

Project Title: **The Next Generation: Youth Recovery** - To reverse the statistics and improve the outcomes of youth in our community through school and community-based drug and alcohol prevention, intervention, and enrichment services targeted directly to youth and their families.

Amount of funding request: \$90,000

Brief statement of the organization's purpose and history: Our mission is to help teens, young adults, and families overcome the effects of drugs and alcohol, and partner with the community in education and prevention. Rise Recovery, formally known as the Palmer Drug Abuse Program, was established in 1977 as a ministry providing young people with love and support, along with the skills and resources needed to support their life in recovery. Last year, Rise Recovery provided direct services to over 3,300 youth and their families across our public schools and three community based centers.

Project description: “Being a peer counselor is more than a job for me. I get to help kids in recovery from the same affliction that plagued my young adult life. I get to come into work every day and spread a message of hope to those who need it most. Neither I, nor my coworkers have to lie or embellish upon our message. RECOVERY IS POSSIBLE.” – Josh Green, Peer Counselor

Josh, an outstanding citizen, college student and young leader today, took a dark road into drugs and alcohol. He is not alone, youth development is defined by marked increases and experimentation. For instance, alcohol use increases 81% from age 15 to age 18 (National Institute on Alcohol Abuse and Alcoholism). Seeking independence, youth lean into their peers and less on authority for their guidance, taking risks while unaware of each unique person's capacity to become dependent on alcohol or drugs.

Evidence shows that successful youth substance prevention and recovery programs are modeled in the same way: peer-to-peer. By engaging youth with other youth in recovery and staffed recovery coaches who have experienced the negative impacts of addiction, youth become open to adopting the new social skills, peer influences, education and social support offered by Rise Recovery. Rise Recovery addresses parents with equal emphasis to focus on what helps or hinders their young one's recovery.

An estimated eight million American children (1 in 10), live with at least one substance abusing adult (USDHHS). This significantly influences the likeliness that this child will develop a substance use problem (SAMHSA). We address prevention efforts in the most strategic way possible, offering support for those “near-risk” brothers and sisters, sons and daughters of a loved one who is using. We teach them how to effectively respond to their perception of drugs, their family and their futures.

We engage the entire family system by providing ongoing and open-ended services **at no fee to the families** who are already struggling with the financial burden of the legal, health and treatment expenses associated with this disorder. Rise Recovery's program is truly accessible to all those in need. With your support, our program will help our community break the cycle of youth substance use strategically and compassionately, one family at a time.

Brief statement of any previous funding received from the Harvey E. Najim Family

Foundation: Previous funding by the Foundation includes:

2007 (\$50,000) – infrastructure improvement through improved technology

2008 (\$44,500) – sent high-risk and at-risk youth to Extreme Youth Leadership & Action Camp

2010 (\$35,000) – support recovery and prevention services to local youth aged 17 and younger

2011 (\$20,000) – support counseling services for PDAP members

2012 (\$20,000) – support direct recovery and prevention services to youth

2013 (\$25,000) – support direct recovery and prevention services to youth

2014 (\$20,000) – support our technology improvement project

2015 (\$25,000) – support direct recovery, intervention, prevention, education services to youth

2016 (\$35,000) – support direct recovery, intervention, prevention, education services to youth

How the proposed project relates to the Najim Family Foundation's funding priorities:

Like the Najim Family Foundation, Rise Recovery is committed to making a positive and profound impact in the lives of youth in the Greater San Antonio Area. Both Foundation and Rise understand that substance use in a family increases the prevalence of so many other social ills like domestic violence, physical abuse, mental health issues, behavioral problems and the costly waste of community resources for health emergencies and justice services. The Najim Family Foundation and Rise also understand that investment in youth today prevent them from becoming the homelessness, addiction, and criminality statistics of tomorrow. Together, we aim to build healthier families, productive citizens, the improved health and wellness of a child, a family and a community.

Line-item budget for project in which funds are being requested:

Description	Project Allocation	Najim Requested Funds Allocation
Salaries, Payroll Taxes and Benefits	\$ 589,126	\$36,500
Program Expenses (Activities, Events, Supplies)	\$ 26,194	\$20,000
IT Support and Utilities	\$ 54,880	\$20,000
Insurance	\$ 11,250	
Rent Paid	\$ 3,000	
Building & Equipment Maintenance/Repairs	\$ 17,300	\$1500
Auto Expenses	\$ 20,500	\$12,000
TOTAL	\$ 722,250	\$90,000

The TOTAL project initiatives will impact 800 unduplicated children.**Najim Family Foundation will impact 100 unduplicated children**

Organization total revenue and expenses for current fiscal year: For current fiscal year 2017-2018 (July 1, 2017 – June 30, 2018), our total revenue budget is \$1,746,384 and our total expense budget is \$1,746,384.

Project timeline: The project timeline is ongoing for FY2018 (July 1, 2017 – June 30, 2018)

Brief project evaluation criteria: Rise Recovery recognizes that substance use causes systemic problems in a young person's and family's life, in areas that are critical to their future as productive, contributing healthy members of society. As a result, we measure active participant success through following outcomes 1) improved community productivity, such as increase in positive engagement in work, school and volunteerism 2) improved resiliency factors measured by the Developmental Assets which includes access to positive influences, mentors and after school activities and 3) increased use of recovery tools in place of substance use.

List other project funders (pending and committed foundations):

AE Leonard Family Giving Council	\$30,000	Pending
HEB Foundation	\$75,000	Pending
Kronkosky Foundation	\$75,000	Pending
United Way of San Antonio & Bexar County	\$230,250	Committed
State Grant Revenue	\$222,000	Committed

Contact information of primary and secondary person within organization:

Primary Contact: Michelle Poteet, Development Coordinator
P.O. Box 15322 San Antonio, TX 78212
Phone: 210.227.2634 | mpoteet@riserecovery.org

Secondary Contact: Evita Morin, LMSW, Executive Director
P.O. Box 15322 San Antonio, TX 78212
Phone: 210.227.2634 | emorin@riserecovery.org