



Key Criteria Used to Approve Grant Applications

Hope at The Lake Foundation (HATL) evaluates potential grantees through both a comprehensive grant application process and on-site visits. Each organization is reviewed not only for its mission, but also for its measurable impact on community members facing urgent needs. The key criteria below guide our assessment of whether a grant request aligns with our mission: to improve the lives of our Lake Norman neighbors in need by connecting compassionate donors with immediate community challenges.

- 1) Charity must be a 501 (c) (3) non profit**
- 2) Charity needs to have a mission and be connected to one of the following:**
 - a) Support children in the community**
 - b) helping with food & hygiene needs**
 - c) loss of a loved one**
 - d) parenting gaps and medical issues**
- 3) Support immediate community needs to improve the lives of neighbors by facilitating a community of caring.**
- 4) Support the veteran community, helping with transportation, food, housing and general support system needs.**
- 5) Charity must have a track record of successful operations and be financially viable.**
- 6) Charity must make a good case for financial support**
- 7) Preferred charities are small organizations with limited fund raising opportunities.**
- 8) A significant majority of charity's revenues must go to its mission rather than administrative costs**