

Request For Proposal



LEADERSHIP EAU CLAIRE™ (ADULT) COMMUNITY SERVICE PROJECTS

Deadline: Friday, August 2, 2019

Introduction:

Leadership Eau Claire™, a program sponsored by the Eau Claire Area Chamber of Commerce, is in its 38th year. This annual program assembles current and future community leaders to examine community issues and contribute to their leadership skills.

As part of the nine-month curriculum, each participant is required to work with classmates and a nonprofit organization on a community service project. We invite you to tap our participants' expertise and enthusiasm in helping you address an important challenge.

Community Needs and Issues:

Proposals are accepted for projects in any of these areas within Eau Claire County:

- Affordable Housing
- Attracting and Retaining Young Professionals
- Buildings and Infrastructure
- Buying Local
- Clean Water for Recreation
- Community Events
- Community Health
- Competitive Wages
- Convention Center
- Crime
- Cultural Activities
- Diversity
- Downtown Revitalization
- Economic Development
- Education
- Environment
- Financial Instability
- Foster Families
- Healthcare Cost
- Homelessness
- Hunger
- Mental Health
- Mentoring those with criminal records
- Non-Profit Support
- Obesity
- Parking
- Pedestrian and Bicycle Safety
- Population Retention
- Poverty
- Public Transportation
- Substance Abuse
- Supporting Rural Communities
- Workforce Retention and Development
- Youth Civic Engagement

Project Goals:

Your project should allow participants to:

1. Learn about a critical community issue that you are trying to address.
2. Learn your organization's purpose, mission, history and role within our community.
3. Identify and propose solutions and begin implementation of solutions.
4. Potentially build a foundation for a continuation of the project in the future by interested parties.
5. Build leadership and team-building skills.
6. Do something positive for the community.

Guidelines:

1. Make your project challenging and strategic – reflective of our participants' abilities and skills.
2. NO fundraising projects will be accepted (e.g., raise \$100,000 for a new roof.) This includes creating an event that is intended as a fundraiser.
3. **Be clear in your expectations.**
4. The project must require 8 class members to participate.
5. Projects must not have political affiliations.
6. Project should be completed by May 2020.

Selection Process:

The LEC Executive will select from the proposals 10 organizations to meet with the LEC class at 8 a.m. on Wednesday, August 28 at their Opening Retreat. Each organization will have a few minutes to present their project idea to the class. LEC participants will then choose group projects after meeting with these nonprofit representatives and reviewing the proposals. You will be notified by October 31, 2019 if your group project was selected. Unfortunately, we cannot guarantee that your project will be one of the five chosen.

What We Ask of You:

Complete the Request For Proposal Form and return to the Chamber by **August 2, 2019**. Include any pertinent information.

If your project is selected, we require you to:

1. Assign one staff person to be the LEC project team's contact and liaison for the project's duration.
2. Meet regularly with your project team to provide guidance and monitor progress.
3. Provide a meaningful challenge that stimulates involvement, learning and leadership growth while helping you achieve key objectives.

Class of 2018's Group Projects

Autism Society of the Chippewa Valley

This team worked with the Autism Society of the Chippewa Valley to create a kickoff event in April for Autism Awareness month with the focus being on educating and offering resources to families and the community. It was a family-friendly event with sensory activities for children, music, resource tables and speakers. The event concluded with lighting up the Phoenix Park Bridge blue. The Autism Society of the Chippewa Valley reported back that shortly after the event they have seen significant increases in their Facebook activity and have received registrations to their society and the Spectrum Shuffle. They indicated that they received more media attention from this event than anything prior.

Eau Claire County Drug Endangered Child Backpack Program (DEC)

The DEC program was established in 2013 to address the issues involving drug endangered children and the impact that drugs have in our community. When a child is removed from a drug endangered environment they are not allowed to bring any of their personal belongings with them; the backpack program is geared to compile supplies to provide these children with clothing, toiletries and other essentials.

This LEC team assisted the DEC program by establishing an efficient labeling system for the backpacks to identify content/age/gender, developing an effective inventory system for supplies, generating a timeline to help organize and coordinate volunteers for backpack stuffing events and helping to obtain and organize a long-term facility for backpacks and storage.

Fight Against Hunger Committee (Prairie Ridge Early Learning Center)

This LEC team worked with the Fight Against Hunger Committee based out of the Prairie Ridge Early Learning Center. The Committee's primary focus this year was to expand its Crock Pot Program by gaining additional awareness, volunteers and donations. The group hosted a trial partnership event at the Chippewa Valley Museum during its Holiday Train Exhibit in November and December. This was an opportunity to utilize our group members' organizations to host an evening for his or her company to come see the trains and learn about the committee's mission. The team also assisted with creating a sustainability plan for the Prairie Ridge Early Learning Center that outlines how to connect with local businesses. This sustainability plan also included a dedicated flier volunteers can hand out that explains the committee, its mission, how to donate to the cause or how to become a volunteer.

West Central Wisconsin Rail Coalition

This LEC team took on the task of organizing a Passenger Rail Conference for the West Central Wisconsin Rail Coalition to be held in Eau Claire. The team was tasked with holding the half-day event to help stimulate discussion and ideas to advance the establishment of passenger rail and transit and how its implementation can benefit our city and region. The conference explored the full range of financial, operational and organizational alternatives, including the option of public private partnerships. Nationally- and internationally-known speakers from around the Midwest came to The Metro on April 26th to share this information with more than 50 attendees.

YMCA

The LEC Yellow Team held a Teen Job Fair at the Eau Claire YMCA to match employers with youth in the community who are seeking seasonal/summer job opportunities and provide the teens with educational opportunities to develop job seeking skills. The team established an event framework, schedule and itinerary for this event so that it may be replicated year after year and is expandable into other teen leadership opportunities. The event attracted approximately 130 teens, plus dozens of parents, siblings and caring adults. Attendees had the opportunity to meet with a diverse selection of 15 prospective employers representing the medical, manufacturing and hospitality industries. Attendees also had access to a resource center that included resume writing and review, interview tips and local resources for teens. Overall, 65 percent of jobseekers were age 16 or younger, and 91 percent of the employer participants planned to hire at least one candidate from the job fair.

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Organization Name _____

Contact Person _____

Address _____

Phone _____ Fax _____

Email _____ Website _____

Number of paid staff members _____ Number of active volunteers _____

Years organization has been in existence: _____ Estimated hours needed to complete project: _____

served _____

Issue(s) the project would address (please see list on page 1) _____

Short-term Goal of Project: _____

Long-term Goal of Project: _____

Projected Date Projected would be completed: _____

Description of proposed project:

(Please provide **clear objectives** for this project and desired outcome(s). Feel free to attach additional information about the proposed project and/or your organization. Please be as concise in the scope of the project as you can.)

Please attach a brief history of your organization including your mission and any other information you feel would be beneficial when choosing group projects.

RETURN TO THE CHAMBER OFFICE BY AUGUST 2, 2019 via fax at 834-1956, email to schumacher@eauclairechamber.org or mail to 101 N Farwell St Suite 101, Eau Claire, WI 54703.