



**United Way
of Bradley County**

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FOR RELEASE:

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Workshop schedule for hospital fund grant applications announced

Three workshops to prepare entities wishing to apply for grants from the Bradley Memorial Hospital Endowment Fund have been scheduled for the month of May.

The three workshops, all of which will be presented at the Star Center on North Lee Highway, are scheduled at times designed to allow any organization wishing to apply access to the sessions. There will be a morning workshop, an afternoon workshop and a workshop in the evening.

“These are identical workshops that any organization or agency wishing to apply for the grants must attend. Attendance is required at only one of the three, but attendance is mandatory,” said Matt Ryerson, Coordinator of the Bradley Memorial Hospital Endowment Fund.

The schedule for the workshops is as follows:

- Monday, May 5, at 6 p.m.
- Thursday, May 8, at 9 a.m.
- Tuesday, May 13 at 1:30 p.m.

Ryerson said that the Request for Application will be available at all of these workshops, and instruction on how to complete the application will be given at the sessions. He said that each workshop will be identical, so attendance is only required at one of the sessions.

“There will be valuable information at these workshops that will aid applicants in their completion of the grant forms, so no applications will be given out to any organization unless they have at least one person attend one of these sessions,” Ryerson emphasized.

This process will allow those interested to determine if they are eligible for a grant under the agreement between United Way of Bradley County and the Bradley Memorial Hospital Board of Trustees. However, the workshops will be open to any agency that would like to learn more about grant writing, regardless of whether or not it plans to apply for funds.

The hospital agreement specifies that the income from investment of the funds United Way received from the sale of the hospital shall go to helping provide local grants to parties that have 501(c)(3) non-profit status and have programs that will address community needs in either of three specific areas: healthcare, wellness or quality of life.

These areas are defined, by the agreement between the hospital trustees and United Was, as:

- Healthcare – Programs or projects that serve unmet healthcare needs in Bradley County regardless of ability to pay.
- Wellness – Programs or projects that educate the Bradley County community about the physical and mental aspects of maintaining and improving personal health.
- Quality of Life – Programs or services that enhance or improve the physical or mental health of the citizens of Bradley County.

Ryerson said that the agreement was very specific that the organizations have their 501(c)(3) designation and address these areas, so the workshops will be very important to those seeking grants to know if they meet these criteria.

Applications will be distributed at these May workshops, with the deadline for submitting them to United Way on Tuesday, July 1. Grant awards will be announced on Friday, Aug. 1

Pre-registration is required for the workshops, to allow Ryerson and United Way to prepare materials. Reservations may be made by calling the United Way office at 479-2020. Information on the grant application process will only be available at the workshops, though Ryerson said if anyone has a question, they may contact him at the United Way.