



May 24, 2019

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Kane County Health Department
Fit For Kids Grant

Dear Fit For Kids Grant committee,

Thank you for this opportunity to apply for a grant in support of our exciting **Student Food Program at East Aurora High School (EAHS)**. This innovative effort is reaching Aurora’s most vulnerable communities with vital nutrition and resources to equip youth with lifelong tools for self-sustainability.

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Empowering Aurora’s youth with nutrition education and **fresh ingredients to make healthy meals at home** has been a dream of ours for years. Thanks to our incredible new partnership with EAHS, the program launched on Jan. 25, 2018!

In a time when over 40% of food produced in America is *wasted*, we are expanding our **food rescue efforts with local grocers and farmers** to strategically support the health and well-being of Aurora’s youth.

No food should be wasted. And no child should be hungry!

We look forward to growing this program together!

Diane Renner
Director

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**Making Kane County Fit for Kids
Fit Kids 2020 Plan Implementation Call for Projects
2019 Application**

APPLICATION INFORMATION

Project Name: Student Food Program at EAHS and East School District

Project Location: East Aurora High School

Applicant Name: Marie Wilkinson Food Pantry

Applicant Address: 834 N. Highland Ave.

City, State, Zip: Aurora, IL 60506

Contact Name and Title: Diane Renner, Director

Phone: (630) 897 - 5431

Fax: (_____) _____ - _____

E-mail: mwfp.director@gmail.com

Project Period: June 1, 2019 – May 31, 2020

PROJECT FUNDING

- | | |
|---|-----------------|
| 1. Total cost of project identified above: | <u>\$55,170</u> |
| 2. Total funds available (or to be secured) from other sources: | <u>\$47,670</u> |
| 3. Amount requested from Making Kane County Fit for Kids: | <u>\$ 7,500</u> |

Attach a budget for the project. Include all project expenses and funding sources. Indicate the status of each funding source (i.e. yet to apply, application pending, funding committed, etc.).

FIT FOR KIDS GRANT PROJECT GOALS GRID AND QUESTIONNAIRE

Project Summary: *(Provide a general statement explaining the problem/opportunity the project will address and identify the benefits of implementing the project)* Nearly all East Aurora High School students live in poverty. Most families are worried about the basics like putting food on the table and working multiple jobs, writes Melissa Silverberg of the Daily Herald. By the Marie Wilkinson Food Pantry assisting students with food and recipes we assisted over 900 students to shop for their 4,047 family members, of whom, 1,252 were younger siblings just in the 2018-19 school year.

Target Population of your organization and project According to Feeding America our service area in 2014 reported that Kane County agencies are serving 141,700 people annually and 15,700 weekly. Of the people receiving food, 73% have incomes that fall below the federal poverty level. In the east Aurora school district area, 87% of families are below the poverty level. The Marie Wilkinson Food Pantry believes it is important to help nourish these families.

Project Goal(s)

	Methods or process to reach your goal	How will you know you met your goal? Measures and data collected
<p>This project is intended to support the families in the East Aurora School District by providing food to students. Not only with nutritional food but to help teach and educate students to cook for themselves and their families.</p> <p>Food rescue operations by volunteers support our pantry by stocking shelves with healthy food each week. Thirty Seven grocery rescues a week enable us to provide fresh produce, dairy, deli and meat.</p>	<p>Student have the opportunity to shop for food items from our student distribution.</p>	<p>Our pantry is able to track the number of students who come to our distribution. We are able to determine their family numbers and age groups.</p>
	<p>We educate & distribute recipes to the students with items they are receiving at each distribution day.</p>	<p>Most of the students have reported that they keep these recipes to use again. They have said how grateful they are to not only learn to cook but to include their siblings.</p>
	<p>Our pantry volunteers make up food bags with nonperishable items that are distributed to elementary schools for the staff to give to students and families that are in crisis needs. These bags also include recipes and a list of local food pantries with days and times of food distribution.</p>	<p>We track were and when these bags are distributed to the local schools and when they are replenished with more food bags.</p>

	Volunteers rescue, collect, transport, inspect, sort and distribute to our guests	In 2018, 81% of food shared came from our Food Rescue Program.
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(Each goal will have at least one method and measure. Expand the grid and add more boxes to the table if needed)

In addition to completing the grid above, please provide short answers to the questions below.

Project Questions

1. Provide a detailed description of your project/program, including the target population and geographic area it will serve.

New in 2018 was our Student Food Program. Our east pantry was established 2 years ago, in Nov. 2017 we relocated this pantry into East Aurora High School (EAHS). On Jan.25th we launched our Student Food Program at EAHS with plans to add additional programs including working with the schools culinary class to develop easy, healthy recipes with cooking demonstrations to students as they pick up food.

2. Describe the applicant’s experience in the administration of this or similar projects/programs, including the qualifications of personnel that will be directly involved in the management of this project/program.

The Marie Wilkinson Food Pantry has experience in both of these projects. The pantry has been in operation for over 60 years and entering the third year of the Food For Students program.

3. Is this project/program a collaborative effort with other entities? If so, please elaborate.

We have been working with Northern Illinois Food Bank and the Aurora East School District for this school based food pantry to expand efforts to reach more children and families in need of food assistance. For the coming school year of 2019-2020, the school board would like to see this program expanded to reach more students and families.

Organization Questions

1. Briefly describe your organization and its history. Include website and/or Facebook page if applicable.

The Marie Wilkinson Food Pantry is an extension of the Aurora Feed The Hungry Program created by community leader Marie Wilkinson in the 1950s. Mrs. Wilkinson was a life-long activist for social and civil rights who fought against poverty, hunger, homelessness, joblessness, and injustice. She founded the Aurora Feed The Hungry project in the 1950s, giving out bags of food to those in need from her bungalow on View Street on Aurora’s West Side. She was known to invite complete strangers into her

home, and soon she had started a soup kitchen – and later created the Marie Wilkinson Food Pantry, which serves thousands of Kane County’s less-fortunate families each year.

APPLICATION CHECKLISTS


In order to be considered for funding, applicants should submit a properly completed application form, the applicable questionnaire, and a variety of supporting documents, depending on the type of project or program proposed. A checklist of the required documents for each type of activity is provided below.

- Completed application, including project goals grid and questionnaire
- Project budget (itemize all project expenses and funding sources)
- Project timeline (attach a schedule for completing the project with key target completion dates listed)

APPLICANT CERTIFICATION

- Organization has already formally endorsed the Fit Kids 2020 Plan.
 Organization agrees to formally endorse Fit Kids 2020 Plan by October 1, 2019.

Applicant certifies that they have read and fully understand the guidelines that govern the Making Kane County Fit for Kids 2019 grant program. Applicant further certifies that all information furnished in/with this application is true and complete to the best of Applicant's knowledge and belief. If any information provided herein changes following the submission of this application, Applicant agrees to notify Fit for Kids, immediately. Applicant acknowledges that Fit for Kids may verify any information contained in/with this application, and submission of this application shall constitute Applicant's authorization for Fit for Kids to complete such verification as it deems necessary to determine the accuracy of this application and its suitability for funding. Applicant understands and agrees that if false information is provided in/with this application, which has the effect of increasing Applicant's advantage, Fit for Kids may disqualify this application and deem Applicant ineligible to receive any funds in the future. Applicant understands that Fit for Kids retains the right to reject any and all applications, and, in its sole determination, to waive minor irregularities. Applicant acknowledges by execution of this application that Fit for Kids will make such determinations with the fullest discretion allowable by law. Applicant will at all times indemnify and hold harmless Fit for Kids against all losses, costs, damages, expenses and liabilities of any nature directly or indirectly resulting from, arising out of, or relating to the Fit for Kids' acceptance, consideration, approval, or disapproval of this application and the issuance or non-issuance of funds herewith. Applicant further certifies that they do not discriminate on the basis of race, religion, color, sex, age, handicap or national origin; and that they are duly authorized by board resolution to cause this document to be executed.


Signature

Diane Renner
Name (Printed)

05/24/2019
Date

Director
Title (Printed)

Marie Wilkinson Food Pantry
 Student Food Program at East Aurora High School
 2019-2020

Budget Item	Costs
Program Administration: (Includes 2 part-time responsibilities)	\$ 27,000
Food Purchase – NIFB \$1,000/ 9 mos	\$ 9,000
Summer Food Mobiles – other schools	\$ 5,000
Cooking Demonstrations – culinary class expense	\$ 1,200
Operational Supplies	\$ 1,000
IKEA Shopping Bags	\$ 750
Food Rescue – fuel & vehicle maintenance	\$ 5,500
Food Rescue – vehicle insurance	\$ 1,100
Coolers/Freezer – store recovered food	\$ 4,620
Total Project Costs	\$ 55,170

Name	Amount	Status
City of Aurora Quality of Life grant	\$ 5,000	Yet to apply
Walmart	\$5,000	Granted
Sodexo	\$8,000	Pending 7/15
Hormel	\$10,000	Yet to apply
Radiothon – Matching grant	\$10,000	June 28th
Fill the Bowls Fundraiser	\$6,920	Oct. 27th
Kane Co. Fit for Kids grant	\$7,500	Applied
Northern Illinois Food Bank (NIFB)	\$ 2,000	In-kind
IKEA	\$ 750	In-kind
	<u>\$ 55,170</u>	

Marie Wilkinson Food Pantry Project Timeline:

Late July 2019: Set Up School Distribution schedules for East Aurora High School distribution dates.

August 2019: Place our first school distribution food order with Northern Illinois Food Bank.

Mid Aug. 2019: Volunteers will begin to pack 100 food bags to be distributed to elementary schools.

Prepare, display and announce school distribution days for Sept, Oct, Nov and December

Sept – Dec 2019: Data collected on demographic and impact of project on the East Aurora community.

Replenish Student food bags at elementary schools.

Dec 2019: Prepare, display and announce school distribution days for Jan, Feb, March, April and May

Collect data information from all the elementary schools.

January 2020: Reporting to Kane County Health Department completed.



Relieve Hunger, Nourish Lives

834 North Highland Ave

Aurora, IL 60506

#630.897.5431

mariewilkinsonfoodpantry.org

2018 Achievements

- Every dollar donated to the Marie Wilkinson Food Pantry provides **~75 pounds** of food to each neighbor in need each week. *USDA calculates 1.2 pounds is an average meal (determined by age and appetite of individuals).*
- The Pantry **fed more than 10,500 individuals**, of whom 3,700 were children under the age of 18, 668 over the age of 62 and 878 disabled.
- Pantry volunteers shared over **435 tons** of food with guests, including **138 tons of fresh produce**.
- **81%** of food shared came from the **Food Rescue Program**, which has grown nearly 40 trips to local grocers each week by Marie's Food Rescue Volunteers.
- Marie's **East Side Pantry** was relocated into state of the art space in **East Aurora High School (EAHS)**.
- Launched the new '**Food 4 Students**' program in Aurora's schools. No Child Should Go Hungry!
- More than **900 EAHS students** shopped for food to address hunger for their **4,047 family members**, of whom **1,252 were younger siblings**.
- Dairy and eggs, protein such as chicken, beef and fish, fresh fruits and vegetables, are distributed. Over **2000 lbs of vegetables** were harvested from Marie's Community Garden and other community gardens!
- The food distribution model is 'client choice.' This means **guests may freely choose** from a variety of nutritionally balanced items, just like they would in a grocery store.
- **Partnerships** with other agencies provide guests with healthcare assistance (flu shots, blood pressure monitoring), employment, and other vital community resources.

About Us

- Our ultimate goal is to **eradicate hunger and poverty** in our communities!
- For **over 60 years**, the Marie Wilkinson Food Pantry has provided a nutritious variety of groceries and essential social services to our neighbors in surrounding counties who are challenged with food insecurity.
- One of Aurora's largest and longest-operating food pantries, our mission is to alleviate hunger and poverty in our community by providing food to fill the basic needs of people; increasing the independence of our guests through self-help initiatives and other innovative programs, raising awareness of hunger and poverty and working towards solutions to eliminate them.
- Over **97% of every dollar donated** directly supports food distribution programs **operated by volunteers**.
- We strive to be a model of compassionate, effective, and collaborative services by continually working to strengthen our ability to carry out our mission.

Visit www.mariewilkinsonfoodpantry.org to learn more!

THANK YOU
COMMUNITY
PARTNERS!



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**FEEDING
AMERICA**

