

REPORT 2019 October Cycle

GENERAL INFORMATION

Organization Information

Legal Name: H.I.S. BridgeBuilders - San Antonio		Federal Tax ID#: 81-2967361	
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Head Of Organization

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Application Contact

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REPORT INFORMATION

Report Funding Cycle: 2019 October Cycle	Report Date: 08/12/2019 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: 15,000	Date: 10/28/2019
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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 First Goal: Our initial Developmental Assets Profile assessment was part of the Excel Beyond the Bell San Antonio (EBBSA) initiative. The network has worked in conjunction with the SEARCH institute to develop a new, more San Antonio specific, organizationally focused assessment tool, which we are now using. It will take several iterations to develop a baseline, which is also hindered by the reduced number of attendees due to the coronavirus. The survey also focuses on social and emotional behavior and responses. Initial results from a small sample are very favorable, towards the organization.

The Second Goal: To have 100 unduplicated students read no fewer than 2000 books. We had 46 children who read 1400 books due to the shortened summer session because of the coronavirus.

The Third goal: To have 90% of students move from grade to grade successfully. To date this has been accomplished. Since the children are not all in school, the results are not known for the total sample: only for those who have returned to school.

The Fourth goal: To have our Student/Teacher ratio at 5:1 or less. We have accomplished this goal
Our academic, behavioral, and attendance goals were met.

Our home visits in the neighborhood were more than doubled from the period Jan - September 2020.

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

Because of the COVID restrictions, our group meeting plans had to be modified. During the three months when group meetings were canceled, we spent the time providing grocery bags full of food to the children and their families. While we did not get to spend as much time with the children as we normally would have, we were able to significantly increase our contacts with the family as a whole. For example, we delivered bags of groceries to each family (about once every 7-10 days). Through that outreach, we got to know care givers, and siblings who do not come to our program, better than before the food delivery program. Because of this change in contact opportunity, we now know families better, and we were able to meet new families as they moved into the neighborhood. When we did start the OST (reading) in July, we were able to enroll virtually a full complement of children. We used the state guidelines for Day Care Centers and Day Camps. (1. Everyone's temperature is taken before entering the building. 2. Everyone wears a mask. 3. Social distancing is maintained. 4. Materials are used by only one student and are not shared. 5. Snacks are all prepackaged. 6. Students take food home; they do not eat on premises. 7. The attendees are divided into two groups to support proper social distancing. 8. The area is disinfected between the groups. 9. Hand sanitizer stations are available at entrances/exits. Only one entrance is used to simplify temperature taking.) The summer program started with reading only, but has now been expanded to include math assessment by an elementary school math curriculum specialist who also designs special activities for children assessed in order to fill in gaps of understanding discovered in the assessments. Additionally, we have sports specialists who are leading outdoor play time in accordance with COVID restrictions.

4: What needs were addressed?

Our program addresses a variety of needs in the community. We have the flexibility to shift emphasis to meet unexpected requirements such as providing food during a pandemic. Our primary goals of helping with education and health needs were also addressed by volunteer specialists. For example, helping children who bring their tablets/laptops to work on lessons assigned in their virtual classes. We are blessed to have more than adequate internet facilities to allow us to help all who need it. Also, we organized a special day to do vision screening for residents in the neighborhood. Appointments were made so social distancing was observed and masks were required. Five young people and two adults saw the doctor; one glaucoma patient was discovered who was not aware of the disease.

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

We continue to participate with EBBSA and profit from the statistical data they provide which indicates that students who attend regularly score better in academics, as well as in behavioral and attendance measures, than the average for their district. We have also profited from an elementary teacher/curriculum developer who has been able to evaluate our students on a more individual basis. She is helping us meet the children's specific math and reading needs.

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

We have continued this project for 14 years and have no intention of stopping it. We have several individuals, businesses, and non-profit donors who are faithful in their support. We expect them to continue. We also have a core of workers and volunteers who can perform the duties required to accomplish our goals. We have grown in these areas. Even during the pandemic, we have not had to fire anyone or reduce our workloads except to meet restrictions. We own all our properties debt free, and we have the space to accomplish the activities we have been doing. We have had several volunteers since July who have been released from duties in other non-profits and wanted to continue working in the neighborhood.

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

As noted above, we have been able to continue to pay our usual salaries and maintain, and even expand, many of our programs despite the current pandemic. The grant certainly played a role in that provision. We did not spend as much on snacks as projected since we had 4 months when the children did not regularly meet. We reallocated those funds to the building expense line. Also, we paid our employees even though the program was not as robust as it had been. Since we had the funds, we paid everyone as usual. We had two employees resign at the end of the summer; we hired two employees in their places. For a few pay periods we had both the former and current employees on the payroll.

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
Salaries	\$50,000	\$9,000	\$58,106	\$9,000
Awards	\$5,200	\$2,000	\$6,300	\$2,000
Food/Snacks	\$7,700	\$3,000	\$2,350	\$2,350
Building Expenses	\$13,000	\$1,000	\$13,000	\$1,650
Volunteer/InKind Word	\$41,100	\$0	\$37,244	\$0
TOTAL:	\$117,000	\$15,000	\$117,000	\$15,000

Signature

Melvin Fechner, Executive Director