



100 John West Way
Aurora, Ontario
L4G 6J1
(905) 727-3123
aurora.ca

Application to Receive Funds

The Aurora Mayor's Charity Golf Classic has raised over \$1 million to date and has financially assisted several community organizations to provide much needed services to residents living in the Town of Aurora. Recipient selection is conducted annually by the application review and disbursement committee of the Town of Aurora Mayor's Charity Golf Classic and is based on the information provided in this application.

Funding Criteria and guidelines;

- Individual applicants and community groups must demonstrate financial hardship or a limited means to retain funds in another manner. Individual applications demonstrating financial hardship will be kept confidential.
- Individuals and organizations may not receive funding for more than two consecutive years.
- Funding requests for more than \$5,000 in a calendar year will not be accepted.
- Funding requests for more than 50% of an initiative will not be considered and applicants must demonstrate how the remaining funds will be or have been obtained
- Applications should demonstrate a benefit to the residents of the Town of Aurora that receiving the funding will provide
- Successful applicants will be required to report back in any way they deem appropriate regarding the utilization of funds within six (6) months of receiving funds

Name of Individual or Community Group *

The ABLE Network

Address

Street Number and Name *

44 Metcalfe Street

City/ Town *

Aurora

Province *

Ontario

Postal Code *

L4G 1E6

Contact Information

Email Address *

karen.hall@theablenetwork.ca

Phone Number *

(905) 841-7627

On a separate document, please outline your initiative and any supporting documentation you have. The information being provided should align with the funding criteria guidelines found above. Please attach your documentation with this this form.



March 4, 2025

Dear Mayor's Golf Classic Funds Committee,

I am writing to you on behalf of The ABL Network in hopes that you will consider providing our program with funding that has been raised through The Aurora Mayor's Charity Golf Classic.

The ABL Network is a community-based day program in York Region that supports adults with intellectual disabilities. Aurora is the town where ABL was founded in 2008 and where we established our unique program. For those of you who live or work in Aurora, it is likely that many of you have seen our program participants when they're out and about in town. You may see them getting on or off a YRT bus, walking independently to work or community service activities, or walking with a group to the grocery store, library, or to the gym at the Aurora Family Leisure Complex where they work out alongside other community members. You may also see them working independently at one of the many local businesses where they have part-time jobs. One of our program participants works at Town Hall and three work at the AFLC Fitness Centre.

Since ABL's inception in 2008, we have grown as the need for our program has grown. We now have 4 locations in York Region which is wonderful as our program is greatly needed. However, as we've grown, so has our need for funding. It has always been ABL's goal to keep fees as affordable as possible for our program participants and their families. Our funding model is such that we strive to generate enough funding through private donations, foundations, grants, and organized fundraising events to cover 50% of our operating budget. While this funding model is challenging, we do this so that we can keep participant fees affordable. Now more than ever, we need to secure as many sources of funding as possible.

Our greatest expense, by far, is Human Resources as we need to ensure that our beloved participants are well supported by excellent staff at all locations. The program fees paid by our participants cover only a small portion of our HR expenses and the balance must come from those other sources I mentioned above. Additionally, we have other substantial expenses including our monthly rent expenses for our locations, recreation expenses (gym memberships for participants) at all our locations, and weekly nutrition training expenses (groceries) for all our locations.

We feel that the work we do at ABL is of great benefit to the Aurora community. ABL is based on strong principles and research that states that the inclusion of individuals with intellectual disabilities in natural settings provides them with an equal opportunity to contribute to the health and well-being of their community. We see evidence of this regularly. By being involved in their community-based activities, our program participants establish rapport and build relationships with residents of the community, teaching them about acceptance, tolerance, and the value of those who may be different. We see that this acceptance makes a positive difference in the spirit of the Aurora community.

We would be most grateful if you would consider donating \$5,000 to ABL. This would be very helpful in offsetting some of the financial challenges we face as we continue supporting our beloved program participants.

Please let me know if you have any questions.

Sincerely,

Karen Hall
Executive Director
The ABL Network