COUNTY COALITION OF LAKES INVITES GRANT APPLICATIONS

June 23, 2023 (Bemidji, MN) – The Hubbard County Coalition of Lake Associations is seeking grant proposals for up to \$2,000. The deadline to apply is April 15, 2024.

The HC COLA Charitable Fund will consider grant applications from 501(c)(3) nonprofit organizations and community groups. The geographic eligibility area is Hubbard County and watersheds that impact Hubbard County.

The HC COLA Charitable Fund provides financial support for charitable and educational programs, projects and activities that facilitate cooperation among member lake associations and to assist in encouraging environmentally sustainable use of lakes and watersheds that protect, preserve and enhance the quality of area lakes and their environs including funding for:

- Research, studies or projects on water quality, and shoreland development, aquatic invasive species (AIS) prevention, and disseminating information thereof to member associations and the general public.
- Developing and presenting guidelines concerning the development, and preservation of the rivers, lakes, shorelands and other lands to agencies of the government, business and private individuals in order to bring about appropriate action for the effective use of these valuable natural resources.
- Support of acquisition of property for sustainable public use, e.g. Conservation Easements.
- Support for the establishment of individual lake association educational and charitable funds.
- Other charitable and educational activities that support the HC COLA and associated lake associations.

For consideration, refer to the HC COLA application guidelines found on the Northwest Minnesota Foundation website at www.nwmf.org under “Open Grant Rounds”. Requirements include clear goals and action steps for completing the project, and other criteria such as:

- Description of working relationship(s) with other partner(s) and/or funding sources.
- Evidence of an evaluation plan.
- For every \$1 contributed by HC COLA Charitable Fund, applicant must match \$1 toward the project. Matches can be comprised of volunteer labor, in-kind services, donated materials, and/or cash.
- Requested funds must be spent in the year requested.

The deadline for submission of proposals is April 15, 2024. Funds will be awarded by June 1, 2024.

The Hubbard County Coalition of Lake Associations Charitable Fund is a component fund of the Northwest Minnesota Foundation.

*NMF believes Northwest Minnesota offers boundless opportunities.
Our strength is connecting people, places, and possibilities.*

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