

WOMEN UNITED GRANT APPLICATION FORM

Organization Information

Organization Name

Good Samaritan Services

EIN

23-3011817

Address

25 W. Locust Street
Ephrata, Pennsylvania 17522
United States

Contact Name

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Eligibility Criteria

Is your organization a registered nonprofit organization with an official letter of determination of 501c3 status from the Internal Revenue Service?

Yes

Has your organization operated in Lancaster County for at least one year (operating in Lancaster before July 1, 2024?)

Yes

Does your organization or program you are requesting funding for in this application serve primarily women over the age of 18?

Yes

Does your organization provide services to families at or below the ALICE threshold in Lancaster County?

Yes

Is your organization delinquent on any state or federal debt?

No

Does your organization share United Way's view of collaborative and inclusive service to the entire community, without excluding anyone on the basis of race, color, religion, gender, ethnicity, national origin, age, disability, sexual orientation, or any other factor not relevant to a person's eligibility for service or ability to contribute?

Yes

Has your organization update your listing with PA 211 in the last 12 months?

Yes

Application Elements

Organization Description

Good Samaritan Services (Good Sam) gives immediate help to people who are experiencing homelessness, and helps those at risk of becoming homeless, by restoring their lives to stability. We serve Lancaster County with Emergency Shelters, Transitional Housing, and Supportive Housing, supporting low-income populations, including veterans, single parents, abuse survivors, and individuals with disabilities. Our programs address root causes of homelessness through personalized goals, focusing on job training, financial literacy, and mental health.

Participants gain empowerment through skills training, GED completion, and the TRADE development program, fostering professional growth and enhancing job employability and competitiveness. In-house financial education fosters long-term financial management. As the only Lancaster-area shelter offering on-site crisis services and a licensed social worker at no cost, Good Sam empowers individuals to achieve long-term stability with a goal-driven approach and over 18 Program Benchmarks.

Commitment to Equity

Good Sam serves individuals and families experiencing homelessness and poverty in Lancaster and Ephrata through emergency shelters, transitional and supportive housing, and a winter shelter. We recognize the high rent burden and poverty identified by the Lancaster Racial Equity Profile and their contributions to homelessness. Our program addresses these issues by offering holistic support, including housing assistance, financial literacy, employment support, and access to essential services like transportation, childcare, and mental health support.

We help advance common goals of equity in our community by addressing systemic barriers that disproportionately affect low-income families, especially single mothers and survivors of domestic violence. Domestic violence remains a leading causes of homelessness, and nearly 100% of the women in our Emergency Shelter come from such situations. By providing safe shelter, trauma-informed care, and comprehensive support, we actively contribute to reducing the gender and economic disparities that these individuals face.

Our organization is deeply representative of the community we serve. Our staff and volunteers often have lived experience with homelessness, poverty, or domestic violence, ensuring empathetic support. We actively incorporate these perspectives into program development and decision-making. Our work reduces poverty, promotes economic stability, and fosters a more equitable community.

Proposal Details

Main Priority Area

Women's Financial Stability

Grant Dollar Amount Requested

\$20,000.00

What percent of the overall project budget is covered by the Women United grant?

26

Project Description

Good Sam's transitional housing program at 616 N. Lime Street, which opened October 2024, has immense potential for positively impacting women experiencing homelessness by offering a comprehensive program with over 18 Program Benchmarks, addressing the complex causes of homelessness through personalized support. Participants transition through a continuum of care, with Transitional Housing provided for up to six months, and Affordable Housing for up to one year. Through this continuum, Good Sam provides financial education, job training, mental health counseling services and affordable housing for up to 2 years.

Throughout the continuum of care, participants collaborate with case managers, resource coordinators, and community mentors to develop financial literacy, budgeting, and workforce skills necessary for increased earning potential and economic stability. Good Sam partners with local organizations for GED completion and vocational training. Our TRADE program fosters career growth, while financial literacy classes teach budgeting and money management. A Matched Savings Program encourages savings with up to \$600 in matching funds. Additionally, local banks and businesses provide mentorship and employment opportunities, promoting economic self-sufficiency.

Recognizing the impact of trauma, Good Sam integrates mental health support into the program. Participants have access to free, on-site counseling from a licensed social worker without insurance barriers. This trauma-informed approach helps individuals regain stability and confidence.

Upon completion, participants are equipped to secure stable employment and independently afford housing. By offering practical tools, personalized support, and a network of community resources, Good Sam empowers women to break the cycle of homelessness and achieve long-term stability.

Collaboration

Good Sam collaborates with Northern Lancaster and Elizabethtown Area HUB for referrals for housing services and family strengthening services such as parenting skills, understanding trauma, and family communication skills.

In addition, we partner with CrossNet Ministries and Ephrata National Bank for our Microloan Program which aids individuals and families unable to acquire loans from banks due to poor credit scores. The program establishes requirements that allow participants to qualify for loans ranging from \$500 to \$2,500. The money the participants receive often goes toward paying for their first month's rent, security deposit, down payment on a car and other costs associated with the initial move towards living independently.

Our Microloan Program also helps the individuals we serve improve their credit score as they repay their loans. These loans are paid back, interest-free or at an extremely low percentage rate, over the course of the year in which that money is then recycled into new loans for other qualified participants. Since Good Sam's launching of the program, we have awarded over \$70,000 in Microloans to participants of Good Samaritan Services.

Implementation Plan

- Needs assessment: Homelessness Intake History and move into shelter.

On Day 1 participants will have a complete intake of homelessness history. Complete intake history administers a biopsychosocial evaluation, evaluation of current needs, complete drug screen, warrants check, and background check. Following complete intake history of homelessness, participants will be moved into shared living space. Weekly case manager meetings will be scheduled by the Resources Coordinator.

- Set goals for economic mobility and stability: Days 2-7: Set small measurable goals towards economic mobility and stability

From Days 2- 7 at the shelter, participants will meet with the Resource Coordinator to create SMART goals for achieving independence, including increasing income, reliable transportation, budget assessment and saving, housing, mental health or drug and alcohol supports, etc. Participants will start actively working towards completing goals with small measurable tasks created by Resource Coordinator. Participants will engage in community building activities within the program such as House Meetings, Community donated meals, Bible Studies, Financial classes, etc.

- Income or employment opportunities: Days 8-30: Complete first measurable economic mobility and stability goals
- From Days 8-30 participants will continue their meeting weekly with the Resource Coordinator. Simultaneously, participants will work with the Resource Coordinator to create a Create financial budget and report any increases in income to Resource Coordinator. As income and employment opportunities arise, participants will begin looking for independent housing opportunities with the Resource Coordinator.

In addition, participants will start working and meeting weekly with a mentor volunteer for additional support and apply with the Resource Coordinator to begin receiving welfare benefits according to needs. Participants will connect with community resources such as local food banks, social services agencies, churches, training opportunities, etc.

- Move towards independence: Days 30- 60: Create goals for independent living

From Days 30- 60 participants will continue their weekly meetings with their Resource Coordinator. During these meeting they will complete their original goals and potentially create new goals that will help achieve independence. Specifically, participants will work with their Resource Coordinator to assess their budgets and saving opportunities; and continue to look for housing opportunities. Participants will continue their weekly meetings with their mentor.

- Move into transitional and affordable housing: Day 60 –2 years

Participants will live in one of our Good Sam transitional houses for up to 6 months and then in Good Sam affordable housing for up to 1 year. They will begin paying a monthly program fee, which simulates paying rent, to develop healthy budgeting habits in preparation for living on their own. Participants will continue to work towards stability goals with the support of case management.

Outcomes & Evaluation

a. Specific outcomes achieved if awarded this grant.

i. Attainable and Impactful Goals

1. Housing Stability : Participants will attaining and maintain housing.

2. Improved economic mobility: Participants will attain financial self-sufficiency

3. Develop and maintain a social support network to thrive economically: Participants will work with their mentor to develop a support network other connections in the community necessary to support them in their financial independence.

ii. Tangible/measurable outcomes

1. Housing Stability

80% of participants will transition from living in Transitional Housing to having secured and maintained permanent housing in the community six months to one year post-program

2. Improved economic mobility

100% of participants will have worked with Resource Counselors to create and maintain a financial budget and completed financial literacy courses.

80% of participants will have secure and maintained employment through job training, workforce development, and mentorship.

Participants will participate in the Matched Savings Program and improve their credit score through the Microloan Program.

Participants will complete GED programs, trade certifications, or higher education.

3. Develop and maintain a social support network to thrive economically

Participants will demonstrate growth in areas of holistic living, including parenting & improving emotional, mental & physical health and maintain connections within the community.

100% of participants will have access to counseling services.

There will be a 5% reduction in anxiety and depression for participants and a 5 point improvement in PTSD symptoms for participants.

iii. Information about how things can change for the individuals and/or families we serve because of the services we provide.

Upon entrance in Good Sam's Lime Street Transitional Housing, women will embark on a tailored journey that provides personalized support in job development training, budget counseling, financial literacy and mental health through a

more than 18 Program Benchmarks. During the up to 2 year process, they will be empowered to achieve self-sufficiency, financial stability and enhance their employability and mental health; all of which will allow them to contribute to the economy and achieve financial stability. Upon graduation from the program, participants are able to select and pay for their own affordable housing, having secured employment and achieved economic stability.

b. Outcome evaluation and program metrics

We track program progress using the Family Stability Survey quarterly to measure outcomes in housing stability, financial self-sufficiency, social support, and personal growth. Additional metrics include GED completions, trade certifications, participation in the Matched Savings Program, and credit score improvements through the Microloan Program. Data is managed using Apricot, and our social worker evaluates progress using GAD-7 (anxiety), PHQ-9 (depression), PCL-5 (PTSD symptoms), and PTGI (post-traumatic growth). Our individualized approach recognizes diverse needs, promoting resilience and a strong support network while assessing progress through case notes and participant files.

Documents

Required Documents

- [2023-24-Audited-Financial-Statement.pdf](#)
- [Good-Sam-Lime-Street-Budget_2025xlsx.xlsx](#)
- [Good-Sam-Board-of-Directors_2025.pdf](#)
- [Good-Sam-501c3_2019-Updated-Name.pdf](#)
- [Audit-Report-2023-Good-Samaritan-Services.pdf](#)
- [2024-2025-Organization-Budget.xlsx](#)