

APPLICATION FOR
COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT BLOCK GRANT (CDBG) ENTITLEMENT PROGRAM
— 2017 Program Year Funding—

ACTIVITY NAME: Scholarship Program

APPLICANT: Adult & Senior Center of Saratoga

MAILING ADDRESS: 5 Williams Street

PHONE: 518-584-1621

CONTACT PERSON: Lois Celeste

TITLE: Executive Director

APPLICANT (select 1): City Department Private non-profit organization Other Public Agency

Federal ID#: 14-1458762

NATIONAL OBJECTIVE (select 1):

“Benefit persons of Low/moderate income”

L/M Income Area Benefit

REQUESTED ENTITLEMENT FUNDING: \$1,000

Funding Leveraged from Other Sources: \$250

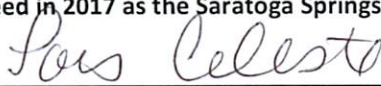
Total Activity Cost: \$1,250

Proposal Abstract -

We are requesting funding to support our scholarship program, which allows financially challenged Saratoga Springs seniors to join the Senior Center and take classes at little or no cost.

The Senior Center currently offers about 80 art, exercise, nutrition, and wellness classes per month. We are committed to keeping our classes affordable, and are able to do so through subsidization. Most classes cost \$10-\$20 per month and the annual membership fee is only \$25. However, many seniors are unable to afford these fees, even at the discounted rates. By offering scholarships for memberships and classes, we ensure that all Saratoga Springs seniors have the opportunity to enjoy the life-changing benefits of socialization and engagement in the later stages of life. For the first time in six years, we do not have sufficient grant funding to cover scholarships for both women and men, and we are now using general operating revenue to finance many of these scholarships.

We anticipate offering multiple classes, programs, and memberships to 25-50 low-income seniors in 2017 through our scholarship program. In 2016, we spent \$1,585 on scholarships, and we anticipate an even greater need in 2017 as the Saratoga Springs senior population continues to grow.



Authorized Signature

Lois Celeste

Printed Name

Executive Director

Title

1/30/17

Date

1. ACTIVITY DESCRIPTION

Provide a detailed description of your proposed activity. In this description, provide responses to the following items:

A) Identify whether the activity is new, ongoing, or expanded from previous years. **Ongoing project.**

B) Describe the community need that your activity is intended to address and how your activity will address that need. Provide evidence that this need is currently not being addressed through existing programs or activities.

National data show that much of the senior population lives on limited, fixed budgets with very little disposable income. Data from a recent survey conducted by Skidmore College and the Mayor's Senior Advisory Committee demonstrate that this is indeed the case in Saratoga Springs, with nearly 20 percent of respondents reporting an income of \$25,000 or less and over 25 percent with an income of \$50,000 or less. We understand the challenges facing our seniors, and through our scholarship program, we help to eliminate some of the financial barriers to health, wellness, and socialization that many seniors face. The Adult & Senior Center of Saratoga is the only agency in the city providing comprehensive programs and services for senior citizens, and scholarships enable seniors of all income levels to take part.

C) Identify who will benefit from the proposed activity. If the activity is designed to benefit:

C-1) individual persons of low- to moderate-income, describe the process you will use to identify these persons and determine their income eligibility and the number of persons you expect to serve.

The work will benefit low-income senior citizens of Saratoga Springs. We require those requesting scholarships to complete an application, which asks about income and whether they can afford a portion of the class/membership fee. Each application is reviewed by our senior support services staff and the Executive Director.

D) Identify your performance goals and the types of indicators you will use to document activity accomplishments and success. (Examples should include: # of persons with new/improved access to services, # of affordable houses rehabilitated, etc.)

We will track the number of classes attended and memberships granted through the scholarship program. We will track the number of seniors receiving those scholarships. Both duplicated and unduplicated counts will be tracked.

E) Provide an activity timeframe/schedule (include start, completion dates, and other significant performance stages). **Upon receipt of funding, we will provide scholarships to seniors in need.**

F) Identify whether the activity requires additional local, state or federal approval (license, permit, design/historic/environmental review, etc.). For construction/site development projects, provide evidence of site control.

No additional approval is needed.

2. ORGANIZATIONAL CAPACITY

A) Provide an overview of your organization including length of time in existence. List current officers and board members and identify any prior funding by the City of Saratoga Springs (year, activity, and amount).

Established in 1955, the Adult and Senior Center of Saratoga is a not-for-profit, non-residential community center for adults and seniors age 50 and older in Saratoga County. The Center currently has 1,300 members and offers a wide array of affordable activities including dinners and lunches; van and bus trips; social, educational, recreational, artistic, and culturally stimulating programs.

Seniors are one of the fastest growing populations and comprise approximately one third of our community. For reasons such as the loss of a life-long partner, retirement, relocation to senior housing and/or to be close to family, often times they find themselves starting over. Studies have shown that senior centers provide social interactions and activities that keep seniors active, lower depression, and help seniors age in place longer. The Adult and Senior Center of Saratoga is that community within our Saratoga community.

Mission Statement: Since 1955 the mission of the Adult and Senior Center of Saratoga is to empower seniors to achieve and maintain personal independence and individual well-being by providing the program structure and support services necessary for healthy recreation, companionship, social involvement, and problem solving.

Board of Directors:

Michael D. Billok, Esq., President

Raymond Bryan, Vice President

George Koshuta, Treasurer

Tracy Solarek, Secretary

Annamaria Bellantoni

Clark Brink

Ellen Brodie

Joe Hermann

Kate Jarosh

Mary Lentini

Brendan O'Hara

Augusta Martin

Matt Pappis

Elaine Sillery

Angie Sultan

Allesandra Skinner

Tommy Uccellini

B) Describe your organization's experience in successfully conducting this type of activity. Identify any skills, current services, or special accomplishments that demonstrate your capacity for success.

Over the last six years, under Executive Director Lois Celeste, the Center has grown from 300 to 1,300 members. Building usage has soared to 175 people per day. The budget has grown from \$130,000 to \$700,000. We have added countless classes and programs and have launched a number of successful new initiatives, including a volunteer match program for seniors in need. 158 seniors have been assisted through this program since its inception in 2015.

C) Identify the person(s) responsible for program and financial management of the activity. Identify all other persons involved in this activity noting whether these positions are current or new, pending this

award. For construction/site development projects, identify the development team including proposed contractors, subcontractors, and project manager.

Lois Celeste, Executive Director, has over 20 years of experience developing and managing non-profit agencies and programs and has been with the Center for over six years. The Director is responsible for all grant and staff management.

D) Identify any other agencies/partners involved in this activity and define their roles and responsibilities.

Soroptimist International of Saratoga County provides some funding for scholarships for senior women in Saratoga County. The CDBG grant would specifically fund men from Saratoga Springs and some women from Saratoga Springs.

3. ACTIVITY BUDGET - (ATTACHMENTS 1, 2)

A) Include attached budgets (Attachments 1, 2) as appropriate. Depending on the activity, the applicant may need to submit one or both of the attached budget forms. More detailed budgets may be attached (and are recommended) in support of the proposal. If an architect, engineer, or other personnel have conducted a cost analysis, attach a copy noting the author and date of analysis.

- PROGRAM OPERATING BUDGET (Attachment 1) - for all proposals including public service projects and construction/site development projects

Scholarships - \$1,000

- CONSTRUCTION/SITE DEVELOPMENT BUDGET (Attachment 2) - for construction/site development projects N/A

B) Identify the amount and sources of leveraged funding for this activity. Include the status of these funds (i.e. cash on hand, grants received, planned fund-raising, etc.). Attach copies of funding commitment letters or other evidence of funding support.

4. MONITORING OF FEDERAL FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE TO SUBRECIPIENTS - (ATTACHMENT 3)

N/A

(ATTACHMENT I)

PROGRAM OPERATING BUDGET

(Entitlement Grant + Leveraged Funds = Total Activity Cost)

	ENTITLEMENT GRANT	Leveraged Funds*	Total Activity Cost	*Source of leveraged Funds and In-Kind Services
PERSONNEL				
Salaries				
Fringe				
Other (consultants, etc.)				
<i>Subtotal</i>				

OVERHEAD				
Advertising/Marketing				
Program Supplies				
Rent & Utilities				
Other – list below				
Scholarship fund	\$1,000	\$250	\$1,250	Grants/operating expenses
<i>Subtotal</i>				

TOTAL COST	\$1,000	\$250	\$1,250
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