

# REPORT 2019 October Cycle

## GENERAL INFORMATION

### Organization Information

<b>Legal Name:</b> Family Violence Prevention Services		<b>Federal Tax ID#:</b> 74-1994151	
<b>Address:</b> 7911 Broadway	<b>City:</b> San Antonio	<b>State:</b> TX	<b>Zip Code:</b> 78209
<b>Website:</b> www.fvps.org		<b>Fax:</b> (210) 930-3669	

### Head Of Organization

<b>Name:</b> Marta Prada Pel?ez	<b>Title:</b> President/C.E.O.
<b>E-Mail Address:</b> FVPS-CEO@fvps.org	<b>Phone:</b> (210) 930-3669

### Application Contact

<b>Name:</b> Melinda Darrow	<b>Title:</b> Manager of Agency Advancement	<b>E-Mail Address:</b> melinda.darrow@fvps.org	<b>Phone:</b> (210) 930-3669
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## REPORT INFORMATION

<b>Report Funding Cycle:</b> 2019 October Cycle	<b>Report Date:</b> 10/29/2020 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: 75,000	Date: 10/23/2019
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**2: Were the objectives cited in your original proposal met? Please address each started objective and how it was met.**

The proposed objective was to serve an unduplicated 750 children receiving FVPS's children's services, including 475 with The Najim Charitable Foundation funds. There were a total of 728 unduplicated children served at the Battered Women and Children's Shelter (BWCS), which was slightly more than half (52%) of the shelter population. This also represented 63,789 meals served and 21,263 bed nights allocated specifically to children. At the BWCS, children are provided with shelter, material needs, specialized children's programming and counseling, and food - 3 nutritious meals a day, in addition to food for snacks and special events. The majority of children at the shelter were aged 9 and under.

FVPS's total food budget came in at \$223,325. The grant of \$75,000 gift calculates to 34% of this budget, and 34% of the children served would be 247 children served with Foundation funds. While the proposed objectives were not entirely met according to these calculations, there were extenuating circumstances - explained in more detail below.

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

With the advent of the COVID-19 pandemic, FVPS saw both a temporary decrease in shelter client numbers and a significant increase in food costs. FVPS, recognizing that keeping the BWCS open was a literally life saving choice, committed to doing so. To keep the shelter open to those in need while facilitating safety for residents and staff, however, at times intake policies were altered to prioritize those at imminent risk of harm. Additionally, during the initial stay-home, work-safe order and early months of the pandemic, calls to FVPS's hotline decreased. This trend was anecdotally corroborated by other family violence entities, leading to concern that the trend represented not decreased need but rather the reality that victims spending more time with abusers were less able, or more afraid, to seek help. For these reasons, annual shelter client numbers were lower than anticipated.

At the same time, food costs increased. In response to the pandemic and the city's stay-home, work-safe order, FVPS cancelled third party fundraising events and initially closed, and later restricted activities at, its donation center. Meanwhile, to promote safety at the shelter, residents were restricted from leaving the campus for non-essential activities. Children were home from school, and some adults were not working for a period of time. More people were therefore on site all day, every day- representing increased demand for food.

#### **4: What needs were addressed?**

Children are always victims of domestic violence, whether or not they are directly injured. The COVID-19 pandemic didn't change this reality; it exasperated it, adding additional stress and uncertainty to children already exposed to traumatic situations. The Najim Charitable Foundation funds facilitated FVPS's ability to provide children and their families with a refuge and supportive assistance during a period of unusual uncertainty and anxiety. There is a correlation between Domestic Violence (DV) and poverty, Hahn and Potmus (2013) asserted that domestic violence "forces many women to enter poverty and become trapped by it". This can prove a barrier to women looking to remove their children from an abusive situation, as they may not know how they will feed, house, and provide for the children apart from the abuser's income, or may feel obligated to return to the abuser for fear they cannot support their family. During the pandemic, this became even more difficult- as barriers to employment, housing, and child care made the transition to lives independent of abuse more complicated, and led to extended shelter stays.

Food insecurity, DV, and childhood adversity are linked. Jackson et. al (2018) found that in persistently food-insecure households the probability of victimization or exposure to violence in early childhood was 6 times that of those in-food secure homes. Childton et. al (2013) found that violence exposure "may be a significant factor in experiences of hunger." Funds from The Najim Charitable Foundation helped to address both food insecurity and violence exposure.

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

FVPS tracks the total food budget, the total client count across programs, and relevant demographics. Staff collect this information and enter it into the Alice database, FVPS's client management system. This project provided thousands of meals to hundreds of children, helping to promote food security during insecure times.

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

FVPS plans to continue providing food to children in need, as food is a vital basic need for children in vulnerable families. As need increases, FVPS plans to continue seeking funding resources to meet increased demand- and has designated development staff for this purpose. FVPS seeks funds from federal, state, and local sources, including foundations, corporations, and individual donors. FVPS also traditionally holds three fundraisers each year- Nutcracker Sweets, Honoring Mothers, and the Purple Run.

#### **7: Please provide any other comments or information relevant to this grant.**

Domestic Violence (DV) and Intimate Partner Violence (IPV) are serious, intransigent problems in Bexar County. Both family violence incidents and intimate partner fatalities have increased in recent years, with the county having some of the highest rates in the state. Bexar County saw a 4% increase in family violence incidents from 2017-2018 (TX DPS), and had the second-highest number of intimate partner murders, according to TCFV's Honoring Texas Victims Report (2019).

There has been evidence that the COVID-19 pandemic has led to the potential for serious repercussions on domestic violence victims. The exhortation to stay home can increase time with a perpetrator, and decrease outside notice. Restrictions on movement can also decrease opportunities for help seeking and limit access to normal coping methods (Bradbury-Jones, 2020). The attendant economic crisis can hurt victims in two ways- making it even more difficult for victims to leave, and increasing known risk factors of violence (unemployment, limited resources) (Mazza et. al, 2020; Campbell, 2020). There is fear, and some reports, of increased domestic homicides and homicide risk. This may be related to increased gun sales, and increased parenting stress (Bradbury-Jones, 2020; Mazza et. al, 2020). In times like these the work of FVPS and the BWCS are especially important for children and their families, and FVPS sincerely appreciates the support of The Najim Charitable Foundation in helping meet these children's needs.

**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.**

<b>Line Item Description</b>	<b>Total Project Funds Allocation</b>	<b>Najim Requested Funds</b>	<b>Project Funds Actual</b>	<b>Najim Funds Allocation</b>
Food for Children at the BWCS	\$175,000	\$75,000	\$223,325	\$75,000
<b>TOTAL:</b>	<b>\$175,000</b>	<b>\$75,000</b>	<b>\$223,325</b>	<b>\$75,000</b>

**Signature**

Marta Prada Pelaez