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**GRANT OPPORTUNITY:**

**WOMEN4CHANGE**

**What is Women 4 Change?**

Women 4 Change was established in 2012 by a group of local women who came together with HCF in a mission to inspire and enable the women of Hamilton to become leaders in philanthropy, while improving the lives of women and girls in our community through collective giving.

The [founders](http://hamiltoncommunityfoundation.ca/wp-content/uploads/2014/05/Annual-Report-2012-2013-final.pdf#page=9) of Women 4 Change envisioned an initiative where contributors would work collaboratively to achieve transformational change. They established a field of interest fund at Hamilton Community Foundation, to which each person contributes annually, as the vehicle through which annual grants to local organizations will be made. Throughout the year a number of educational and social opportunities are provided to enable contributors to learn about philanthropy and the issues they care about. They have established guiding principles to ensure the Women 4 Change initiative grows and develops in a meaningful and informed way.

**Granting Framework**

Women 4 Change takes a transitioning through the life cycle approach to granting**.** A life cycle approach to understanding the needs of women recognizes that women’s needs change over the course of their lifetimes. Key transition points of focus for the fund include:

Late childhood/adolescence

Transition to Economic Independence

Motherhood/Family Life

Aging Well

**Funding Opportunity**

Women 4 Change invites applications from registered charities (or non-profits with a charitable partner) for grants to support initiatives supporting women and girls in Hamilton. It is anticipated that 3-5 initiatives will receive grants up to a maximum of $10,000.

**For this year (2018/19) we will focus on the transition point of “Aging Well”.**

Initiatives are required to meet the following criteria:

* Fit within the Aging Well life stages framework
* Is based on promising practices or innovative model
* Meets an identified need or gap in service
* Offers the opportunity to help change the trajectory for women at risk

Also of interest are proposals which include a component that educates/supports philanthropic giving.

Grant funds are not available directly to individuals, to support endowment funds, research, deficit financing, conferences and seminars or capital campaigns.

**Deadline for Applications: Applications will be accepted until January 31st, 2018. Please note that applications cannot be accepted beyond 4:30 pm. on this date.**

More information and the application form is available at [**www.hamiltoncommunicationfoundation.ca**](http://www.hamiltoncommunicationfoundation.ca). You may also contact Sharon Charters, Manager of Grants, at 905-523-5600, Ext. 242 or [**s.charters@hcf.on.ca**](mailto:s.charters@hcf.on.ca).