

**Application for 2010 Supplemental Funds  
Community Resources Program**

*Submit signed original and digital copies of this application to the  
Community Development Division,  
Room 225, MMB, 215 Martin Luther King Jr., Blvd.  
Madison, WI 53701*

**Deadline: Noon on March 2, 2010**  
*(Late or incomplete applications will not be considered)*

<b>Program Title:</b>	Off the Square Club		<b>Agency:</b>	Lutheran Social Services of WI and U.P. Inc.
<b>Amount Requested:</b>	\$10,000	<i>Amount Allowable: \$2500-\$10,000</i>	<b>Current Community Resources Funding for this Program:</b>	\$41,323
<b>Address:</b>	4 N. Hancock St. Madison			
<b>Contact Person:</b>	Lisa Severson or Jane de Roussan		<b>Telephone:</b>	Lisa at 920-730-1366 or Jane at 608-251-6901
<b>E-Mail:</b>	lseverso@lsswis.org, jderoussan96@lsswis.org			

- 1) **Program Description:** Summarize the programs major purpose and activities, demographics of intended population and geographic service area.

Off the Square Club is a program of Lutheran Social Services of Wisconsin and Upper Michigan, Inc. (LSS) that provides a social club to adults with serious and persistent mental illness, as well as homelessness. To become a member, one must have a mental health diagnosis. We are open from 9-4 Monday-Friday and 10-2 on Saturdays. We offer a friendly and spacious environment for our members to meet friends, socialize, watch TV, and join group activities that address mental health, poetry, art, reading, financial education and living skills. We offer two free meals: breakfast and lunch which may be the only meals of their day. We keep our members off the streets and in a safe environment far from the stigma that haunts them every day. We serve the residents of Dane County. Vocational rehabilitation and crisis intervention are two sub-programs of Off the Square Club. LSS currently employs 5 "member" staff to help them gain job skills, build a resume and be a part of a team.

- 2) **Program Need:** Please describe the increase in requests for service or unanticipated economic hardship for your program that warrants application for this funding. For example: increased service participants, increased waiting list, specific increases to staffing hours or program hours, unanticipated program cost, or lost funding.

As a whole, the club has increased membership steadily over the last year. Unfortunately, during this same time, funding has increased only minimally. The resulting increase in the programs consumption of food and supplies as well as increased staffing and has meant that the program is currently working with a deficit budget. In addition, as of February 4, 2010 we have stopped charging the minimal breakfast and lunch fee to our clients. This was unanticipated for our 2010 budget, but in order to best serve our clients who were struggling to pay this fee as well as to secure the lowest food prices, we chose to take this step. The LSS Foundation has agreed to help us continue this much needed program, however, those funds are decreasing in this harsh economy as well. In addition to increased membership, there has also been an increased need for safety services. There has been an increase of drug and gang activity outside the club, consequently making safety a top priority. Currently we employ a twenty hour a week Safety Support staff person; however, it hasn't been enough to cover the everyday needs of the program.

Also, over the last few years we have had to decrease our budget in the areas of recreation and staff training due to budget cuts. In this proposal we are requesting more funds to allow our staff to attend training in the areas of crisis stabilization, mental health, leadership and creative programming so that we can better serve our clients.

- 3) **Service Goals:** Please attach a copy of your Community Resources Program year end or December service report to this application. Please add a column to your service numbers section that identifies what your 2010 proposed new goal numbers would be if you were allocated the funds you are requesting.
- 4) **Fund Utilization:** Understanding that this is a one time allocation, how will these funds be used in 2010? Will the supplemental costs be allocated to staffing, program supplies or other expenses?

The funds would be used to add 10 additional hours a week for our Safety Support Position. His presence has been invaluable in providing a sense of safety and stability to the program. The members rely on him to enforce our rules and maintain calm in the Club. The incidence of police involvement has dropped to nearly zero since he began. Overall daily attendance has increased and more women are accessing the clubs services since hiring the Safety Support position. This is a positive sign that we are creating a safe environment to best serve the wide variety of community members who need our services.

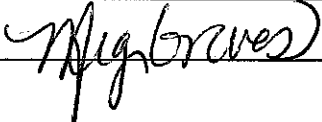
Funding will also be used for our thriving art therapy program that has taken off under the direction of a UW Madison interns. Both the WSJ and Badger Herald have written articles on the success of this program and as a result the Chair of the Department of Art Therapy at Edgewood College has gotten involved. She has art therapy grad students whom she would like to place at our Club. However, to sustain the exciting project, we need art supplies such as paints, canvas, etc. Funding will also be used for trips out in the community such as a Brewer game, movies or other activities in the area. We have an excellent monthly newsletter that we would like to print in a 4-color format. Funds would be utilized to place more recipients on our mailing list, and add a higher quality of visibility as a part of our effort to attract more volunteers and donors.

As stated above, staff have had minimal "outside" training in the last couple years due to budget cuts. Right now the training is based on what is absolutely needed to work at the program. More training in the areas of mental health and creative programming would greatly enhance the services.

- 5) **Budget:** Please provide the following information. You will be contacted if additional information is necessary.

Program Budget	Current (as reported in your Budget appendixes in January 2010)	Proposed
Personnel	118,664	6,764
Operating	16,747	2,271
Space	19,748	
Special Costs	17,874	1,039
Total	170,033	10,074

- 6) **Signature:** Name and signature of the principal individual responsible for this program proposal.

Name: MEG GROVES Title (if applicable): VICE PRESIDENT  
 Signature:  Date: 2/24/10

If you need assistance with this application or are unclear about how to answer the above questions please feel free to contact your current contract manager or staff at (608) 266-6520.

# LUTHERAN SOCIAL SERVICES OF WISCONSIN AND UPPER MICHIGAN

## 4th Quarter Report: City of Madison

Period Covered: October, November, December 2009 Date: 1/4/2010  
 Prepared By: Jane de Roussan, Program Supervisor Telephone: 608-251-6901

Service A: Off the Square Club

### Participation

Attendance	This Quarter	Year to Date	Monthly Goal	Annual Goal	2010 Monthly Goal
Average Daily Attendance:	32	33	35-40		40-45
Unduplicated # of persons:	133	133		225	160
<b>Meals</b>					
Daily Average of persons served:	32	33	25-35		40-45
Unduplicated # of persons served:	133	132		225	160
Total # of meals served:	1899	7523		8000-10000	2200
<b>Other Services</b>					
# of persons participating in programs and activities.*	74	153	100		100
# referrals to other services:	147	391			180
# advocacy/interventions:	358	706			450
Total # of unduplicated persons receiving services:	133	133			160

\*Includes vocational development, horticultural therapy program, art therapy, self-esteem groups, housing and in-house teams.

Narrative summary on unmet needs, emerging issues, plans for next quarter, etc.

SEE ATTACHMENT

## **Quarter 4**

**September-December 2009**

**Off the Square Club-- A Program of Lutheran Social Services of Wisconsin and Upper Michigan**

**Narrative summary of unmet needs, emerging issues, plans for next quarter, etc.:**

### **Unmet needs:**

The homeless members continue to deal with serious systemic health problems that seem to be evolving quickly as they age and which the cold weather exacerbates their already frail condition. They utilize more urgent care and crises services due to not having ongoing case management services and access to mental health treatment options. Waiting lists for AODA in-patient services are long, as are the Dane County Mental Health Services. The members who are the most devastated by the long term-effects of alcohol and substance abuse seem to be the last in line to receive the help they need to survive. These behaviors lead members to seek ER services or they end up incarcerated for brief periods. When released they return to the Club with the same problems. It is always difficult to find solutions for these individuals who are needing more intensive assistance than we can provide at the Club

The Club needs more ongoing donations of clothing and hygiene and personal products. We do our best to provide these items but the need is often greater than what we can supply. We completed a successful Christmas drive but once again we are looking for donations.

### **Emerging issues:**

We have noticed that there are more intakes of potential Club members who have a serious background criminal history. This I am taking up with LSS leadership who are helping devise proper guidelines for eligibility to protect the already existing membership and staff. Patrol around the neighborhood has appeared to increase since I spoke to Police Chief Bray about people hanging around the outside of the Club that do not belong. To address this issue, we have hired a part-time Safety Support Person to monitor activity in and around the Club, to intervene in crises, to de-escalate arguments between members and to generally provide the environment with a sense of calm and order.

### **Plans for next quarter:**

We have just finished a large mural under the supervision of one of our UW School of Social Work interns who is also skilled in art therapy. After raising funds for the project to purchase paints and brushes, we invited several of the Club artists and non-artists to portray an image of the Madison capitol neighborhood, from the point of view of its diversity. It was featured in the local section of the Wisconsin State Journal. Shortly we will begin another project called "the gallery" that will feature individual works by our artistic members. One wall of the Club dining room will be devoted to that. We will raise

funds for framing and additional art supplies. This should be completed by May. We will continue to hold our scheduled weekly activities, that include a poetry circle, a reading group, a beading group, a spirituality group, and a mental health "roundtable" facilitated by Al Malz of Dane County Mental Health. This latter is hugely successful. In addition we have bingo, movie day, chess, cards, scrabble, etc. Our monthly Newsletter is very popular, and Club members are generous about contributing to it. It gives them another forum for expressing their ideas and creativity.

**Other items to report:**

We have so far dealt successfully with the H1N1 outbreak. We have only had one known case. Our preparedness included education, hand sanitizers everywhere, antibacterial soap, and an attention to cleanliness and sterilization throughout the Club. We have also installed all new carpeting and linoleum. This will also have a positive impact on Porchlight which uses our dining room at night for their overflow shelter. We have had many donations of furniture so that the club is gradually becoming a more homey and welcoming environment. Our daily meal program continues as usual with additional donations coming in from the UW.

**The following are statistics for the volunteer skills training program:**

October -- 15 participants  
November -- 15 participants  
December -- 16 participants

**The following are statistics for the paid skills training program:**

October - 6 participants  
November - 6 participants  
December - 6 participants

**Referrals**

Although we do our best to count all the referrals, it is highly probable that not all were counted.

<u>Service Areas</u>	<u># of Referrals</u>
Housing	20
Food	10
Financial	1
Education	3
Work related	8
AODA	10
Legal	4
Medical	8
Psychiatric	28

Support groups	1
Tax assistance	1
Health benefits	3
Advocacy	2
Recreation	11
Payee	1
Dentist	0
<b>Total</b>	<b>111</b>

**Advocacy/ Interventions.**

Again, although we do our best to count all advocacy/ interventions, it is highly probable that not all were counted.

<u>Service Areas</u>	<u># of Advocacy/ Interventions</u>
Advocacy	32
Housing	13
Food	4
Financial	7
Education	6
Work Related	5
Taxes	2
Prevocational Skills	44
Counseling	37
Transportation (includes bus coupons)	0
AODA	5
Stamps/ Envelopes	10
Mail	64
MATC card (free beauty services such as hair cuts)	20
Laundry	58
Collateral contacts	0
Clothes	45
Bus Passes	0
<b>Total</b>	<b>372</b>