

Project Title

To support Little Heroes Prom--an annual event hosted by The Leukemia & Lymphoma Society, South Central Texas Chapter, for children with all forms of cancer many of whom will never see their own proms.

Amount of funding request: \$20,000

The Leukemia & Lymphoma Society's Purpose and History:

The Leukemia & Lymphoma Society (LLS), a 501 (c) 3 organization is made up of offices throughout the United States and Canada. The Leukemia & Lymphoma Society (LLS) is the world's largest voluntary health organization dedicated to finding cures and better treatments for blood cancer patients. LLS's mission is to cure leukemia, lymphoma, Hodgkin's disease and myeloma and improve the quality of life of patients and their families. The South Central Texas Chapter serves 92 counties in South and Central Texas. This represents an area stretching from Brazos County north to Runnels, west to Pecos, south to Hidalgo and east to Jackson. The large underserved and rural populations of our chapter challenge us to find effective ways to promote public awareness about early detection, new therapies, medical products and services to patients who are living with blood cancer. **Some of our programs are unique to this Chapter and must be funded locally. We work hard to make sure that services are available year in and year out for patients, survivors and their families. All free of charge.**

LLS offers a wide array of resources to supply critical information, education, financial aid, support and referrals to patients, caregivers, and healthcare providers. Through the Patient Services Program, LLS South Central Texas Chapter will help pediatric cancer patients and their families cope with the immediate and long-term ramifications of cancers, providing both support and information throughout the continuum of their disease.

Since its inception in 1949, LLS has funded promising scientists conducting research aimed at discovering a cure and treatments for blood cancers. LLS has granted more than \$1 billion dollars in research specifically targeting blood cancers, with new insights bearing on blood cancer treatment protocols as well as other forms of cancer.

Project description

Little Heroes Prom is part of LLS's Children and Youth Patient Services programs. Through these programs we focus on children, newborn-18. We include children with ANY type of cancer, survivors and their families, caregivers and friends. With help from medical staff, social workers and hospitals, we identify and invite those in San Antonio and the surrounding areas who receive care in San Antonio hospitals, clinics and military facilities. We believe that the Little Heroes Prom offers a much needed event for children struggling with cancer and survivors. For one night, they don't have to worry about IV's, hospital monitors, chemotherapy, radiation or anything else associated with their cancer. Instead, the doctors and nurses who treat these children on a daily basis are by their sides, having fun and honoring them for the little heroes they truly are. Thanks to the generosity of The Najim Family Foundation, the Little Heroes Prom

has been open to children throughout South Central Texas, providing a joyful event for pediatric cancer patients.

Previous Funding from The Harvey E. Najim Family Foundation:

In 2008, LLS received funding in the amount of \$50,000 from The Harvey E. Najim Family Foundation to support its Patient Services Programs directly related to pediatric cancer patients for the duration of 2 years. In 2010, LLS received funding in the amount of \$25,000 to support the annual Little Heroes Prom. In 2011, 2012, 2013 and 2013 LLS received funding in the amount of \$20,000 to support Little Heroes Prom. Funding for 2014 and 2015 was in the amount of \$17,000, \$20,000 for 2016 and \$20,000 for 2017.

How Proposed Project Relates to funding priorities:

The Najim Family Foundation has viewed the Little Heroes Prom as a children’s charitable purpose within its funding priorities in the past. It is the Najim Family Foundation’s generosity that has made the prom the success it is today. This prom is completely free of charge for the children treated at the three children’s cancer facilities in San Antonio: CHRISTUS Santa Rosa Children’s Hospital, Methodist Children’s Hospital and the San Antonio Military Medical Center. Children from all over South Central Texas come to be treated at these facilities. There are not many cancer organizations that support different pediatric cancer diagnoses, therefore LLS opens its doors to children with all forms of cancer and their families and provides a night that there will cherish forever. Some children look forward to this as the only event they do every year.

Line-item budget for project

The Little Heroes Prom Program Budget		
<u>Little Heroes Prom</u>	Projected Total Budget Funds (LLS)	Najim Requested Funds Allocation
a. DVD	\$400	
b. Prom Venue/Catering	\$24,000	\$20,000
c. Printing and Postage	\$1,200	
d. Cakes & More (partial donation/\$2000)	\$1275 (\$725)	
e. Prom Décor, Supplies, Door Prizes	\$3,000	
f. Rentals/flip Books	\$600	
g. Prom Entertainment (e.g. DJ-4 hours donated)	(\$500)	
h. Prom Photography-Time donated- LLS pays for prints (4 hours)	\$1,500 (\$480)	
i. Limos	\$1,600	
j. Gifts for patients (\$1,500 donated)	\$1,500	
k. Event planning, coordination with hospitals, securing vendor donations, volunteer coordination,	Donated	

setup (40 hours)		
l. Videographer (4 hours donated)	(\$800)	
Total (\$2605 donated)	\$35,075(\$2,505)	\$20,000

Organization total revenue and expenses for current fiscal year

Total Revenue: \$6,828,354

Total Expenses: \$2,635,733

** The Little Heroes Prom is outside of the organization revenue and expenses. The dollars put toward this program are not part of the budget. This program only happens if the committee along with the Patient Access Manager is able to raise the funds. The South Central Texas Chapter budget includes all other expenses related to local Patient Services and direct mission expenses are included in the Chapter's expenses.

Project timeline (beginning and ending dates)

Little Heroes Prom is scheduled for May 4, 2018. Planning and fundraising will start in August 2017.

Brief project evaluation criteria

It is difficult to quantify the happiness this event brings to so many children. We always ask and encourage donors and foundation staff to attend a portion of the event to see for themselves the joyful event that is the Little Heroes Prom. At the conclusion of the fiscal year, the Patient Access Manager submits a program report containing a summary of activities and successes of the Patient Services Programs to the Region Mission Director (Nicole Bell), Chapter's Board of Trustees and the LLS National Patient Services Committee. The Patient Services staff will administer evaluations after events. Additionally, we ask patients, caregivers, social workers, community volunteers, hospital staff and medical staff for constant feedback so we can keep this event fun and meaningful for the patients.

List other project funders:

The Little Heroes Prom Committee is beginning a new fundraising push this month (August) for our 2018 Prom. This year we will again approach past funders such as The Greehey Family Foundation. We also receive funds from CHRISTUS Santa Rosa Children's Hospital (\$3,000), Methodist Hospital (\$3,000) and University Health System (\$3,000). We had received donations from a charity golf tournament specifically for Prom. Unfortunately, as for our 2017 Prom, the main host has been diagnosed with cancer and is focusing on treatment. We will be looking at finding someone else possibly willing to take charge of the golf fundraiser as well as other ways to make up this funding. As of right now there are no committed funds for 2018 Prom.

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