



**M O U N T A I N
W A T E R S H E D
A S S O C I A T I O N**
Protecting, preserving, and restoring

Direct Support Fund *What does it support?*

The Direct Support Fund is focused on projects that engage and organize impacted communities. Applicants do not need to be a registered non-profit organization. That said, we discourage applications for individual efforts.

(For instance, we will not fund water sampling at one household. We will consider funding a community water sampling program to establish a water quality baseline.)

The Committee Strongly Considers:

- Proposals less than \$5,000, though larger requests may be accepted
- Requests from grassroots, resident-led groups or resident-activists with few available resources
- Proposals from groups organizing in locations where petrochemical and shale gas development is occurring – predominately Pennsylvania, Ohio, and West Virginia
- Projects that seek to organize, inform or educate community members about the impacts of shale gas and petrochemical development (including gas wells, pipelines, compressor stations, refineries, cracker plants, and other related infrastructure)
- Projects organizing, educating, or mitigating around the harms of coal field extraction, buildout, and/or pollution.
- Projects focused on developing new community leadership, collective strategizing or problem solving, community outreach, or those that support non-violent, lawful direct action (e.g., permitted marches, trainings, canvassing).
- Projects led by under-represented and under-funded communities (i.e. people of color, rural, and low income)
- Proposals seeking to mitigate environmental harms and/or environmental justice issues (~\$2,500)
- Proposals from groups with annual budgets not exceeding \$50,000, but proposals from groups with an annual budget between \$75,000 and \$100,000 may be considered
- Activities in collaboration with other activists, groups or communities
- Travel and/or conference expenses for events that increase networking, strategizing, and communication among activists or grassroots groups



**M O U N T A I N
W A T E R S H E D
A S S O C I A T I O N**
Protecting, preserving, and restoring

The committee does not consider:

- Requests for relief for a specific household (air quality monitoring, health care expenses, expenses associated with temporary living quarters)
- Operating expenses (such as electric bills or staff time)
- Attorney fees (though some legal aid – such as printing, filing fees, and support for expert witnesses – will be considered)
- Funds being used for matching grants
- Funds to be used for political campaigns
- Activities that benefit private interest, business, or profit-making groups
- Incomplete applications