

FUNDING APPLICATION

GENERAL INFORMATION

Organization Information

Legal Name: RecoveryWerks!		Federal Tax ID#: 47-3519239		501(c)(3) Public Charity 509 (a)(1)	
Address: 618 Comal Ave B1		City: New Braunfels		State: TX	
				Zip Code: 78130	
Website: www.recoverywerks.org		Fax: (830) 310-2456		United Way Funded: Yes	

Fiscal Year: April 01 to March 31

Head Of Organization

Name: Debi Dickensheets		Title: Executive Director	
E-Mail Address: ddickensheets@recoverywerks.org		Phone: (830) 310-2456	

Application Contact

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Previous Najim Funding

Year	Funding \$
2019	\$40,000
Total	\$40,000

Has the organization applied to the Najim Family Foundation in the past and been declined? No

Grant Amount Requested \$: \$40,000	Total Project Budget \$: \$431,815	Organization's Annual budget \$: \$431,815
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Mission Statement:
Recoverywerks! provides proven recovery support services in a safe and nurturing environment for teens and families in rural communities affected by substance use. We educate, partner with local agencies, and advocate for strong community support systems to reduce the stigma of addiction and increase recovery success.

PROJECT INFORMATION

Program / Project Title: Alternative Peer Group Recovery - Teens and Families

PROJECT TIMELINE

Start Date 04/01/2020	End Date 03/31/2021
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Harvey E. Najim Family Foundation Priorities:

Substance Abuse

Program / Project Description:

About 90% of addiction starts in the teenage years. In 2018, approximately 1.2 million adolescents in the United States had a substance use disorder and less than 10% of those adolescents received treatment. For those adolescents who were fortunate enough to receive inpatient treatment, approximately 86% were referred to 12 step groups during or following their inpatient treatment program. Adult 12 step recovery programs do not offer age appropriate support and can be detrimental to healthy social development. Along with these figures, the hardships brought upon from the COVID-19 pandemic is indicating an increase in substance use disorders throughout the state of Texas at a rate of 51,000 more cases and 500 more overdoses in the next year. RecoveryWerks! is the only organization that is filling this gap in Comal County providing adolescents with age appropriate recovery support services for substance use disorder and/or substance abuse and their families at no cost.

RecoveryWerks! uses the Alternative Peer Group (APG) model of recovery which is proven successful in the treatment of substance use disorders in adolescents and in the healing of families. We serve teenagers (ages 13 to 17), young adults (ages 18 to mid 20's) and their family members (ages 9 years old and above) affected by substance use. These services consist of:

1. **Support Group Meetings:** 11 meetings per week including 3 for teens, 3 for young adults, 3 for adult family members, 1 for non-using siblings, and 1 education meeting. The education meeting is for parents and teens to learn about the disease of addiction. Meetings are offered at two locations.
2. **Counseling and Peer coaching services:** One on one counseling and family counseling with a Licensed Chemical Dependency Counselor (LCDC) or a certified peer recovery specialist is available to all clients at no cost.
3. **Workshops, education, and book studies:** Interactive meetings that focus on a particular topic, provided for group members seeking additional support and resources. Education meetings are provided to local professionals to increase an understanding of substance use disorder and reduce stigma. This helps build a stronger recovery community for our teens and families.
4. **Sober social activities:** Evening and weekend sober social outings for teens, young adults, and family members. Sometimes activities are combined or are exclusive to each group. This also includes weekend retreats.
5. **Supervised Study Time:** Offered to teens working a recovery program who choose not to return to the traditional high school environment due to the influence of drugs/alcohol. We offer up to 12 hours of supervised study time (Monday - Friday) to our teens who have opted to complete their high school graduation requirements online. Several of our teen clients have expressed concern about their ability to maintain sobriety and remain in their current high school. Providing supervised study time offers a safe environment for the students and give parents peace of mind that their love ones are safe.
6. **Outreach:** Community outreach is essential to reducing stigma and in building a strong recovery community. Our outreach includes monthly newsletters, participation in community wide information fairs, mental health working groups, and having an active social media presence.

Our goals for client change apply to all groups; teens, young adults and family members. These goals are: to recognize they are not alone and that there is help, to learn the tools to get/stay sober, and to embrace long term recovery. For family members, sober refers to emotional sobriety which looks like peace of mind, despite difficult circumstances. Desired outcomes for all clients during the first year are improved relationships, improved ability to communicate, and increased understanding of substance abuse and substance use disorder. Actual outcomes for FY20 of our clients vested in recovery included 91% of clients reported better understanding of healthy behavior and relationships; 90% of clients reported increased understanding of Substance Use Disorder; and 100% reported feelings of connectedness, purpose, and hope following retreats. We also measure program milestones; for teens and young adults these milestones are one month and one year of sobriety, for family members these are one month and one year of program participation. In FY20, we celebrated 130 of these milestones including 71 for our teens/young adults and 59 for our family members.

We experienced 95% growth in our client base in CY19 with 439 clients served compared to 225 clients served in CY18. Our reach to adolescents grew from 92 adolescent clients in 2018 to 210 in 2019. This growth is largely due to a Memorandum of Understanding with Comal County Juvenile Probation and our partnership with the Comal Discipline Center which led to about 50% of our referrals coming from these organizations. We continue to look at ways to work with other similar organizations in Comal County.

During the COVID-19 pandemic, we transitioned all recovery support services to an online format to ensure the safety of clients and staff. We will continue to offer online support services as an option for our clients as we transition to in person services. Funding is required to continue these services in this under-served area where no other program exists to help young people work towards sobriety.

Evaluation Plan:

Program evaluation is done through the collection of quantitative and qualitative data. Quantitative data for program participation is collected through our client database tracking software through using sign-in sheets for meetings, workshops and activities; counselor assessments following appointments; and reaching recovery milestones. Qualitative data for personal improvement and knowledge gained is collected through our client database tracking software using newcomer & quarterly client surveys and counselor assessments. Our experience shows that for clients who are working a program (i.e, regular meeting attendance, counseling appointments, working the 12 steps with a sponsor, and participating in workshops and activities) there is a high probability (90% and higher) they will experience improved communications, improved relationships, increased understanding of substance use disorder and hope for the future.

Plans to sustain project beyond the term of this request:

As a young nonprofit, RecoveryWerks! sustainability efforts are focused on building the right mix of board members from the local community, relationship building, intentional community outreach and messaging, and building our individual donor base. We also continue to seek out new funders who have an interest in supporting recovery services for youth in rural, under-served communities. The Kronkosky Charitable Foundation, The McKenna Foundation, The Meadows Foundation, The GVTC Foundation, and the United Way of Comal County have demonstrated a strong commitment through multiple grants in support of RecoveryWerks! efforts in Comal County. Our development committee that is led by two of our board members is helping us build a realistic funding mix for FY21 and beyond by growing our individual donor base, reaching out for corporate donations, increasing awareness and event income, and reducing our reliance on foundation support.

Children Impacted:

How many unduplicated children will the TOTAL PROJECT INITIATIVE impact?	How many unduplicated children will NFF REQUESTED FUNDS impact?
200	200

Please provide the percentage of each group below that will be served by the project in which funds are being requested. Do not leave any area blank. If that specific group will not be served, include zero. The percentage should total 100%.

A. Population Served Age		B. Population Served Ethnicity	
Infants (0-5)	0%	African American	6%
Children (6-13)	6%	Asian American	2%
Young Adults (14-18)	94%	Caucasian	37%
TOTAL:	100%	Hispanic/Latino	50%
		Native American	3%
		Other and Define	2%
		TOTAL:	100%

City Council District for Which Children are Being Served:

Outside San Antonio

Counties applicant is in:

Comal

Line item Budget:

Line Item Description	Total Project Funds Allocation	Najim Funds Allocation
Advertising/Promotional	\$1,700	\$0
Business Expenses	\$100	\$0
Professional Fees	\$22,631	\$0
Facilities and Equipment	\$66,400	\$10,000
Marketing	\$1,425	\$0
Office Expenses	\$1,500	\$0
Operations	\$25,113	\$0
Insurance	\$4,000	\$0
Payroll Expenses	\$308,946	\$30,000
TOTAL:	\$431,815	\$40,000

OTHER FUNDING RESOURCES

For Project being Requested: Funding sources and amounts, pending and committed.

PROJECT - PENDING

Funder Name	Amount Requested
Kronkosky Charitable Foundation	\$60,000
McKenna Foundation	\$50,000
Baptist Health Foundation of San Antonio	\$50,000
San Antonio Area Foundation	\$15,000
The Meadows Foundation	\$50,000
CHRISTUS Fund	\$40,000
GVTC Foundation	\$10,000
United Methodist Healthcare	\$25,000
The Will Smith Foundation	\$25,000
The Burdine Johnson Foundation	\$15,000
The Garrison Family Foundation	\$15,000

Fundraising	\$47,500
Individual Donations	\$37,500
TOTAL:	\$440,000

PROJECT - COMMITTED

Funder Name	Amount Requested
United Way of Comal County	\$20,000
Paycheck Protection Program Loan	\$44,700
TOTAL:	\$64,700

Other funding sources and amounts, pending and committed not specific to this request.

ALL OTHER ORGANIZATION REQUESTS - PENDING

Funder Name	Amount Requested
Same as Above - Operations Request	\$0
TOTAL:	\$0

ALL OTHER ORGANIZATION REQUESTS - COMMITTED

Funder Name	Amount Requested
Same as Above - Operations Request	\$0
TOTAL:	\$0

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

What percentage of your board contributes financially to the organization?
100%

If Board giving is not at 100%, please explain why?

How are board members expected to participate in your organization?
Board members participate in regularly scheduled board meetings (6 per year) and strategic planning sessions, provide financial oversight, attend community outreach activities and RecoveryWerks! fundraising events, provide financial support through an annual donation, and cultivate new donors. All board members are part of the Executive Committee and two board members serve on the Development Committee.

LIST OF BOARD DIRECTORS

Name & Office Held	Corporate Affiliation
Molly Dupnick, Board President	Kronkosky Charitable Foundation
John Daxon, Secretary	Department of Defense
LaNita Kelley, Treasurer	Parent
Jill Bazan	Atascosa County Juvenile Justice Department
Cindy Maier	Parent
Danny E. Wells	National Association of Realtors
Clayton Sponhaltz	Shadow Mountain at Ripple Ranch Recovery Center

Signature
Deborah Dickensheets