

# FUNDING APPLICATION

GENERAL INFORMATION			
Organization Information			
<b>Legal Name:</b> Connections Individual and Family Services	<b>Federal Tax ID#:</b> 74-2179169	<b>501(c)(3) Public Charity</b> 509 (a)(2)	
<b>Address:</b> 1414 West San Antonio Street	<b>City:</b> New Braunfels	<b>State:</b> TX	<b>Zip Code:</b> 78130
<b>Website:</b> www.connectionsifs.org	<b>Fax:</b> (830) 629-6571	<b>United Way Funded:</b> Yes	
<b>Fiscal Year:</b> September 01 to August 31			
Head Of Organization			
<b>Name:</b> Kellie Stallings		<b>Title:</b> Executive Director	
<b>E-Mail Address:</b> Kstallings@connectionsnonprofit.org		<b>Phone:</b> (830) 629-6571	
Application Contact			
<b>Name:</b> Jacob Huereca	<b>Title:</b> Chief Operating Officer	<b>E-Mail Address:</b> jhuereca@connectionsnonprofit.org	<b>Phone:</b> (830) 629-6571
Previous Najim Funding			
<b>Year</b>		<b>Funding \$</b>	
2019		\$25,000	
<b>Total</b>		<b>\$25,000</b>	
<b>Has the organization applied to the Najim Family Foundation in the past and been declined?</b> Yes 2008 - \$100,000, 2009 - \$50,000, 2013 - \$100,000			
<b>Grant Amount Requested \$:</b>	<b>Total Project Budget \$:</b>	<b>Organization's Annual budget \$:</b>	
\$36,000	\$1,176,320	\$5,117,058	
<b>Mission Statement:</b> The agency's mission is "Strengthening communities, one youth and one family at a time." Our tag line is: Empowering Youth. Connecting Families. Building Futures.			
PROJECT INFORMATION			
<b>Program / Project Title:</b> Child Abuse Prevention and Intervention			
PROJECT TIMELINE			
<b>Start Date</b>		<b>End Date</b>	
05/01/2020		08/31/2020	

## **Harvey E. Najim Family Foundation Priorities:**

### **Child Abuse & Child Neglect**

#### **Program / Project Description:**

The project activities will help provide trauma recovery for crime victims, prevent child abuse and resolve family conflict, and reduce risk factors that threaten the safety and stability of youth and families, such as substance abuse, emerging mental health issues, runaway behaviors, truancy, and exposure to criminal activity. While the agency receives federal and state grants that support most of the cost for such services, the governmental entities require that the community provides a match for funds received. In addition, governmental funds do not meet the actual cost to provide exceptional service to our children. This proposal will help us meet our foundation support required to help meet the match requirements to provide services to children who have been a crime victim, most often due to child abuse or neglect, serving a minimum of 300 youth. The funds will also provide counseling for children and families to prevent child abuse and resolve family conflict, with services for 1,029 children and their families. This program serves as a preventative measure to prevent serious mental health issues, homelessness, drug and alcohol abuse, teenage pregnancy, family violence and separation from their families. The services will be conducted in the following 11 counties in Texas; Comal, Zavala, Wilson, Karnes, Atascosa, Frio, Caldwell, Gonzales, Bastrop, Lee, and Guadalupe, with Najim Foundation support requested for the 4 counties of Comal, Guadalupe, Wilson, and Atascosa Counties.

According to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (2019), Adverse Childhood Experiences (ACEs) have a tremendous impact on future violence victimization and perpetration, and lifelong health and opportunity. Within our STAR Program the average A.C.E Score is 3.6, and within our Residential counseling program that that number dramatically averages 6.8. According to the CDC (2019), 1 in 5 individuals will have an A.C.E score above 3, so the youth entrusted in our programs are at significant risk for long term health impacts due to their exposure to trauma. Additionally, in 2019 the average number of child victims per 1,000 children in the target area is 45.69/1,000 (per TDFPS annual data book), which is over 10.9% higher than Bexar County's rate of 41.19/1,000 and 27.44% higher than the state rate of 35.85/1,000. For individual and family counseling purposes, the agency utilizes an array of therapeutic approaches and resources to ensure the healing and improvement of those served. The following outlines the many strategies and tools our agency has trained in and has counselors specialized in to meet the growing demand of youth which include; Solution Focused Brief Therapy, Trauma-Focused Cognitive Behavioral Therapy (TF-CBT), Trust Based Relational Intervention (TBRI), Motivational Interviewing, Eye Movement Desensitization and Reprocessing (EMDR), National Lifesmanship (equine therapy), Curriculum-Based Support Group Program (CBSG) and lastly Youth Positive Action.

To program's goals align with the Najim Foundation priorities as follows:

Goal One: Provide holistic, comprehensive assessment, service planning, and coordinated case management services to identify and address each youth's unique needs. Objective One- Ensure crisis stabilization for youth. Objective Two- Once admitted to counseling services, comprehensively assess each youth's unique strengths and needs. Objective Three- Ensure plans to assist the youth with a path to success are developed and implemented beginning from the start of services. Objective Four- Ensure an effective continuum of service linkage within the agency and community to promote positive outcomes/reduce risk factors that impact youth's life trajectory. Objective Five- Reduce youth maladaptive coping mechanisms and increase each youth's decision-making ability to make appropriate choices through education and skills training. Objective Six- Ensure that all services are provided within a framework of trauma-informed and evidenced-informed practices to facilitate long term recovery from trauma/victimization.

Expected Outcomes: 1. 75% of youth receiving counseling or skills training will demonstrate positive accomplishment of goals from the time of admission to end of services. 2. 75% of youth receiving services will show a decrease in specific risk factors from the time of admission until the end of services. 3. For youth receiving both counseling and residential care, ensure improvement from start to end of services as measured using the Thrive Survey.

Goal Two: Provide evidenced-based counseling for youth and families in the community to strengthen family communication, address emerging mental health issues, and address maladaptive coping skills that may threaten the safety of the child or family or impede healthy childhood development. Objective One-Decrease youth risk factors/Increase youth knowledge about the dangers of risk factors that may affect a healthy lifestyle so youth can make healthy, informed decisions. Objective Two- Provide awareness of and link at-risk youth/families to resources in the community. Objective Three- When family is involved in counseling, improve family protective factors through counseling services and parenting classes.

Expected Outcomes: 1. Family conflict will decrease and/or family protective factors increase based on self-report and on caregiver protective factor survey (primarily for prevention services). 2. 75% of youth receiving counseling or skills training will demonstrate positive accomplishment of goals from the time of admission to end of services. 3. 75% of youth receiving services will show a decrease in specific risk factors from the time of admission to after services have ended.

**Evaluation Plan:**

Each Connections program has its own evaluation plan to measure assess effectiveness. These measures are collected at intake and at discharge with counseling programs collecting the information 90 days after services. The agency's outcome measures for the purposes of this grant are as follows:

75% of youth receiving counseling/trauma recovery will show improvement in risk factors utilizing the THRIVE survey from the time of admission to the end of services.

80% of clients and referral sources will report satisfaction with program/services.

75% of youth and families participating in counseling will accomplish desired goals and client improvement.

90% of youth participating in curriculum-based education will show improvement in knowledge and perception of risk factors from pre to post-test.

**Plans to sustain project beyond the term of this request:**

Connections has worked hard to sustain its services through multiple funding streams. The agency budget also includes depreciation and minor maintenance and repairs to maintain upkeep of its buildings. The agency plans to deepen our relationship with community stakeholders to increase community investment in services and to prepare for any potential future capital needs. Connections will also begin building relationships with corporations and charitable foundations that have not funded the agency in the past in order to increase awareness of community need and engage potential donors in the agency's mission. The agency also regularly evaluates its organizational structure in order to maximize resources, address community need, and maintain cost-effective stewardship of all funding. If funded by the Najim Foundation, the agency will value and regularly maintain this investment, knowing that many children will benefit from this project results for generations to come.

**Children Impacted:**

<b>How many unduplicated children will the TOTAL PROJECT INITIATIVE impact?</b>	<b>How many unduplicated children will NFF REQUESTED FUNDS impact?</b>
850	850

**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%.**

<b>A. Population Served Age</b>		<b>B. Population Served Ethnicity</b>	
Infants (0-5)	10%	African American	4%
Children (6-13)	40%	Asian American	0%
Young Adults (14-18)	50%	Caucasian	49%

<b>TOTAL:</b>	<b>100%</b>	Hispanic/Latino	37%
		Native American	0%
		Other and Define	10%
		<b>TOTAL:</b>	<b>100%</b>

**City Council District for Which Children are Being Served:**

Outside San Antonio

**Counties applicant is in:**

Atascosa, Comal, Guadalupe, Wilson

**Line item Budget:**

<b>Line Item Description</b>	<b>Total Project Funds Allocation</b>	<b>Najim Funds Allocation</b>
Salaries-3 counseling supervisors, 14 counselors	\$801,070	\$25,000
Fringe Benefits	\$120,000	\$3,500
Training and Travel	\$20,000	\$5,000
Cost of Office Space (Rent, Utilities, Commun)	\$66,000	\$0
Supplies/Printing/Postage/Computer Svcs	\$17,250	\$2,500
Other-Insurance, Audit, etc.	\$15,000	\$0
Indirect Cost (administrative costs to program)	\$137,000	\$0
<b>TOTAL:</b>	<b>\$1,176,320</b>	<b>\$36,000</b>

**OTHER FUNDING RESOURCES**

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

**PROJECT - PENDING**

<b>Funder Name</b>	<b>Amount Requested</b>
Najim Family Foundation	\$50,000
Communities In Schools (subcont.)	\$25,000
Fundraising	\$49,067
Other Corporate/Foundation Support	\$40,000
	\$0
<b>TOTAL:</b>	<b>\$164,067</b>

**PROJECT - COMMITTED**

<b>Funder Name</b>	<b>Amount Requested</b>
Tx. Dept of Family and Protect Svcs	\$112,003
Office of the Governor-VOCA	\$60,000
Dept. of Health and Human Svcs.	\$35,000
TDFPS-PEI Division (STAR Program)	\$760,000
In and Out Burger	\$3,000
Valero	\$5,000

McKenna Foundation	\$35,000
	\$0
<b>TOTAL:</b>	<b>\$1,010,003</b>

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

**ALL OTHER ORGANIZATION REQUESTS - PENDING**

<b>Funder Name</b>	<b>Amount Requested</b>
The Anderson Foundation	\$35,000
United Way-Comal County	\$10,000
TDFPS (committed/but fee for servc)	\$1,800,000
Fundraising Events	\$147,184
Corporate/Foundation Support	\$200,000
<b>TOTAL:</b>	<b>\$2,192,184</b>

**ALL OTHER ORGANIZATION REQUESTS - COMMITTED**

<b>Funder Name</b>	<b>Amount Requested</b>
HHSC-TDSHS (subst. abuse preven.)	\$1,103,947
United Way-Comal and Guad. Cty	\$34,000
Office of the Governor (VOCA)	\$259,005
Dept. of Health and Human Svcs	\$153,931
In and Out Burger	\$3,000
TDFPS-PEI Division (STAR Program)	\$299,155
McKenna Foundation	\$86,833
<b>TOTAL:</b>	<b>\$1,939,871</b>

**BOARD OF DIRECTORS**

**What percentage of your board contributes financially to the organization?**

100%

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

N/A

**How are board members expected to participate in your organization?**

The Board Members participate in various committees, including an Executive Committee (that also oversees Strategic Planning and Finance), a Policy and Program Audit Committee, and a Fund Development Committee. Each board member is expected to serve on one of the board committees and to attend Board Meetings to remain an active member. Additionally, every board member volunteers for fundraising events, personally contacts community residents as part of the Big Give or other fundraising events, and donates time or in-kind products for youth served by the agency during special holidays. Every board member is required to make an annual financial contribution; agency records indicate that every board member financially contributed to the agency in the last fiscal year. Board members act as another agency voice to increase community awareness of the agency mission and to connect potential volunteers and donors to the agency.

**LIST OF BOARD DIRECTORS**

<b>Name &amp; Office Held</b>	<b>Corporate Affiliation</b>
Hal Holtman, President	Holtman and Company, CPA

Brent Perry, Vice-President	Chiropractor (on disability) and co-owner of a dental practice
Jane Childers, Secretary	Trinity University
Amy Cundiff-Treasurer	Heart of Illinois Special Recreation Association
Dawn Sloans, Member	Firstmark Credit Union
Sunny Allen, Member	College Student and employee at Kyle Correctional Facility
Caleb Scott, Member	High School Student and Co-Founder of FloatMe Inc
Dick Huiras, Member	President and Senior Partner for Edge 2 Edge Business Consultants
<b>Signature</b> Kellie Stallings	