

Elmer G Biddick

CHARITABLE FOUNDATION

11623 State Road 80 Livingston, WI 53554

Phone (608) 943-6363

www.biddickfoundation.com

Jason B Biddick - President
Rachel L. Jordan - Vice-President
Bradley D Biddick - Secretary-Treasurer

Peggy J Biddick
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GRANT APPLICATION

***Must be received in our office on or before the due dates below**

Due Dates April 15th and October 15th

Date: 9/7/2024

Name of Organization (must match IRS 501(c)(3) designation) Seniors United for Nutrition (SUN Program)

Address 303 W Chapel St Suite 1400

City, State, Zip Dodgeville, WI 53533

Phone (608)930-9845

Person Responsible for the Grant Christopher Baird

Position in the Organization Executive Director

Organization's Purpose The SUN program supports seniors in Iowa and Lafayette County of Wisconsin through home delivered and congregate lunches up to five days a week every week of the year.

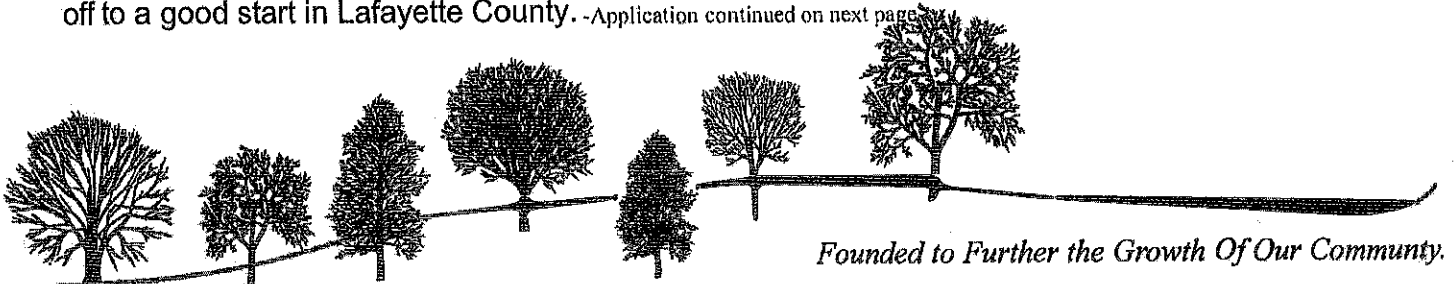
Additionally, these meals promote social and mental stimulation and reduce isolation through enrichment programming and wellness checks.

This application must include your organization's latest IRS Letter of Determination showing exemption and public support status. (Not required for units of Government & public schools).

Grant Request \$ 2500

Describe the reason for this grant request in the space below:

Iowa and Lafayette Counties are rural communities with aging populations. As such, there is increased demand for senior nutrition services and in particular, home delivered meals. Programs like SUN rely on a mix of government funding, contributions from seniors receiving meals, grants and donations. These funds would provide 250 extra home delivered meals for seniors in January and February of 2025 in Lafayette County. There are less grants available in Lafayette County and this will help to get SUN off to a good start in Lafayette County. -Application continued on next page



Founded to Further the Growth Of Our Community.

Attachments to this grant that we find useful in considering your grant request.

- A. Supporting information.
 - 1. Specific use of grant.
 - 2. Time schedule.
 - 3. Other sources of funding.
 - 4. Describe the effect of postponing your request to another time.
 - 5. Describe who, when, how and where will the effects of this grant be felt.

- B. Your organization's history, activities, services, and composition. (Videos are of limited use.)

Applications are considered in June and December of each year. The corresponding deadlines are April 15th and October 15th. Concise grants that address the needed information are appreciated.

PLEASE SEND THIS APPLICATION TO ELMER G BIDDICK CHARITABLE FOUNDATION:

Biddick, Inc.
11623 State Road 80
Livingston, WI 53554
Phone (608) 943-6363

Biddick Grant Attachments and Additional Information

A. Supporting information.

1. Specific use of grant.

Seniors United for Nutrition serves two counties as separate “clients” with separate budgets. Lafayette County has committed to providing county levy funds sufficient to serve all seniors who qualify for and request meals through 2024, but SUN is still diligently seeking outside funding because there are other important services that Lafayette County’s Department of Human Services and ADRC must continue to fund. An award of \$2500 would provide an estimated 250 additional home delivered meals based on an approximate full cost per meal of \$15 (including food supplies, staff salaries, fuel, rent, and everything else), and an average voluntary senior contribution per meal received of \$5. This leaves roughly \$10 per meal that must be covered by Seniors United for Nutrition.

2. Time schedule.

These funds will be applied for January and February of 2025. With 42 service days for home delivered meals, the 250 additional meals would mean that 6 extra seniors can receive meals daily in Lafayette County for those two months beyond what federal and county funding supports. Nearly 1 in 3 senior nutrition programs nationally have implemented waitlists already due to limited funding, so finding new sources of contributions is vital to our programming.

3. Other sources of funding.

Seniors United for Nutrition is supported through Title III federal funds distributed through the Older Americans Act, county levies from both Iowa and Lafayette Counties, donated rents from local municipalities and VFW organizations, an annual campaign for local private and business donations, and grant writing. Long-term primary foundation partners include the Robert Campbell Foundation, the Jenny Olson Fund, the Community Funds of Southern Wisconsin, Meals on Wheels of America, and Emergency Food and Shelter Program grants originating at the federal level. First time contributors in 2024 included Kwik Trip, Badger Hollow Wind Farm, and the Otto Bremer Trust. The Seniors United for Nutrition annual campaign brought in over \$30,000 through 86 donors in 2024 (including \$500 from this foundation- thank you!). The agency set goals of \$40,000 and 100 donors for 2024’s campaign starting in late September. More local fundraisers are also being explored including a silent auction in October of 2024, with other options under considering including golf and bowling tournaments and a 5K type outdoor walk, bike, or run for seniors.

4. Describe the effect of postponing your request to another time.

Senior Nutrition programs receive steady, stable, but insufficient funding, with the result that funding and especially cash flow gets tight as the calendar year progresses when local fundraising and grant writing efforts are not successful. Programs are not allowed to “plan ahead” or carry funding forward across calendar years. Seniors United for Nutrition is applying for grants in both Iowa and Lafayette Counties with funds designated for January and February to help county levy and Title III funding last farther into 2024.

5. Describe who, when, how and where will the effects of this grant be felt.

Every day Seniors United for Nutrition provides meals to seniors over age 60 in congregate settings and delivered to the homes of those who are homebound. Home delivered meals include a wellness check and friendly visit at lunch delivery. This, coupled with the nutrition from the provided meal helps seniors to "age in place" in their own homes where they want to be. At the suggested donation of \$6.50 per home delivered meal, a year of meals for a senior is \$1650 or less, while a single week in a senior living facility or two nights in a hospital total more than this. SUN home delivered meals go to those seniors who are primarily living alone on rural farmland, with family moved too far away to support the seniors daily, and who are not able to obtain their own food through some mix of food access, affordability, and mobility or driving issues. While 250 meals or 6 additional seniors receiving daily meals might seem like a small statistical impact, it is life changing for those seniors who can stay at home and be nourished rather than try to find space in a senior facility or go without meals.

B. Your organization's history, activities, services, and composition. (Videos are of limited use.)

Seniors United for Nutrition was founded in 1977, became an established 501(c)3 nonprofit organization separate from the Iowa County government in 1981, and has served senior meals through the Older Americans Act continuously since then for 47 years. Recently, the long-term Executive Director of 16 years retired in September of 2023, with two different leaders stepping in with new energy and ideas since then, first Andrew Hodgson who continues to support the agency as a part-time grant writing and fundraising consultant, and now Christopher Baird, a Registered Dietitian with experience operating a WIC program. Continuity of service and experience can be found in the Site Manager positions, with four staff who have six or more years with the SUN Program, and among volunteer drivers, some of whom have been chipping in with SUN for over twenty years.

Seniors United for Nutrition is a primarily volunteer-driven organization with 10 staff members averaging 15-30 hours per week, and two staff classified as "full-time" and averaging 30-32 hours per week. SUN is supported by over 80 current volunteers. Roughly 2/3 of all hours are volunteered. The average SUN meal travels 1.7 miles per meal as these counties are large geographically with low population density. Congregate meals and home delivered routes leave from meal sites in Dodgeville, Linden and Arena of Iowa County, and Darlington, Benton, Belmont, and Shullsburg of Lafayette County. Home delivered meals are distributed to all parts of the counties that can be reasonably reached, including along many rural county roads (as winter weather allows). The SUN Board of Directors is composed of six volunteer members, with three appointed for each county through the elected County Boards as part of the committee assignments.