

**CDBG Application Number:**

**CATEGORY:**

*For office use only*

**CITY OF WAUKESHA**

**PROGRAM YEAR 2022 (January 1, 2022 – December 31, 2022)**

**COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT BLOCK GRANT (CDBG) PROGRAM APPLICATION FORM FOR CITY OF WAUKESHA  
ALLOCATION**

**DEADLINE FOR SUBMISSION: March 26, 2021, 4:30 pm City Hall Room – Community Development or email to  
rgrams@waukesha-wi.gov**

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**GENERAL INFORMATION**

1. Project Title: The City of Waukesha Park, Recreation and Forestry Department Saratoga Playground Program
2. Project Address (if different from Applicant’s address): \_\_\_\_\_
3. Primary Contact Person/Title: Gala Evers
4. Telephone: 262-524-3715
5. E-Mail gevers@waukesha-wi.gov
6. Amount of CDBG 2022 Funds Requested: \$10,000
7. Total Project Costs: \$ 18,840
8. National Objective (check all that apply):
  - Benefiting low – and moderate – income persons
  - Preventing or eliminating slums or blight
  - Meeting other community development needs having a particular urgency because existing conditions pose a serious and immediate threat to the health or welfare of the community and other financial resources are not available to meet such needs.
9. Check One:
  - New Project
  - Continuing previously funded project
10. Provide a brief description of your experience in managing a similar project.

The City of Waukesha Parks, Recreation and Forestry Department (WPRF) mission is to be responsive and committed in providing essential park, recreation, and urban forestry services, making our community a desirable place to live, work and play. WPRF has years of experience as it relates to Community Development Block Grants with a wide variety of programs supported in part by these funds. Specifically, the Saratoga Park Summer Playground Program has been a part of WPRF programming since 2006. In addition to this summer program site, WPRF has 3 other playground program sites throughout the city which have been a longstanding tradition of summer programming for Waukesha Youth. The City of Waukesha Park, Recreation and Forestry Department also operates before and after school programs at nine elementary schools within the School District of Waukesha.

- 11.** Describe the role specific staff will have in this project. Who will be responsible for managing the project, reporting to Community Development, preparing invoices, etc.?

The Staff involved in this project include a team comprised of: Recreation Services Manager, Mary Berg, Recreation Programmer, Gala Evers, Summer Playground Coordinators, Abby Snopek and Dakota Berg (both certified teachers) and a team of three Playground Leaders that complete forty hours of training in the areas of youth development, fun, age appropriate and engaging curriculum, behavior management, games/activities and CPR/First AID. The direct supervisor of this program, Gala Evers has over 20 years' experience as a camp director, teacher, and program operations director. Gala will directly supervise the implementation and management of the project. This includes providing training and supervising staff, gathering, and collecting data for outcomes and ensuring that all aspects of the program come to fruition. Summer coordinators, Abby Snopek and Dakota will provide direct supervision of the program staff. Recreation Services Manager, Mary Berg, will provide ongoing support to Gala and will be involved in the administrative section of the project.

- 12.** Provide a concise description of the proposed project.

The City of Waukesha Parks, Recreation and Forestry Department (WPRF) offers a comprehensive recreation summer playground program at Saratoga Park (formally offered at Heartel Field), located at W. College Avenue and Walton Avenue. It is an eight-week, high quality program that is free of charge to children living within the Saratoga/Heartel Field neighborhood. The playground program is offered to youth ages 6-17 years. Youth ages 13-17 participate in a Leaders in Training (L.I.T) program. Over the past twelve years the program has grown from serving approximately 10 children the first year, to serving over 62 in 2019 with all age groups.

Four to five leaders (one bilingual) will work together to provide participants with activities, field trips and special events that are age appropriate, challenging, and safe. The activities and events are tools used to engage youth, teaching lifelong skills such as organization, perseverance, self-confidence, social skills, conflict resolution and communication. The Saratoga Park Program participants enjoy lunch each day with their leaders, thanks to the St. Vincent de Paul lunch program. Additionally, participants learn about nutrition education and healthy choices through fun and engaging activities provided by UW-Extension and listen to bilingual Storytime, provided by the Waukesha Public Library. Participants will walk to the Library weekly to participate in engaging and active literacy activities.

One of the key components to the program includes community safety, addressed through positive visits and outings by the Waukesha Community Policing Unit. The target population for the Saratoga Park Playground Program is children living in the immediate neighborhood. This is a diverse, low-moderate income area. In 2019, 62 youth participated in the program, (8 Caucasian, 30 Hispanic, 12 Black, 4 Multi Racial and 8 unknown) The following activities are utilized to achieve program outcomes:

- 1) Staff training- Leaders are trained in CPR/First Aid, art, sports, song/skits, team building and behavior management.
- 2) Community Involvement- Partners provide a variety of services to youth, including literacy, healthy living programs, safety, and positive community services.
- 3) Quality Curriculum-
  - a. Traditional and non-traditional activities are offered, with changing weekly themes. The curriculum used is intentional where education and social emotional development is woven through all activities and recreation. 3

Activities include: Team Building, Stomp Bucket Percussion, Orienteering/GPS, World Games, Cooking, Gardening, and a plethora of other activities to peak participant's interest.

b. The Teen Leaders in Training (L.I.T) Program for participants 13-17 years is supported by the "The 7 Habits of Highly Effective Teens", by the Sean Covey curriculum, is a step-by-step guide to help teens improve self-image, build friendships, resist peer pressure and develop their leadership skills. Furthermore, teens attend a day-long workshop (Leading Forward) conducted by certified instructors on the "7 Habits of Highly Effective Teens", and then all participants go through an interview for a leadership position at the park. This process begins participants on their way to develop necessary skills needed to prepare for college and future employment. L.I.T's are assigned tasks throughout the summer to further develop their leadership and future job skills.

In 2021 and in 2022, we anticipate an increase of youth enrolling at our Saratoga Program as it is a Summer School Site. Knowing more families will register within the mile radius area as transportation will not be a barrier to attending Summer School. This increase in enrollment is the reason for our requested funds again for 2022.

Summer school operates in the morning from 8:00 am -12:00 pm and our program operates from 11:30-5:00 pm. This pair will allow students in the surrounding neighborhoods and opportunity for full day academics, social emotional development, and enrichment.

In the Summer 2020, during the Covid-19 pandemic, our Saratoga program supplied 36 youth with Activity Kits and additionally served 31 youth through weekly check-ins. This critical change in delivery helped youth in the Saratoga neighborhood stay connected to mentors, prevented summer learning loss, and helped participants to develop new skills.

In 2022, we plan to continue our face-to-face summer program at Saratoga, however, we now have the structure to support remote programming as well. We know in 2022 our reach will be even more significant as the need for closing the achievement gap has grown significantly through the Covid-19 pandemic.

If the proposed project is a rehabilitation / ADA / historic rehabilitation of a facility or business, please answer the following:

13. Address of Facility: \_\_\_\_\_

14. Year it was built \_\_\_\_\_

15. Is the property on a local or national list and/or registered as a historic property?

Yes

No

Don't Know

16. Select how your project will serve Low and Moderate Income People (Choose one if applicable):

Benefit to LMI **individuals** (at least 51% of total beneficiaries of program must be LMI and income information must be gathered from all participants)

**Presumed Benefit** (all individuals served in the program qualify as low income because of the type of population served, i.e.: Elderly, Severely Disabled Adults , Abused Children, Battered Spouses, Homeless Persons, Illiterate Adults , Persons with AIDS, Migrant Farm Workers. Income information does not have to be collected.)

Benefit to an **area** that is primarily residential and is located in an eligible census tract (at least 30.34% of residents are LMI). See instructions for a list of eligible census tracts.) Provide list of census tracts:

Click here to enter text.

Housing units created to benefit LMI individuals or households (every CDBG funded unit must be occupied by and LMI individual or household)

Jobs created to benefit LMI individuals (1 job must be created for every \$35,000 of CDBG funds invested in project; 51% of all jobs created must be for LMI individuals)

Project serves residents of a **NRSA** and agency is a certified CBDO. Provide name of NRSA:  
Click here to enter text.

Project addresses conditions of **Slum and Blight** on an Area or Spot Basis. Must provide designation of Slum and Blighted area from jurisdiction when contract is signed and addresses of affected properties.

ADA Rehabilitation of a public facility or public improvement

Historic Preservation of residential or commercial properties. Must be designated on a spot slum and blight basis or homeowner or business must qualify as low income.

**17. Describe the need filled for your program or project.**

The Saratoga Park neighborhood is one of the two Waukesha neighborhoods with the largest Police response volumes annually. The Saratoga Park surrounding neighborhood also feeds into the Hadfield Elementary, 60% economically disadvantage population and Whittier Elementary, 78% economically disadvantage reported from the Department of Public Instruction for the 2018-2019 school year. This demonstrates the Saratoga neighborhood has a great need for additional community resources and public services. The Saratoga Park neighborhood not only benefits from the added police visibility in the summer months, but also much needed programs for youth that will provide positive development, healthy choices and opportunities for personal growth and continued learning. It is reported by Harvard Graduate Studies that students will lose 2.6 months of learned math concepts over the summer break months. Summer learning loss is a significant problem, playing a surprisingly large role in creating the achievement gap. Students experiencing economic disadvantages can lose significant learning over the summer months. To help ease the achievement gap this program seeks opportunities to find ways to partner with families that are experiencing economic disadvantages to ensure their children keep reading and learning throughout the summer. Additionally, by bringing this program to the neighborhood, we can offer a wide variety of community supported resources including daily lunches for families through out partnership with St. Vincent de Paul, offering library and Storytime in the park to provide children and families with all the resources available without any transportation barriers, and providing youth with important nutritional, healthy living and engaging enrichment activities.

**18. Describe two anticipated measurable outcomes for your proposed project and activities.**

In 2022, participants will demonstrate improvement and growth in the following areas:

Self-confidence = 90% of participants will demonstrate improved Perseverance

Social Skills= 90% of participants will demonstrate improved Organization

\*Measured through staff daily logs and participant surveys.

In 2022, participants will demonstrate improvement and growth in the following area:

90% of participants will have increased positive relationships with police through police involvement with the Saratoga Park Playground Program.

\*Measured through staff daily logs and participant surveys (Cops and Kids Foundation)

In 2022, 90% of participants will attend Library Enrichment, through weekly visits from the Waukesha Public Library.

\*Measured through daily attendance logs. (Library Reading in the Park Program)

**19. Select the appropriate activity category below for your project.**

<b>Public Services</b>	
	Homeless shelter and services
	Meals / Nutrition
	Youth / Childcare / Abused and neglected children
	Seniors and Disabled
	Substance Abuse / Mental Health / Healthcare
	Transportation
	Domestic abuse
X	Education
	Employment training
	HIV / AIDS
	Other (list)

<b>NRSA</b>	
	Employment Training/Job readiness education
	Job creation
	Neighborhood revitalization housing efforts (rehab or new construction)
	Job retention programs
	Transportation to jobs
	Crime prevention
	Public Services
	Neighborhood revitalization non-housing efforts (beautification, parks, streets, etc.)
	Other (list)

<b>Housing</b>	
	Homeowner rehabilitation program loans
	Rental rehabilitation (special needs/transitional or permanent housing for very low income / supportive services and case management attached to units)
	Rental rehabilitation (multi-family projects, general low income population)
	Downpayment assistance
	Housing counseling
	Acquisition / site preparation of land for housing purposes (not construction)
	Residential historic preservation
	Other (list)

<b>Public Facilities and Improvements (Rehab/construction costs--not operating costs) *the rehab may be for ADA compliance OR to benefit low-moderate income people for each activity</b>	
	Homeless facilities
	Youth / Abused children facilities
	Senior / Disabled facilities
	Facilities for AIDS patients
	Neighborhood / Community centers
X	Parks / Playgrounds / Recreational facilities
	Streets / Sidewalk improvements
	Water / Sewer improvements
	Flood drainage improvements
	Parking lots
	Other (list)

<b>Economic Development</b>	
	Loans to small/medium businesses for low-moderate income job creation or retention
	Commercial / Industrial infrastructure development or improvements
	Façade improvement loans to businesses
	Non-residential historic preservation
	Other (list)

<b>Administration and Planning</b>	
	Housing rehab program administration
	Revolving Loan Fund administration
	Fair housing activities
	Planning for communities or NRSAs
	Other (list)

## **Appendix A: Results of Prior Year Projects**

**20.** Was your department able to spend the CDBG allocation awarded within the calendar year? (Provide explanation for any extensions into the next year for 2020)

Yes

**21.** Has your department had any CDBG funds reprogrammed (taken back) by the CDBG Board? (Explain for 2020)

No