

Play it Forward for Community Meals

August 2026 Community Impact Grant Cycle

Thursday's Table

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Application Form

Instructions

INSTRUCTIONS

Complete the grant application by responding to the fields below. Note that any fields with an asterisk are required fields and must be completed prior to submitting an application.

As you complete the form, the system will auto-save every 100 characters typed or every time you click out of a field. You may collapse question groups as you go, as an indicator to yourself that you've completed that section and to reduce scrolling.

The system also allows you to Save an application and come back to it before submitting. There is also a Collaborator feature that allows applicants to work together on a single request. https://docs.google.com/document/d/15NsdFgi3lBmBu0_pp1zj2HZ51l4mx8Wryjrx4FYOmdg/edit?usp=sharing Click here to learn about the collaborator feature. Contact the Community Foundation at (715) 232-8019 if you have any questions or problems with the form.

Request Overview

Project Title*

Please provide a descriptive Name/Title for this grant request.

Play it Forward for Community Meals

Amount Requested*

Typical grant amounts range from \$500 to \$5,000 or more.

\$1,000.00

Program Area*

Please check the program area that best categorizes this grant request.

Human Services

Geographic Area Served*

Please select which geographic area is primarily being served by this request.

Menomonie Area

Does your organization function within Dunn County?*

Yes

Population Served*

Please select the specific population being served by this request. You can select age and income level in the next section. If the population this grant targets is not listed, please choose "General".

General

Age Group Served*

Please select the specific age group served by this grant request.

All ages

Income Level Served*

Please select the income level of the target population being served by this request.

Low Income

Non Discrimination Policy*

In accordance with federal regulations, the Community Foundation of Dunn County does not discriminate based on race, color, creed, sex, religion, age, disability, sexual orientation, marital status or national origin. Do the applicant organization's employment and service practices comply with this policy?

Yes

About Your Organization

1. Organization Overview*

Please provide a brief background about your organization, including a short summary of the organization's history, mission, goals, accomplishments, and challenges.

There are 4 Community Tables serving free weekly meals in Menomonie on different nights from 5-6pm. Monday's Meal was established in 2021 and is held at the United Methodist Church. Tuesday's Table was established in 2004 and is held at St. Joseph Catholic Church. Wednesday's Table was established in 2018 and is held at Christ Lutheran Church. Thursday's Table was established in 2006 and is held at the First Congregational United Church of Christ.

The 4 Tables come together to share information and practices. We share a similar mission 'to prepare and serve a free meal for anyone in the greater Menomonie area who would like to participate.' All 4 Tables also provide supper meals to Stepping Stones' Cairn House shelter, since its inception in 2023. The Tables

accomplish this feat through cooperative relationships with West CAP's TEFAP program, the Feed My People Food Bank in Eau Claire, our local Stepping Stones Food Shelf, and others who donate free food products to us. With our partners and individuals who donate dollars and goods, we can purchase and receive the food we need to provide simple, healthy and nutritious meals at a very reduced price.

Two pieces of our shared organizational history of which we are particularly proud: ongoing meal service during COVID and stepping up to provide meals to Stepping Stones' emergency shelter in 2023. Three of the Tables were in place before 2020 and guests were welcomed for sit-down dining. When the pandemic hit, the Tables quickly pivoted and each site figured out a way to offer drive-through or to-go meals. During that time, Menomonie United Methodist Church started-up their community meal. They did not shy away from undertaking this venture amid a pandemic. Post-COVID, we are proud to offer options for our guests: two of the Tables continue to offer meals to-go while two offer in-person dining. In 2022, the Tables were approached by Stepping Stones about providing 20 meals a week to their guests at Cairn House, opening in 2023. Volunteers from Stepping Stones pick up the meals and deliver them to Cairn House giving guests an opportunity to form community while dining together or to have a meal later in the evening after work or appointments.

2. Current Initiatives*

Please describe your current programs, activities, community impact and the community's involvement or support of your organization.

In 2025, the Tables provided a total of 26,807 meals at an average cost of \$1.76/meal. The Tables accomplish this feat through cooperative relationships with West CAP's TEFAP program, the Feed My People Food Bank in Eau Claire, our local Stepping Stones Food Bank, and many others who donate free food products or financial support to us.

This is the 5th year that the Tables are cooperating with WoodWind Park in a fundraiser for all of the Tables: Play it Forward for Community Meals on Saturday, September 23, 2026 at WoodWind Park. The donations and sponsorships collected for the event are shared by the Tables equally and are a critical source of funding to keep the Tables operating this year and in the future. We are experiencing and see increased needs among our meal guests and increased costs in food and products for our Tables.

3. Organizational Structure*

Describe the current structure of your organization, including how the organization functions on a daily basis. (CEO, staff, volunteers, etc.)

The Tables are each a grass roots effort primarily provided by dedicated volunteers. Depending on the site, 10-15 volunteers cook, serve and clean up each night. As an example of the "value" of the volunteers to our organizations, Thursday's Table's 2025 Annual Report included the following: "Volunteers donated 2,961.75 hours of time in 2025. Using the Wisconsin minimum wage of \$7.25 /hour, the in-kind donation contribution of these volunteers totals \$21,473. \$34/hour is the volunteer value for Wisconsin established by the Independent Sector, Washington, D.C. Using this figure the in-kind contribution of our volunteers is \$100,700." As a note and example, Thursday's Table's annual budget for food and products costs is approximately \$13,000 at an average cost of \$2.02/meal.

The Tables work cooperatively by sharing information, offering guidance (especially when new meals got started), sharing publicity, organizing and providing a joint fundraiser and communicating/meeting when needed. However, the Tables function independently in providing their weekly meals and are each responsible for funding their operations.

About the Grant

What is the community need that this request addresses?*

The Table's believe that the need for our meals is demonstrated by the number of meals provided to our guests 4 nights per week, which was 26,807 total meals in 2025. We know anecdotally as we serve our guests that their needs vary greatly and we hear repeatedly how appreciative they are for this important community service. Food insecurity is a significant problem in Dunn County. The USA Facts Organization information for 2024, shows 10.7% of Dunn County's population are below the poverty level. The average for Wisconsin is 10.3%.

Project Goals and Activities*

Describe the specific goals and activities of your project and how they will be carried out or accomplished.

Our goal is to continue to provide free community meals at 4 sites every week in Menomonie. A donation from the foundation, with other donated funds to our joint fundraiser, will help us support that goal.

Project Outcomes*

Describe the anticipated outcomes resulting from this grant project, its impact and how the community will be better served.

The Tables anticipate that our guests will continue to receive simple, healthy and nutritious meals 4 nights a week.

Anticipated Challenges*

Describe any anticipated challenges and how you will meet them.

We have a committee with representatives from all 4 Tables who are actively organizing this fundraiser with participation from WoodWind Park. We have learned a lot from our previous 4 Play it Forward events and have made numerous accommodations to strengthen our event. One of our challenges will be the weather on the day of the event, which could impact attendance and fundraising the day of the event, which has been approximately 30% of our net total profits. We are very pleased that WoodWind Park now has a large wood pavilion, which shelters the crafters, silent auction, food stand and tables for participants.

Sustainability*

Please describe how you will fund and continue to sustain these activities beyond the grant period.

The Tables have always experienced and met the challenge of raising funds to support the ongoing provision of meals. We believe that we are stronger together and this joint fundraising project is an example of how we work together. We are committed to continuing to raise funds (donations) and providing meals as long as the need exists.

Staff - Project Summary*

The Tables (4 organizations applying together as previously done) provide free meals in Menomonie 4 nights a week, and are seeking funding to continue their work.

Grant Project Budget

Anticipated Project Income*

Please list out all anticipated sources of income for this specific grant project with amounts and whether the funding is approved or pending.

Ex: Dunn Energy Cooperative: \$1,000 - Approved

Last year for the September 2025 event, sponsorships were received from 19 organizations or individuals for a total of \$7,300 and donations were received from 14 organizations or individuals for a total of \$2150. At the end of June, we mailed request letters to all of the previous supporters and approximately twice that number hoping for additional supporters. At this time, we already know that 3M has recommended a \$1,000 donation and we are in the process of providing the documentation needed for that approval. We hope to raise (after expenses, which are primarily food stand costs) at least \$15,000 to share among the Tables

Total Project Expenses*

What are the total expenses for this particular grant project? This may be more than your grant request amount and helps us to understand if the Foundation is funding a portion of the project or the full cost of the project.

\$15,000.00

Project Expenses Description*

Please itemize the expenses for this grant project, including a short description of each item and the anticipated cost. (Personnel, Materials and Supplies, etc.) If this grant is to cover a portion of the project, please list all expenses of the project and then specify which expenses you anticipate being supported by this CFDC grant.

Our expenses are primarily related to food and drinks (soda, water), which last year was approximately \$500. We were successful in having most of our soda and water needs met through donations last year.

Project Budget Upload

(Optional) You may upload a separate file of your own, representing this grant request's Project Budget. For help creating the document, you can click [here](#) to download our Grant Project Budget template.

Letter of Support

(Optional) Letters of Support are optional, unless another organization or individual is integral to the purchase or use of the program and/or is a fiscal sponsor. Then it is required.

Additional Supporting Documents

(Optional) You may upload additional supporting documents to your request. If this grant request is to purchase a specific item or equipment, please upload a financial quote or spec sheet about the item here.

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Staff - Project Budget Summary*

Brief sentence about how the grant budget is broken down by item.

\$1000 to help pay for food and drink

Required Organization Financials

Current Board of Directors*

Please upload a list of your organization's current Board of Directors.

Board of Directors Terms & Dates 1-8-26.docx

Organizational Budget*

Please upload your organization's most recent Operating Budget with projected revenues and expenses.

Approved Budget 2026.pdf

Audited Financials

Please upload a copy of your organization's current Audited Financial Statement, if you are required to file.

Audit Opt-Out

Under Wis. Stat. § 202.12| a charitable organization with annual contributions over \$500,000 must file an audited financial statement and include the opinion of an independent CPA. A charitable organization with annual contributions less than \$500,000 and over \$300,000 must file a financial statement reviewed by an independent CPA. If you do not upload an audit or financial statement, please verify that your organization is not required to based on this state statute.

Our organization is not required to file an audited financial statement

Proof of 990 Filing*

Please upload proof of current IRS 990 Filing. You may upload the first page only; the full 990 document is not required.

990 N Postcard from Jay I.jpg

Authorization

Applicant Agreement*

As the applicant submitting this request on behalf of the organization, you certify that:

- The information provided in this application is complete and accurate to the best of your knowledge.
- Falsification of information will result in termination of any award granted.
- You have discussed this project and grant request with the necessary authorized representatives at your organization. They support this request and the proposed allocation of funding.

If awarded a grant, the organization will:

- Carry out the activities and expend grant funds as described in the proposal, to the best of their ability.
- Submit significant changes in the scope or budget of the project to the Foundation for approval.
- Complete and submit written reports as required no later than 12 months from the date the grant is awarded.
- Acknowledge the role of the Community Foundation of Dunn County in supporting the organization in communications with their board and the public.
- Provide copies of all publicity, press releases or promotional materials. If available, provide photos in digital format.

I agree

File Attachment Summary

Applicant File Uploads

- Board of Directors Terms & Dates 1-8-26.docx
- Approved Budget 2026.pdf
- 990 N Postcard from Jay I.jpg

Board of Directors Terms and Dates

Members

Term Ends*

Gary Barnett	2029
Connie Flug	2027
Don Heifner	2027
Cheryl Huenink	2029
Jay Ivens	2029
Kris Pawlowski	2028
Tom Schmelzle	2028
Jill Schwebs	2027
Bobbette Tunnyhill	2028

Non-Voting Member

Ordained Minister of the Menomonie UCC

Officers

Term Ends*

Tom Schmelzle, President	2027
Cheryl Huenink, Vice President	2027
Jill Schwebs, Secretary	2027
Jay Ivens, Treasurer	2027

Schedule of Meetings**

Thursday, January 21, 2026
Thursday, March 18, 2026
Wednesday, May 20, 2026
Wednesday, July 15, 2026
Wednesday, September 16, 2026
Wednesday, November 18, 2026
Annual Meeting, Wednesday, January 20, 2027

*Terms end at the Annual Meeting in January of the year listed.

**Meetings are usually held at 9 a.m. at the First Congregational United Church of Christ, Menomonie, Wisconsin.

2026 Approved Budget

This budget is based on serving meals for 51 weeks.

This budget assumes that we will be serving "to go" meals for the year.

		Budget	Actual
		2026	2026
EXPENSES			
Contractors	Food Coordinator	\$6,900.00	
	Additional Services	\$0.00	
Food Supplies	Other Food Supplies	\$1,530.00	
	Feed My People	\$1,500.00	
	TFAP - Food Program	\$0.00	
	Thrivant Gift Cards	\$500.00	
	Food Exchange	\$0.00	
Other Operating Expenses	Non-Food Supplies	\$300.00	
	To go Supplies	\$2,000.00	
	Equipment	\$200.00	
	Maintenance & repair	\$500.00	
	Other (postage etc.)	\$200.00	
Dues & Fees	Education	\$175.00	
	Post Office Box	\$250.00	
	FMP Membership	\$0.00	
	Insurance	\$953.00	
Annual Expenses		\$15,008.00	
INCOME			
Income Sources	Grant Monies	\$3,000.00	
	General Donations	\$7,500.00	
	TFAP		
	FMP Shared Account	\$0.00	
	In-kind Donations	\$1,500.00	
	Thrivant Gift Cards	\$500.00	
	Interest	\$400.00	
Annual Income		\$12,900.00	
Balance		(\$2,108.00)	

Confirmation

e-Postcard Profile

Select EIN

Organization Details

Contact Information

Confirmation

Your Form 990-N(e-Postcard) has been submitted to the IRS

- **Organization Name:** THURSDAYS TABLE LTD
- **EIN:** 270671948
- **Tax Year:** 2024
- **Tax Year Start Date:** 01-01-2024
- **Tax Year End Date:** 12-31-2024
- **Submission ID:** 10065520252769211649
- **Filing Status Date:** 10-03-2025
- **Filing Status:** Pending

<MANAGE FORM 990-N SUBMISSIONS