

REPORT 2020 April Cycle

GENERAL INFORMATION

Organization Information

Legal Name: Children's Hunger Fund		Federal Tax ID#: 95-4335462	
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Head Of Organization

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Application Contact

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REPORT INFORMATION

Report Funding Cycle: 2020 April Cycle	Report Date: 04/01/2021 12:00 am
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1: Please include in your report the dollar amount of the funds that were awarded, the date they were funded and what the funds supported.

Awarded Amount: 30,000	Date: 05/06/2020
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2: Were the objectives cited in your original proposal met? Please address each started objective and how it was met.

Through the generosity of The Najim Charitable Foundation, CHF was able to deliver food to at-risk children throughout San Antonio. The objectives established for the original proposal were met.

A large number of children were impacted through The Najim Charitable Foundation funding, which provided greater access to food for food-insecure children throughout San Antonio. Last fiscal year (April 2019 - March 2020), a total of 11,899 Food Paks were distributed throughout South Texas. In the city of San Antonio, 4,244 Food Paks were delivered locally. Through the delivery of these Food Paks, children had greater access to foods of high nutritional value, resulting in a more balanced diet. Through The Najim Charitable Foundation funding, essential items were provided to fill these Food Paks. It costs CHF \$12, on average, to fill and distribute each Food Pak, so this funding helped provide the equivalent of 2,500 Food Paks.

In March of 2020, with the onset of the COVID-19 pandemic, there was a drastic increase in need all over the world. This increased need was visible in San Antonio. CHF is continuing to help meet the unprecedented demand brought on by the COVID-19 pandemic. CHF received an increase in product donations during this time. At its San Antonio Distribution Center alone, CHF received over 3,000 pallets of gift-in-kind donations for the COVID-19 relief effort, including fresh produce, to deliver directly to people in need. This exponentially increased the number of meals provided through CHF's Mercy Networks during this tumultuous time.

3: Please explain any changes from the original proposal and the circumstances that lead to the modification of the objective.

The objectives of the Food Pak program did not change. However, during the project period, CHF San Antonio had the opportunity to respond to the overwhelming demand brought about by the COVID-19 pandemic, and provide much needed aid to those affected throughout Texas. When this proposal was submitted in March of 2020, the goal was to deliver 7,584 Food Paks throughout San Antonio throughout the fiscal year (April 2019 - March 2020). As mentioned above, in San Antonio, over 4,244 Food Paks were distributed on San Antonio last fiscal year. This is less than anticipated, largely due to the lack of growth within the Mercy Network. It was estimated that about 10 - 20 churches would join the Mercy Network, but with the onset of COVID-19, this growth was not possible.

However, the bulk food that was provided in addition to Food Paks, substantially increased the amount of aid provided for each family. The increase food distribution, especially produce boxes provided to CHF through the USDA, became a great tool for CHF's church partners during this difficult season. Most churches distributed these much-needed boxes of food through announced and scheduled drive-by distributions. People would line up their cars and volunteers would fill their trunks with food, providing encouragement as well. This type of distribution allowed the church to become more visible in their communities and also allowed for Mercy Network partners to receive more personal contacts for later follow ups with Food Paks, expanding the reach of the program to more families.

4: What needs were addressed?

Children's Hunger Fund addressed the needs of food-insecure children throughout San Antonio. The Food Pak program delivers 20-pound boxes of nutritious food (i.e. rice, beans, canned fruits and vegetables, pasta, tomato sauce, etc.) to the homes of people in need. These boxes are designed to feed a family of four for about a week and contain approximately 48 meals each. What makes this program unique is that Food Paks are delivered by volunteers from local churches directly to the homes of the recipients, maintaining their dignity, and developing trusting relationships between caring volunteers and those being served. CHF trains these church members to begin spiritual conversations, share the gospel through mercy ministry, and also provides them with resources to reach families in need in their very own community with help and hope. This enables them be more effective, intentional, and gospel-centered. This relational model of home distribution is extremely effective. By mobilizing local community members to compassionately serve the poor, CHF is helping revitalize impoverished communities in San Antonio such as Wheatley Heights, Eastlawn, the far West side, and near East side San Antonio.

Despite many challenges presented through the COVID-19 pandemic, CHF's church partners continued to reach out to their communities. They met tangible needs in innovative ways. The pandemic did not prevent these faithful community members from distributing Food Paks to families who desperately needed them.

5: What method of evaluation did you use to monitor and measure the project's outcome and what are the result?

CHF gathers process and outcome data to measure success. Tools include: 1) Annual evaluations completed by CHF and each participating Mercy Network church (e.g., discussion with ministry leaders to determine effectiveness and ensure plan implementation); 2) When possible, on-site visits from CHF staff (e.g., meetings with pastors and attending Food Pak deliveries), though COVID-19 has required staff to complete virtual evaluations; 3) Monthly Statistical Reports required from each partner to track specific details on recipients (e.g., family size, number of children, two-parent or single-parent homes) as well as general details about the program (e.g. number of families, individuals, children served, number of unduplicated recipients); 4) Food Pak shipping receipts required to document the number of Food Paks received by each partner; 5) Mercy Network Training rosters used to record the people who have been trained by CHF; 6) Partner tracking logs maintained by CHF staff.

Typically, annual evaluation are conducted in person. In 2020, all of these evaluations were conducted over the phone, in a conference call with the pastor and/or the director. This year was unique and there were many questions that arose due to COVID-19. Home visits were difficult, safety was a concern, and different challenges arose throughout the year. However, the evaluations showed partners conducting the Food Pak program in innovative ways. Home visitation was done at the door and at a distance, with masks and other safety measures. Drive-by distributions were carried out as well. CHF partners never stopped serving those in need in their communities.

6: Do you plan to continue this project, and if so, how do you plan to sustain it?

CHF will continue this Food Pak program. In April of 2021, CHF will introduce a re-designed Food Pak. This box will hold approximately 8 pounds of food, which will be a mix of family meal items and kid-specific items as well. This box is designed specifically for children, and CHF anticipates it will have an even greater impact. With this new box, each child in the home will receive their own Food Pak, and volunteers from the community will be able to reach each child personally.

CHF has served San Antonio for over a decade and plans to sustain this program by building long-term partnerships with three entities: 1) Mercy Network churches, located in low-income, food-insecure areas that deliver Food Paks to those in need in their communities; 2) Resource Churches that contribute filled Food Paks or monetary gifts; 3) individuals, corporations, and community groups that provide in-kind donations, cash, and volunteer contributions. Many food items that go into Food Paks are donated by grocery stores, warehouse stores, food corporations, etc. Food Pak items that are not donated are purchased in bulk. CHF receives gift-in-kind donations of bulk food, clothing, toys, and other resources that are distributed through a large network of trusted partners. So far this fiscal year, over \$100 million dollars' worth of gift-in-kind donations have been received by CHF, with over \$11 million of that total coming in through the San Antonio Distribution Center, providing even more support throughout Texas.

7: Please provide any other comments of information relevant to this grant.

CHF is extremely grateful for the many families who received help and hope through the generosity of The Najim Charitable Foundation!

8: Please provide an updated detailed projected budget with expenses for the received grant. Also include the totals for the budgeted and actual amount. Explain any discrepancies between the budgeted and the actual expenses for the project.

Line Item Description	Total Project Funds Allocation	Najim Requested Funds	Project Funds Actual	Najim Funds Allocation
Food Pak Purchases (e.g., canned vegetables)	\$195,534	\$30,000	\$158,496	\$30,000
Freight for Donated Food	\$45,000	\$0	\$86,786	\$0
Freight for Purchased Food	\$15,000	\$0	\$15,000	\$0

Food Pak Supplies	\$500	\$0	\$2650	\$0
Warehouse Personnel	\$30,000	\$0	\$127964	\$0
Program Personnel (Train/Mentor)	\$62,500	\$0	\$77249	\$0
TOTAL:	\$348,534	\$30,000	\$468,145	\$30,000
Signature				
Michael Richards				