

REPORT 2019 October Cycle

GENERAL INFORMATION

Organization Information

Legal Name: San Antonio Lighthouse for the Blind		Federal Tax ID#: 74-1339051	
Address: 2305 Roosevelt Ave	City: San Antonio	State: TX	Zip Code: 78210
Website: https://www.salighthouse.org/		Fax: (210) 533-5195	

Head Of Organization

Name: Mike Gilliam	Title: President/CEO
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Application Contact

Name: Samantha Talley	Title: Grant Manager	E-Mail Address: stalley@salighthouse.org	Phone: (210) 531-1534
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REPORT INFORMATION

Report Funding Cycle: 2019 October Cycle	Report Date: 09/15/2020 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: 35,000	Date: 11/06/2019
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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 objectives cited in the original proposal for SALBVI Blind Children's STEM Program were met.

Objective 1: To serve 50 blind and visually impaired children with STEM activities.

SALBVI served 62 unique children with STEM activities to include coding, robotics, sound engineering, Rube Goldberg Machine Build, and high school technology classes designed for the blind and visually impaired.

Objective 2: Students served will demonstrate an increase in STEM knowledge.

100% of students increased skills in STEM areas as determined through pre/post assessments, observations, and student reports.

Objective 3: 90% student will report satisfaction with STEM programming.

100% of students, parents, and teachers expressed satisfaction with the program design, increase in skills and knowledge, and overall experience through surveys, verbal, and written communications.

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

Due to the COVID-19 health crisis we hosted all spring and summer programming via remote learning channels. Acquiring the skills needed to participate in remote learning was a STEM/technology learning experience for all our children/families. We provided technology coaching in small groups and one-on-one. We loaned technology to families without access, thanks to our Technology Lending Library made possible through previous Najim Foundation support! Due to the nature of at-home remote learning, we extended enrollment to include siblings. Each week we packaged and mailed all materials needed for the upcoming camp for every family. For technology, we also included return UPS shipping with home pick-up so that our families would not risk additional exposure.

Students and parents participated in STEM programming through our private FaceBook Groups and Zoom utilizing a variety of devices and platforms including smart phones, tablets, laptops and desktops; iOS, Samsung, Mac, and Windows.

We were not able to launch Apple Everyone Can Code/Swift Playgrounds due to the hands-on nature of the initial teaching needed to develop the program. We plan to initiate this programming once in-person services resume.

4: What needs were addressed?

1. Participation, knowledge, and interest in the STEM areas of learning for students who are blind and visually impaired were increased.
2. Children and families were supported in learning new technology skills and increasing known skills.
3. Access to technology and STEM learning was increased for blind and visually impaired children.
4. The unique learning needs of blind and visually impaired children were addressed to increase interest, access, and success. These include auditory, large print, braille, and tactile graphics materials and supports. STEM activities were designed with blind and visually impaired children in mind and all materials and technologies were made accessible.

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

Staff collected data through sign-in sheets, online participation tracking, pre/post assessments, and survey information. Staff entered participant information and program data into the client software, ETO and key performance indicators was analyzed and monitored on a monthly basis.

100% of students increased skills in STEM areas as determined through pre/post assessment, observation, and student report.

100% of students, parents, and teachers expressed satisfaction with the program design, increase of skills and knowledge, and overall experience through surveys, verbal and written communications.

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

Our Robotics Coach and Sr. Program Manager have a STEM plan in place for the upcoming year which will focus on skill-building rather than competition. As long as COVID-19 guidance is in place we will focus on the safety of our children, families, and staff by offering remote learning opportunities, 1:1 tutoring, and very small groups practicing social distancing.

We currently have most of the equipment and staff in place to maintain current programming. However, our goal is to continue to increase accessibility to STEM programming and Assistive Technology for blind and visually impaired children. We will work with our school and community programs to leverage existing resources to offer uninterrupted STEM programming. SALBVI dedicates efforts to support the Children's Program funding through special events such as the Blind Golf Tournament and Art in the Dark. SALBVI also supports the Children's Program through grant writing to maintain and expand the programming available to our blind and visually impaired children.

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

The grant funds supported delivery of STEM materials to virtual summer campers' homes as well as the cost of specialized STEM instructors. Because we mailed all materials to each family, we needed many more sets of STEM materials such as CodeJumper, Lego EV3, tool sets, midi keyboards with sound boards, etc. Without your generous support we could not have provided a robust, hands-on, virtual learning environment during the COVID-19 pandemic shut down.

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
Children's Program Staff	\$212,112	\$30,125	\$212,000	\$0
Orientation and Mobility	\$2,800	\$2,800	\$2,800	\$0
Technology Coach	\$3,000	\$3,000	\$9,000	\$9,000
Robotics Coach	\$2,700	\$2,700	\$2,700	\$2,700
Technology Camp supplies	\$1,000	\$1,000	\$14,158	\$14,158
Code Jumper system	\$7,000	\$7,000	\$8,292	\$8,292
Optical Vision aids	\$3,800	\$3,800	\$850	\$850
TOTAL:	\$232,412	\$50,425	\$249,800	\$35,000

Signature
Samantha Talley