

1 - 2023

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3 **RESOLUTION: Approving \$_____ from the Spirit Fund's Government**
4 **Identified Community Projects Category to Renovate and Expand St. Vincent de**
5 **Paul Neenah Menasha**

6
7 **TO THE WINNEBAGO COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS:**

8 **WHEREAS**, Feeding America Eastern WI (hereinafter "Feeding America") shows food insecurity rates
9 around 7.5% in Winnebago County, with 57.8% of the Menasha School District and 34.7% of the Neenah School
10 District students on free and reduced lunch; and

11 **WHEREAS**, Feeding America has also identified a need for a food pantry in the Neenah area; and

12 **WHEREAS**, St. Vincent de Paul has been unable to make the impact the community needs given the food
13 pantry being relegated to a small corner of the store; and

14 **WHEREAS**, currently, St. Vincent de Paul has one, standard size house freezer, which makes it impossible
15 to store meat, dairy, and other frozen products in any significant quantity; and

16 **WHEREAS**, St. Vincent de Paul has purchased a larger, adjoining space to make the food pantry larger and
17 have a private entrance, but there is still a need to purchase walk-in coolers and freezers and increase storage
18 capacity. These purchases will allow St. Vincent's to expand their services to more families and address food
19 insecurity in the community, build up families' resiliency, and increase the availability of volunteer hours for
20 community members to give back to their community.

21 **NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** by the Winnebago County Board of Supervisors that \$_____
22 from the Spirit Fund's Government Identified Community Project category be approved to renovate and expand St.
23 Vincent de Paul Neenah Menasha.

24 **NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** by the Winnebago County Board of Supervisors that upon
25 completion, St. Vincent de Paul Neenah Menasha will submit supporting documentation to the Winnebago County
26 Finance Director outlining the expenditures. The documentation will be submitted within 6 months of the completion
27 of the project but not to exceed 5 years from date of disbursement.

28 *Fiscal Note: This resolution will not amend the County Budget. \$_____ will be authorized for use*
29 *from the Spirit Fund.*

Respectfully submitted by:

30 **ARPA STRATEGY AND OUTCOMES COMMISSION**

31 Commission Vote:

32
33 Vote Required for Passage: **Majority of Members Present**

34
35 Approved by the Winnebago County Executive this ____ day of _____, 2023.

36
37
38 _____
39 Jonathan D. Doemel
40 Winnebago County Executive

Agenda Item Report



Winnebago County
The Wave of the Future

DATE: 10/23/2023
FROM: Winnebago County Executive's Office
RE: St Vincent de Paul Neenah/Menasha Building Renovation/Expansion Request for \$1,076,000

General Description:

St Vincent de Paul of Neenah/Menasha has purchased the 27,000 sq ft space adjoining the current facility to make the pantry larger and more convenient for customers

Action Requested:

Direction to draft a resolution releasing a single grant issued to St Vincent de Paul of Neenah/Menasha for use in funding the renovation/expansion of the food pantry, walk-in freezers, and storage space.

Procedural Steps:

Committee of Jurisdiction: ARPA Strategy & Outcomes Commission Meeting date: 11/07/2023

Background:

Feeding America Eastern WI shows food insecurity rates around 7.5% in Winnebago with Menasha school district and Neenah school district students on free and reduced lunch at 57.8% and 34.7% respectively. Feeding America has also identified a need for a food pantry in the Neenah area, which is in direct correlation with the "Health and Human Services" initiative and the "Quality of Life" and "Emergency Response" Projects of the SPIRIT Funds. Currently residing in a small corner of the store, the organization has not been able to meet the full and increasing community needs they see. The layout only allows seven people in the pantry at a time. As people come to the pantry, they're forced to wait in the retail part of the store, which causes feelings of "otherness" and wears down a person's sense of dignity, something they want to build up, not tear down.

The organization has also run into storage issues. Current building and shelf capacity limits what kinds of food and how much of product can be accepted and distributed. The organization doesn't have the ability to take in and store fresh fruit and vegetables. Currently, they have one, standard size house freezer, which is incapable of taking in and storing meat, dairy, and other frozen products. The organization wants to encourage healthy choices, something all people should have the right to, not just those who can afford it.

Recently, the organization was able to purchase a larger, adjoining space (27,000 sq ft) to St Vincent de Paul Neenah Menasha to make the pantry larger and have a private entrance, but still needs to get the space up and running. With SPIRIT funds, they plan to 1) purchase walk-in freezer and increase storage capacity to allow them to accept all food and hygiene products; 2) expand the ability to take in more families at once to address food insecurity in the community; 3) build up families' resiliency and; 4) increase the availability of volunteer hours for community members to give back to their community.

Policy Discussion:

The commission has identified food insecurity and hunger as direct results of the Covid 19 pandemic and ensuing economic impact throughout the county. By granting funds between the discussed amounts of

\$250,000 to \$500,000, St Vincent de Paul will be able to devote greater resources and time toward acquiring food and serving the community. The total project cost is \$1,076,000.
\$269,000 = 25% \$538,000 = 50% \$807,000 = 75%

Attachments:

Spirit Fund Application Response

Name of Organization leading the project/looking for funding: St. Vincent de Paul Neenah/Menasha

Assigned Application Number: 33

Organization: St. Vincent de Paul Neenah/Menasha

CEO/Executive Director/Organization Leader: Jeremy Pingel

Name of person completing survey: Heather Clohessy

Email: grants@svdpneenah.com

Phone: 920-727-1766

Type of organization requesting funding: Non-profit organization

Organization's mission statement (if applicable): The Mission of St. Vincent de Paul is dedicated to feeding, clothing, housing, and healing individuals and families in our community who have nowhere else to turn for help. As important, SVdP provides meaningful opportunities for volunteers to serve their neighbors in need with love and compassion.

Food Pantry Mission: to eliminate food and hygiene insecurity in Northern Winnebago County while serving all with dignity and respect.

Does the organization conduct a third-party financial audit? Yes

Describe the general scope of the project for which funding would be requested: Over the course of the past two years, we have outgrown our 2000 sq.ft space and will be moving into a larger, adjoining space (20,000 sq.ft) with more storage areas and room for a walk-in cooler and freezer. Purchase of the building has occurred and renovations are scheduled to be completed by September. We anticipate moving into the new space in September 2023 and opening our doors to our community in October 2023.

Our new space will help us make an impact in all four areas cited in section 5:

1) Once the coolers, freezers, and storage organizers are installed in August 2023, we will have the space to properly store the food and hygiene products we need to meet the needs of our community. We will be able to accept all food and hygiene products and not decline any as we are forced to do now because of lack of space.

Name of Organization leading the project/looking for funding: St. Vincent de Paul Neenah/Menasha

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2) The expanded space will eliminate waiting times to shop and increase how much each family can take from the pantry as well as increase the number of families we are able to serve each day. Families will be able to come when they are able and immediately be able to access the pantry.

3) We will have a separate entrance for participants, allowing for shopping privacy and more one-on-one, private conversations with staff to help connect families with additional resources to build their resiliency. Needing help from a food pantry can be a demoralizing, embarrassing situation for people. We want to have more conversations with our families and work with them to build their sense of self, their confidence, and their resiliency.

4) A larger food pantry will further expand the availability of volunteer hours for community members. We live in a wonderful place where neighbors look after each other, care about the health and well-being of others, and want to give back to their community.

Who will lead the project (Internal, City, Winnebago County, State of WI...)? St. Vincent de Paul Neenah/Menasha

Where is the primary location of the project? Neenah, WI

How many total individuals would this project serve each year? 4283

What areas (cities/regions/school districts) of Winnebago County will the project serve? 54956, 54957, 54952, Neenah and Menasha school districts, Neenah, Menasha, Northern Winnebago County (approximately 75,000 residents)

Please describe the lasting impact of this project on the community: Feeding America Eastern WI shows food insecurity rates around 7.5% in Winnebago with Menasha school district and Neenah school district students on free and reduced lunch at 57.8% and 34.7% respectively. Feeding America has also identified a need for a food pantry in the Neenah area, which is in direct correlation with the "Health and Human Services" initiative and the "Quality of Life" and "Emergency Response" Projects of the SPIRIT Funds. With our current situation in a small corner of the store, we have not been able to make the impact our community needs and we want to meet. The layout only allows seven people in the pantry at a time. As people come to the pantry, they're forced to wait in the retail part of the store, which causes feelings of "otherness" and wears down a persons' sense of dignity, something we want to

Name of Organization leading the project/looking for funding: St. Vincent de Paul Neenah/Menasha

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build up, not tear down. We also have run into storage issues. Our size limits what kinds of food and how much of a product we can take. We don't have the ability to take in and store fresh fruit and vegetables. Currently, we have one, standard size house freezer, which makes us incapable of taking in and storing meat, dairy, and other frozen products. We want to encourage healthy choices, something all people should have the right to, not just those who can afford it.

Recently, we have been able to purchase a larger, adjoining space (20,000 sq ft) to St Vincent De Pauls to make the pantry larger and have a private entrance, but we still need to get the space up and running. With SPIRIT funds, we plan to 1) purchase walk-in coolers and freezers and increase storage capacity to allow us to accept all food and hygiene products; 2) expand our ability to take in more families at once to address food insecurity in the community; 3) build up our families' resiliency and; 4) increase the availability of volunteer hours for community members to give back to their community.

In what stage is the project? In the process of implementing

What is the estimated completion date? 45180

Estimated cost of the entire project: 970196

Requested amount (range) from Winnebago County Spirit Fund: 970196

Other than Spirit funds, how will the project be funded: Grants, thrift store, individual donations, church collections, private business donations, food drives, Feeding America

Is completion of the project dependent on receiving the full amount requested? If we do not receive the full amount of the grant requested, our ability to reduce food insecurity in northern Winnebago county will be restricted as more of our funds will need to be used to service the debt incurred for the food pantry expansion.

Has the organization received any type of government (local, state, or federal) funding in the past 2 years? if so, please list We have received grants but not funding on a regular basis.

What portion of the project will be or is anticipated to be funded by local, state or federal government funding? 0

List any ARPA funding received from other cities, counties or municipalities: None

Name of Organization leading the project/looking for funding: St. Vincent de Paul Neenah/Menasha

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Who will be responsible for any ongoing maintenance of the project? St. Vincent de Paul
Neenah/Menasha

Will this increase the organizations operating expenses, if so, please explain how that will be maintained? Yes, any additional costs will be covered by the thrift store revenue.

Name of Organization leading the project/looking for funding: St. Vincent de Paul Neenah/Menasha

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R/Y/G and original Application number: 33

Request from: St. Vincent de Paul Neenah/Menasha

Type of project: Renovation of new building (?)

General Scope of Project: Purchase of the building has occurred and renovations are scheduled to be completed by September. We anticipate moving into the new space in September 2023 and opening our doors to our community in October 2023.

Project Lead: N/A

Primary location: N/A

of individuals served by project: N/A

Areas served: 54956, 54957, 54952, Neenah and Menasha school districts, Neenah, Menasha, Northern Winnebago County (approximately 75,000 residents)

Lasting impact: N/A

Completion Date: N/A

Project Stage: In process of implementing

Project Cost: 970,196

Requested Amount: 970,196

Other Funding: Grants, thrift store, individual donations, church collections, private business donations, food drives, Feeding America

Is full Amt Required: N/A

Other Govt. Funding: N/A

Portion funded by local, state or federal government funding: N/A

Other ARPA Funds: N/A

Ongoing Maint: St. Vincent de Paul Neenah/Menasha

Increase to Operational budget: N/A

Legacy: somewhat

One-time funding: unclear

Geographic service area: Neenah-Menasha Area

Other funding: Grants, thrift store, individual donations, church collections, private business donations, food drives, Feeding America

Name of Organization leading the project/looking for funding: St. Vincent de Paul Neenah/Menasha

Assigned Application Number: 33

Notes: requesting full funding from Spirit.
Unsure what funds would be used for, purchase of the building and renovations?

GOVT: Debt Avoidance: N/A

Sustainability focused: N/A

ER Response: N/A

Water Quality: N/A

Quality of Life: N/A

Funding to assist private investor: N/A