

EXHIBIT B – QUALITY OF LIFE APPLICANT SUMMARY

QUALITY OF LIFE

BASIC NEEDS

Applicant:	Aurora Interfaith Food Pantry
Project Proposal:	Pantry2go Program
Project Description:	Pantry2Go will serve Aurora residents with fresh food through delivery and pick up options.
Project Request:	\$38,250
Project Recommendation:	\$33,000

Applicant:	Fox Valley United Way - SPARK
Project Proposal:	SPARK Early Childhood Collaboration
Project Description:	Funds will expand SPARK's services to underserved Aurora children to address increasing kindergarten readiness deficits and growing mental health concerns in young children by connecting families to early childhood resource, providing developmental and social-emotional screenings, and conducting parent-child SEL groups and playgroups.
Project Request:	\$35,000
Project Recommendation:	\$30,000

Applicant:	Holy Angels Food Pantry
Project Proposal:	Holy Angels Food Pantry
Project Description:	The funds provided will allow us to buy more food from the Northern Illinois Food Bank.
Project Request:	\$10,000
Project Recommendation:	\$0

Applicant:	Indian Prairie Educational Foundation
Project Proposal:	Kid Essentials Fund
Project Description:	The Kid Essentials Fund aims to improve academic performance and elevate student achievement by providing homeless and low-income students in the Aurora area with the essential resources to meet their basic needs.
Project Request:	\$10,000
Project Recommendation:	\$9,000

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Applicant:	Loaves & Fishes
Project Proposal:	Grocery Assistance Program
Project Description:	The Grocery Assistance Program supplies healthy and nutritious food to individuals at risk of food insecurity who are living in poverty or who are low income.
Project Request:	\$40,000
Project Recommendation:	\$30,000

Applicant:	Marie Wilkinson Food Pantry
Project Proposal:	Emergency food for East and West Aurora Schools
Project Description:	We are partnering with D129 and D131 to provide emergency food boxes to families in need
Project Request:	\$40,000
Project Recommendation:	\$20,000

Applicant:	Northern Illinois Food Bank
Project Proposal:	BackPack Program
Project Description:	The Backpack Program brings nutritious food to Aurora children at risk of hunger on weekends in collaboration with 18 Aurora schools.
Project Request:	\$20,000
Project Recommendation:	\$12,000

Applicant:	Northern Illinois Food Bank
Project Proposal:	Senior Grocery Program
Project Description:	The Senior Grocery Program brings in nutritious food to Aurora's seniors facing food insecurity.
Project Request:	\$25,000
Project Recommendation:	\$15,000

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Applicant:	YWCA
Project Proposal:	Early Childhood Emergency Fund Project
Project Description:	The Early Childhood Emergency Fund Project will allow Aurora families enrolled in YWCA Metropolitan Chicago’s Early/Head Start programs to access resources including groceries, transportation assistance, health care, housing, and utility support, which will support overall family well-being while increasing enrollment and retention rates in childhood programs and supporting the economic development of families.
Project Request:	\$35,000
Project Recommendation:	\$18,000

COMMUNITY

Applicant:	Fellowship Housing
Project Proposal:	Transitional Housing, Financial Literacy Training and Wrap Around Services for At-Risk Single Mothers and Children
Project Description:	FHC is requesting \$22,000 to support its transitional housing, financial literacy training, and wrap around services for at-risk single mothers and children in our Aurora program.
Project Request:	\$22,000
Project Recommendation:	Moved to AHS Grant

Applicant:	Ladder Up
Project Proposal:	Tax Assistance Program
Project Description:	Ladder Up provides immediate financial relief through free financial programs which help low-income residents secure the tax refunds they deserve, with access to additional services provided by the Ladder Up such as legal counsel, financial literacy, and filing for financial aid to build a better economic future.
Project Request:	\$20,000
Project Recommendation:	\$15,000

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Applicant:	Lewis Simmons
Project Proposal:	Stronger Together Aurora Resource Project
Project Description:	Our existing program is designed to transform lives across the Fox Valley community by providing comprehensive wrap around support services developed through strong collaborations with local agencies. By aligning community needs with prove strategies, we will fill critical gaps in education, workforce development, and entrepreneur support.
Project Request:	\$20,000
Project Recommendation:	\$8,000

Applicant:	OLI Gardens
Project Proposal:	Sustainable Solutions to Food Insecurity in the Aurora Area
Project Description:	The O.L.I. Gardens, Inc. (dba Gold Star Gardens) project in Aurora is to develop and cultivate dedicated raised bed community gardens that provide nutritious foods to food deserts, honor the sacrifices of fallen soldiers and first responders, and engage and educate diverse community members and school students in meaningful and educational activities relating to food insecurity.
Project Request:	\$35,000
Project Recommendation:	\$0

Applicant:	TeachTeam
Project Proposal:	Transitional Housing and Recovery Center for Homeless Veterans Living in Aurora
Project Description:	TeachTeam proposes to purchase and operate a 2,400 square foot mixed-use facility at 102 N Ohio St, Aurora, to provide 4 units of low-barrier transitional housing with comprehensive wraparound services including home health supports, case management, mental health services, and supported employment for homeless veterans, seniors, and disabled residents.
Project Request:	\$700,000
Project Recommendation:	\$0

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Applicant:	The START Program
Project Proposal:	Parents Night Out
Project Description:	Providing parents/guardians with the much needed time and mental break away from the children by offering a safe space for a few hours in the evening to drop the kids off for fun and group activities at no cost.
Project Request:	\$10,600
Project Recommendation:	\$0

Applicant:	Two Rivers Head Start
Project Proposal:	Case Management
Project Description:	Quality of Life funding would help support the Community Service Block Grant case management program that entails child care assistance, dental, vision, medical equipment, household items, job certifications, tutoring for k-12, and other needs for which services are not available in the community
Project Request:	\$40,000
Project Recommendation:	\$10,000

EDUCATION & YOUTH

Applicant:	Alive Center
Project Proposal:	Alive Aurora Drop-In
Project Description:	Aurora Alive Center Teen-Led, Teen-Driven™ drop-in programming, which integrates professional social workers and social work interns to offer preventive mental health, including peer support, trusted adult mentorship, and activities designed to foster emotional well-being and resilience for 150 teens in Aurora.
Project Request:	\$20,000
Project Recommendation:	\$16,000

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Applicant:	Aurora Legion Travel Baseball
Project Proposal:	Open Field: No Player Left Behind
Project Description:	To enhance youth recreational baseball players' well-being by promoting teamwork, skill development, mentorship, community involvement, physical fitness, and positive social connections in a supportive environment.
Project Request:	\$10,000
Project Recommendation:	\$0

Applicant:	Aurora Starz
Project Proposal:	2026 BBA Aurora Starz Teams
Project Description:	The program would be to help fund all aspects of the the Aurora Starz program, so we can keep reduced costs for our families in the Aurora community.
Project Request:	\$10,000
Project Recommendation:	\$0

Applicant:	Boys & Girls Club
Project Proposal:	Boys & Girls Club After School Programming
Project Description:	Expanding Boy's & Girl's services in Aurora to serve both West Aurora and East Aurora School Districts, providing essential academic, social and emotional support to youth from diverse backgrounds
Project Request:	\$40,000
Project Recommendation:	\$

Applicant:	Boys Baseball of Aurora
Project Proposal:	2026 BBA Summer and Fall Sessions
Project Description:	he program would be to help fund all aspects of the the BBA Summer and Fall Sessions so we can keep reduced costs for our families in the Aurora community.
Project Request:	\$25,000
Project Recommendation:	\$8,000

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Applicant:	Dominican Literacy Center
Project Proposal:	ESL & Citizenship Program
Project Description:	The Dominican Literacy Center provides individualized ESL tutoring and mentorship for women, as well as citizen preparation classes and tutoring for men and women.
Project Request:	\$29,757.50
Project Recommendation:	\$22,000

Applicant:	East Aurora School District
Project Proposal:	Tomcat College and Career Camp Opportunities
Project Description:	Our project will expand opportunities for our high school students to attend College Camps that are academic and artistic, focusing on providing a lens of future possibilities beyond secondary education for our students.
Project Request:	\$20,000
Project Recommendation:	\$0

Applicant:	Easterseals DuPage & Fox Valley
Project Proposal:	Make the First Five Count for children with developmental disabilities and their families
Project Description:	Make the First Five Count's (MtFFC) comprehensive approach to therapy maximizes a child's success in school, engagement in society, and fulfillment in life for infants, toddlers, and children ages 0-5.
Project Request:	\$19,000
Project Recommendation:	\$19,000

Applicant:	Fox Valley Special Recreation Association
Project Proposal:	Therapeutic Recreation Summer Day Camp
Project Description:	FVSRF is requesting funds to provide emotional and behavioral support to children with disabilities from Aurora who participate in FVSRF therapeutic recreation Summer Day Camp.
Project Request:	\$35,000
Project Recommendation:	\$32,000

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Applicant:	Girl Scouts of Northern Illinois
Project Proposal:	Project Opportunity
Project Description:	Project Opportunity supports underserved girls in grades K-8 at Aurora Public Schools who face academic risks, otential risk behaviors, and live in the district's oorest nei hborhoods.
Project Request:	\$30,850
Project Recommendation:	\$17,000

Applicant:	Imperfect Angels
Project Proposal:	Angel Alliance Program - Illinois Chapter
Project Description:	The Angel Alliance Program empowers girls in grades 6–12 through mentorship, leadership development, life skills training, and self-discovery workshops that promote confidence, responsibility, and positive community impact.
Project Request:	\$10,000
Project Recommendation:	\$8,000

Applicant:	Marie Wilkinson Child Development Center
Project Proposal:	Marie Wilkinson Child Care & Youth Before & After School Care
Project Description:	The Marie Wilkinson Child Development Denter will continue to provide quality service to Aurora community through early childcare, educational readiness, technological skill dvelopment, safe/healthy environement, before/after school programs, homework assistance & varitey of family support.
Project Request:	\$25,000
Project Recommendation:	\$18,000

Applicant:	Simply Destinee
Project Proposal:	S.E.E.D.S. - Support, Educate, Empower, Dance, Sustain
Project Description:	Simply Destinee is seeking funding for its afterschool program that offers dance and other activities focusing on suicide prevention, promotion of self-esteem, mental health wellness, and building a community of support for low-income and/or struggling youth ages 6 through 18, mainly from the Hispanic community.
Project Request:	\$30,000
Project Recommendation:	\$12,000

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Applicant:	Three Fires Council, Boy Scouts of America
Project Proposal:	Scouting America Character & Leadership Development Program
Project Description:	Three Fires Council plans to reach more young people through the character and leadership development education for Aurora Youth program , ensuring that low-income and disadvantaged youth as well as hispanic young people in Aurora can benefit from participation in the scouting programs with the potential to expand the program currently in place in EASD #131 to additional partner sites.
Project Request:	\$20,000
Project Recommendation:	\$8,000

Applicant:	Valley Sheltered Workshop
Project Proposal:	Pre-vocational Mentorship Program
Project Description:	The VSW Pre-Vocational Mentorship Program pairs Aurora adults with disabilities as mentors for transition students from East and West Aurora school districts, building vocational readiness, confidence, and mental health for both groups.
Project Request:	\$10,000
Project Recommendation:	\$5,000

Applicant:	Wayside Cross Ministries
Project Proposal:	Academic Support & Learning Enrichment Program
Project Description:	Academic enrichment and youth leadership development for under-resourced children and youth in the East Aurora School District.
Project Request:	\$35,000
Project Recommendation:	\$20,000

Applicant:	Wheatland Athletic Association
Project Proposal:	Fee Assistance & Scholarship Program
Project Description:	WAA seeks to continue to increase access to recreational and competitive sports opportunities for Aurora residents of all ages by offering financial assistance to families that request help and demonstrate a need.
Project Request:	\$25,000
Project Recommendation:	\$10,000

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Applicant:	Wong Center
Project Proposal:	STEM Ignition
Project Description:	STEM Ignition will address the problem of learning recovery by using STEM education and robotics to engage students in activities that pique their interest and enhance the individual's learning, which will be done after-school for grades 1 through 8 at 18 schools.
Project Request:	\$40,000
Project Recommendation:	\$10,000

Applicant:	World Relief
Project Proposal:	Refugee and Immigrant Youth Services - Empowering Aurora's Young People to Thrive
Project Description:	The World Relief Chicagoland (WRC) Refugee and Immigrant Youth Services program will provide early childhood support, after-school programs, tutoring, and parent engagement support to promote academic improvement, socioemotional development, and community integration among immigrant and refugee children and youth in Aurora.
Project Request:	\$40,000
Project Recommendation:	\$35,000

Applicant:	YMCA of Chicago
Project Proposal:	Safe n' Sound
Project Description:	For over 40 years, Safe n' Sound has provided families with affordable, child-centered out-of-school enrichment, designed to build upon what youth learn during their school day through fun learning experiences.
Project Request:	\$30,000
Project Recommendation:	\$10,000

MENTAL HEALTH

Applicant:	Fox Valley Hands of Hope
Project Proposal:	Grief Counseling
Project Description:	Funding to support staff, volunteers, and programming to provide grief counseling
Project Request:	\$15,000
Project Recommendation:	\$10,000

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Applicant:	Judah Robinson Foundatiion
Project Proposal:	Homeless Mental Health Intervention
Project Description:	Homeless Mental Health Intervention offers person-centered care, allowing our clients to be key participants in their own mental health care. JRF also provides psycho-education to other mental health care providers, students, and agencies seeking to improve service delivery and care. Case management ensures linkage to other vital services and community partners.
Project Request:	\$20,000
Project Recommendation:	\$12,000

Applicant:	Mercy Housing
Project Proposal:	Aurora Mental Health Services for Older Adults
Project Description:	Mercy Housing Lakefront will partner with NAMI KDK to provide onsite. Peer-led mental health groups in English & Spanish, redusing barriers to mental health supports for low-income, older adults at Constitution House in Aurora.
Project Request:	\$27,800
Project Recommendation:	\$10,000

Applicant:	NAMI DuPage
Project Proposal:	Mental Health Education for Youth
Project Description:	The Mental Health Education for Youth program promotes early recognition of and intervention for youth at risk of serious mental illness by educating Aurora elementary, middle, and high school students, offering teen workshops, support groups, and podcasts, and fostering leadership through NAMI on Campus clubs.
Project Request:	\$31,800
Project Recommendation:	\$12,000

Applicant:	NAMI-KDK
Project Proposal:	NAMI Mental Health Services
Project Description:	Providing mental health services to individuals ages 10 to 34, that are impacted by depression, and other mental health conditions.
Project Request:	\$20,000
Project Recommendation:	\$12,000

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Applicant:	Northwestern Living Well Cancer Center
Project Proposal:	Counseling Program
Project Description:	<p>Living Well is requesting \$40,000 from the City of Aurora to partially fund the salaries of counselors and the outreach coordinator, which represent 8% of the total counseling budget.</p> <p>The counselors will enhance support for Aurora residents, including underserved Spanishspeaking communities and youth, through individual and family therapy, and support groups</p>
Project Request:	\$40,000
Project Recommendation:	\$10,000

Applicant:	Suicide Prevention Services
Project Proposal:	Ongoing Expansion of Suicide Prevention Services for Aurora City
Project Description:	<p>Our unique program provides comprehensive, complete spectrum services of suicide prevention, intervention, and post-vention to address the diverse needs of our community by leveraging grant support to extend our reach to individuals marginalized for race and poverty with over 94% receiving partial to full financial scholarships. Our clients face systemic challenges, socioeconomic disparities, and limited access to mental health resources as detemined by the Kane County Health Department.</p>
Project Request:	\$40,000
Project Recommendation:	\$20,000

MUSEUMS

Applicant:	Aurora Historical Society
Project Proposal:	Giving the Past A Future
Project Description:	<p>"Giving the Past a Future" actually refers to our entire museum operations and programming over the year, including exhibits, programs, and activities at our two museum sites, as well as off-site events and activities.</p>
Project Request:	\$40,000
Project Recommendation:	\$50,000

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Applicant:	Aurora Regional Fire Musuem
Project Proposal:	Aurora Regional Fire Museum, Museum Operations
Project Description:	Funds will be used to support the areas of museum operations, exhibition development, and education program development in the areas of fire history, fire safety and prevention, and the fire service in Aurora and Region.
Project Request:	\$60,000
Project Recommendation:	\$50,000

PUBLIC SAFETY

Applicant:	AID
Project Proposal:	Aurora Victim and Outreach Services
Project Description:	The 24-hour program serves victims of crime, trauma or quality of life issues such as housing instability, primarily in Kane County and is a collaboration with municipalities, police, fire and local human services providers.
Project Request:	\$100,000
Project Recommendation:	\$90,000

Applicant:	ChallengeIIChange
Project Proposal:	Empowerment Bridge Program
Project Description:	To provide supportive temporary housing, comprehensive services, and trauma-informed programming for justice-involved individuals who are homeless or at high risk of homelessness and recidivism, promoting stability, recovery, and public safety in the Aurora community
Project Request:	\$40,000
Project Recommendation:	\$10,000

Applicant:	RITAS Ministry
Project Proposal:	Prisoner re entry
Project Description:	We provide services for anyone involved in the criminal justice system so they can become productive
Project Request:	\$40,000
Project Recommendation:	\$25,000

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SENIORS

Applicant:	DuPage Senior Services Council
Project Proposal:	Meals on Wheels, Community Dining, and Well-being Check-ins
Project Description:	The Meals on Wheels, Community Dining, and Well-Being Checks programs help ensure that vulnerable older adults in the City of Aurora have consistent access to nutritious food, while also reducing social isolation and improving key social determinants of health
Project Request:	\$25,000
Project Recommendation:	\$25,000

Applicant:	Mighell Fund Inc. Plum Landing dba Plum Landing Retirement Community
Project Proposal:	Plum Landing Activity Program for Senior Residents
Project Description:	The Resident Activity Program at Plum Landing provides a diverse range of weekly offerings that improves quality of life by enhancing physical, social, emotional, and intellectual well-being in the senior population served.
Project Request:	\$40,000
Project Recommendation:	\$0

Applicant:	Riverwalk Adult Day Services
Project Proposal:	Adult Day Senior Services
Project Description:	The funds will help fund the salaries for the highly trained activity assistants in a 1:6 staff to participant ratio for the Riverwalk Adult Day Rec participants who all suffer from neurodiverse disabilities.
Project Request:	\$10,000
Project Recommendation:	\$10,000

Applicant:	Riverwalk Adult Day Services
Project Proposal:	Recreation Services Program
Project Description:	The funds will help fund the salaries for the highly trained activity assistants, nurses and activity director for Riverwalk Adult Day Services that provide care to senior participants that suffer from cognitive decline.
Project Request:	\$10,000
Project Recommendation:	\$0

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Applicant:	Xilin
Project Proposal:	Managing Aging Life
Project Description:	Improving senior's physical and mental health by providing in-home service, evidence based health programs, and socialization activities.
Project Request:	\$40,000
Project Recommendation:	\$18,000

WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT

Applicant:	AAMOU
Project Proposal:	TEEN Reach Aspire Intentional Mentoring (AIM) program
Project Description:	AIM program will provide youth with access to life-changing interventions, resources and information to at risk youth ages 7-21 to educate, motivate and equip them with tools to overcome adversity, space for healthy development and readiness for entering the work force or post-secondary education.
Project Request:	\$35,000
Project Recommendation:	\$15,000

Applicant:	Deaf Welcome Foundation
Project Proposal:	Deaf Welcome Workforce Development Program
Project Description:	The Deaf Welcome Workforce Development Program will provide Aurora residents with hands-on training and job placement in retail, hospitality, home care, and Sign Language TV production—empowering Deaf, Hard of Hearing, and multilingual individuals to thrive in inclusive local workplaces.
Project Request:	\$80,000
Project Recommendation:	\$0

Applicant:	Leaders in Transformational Education
Project Proposal:	LITE Youth Development
Project Description:	Our project provides interactive evidence-based life, daily, and employability skill development with immersive career exploration within trades, arts, sports, and support with entrance into higher learning for young adults ages 16 to 24.
Project Request:	\$25,000
Project Recommendation:	\$14,000

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Applicant:	Quad County Urban League
Project Proposal:	Economic Empowerment Center
Project Description:	The Quad County Urban League (QCUL) Economic Empowerment Center will provide employment skills training and community resources, serving youth and young adults ages 16-24, unemployed adults, and families in poverty in the Aurora service area.
Project Request:	\$40,000
Project Recommendation:	\$20,000

Applicant:	Raising Our Daughters
Project Proposal:	ROD Legacy Pathways Program
Project Description:	The proposed City of Aurora Quality of Life program by Raising Our Daughters Inc. is a comprehensive, cohort-based youth development initiative designed to empower low-income youth ages 12 - 30 through sustained mentorship, workforce readiness training, leadership development, and family engagement, ultimately fostering improved educational and employment outcomes and stronger community ties.
Project Request:	\$25,000
Project Recommendation:	\$0

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