

City of Lodi Grant Application

**LIFT LODI'S INAUGURAL COMMUNITY WIDE DAY OF SERVICE  
May 14, 2022**

**I. The Project**

The purpose of Lodi's Annual Day of Service is to address two significant concerns in our world today. The epidemic of loneliness and the increase sense of division within our population. The ultimate goal is to bring people together to nurture the intrinsic need we as humans have hardwired in us to be connected to others while also giving everyone a joint sense of purpose through projects that benefit our shared interests and community values.

The activities and projects that we are planning to include are: Partnering with Habitat for Humanity to complete home/yard repairs for elderly and/or disabled local citizens, grounds cleanup/maintenance at the Lodi Agricultural Fairgrounds, Ice Age Trail cleanup, partnering with the Lodi School District to complete grounds clean up and restoration, painting and landscaping at the Lodi Public Library and a mural installation at 108 Lodi Street.

Every community member will benefit from the revitalization and beautification of the Lodi area. The event will be multi-generational with kid-safe activities and families will be encouraged to participate together. We will be targeting some of our improvements toward elderly and disabled homeowners who could benefit from volunteer assistance.

We anticipate several specific projects to be completed on the Day of Service. The chosen projects have been voted on by the community through a survey and chosen by the Lift Lodi committee.

**II. The Organization**

The mission of Lift Lodi's Community Wide Day of Service is *"to cultivate a sense of community connectedness through a devoted day of service that brings Lodi together to revitalize what's around us and lift what's within us."*

The idea of a Community Wide "Day of Service" was proposed during participation in a strategic planning retreat for the future of Lodi and the request to promote small-town values while moving our city forward. Lift Lodi as a nonprofit organization was subsequently created to follow-through with the idea and commitment to serve, uplift, revitalize and connect Lodi.

### **III. Allocation of Grant Funds**

The largest financial project for the Community Wide Day of Service is the art installation of a mural at 108 Lodi Street, Lodi, WI. The mural will be a “nod” to the beauty and benefit of our natural surroundings. It will be of two children hiking with the words “Wander into Wonder.” The overall cost of the mural is \$21,000 which includes the \$9,000 cost of prepping the wall and \$12,000 for the mural art and installation. A \$8,000 grant request from the City of Lodi would be allocated to the labor of prepping the wall and preparing the mural. In order to fund the entire mural project, we will be asking local businesses to sponsor the event, asking community members for donations and giving community members an opportunity to sponsor part of the mural by purchasing and painting a 16x16 panel.

### **IV. Project Alignment**

Lodi is a wonderful community to live and work in with small town values and a huge heart for helping one another. The Lift Lodi Community Wide Day of Service builds on Lodi’s core values with the focus on connecting community members in a shared goal of improving our environment. In addition, by creating an opportunity for people to give back to their community, they benefit from the emotional “lift” of acting selflessly and being a part of something bigger than themselves in the service of all. Finally, the mural should be a great tourist “draw” for those that visit Lodi for the Ice Age Trail or other outdoor activities.

Community is about doing something together that makes belonging matter.

Please consider our \$8,000 grant request as an investment in the enrichment of Lodi.