



The Lake Geneva Restaurant Week Charity Check program is a unique opportunity for local non-profit organizations to increase awareness of their mission and potentially receive a cash donation of \$2,500.

From April 19 through April 27, 2025, Lake Geneva Restaurant Week will attract thousands of residents and visitors to take advantage of exclusive menus at dozens of participating restaurants. Guests dining in or getting takeout meals will receive a Charity Check Ballot to vote for a charity to win one of four cash donations. The four organizations that receive the most votes at the conclusion of Restaurant Week will receive a \$2,500 donation from our Charity Check Sponsor, **Tito's Handmade Vodka**.

Throughout Restaurant Week, participating non-profits will be featured on the event website (LakeGenevaRestaurantWeek.com) and VISIT Lake Geneva social media channels to highlight their stories and raise awareness of their social impact and charitable efforts. Links to the organizations' websites and donation pages will also be included.

Participating organizations are also encouraged to promote Lake Geneva Restaurant Week through their own resources such as newsletters and social media channels to motivate volunteers, staff, members, and supporters to dine out (or take out) during Restaurant Week... and vote!

HOWTOAPPLY: Non-profits interested in participating in the Charity Check program must submit an application for review. Specific qualification guidelines by our Charity Check sponsor, Tito's Handmade Vodka, can be found on the next page. Please review these qualifications before submitting your application. The deadline to apply is **April 1, 2025**. All applications are subject to review by VISIT Lake Geneva and Tito's to ensure eligibility before placement on the Charity Check Ballot.

SPONSORED BY



APPLY HERE: <https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/LGRWCharityCheck>
by April 1, 2025

Questions regarding the Charity Check program may be directed to Brie Pacey, Events Manager, at (262) 812-0023 or brie@visitlakegeneva.com. If unable to utilize the online application, please use the attached hard copy form.



2025 CHARITY CHECK APPLICANT GUIDELINES

As the 2025 Lake Geneva Restaurant Week Charity Check Sponsor, **Tito's Handmade Vodka** will make all donations to the winning organizations directly. As such, Tito's reserves the right to apply eligibility guidelines to organizations applying to participate in the Charity Check program. Please review the guidelines below to ensure your eligibility before submitting your application.

- Charity must be a 501c3.
- Charity must file a Form 990, 990 EZ, or 990N with the IRS and be able to provide an updated form from 2022 or more recently.
- Charities **not** eligible for donation include:
 - Organizations whose primary focus is a religious doctrine rather than nonreligious education or providing social welfare (unless they are providing a service such as a food pantry or shelter).
 - Entities with political affiliations, who endorse political candidates, or where governmental policy is the primary focus of the organization.
 - Events involving the sponsorship or viewing of questionable animal welfare practices (examples: shark fishing and horse racing).
 - Organizations that regularly are in the news with surrounding controversy.
 - Sponsoring a specific amateur sports team, athlete, or musician. We can support an event they are having, but not a general sponsorship. This includes logos on uniforms or team jerseys.
 - Foundations associated with individuals (athletes, celebrities, etc.) who have been accused of legal or criminal charges, including but not limited to, accusations of child abuse, domestic violence, sexual harassment, or animal cruelty.
 - Sponsoring a charity that includes activities that could be perceived as unsafe to do while consuming alcohol, i.e. drive-in concerts, motorcycle rides, driving race cars, etc.
 - Sponsoring a charity where the primary focus is hunting and or shooting, i.e. clay shooting.
- Financials – At Love, Tito's we strive to support as many charitable organizations as we can across the country, continuing to give back in more impactful ways and to keep spreading the love more and more. While doing so we aim to support those organizations that put back 80% and above to their programs and services. This number can be found on Page 10 of your Form 990 by dividing Column B vs Column A.
- Winners of the four \$2,500 donations will be ineligible for the next year's Restaurant Week Charity Check Ballot.

The information provided above is a guideline from Tito's Handmade Vodka but is not limited. If denied, Tito's Handmade Vodka will provide reasoning upon request.



2025 CHARITY CHECK APPLICATION

Name of Organization: _____

Type of Charitable Work Performed: _____

Address: _____

City/State/Zip Code: _____

Phone: _____ Email: _____

Website URL: _____

Donation URL (if different than above): _____

FEIN Number: _____

Number of Paid Employees: _____ Number of Volunteers: _____

Contact Person: _____

Contact Title: _____

Contact Phone: _____

Contact Email: _____

Please attach a separate page providing answers to the following questions. This information will be used to feature your organization on the Lake Geneva Restaurant Week Charity Check web page.

1. In 200 words or less, how would you describe your organization's mission to someone who is not familiar with the organization?
2. Provide an example of a program or resource offered by your organization and how it has impacted residents of the Lake Geneva community.
3. What are your organization's most urgent needs at this time?

Please check the following to confirm eligibility for the Charity Check program:

- ☐ I am authorized to submit this application on behalf of the above-named organization.
- ☐ This organization is a registered 501(c)3 charitable organization in good standing with the State of Wisconsin.
- ☐ I grant VISIT Lake Geneva and/or its Charity Check Sponsor permission to review the above-named organization's charitable status and other public records via the FEIN number provided above.
- ☐ I give permission to publish this organization's name, logo and narrative (#1-3 above) on the Restaurant Week website.
- ☐ If selected as a Charity Check donation recipient, I understand that I will be required to submit my organization's contact information, proof of non-profit status and current tax form directly to the Charity Check sponsor prior to receiving the donation.

Authorized Signature

Date

Printed Name

Title

Please submit your completed application by April 1, 2025

- Mail: VISIT Lake Geneva, 527 Center Street, Lake Geneva, WI 53147
- Email: brie@visitlakegeneva.com | Subject line - "Charity Check"
- Please email your logo in .jpg or .png format to brie@visitlakegeneva.com

