

Eau Claire County ARPA Component #2 Final Awardees Program Summaries

Application 4: Literacy Chippewa Valley

Program Summary/ Description: Literacy Chippewa Valley is a non-profit organization that provides free adult basic education for those in need in three programs. Funding will be used to expand services to locations where potential students will find it easier to access services, including Eau Claire Area School District during summer school and regular school year, Corrections Program with Lutheran Social Services, and Friday GED prep classes.

Application 5: Regional Enterprises for Adults and Children, Inc.

Program Summary/ Description: REACH, Inc. provides innovative opportunities to people with disabilities. They offer reliable, handicap accessible transportation to get clients to and from these opportunities. The \$60,000 funding request would be used to purchase two new vans to replace old models.

Application 10: Eau Claire Chamber Orchestra

Program Summary/ Description: Eau Claire Chamber Orchestra is a professional classical music ensemble that performs five concerts per year including a free family concert to introduce children to music. Requested funding will be used to secure the free family concert at RCU for two seasons.

Application 14: River Country Resource Conservation and Development Council, Inc.

Program Summary/ Description: River Country RC&D Inc. provides technical assistance to farmers through educational events and workshops. For the past 10 years, the organization has had to charge admission fees for events. Grant funding would allow them to offer free events, mealtime fellowship with peers, and reach more farmers in their service area. "Our events offer opportunities for socialization, peer-to-peer learning, and networking, which positively impacts mental health, while also providing information to assist with financial recovery and business growth".

Application 17: At The Roots LLC.

Program Summary/ Description: Per the submitted application, At the Roots LLC. is a non-clinical peer support and mentoring agency that supports those with mental health or substance use challenges. Requested dollars would be used to help fund a larger, multi-space building for programming including a Peer to Rehabilitation Level Worker program, community support crisis and support training, free educational events, and a scholarship pool that would allow the organization to offer free or reduced-cost peer support to community members who don't qualify for Comprehensive Community Services (CCS) and cannot afford services out of pocket.

Application 21: Fairchild Area Historical Society, Inc.

Program Summary/ Description: The Fairchild Area Historical Society, Inc, whose mission is to collect, preserve, and disseminate materials and information relating to the history of the Fairchild area, is requesting grant funding to be used for roof repairs and replacement at the former First National Bank of Fairchild, a historic building in downtown Fairchild.

Application 22: Augusta Area Foundation

Program Summary/ Description: The Augusta Area Foundation is requesting funding to purchase a commercial freezer and refrigerator, expanded shelving, and food inventory for the Community Cupboard food pantry located in Augusta.

Application 25: Eau Claire County Housing, Inc.

Program Summary/ Description: The Eau Claire County Housing Authority assists in reducing housing costs to make units more affordable to a limited number of renters. The Housing Authority manages Fairchild Senior Living, which has 11 units designated for age 55 and older; there is a waiting list of 15 at the facility. Grant funding would allow the Housing Authority to remodel the 4th wing of the Fairchild Senior Living building, which would finish three units, creating three new affordable housing units for residents over the age of 55 and with incomes at or below 60% of the County median income based on family size.

Application 29: Chip's Barbershop

Program Summary/ Description: Chip's Barbershop is a classic barbershop in Eau Claire that offers services along with rental stations for other self-employed barbers. Chip's is requesting funding to start up the Eau Claire's Barber Program which will focus on techniques of cutting ethnic hair. Scholarship opportunities for the Barber Program will also be offered along with a mentor program.

Application 31: Power of Perception Inc.

Program Summary/ Description: The Power of Perception (P.O.P) Mentorship Program works to provide a safe place for African American and Biracial youth in Eau Claire to find fellowship, support, and community. Requested funding would be used to provide staff wages as well as funding for operations and programming for the mentorship program activities.

Application 32: Black and Brown Womyn Power Coalition, Inc.

Program Summary/ Description: The Black and Brown Womyn Power Coalition, Inc, is requesting funding to create programs that "address the negative impact of COVID 19 and Asian Hate against Hmong families". Specific programming includes a Thanksgiving Care Package, Hmong Heritage Gala and a Hmong American Day Festival.

Application 33: Friends of Beaver Creek Reserve, Inc.

Program Summary/ Description: Friends of Beaver Creek Reserve Inc. is requesting funding to support facility and grounds maintenance improvements, updates to education programs and materials, trail maintenance needs and equipment, staffing needs, and overall daily operations.

Application 35: Catholic Charities of the Diocese of La Crosse, Inc.

Program Summary/ Description: Catholic Charities operates in the 19 counties of the Diocese of La Crosse, which includes Eau Claire County. The requested funding will provide for a “Paid Staff Model”, not reliant on volunteers for operations, for the Eau Claire Warming Center (ECWC). Staff consists of an Off-Site Shelter Coordinator, On-Site Assistant Coordinator, shift leads, and a daily security service. The ECWC operates out of a building that it leases from the Christ Church Cathedral at the corner of Gray Street and Farwell Street.

Application 36: Boys & Girls Clubs of the Greater Chippewa Valley

Program Summary/ Description: The Boys and Girls Clubs of the Greater Chippewa Valley provide youth development programming during out of school times for children and youth ages 2nd to 12th grades. Requested funding will be used to renovate the Teen Center at Lee & Mary Markquart Center. The proposal is to rehabilitate the space to include an elevator, a teaching kitchen for healthy nutrition habits, a tech space where kids can engage in media and gaming activities that transfer to workplace skills, and replacement of aging locker rooms with gender neutral bathrooms.

Application 38: The Community Table Inc.

Program Summary/ Description: The Community Table Inc. is a meal center with a mission to serve balanced, nutritional meals in a safe, welcoming environment and to connect those in need with existing resources. The Community Table is requesting funding to work with partners of CC WE ADAPT and At the Roots LLC for peer support and mentorship to participants of the meal center. The key areas they would have the partners focus on is mental health and addiction services, and independent skill development, but they also realize that focus areas may change based on a person’s needs. The Community Table would integrate CC WE ADAPT/At the Roots staff into diner service to work with clients.

Application 42: Confluence Council, Inc.

Program Summary/ Description: The Confluence Council, Inc. is “Eau Claire County’s largest private-public partnership and regional live arts presenter”. Requested funding will be used to provide subsidized tickets to low-to-moderate income families for shows performed by UW-Eau Claire, local non-profit, and touring performing arts organizations.

Application 45: University of Wisconsin – Eau Claire Foundation, Inc.

Program Summary/ Description: The University of Wisconsin – Eau Claire Foundation, Inc. is requesting funding to provide to the Small Business Development Center at UW Eau Claire (SBDC), who provides no cost technical assistance to businesses seeking bank funding or marketing assistance. With the requested funding, SBDC will develop and coordinate ten financial consulting Clinic Session Days – these services would not otherwise be provided by the SBDC absent grant funding.

Application 46: Collective Choir

Program Summary/ Description: The Collective Choir’s “The Jam” is a youth music community open to all area youth free-of-charge. Per the submitted narrative, The Jam is moving operations away from an established church building to a more neutral location, in order to serve the diverse populations of Eau Claire’s teens. They are also expanding programming to a greater number of youth and opening a permanent location for youth music community space, events, and programming. Requested funding would be used to facilitate the new programming and new space improvements.

Application 48: WISDOM, Inc. dba JONAH

Program Summary/ Description: WISDOM, Inc., dba JONAH, is requesting funding to establish the Eau Claire Tenant Landlord Resource Center (TLRC), which will serve as a “front door” to improve awareness of resources and direct people to available housing services. It will also offer tenant education classes as well as referral to other resources, provide consultation and housing navigation, and also provide housing advocacy.

Application 50: Hmong American Leadership & Economic Development, LLC.

Program Summary/ Description: Hmong American Leadership & Economic Development LLC. (HALED) is requesting funding to implement innovative and culturally grounded solutions to increase access to critical resources for the Hmong business community. Some of the items listed include conducting a comprehensive needs assessment for existing and aspiring Hmong entrepreneurs, providing technical assistance, establishing a Hmong Business Development Council, and hosting the first ever national Hmong, Economic Advancement, Research, Equity (HERE) Conference for Hmong and their allies.

Application 51: Chippewa Valley Museum

Program Summary/ Description: The Chippewa Valley Museum (CVM) connects people to the community and inspires curiosity by collecting, preserving, and sharing the region’s historical and cultural resources. CVM and the Wisconsin Logging Museum (WLM) have been next door neighbors in Carson Park for almost 40 years. The two organizations have at least two of everything – the requested funding would integrate back-office operations of the two organizations to share technology and exhibit resources, and update children’s exhibits in both locations to more effectively engage the community in history and culture of the region.

Application 52: Children’s Museum of Eau Claire

Program Summary/ Description: The Children’s Museum of Eau Claire is requesting funding for the Endeavor School project, which seeks to support the community as it addresses the negative impact of the pandemic in children’s mental health and to make childcare more accessible for families.

Application 53: Lake Eau Claire Association Inc.

Program Summary/ Description: Lake Eau Claire Association’s main goals are to continue to create and increase awareness and financial support of Lake Eau Claire and its eco-water system quality. The Association is requesting funding for the purchase of a boat, trailer, and test equipment as well as a mobile floating research station that will help the Association determine future management strategies for Lakes Eau Claire and Altoona, the Eau Claire River, and many of its tributaries.