

FUNDING APPLICATION

GENERAL INFORMATION			
Organization Information			
Legal Name: South Texas Alliance for Orphans	Federal Tax ID#: 82-2119250	501(c)(3) Public Charity 509 (a)(1)	
Address: 115 Kendall View Dr.	City: Boerne	State: Tx	Zip Code: 78006
Website: www.alliance4orphans.org	Fax: (210) 216-6223	United Way Funded: No	
Fiscal Year: January 01 to December 31			
Head Of Organization			
Name: Jennifer Smith		Title: Executive Director	
E-Mail Address: jennifer@alliance4orphans.org		Phone: (210) 216-6223	
Application Contact			
Name: Jennifer Smith	Title: Executive Director	E-Mail Address: jennifer@alliance4orphan s.org	Phone: (210) 216-6223
Previous Najim Funding			
Year		Funding \$	
2018		\$30,000	
2020		\$30,000	
Total		\$60,000	
Has the organization applied to the Najim Charitable Foundation in the past and been declined? No			
Grant Amount Requested \$: \$35,000	Total Project Budget \$: \$240,916	Organization's Annual budget \$: \$283,541	
Mission Statement: Alliance exists to serve and equip the church to fulfill the Biblical call to care for children and families impacted by the foster care system.			
PROJECT INFORMATION			
Program / Project Title: To support the Foster/Adopt Ministries for the "More than Enough" project by creating ministries in churches through guidance, training and support.			
PROJECT TIMELINE			
Start Date		End Date	
01/01/2021		12/31/2021	

Harvey E. Najim Charitable Foundation Priorities:

Foster Care-Adoption

Program / Project Description:

Our community has an insufficient number of quality foster and adoptive homes, prevention and support services compounded by fragmented community efforts. Due to the impact of Covid 19, all factors that lead to child abuse and neglect have drastically increased in our community. We have returned to having children and youth sleeping in hotels and Child Protective Services (CPS) offices due to the lack foster families. We lack over 800 safe, loving, trauma-informed families who are equipped and supported to serve children. On average over 6,000 children enter the foster care system each year. Children in our area have a 45.6% recidivism rate over the past 5 years. Nationally, 50% of families that start fostering this year will quit by next year due to lack of support often resulting in children moving 2-6 times before finding permanency. Our community's youngest, most innocent victims, abused and neglected children, bear the greatest impact of this crisis.

Research shows children's core needs to heal and beat deplorable odds require educated, supported, resourced, trauma informed families and community support. Research also tells us that utilizing the robust faith community in concert with local organizations to meet needs of children and families in our community creates the most cost efficient and effective strategy. The Alliance brings this integrated solution.

The Alliance is a trauma informed, family centric, collaborative organization that is creating and growing a movement through local faith communities in concert with local organizations. The Alliance's core strategy is the More Than Enough Initiative which seeks to equip and mobilize 100 faith communities, their families and the surrounding community to support biological family or provide a local foster, adoptive or kinship family for every child in our community.

The Alliance's target population is always children impacted by the foster care system. Our work to date shows that faith communities and their families are gaining awareness and creatively serving children and families. Additionally, we serve as a hub of communication for the latest research, other training opportunities, community wide events that benefit families, and a growing database for community resources. All Alliance Community Engagement events are open to any and all individuals in the community.

Our mission builds bridges between the under-accessed faith community and the overburdened local foster care system continuum. Our strategy includes awareness, training, equipping, collaboration and coordination. We serve in prevention of family breakdown, foster care capacity, and support along the full continuum.

In 2021, we are expanding our prevention efforts with the launch of Care Portal. Care Portal software platform allows CPS to enter the needs of families at risk of their children entering foster care and have community members meet those needs while also offering support in their local community.

To build foster care capacity, we mobilize the faith community through awareness of the crisis, minimizing the often-paralyzing fear of an overwhelming state system and equipping communities with a sustainable evidence-based model that can be tailored specifically to their demographics, location, collective potential and unique burden. For the Department of Family and Protective Services (DFPS) and Family Tapestry, which oversees the local foster care system, the Alliance provides committed, supported local families and collaborative initiatives that support families, youth, and caseworkers. Local families provide support, stability, access to biological family, access to caseworkers and services that the state desires for the children in their legal custody.

For the community, the Alliance serves as a collaborative hub with opportunities for individuals to find impactful ways to serve and for organizations to tap into an under accessed pool of volunteers. Programs include: Babysitting Collaborative, Support groups, Trauma training, KinMart, Hospital Sitters and Case Worker support. For collaborative organizations such as CASA, Thru Project, Ransomed Life, Fostering Educational Success, the Alliance serves as a force multiplier to allow them to efficiently connect with volunteers. The Alliance model has proven outcomes for children and their families through stability and placement within our community, activating thousands of individuals to serve in a variety of ways and providing a natural on-ramp for new foster families.

Alliance Model in Action:

March of 2020, the Ashley foster family, welcomed three siblings with a long history of broken placements and intense behaviors. Their faith community surrounded them with tons of support. Meals were delivered weekly, sitters from the Babysitting Collaborative gave them frequent breaks, retired teachers helped with virtual learning, other groups donated clothes, toys and fun holiday surprises. The family is now able to confidently move forward towards adoption because they have a great support team. This is one of many stories highlighting how our strategy of awareness, training, equipping, collaboration and coordination results in children finding local, healing homes and a supportive community.

The Alliance is creating a movement within our community so children who have experienced abuse and neglect will belong to trauma informed, supported families who are connected with community resources. Building the bridge between children and families in crisis, community resources and individuals willing to serve will create a community of More Than Enough. Long term, stable, supported family enable positive impact trickle down to other social sectors currently largely populated by adults who were in the foster care system, such as the homeless population, prison population and sex traffic victims.

Evaluation Plan:

Success for the Alliance means More Than Enough homes, resources and support for all families, children and youth impacted by the foster care system. The outcomes we will use to evaluate the impact are as follows:

- Greater than 95% of foster families actively engaged in an Alliance supported church will remain fostering after one year.
- Alliance supported; active church ministries activate 60 families to start the process to become foster families in 2021.
- Alliance supported, active church ministries will support 300 foster families in 2020.
- Educate, equip and connect churches with opportunities and events to serve biological families, foster families, grand-families, and caseworkers to ensure children have safe, thriving families and equipped caseworkers.
- Increase the number of caregivers and parents trained in Trauma Informed Care by 200 in our community, so children who have experienced trauma have a larger healing community in 2021.

Plans to sustain project beyond the term of this request:

We are currently starting year four of the More Than Enough project. To date the project has been funded by local foundations, faith communities and individuals. FY 2019 to 2020, we have grown our individual donations, diversified our foundation support and increased faith community donations. We have added a community engagement specialist and contracted with a communications team to meet the growth needs.

Children Impacted:

How many unduplicated children will the TOTAL PROJECT INITIATIVE impact?	How many unduplicated children will NCF REQUESTED FUNDS impact?
1,330	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
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Infants (0-5)	51%	African American	10%
Children (6-13)	30%	Asian American	1%
Young Adults (14-18)	19%	Caucasian	14%
TOTAL:	100%	Hispanic/Latino	72%
		Native American	0%
		Other and Define	3%
		TOTAL:	100%

City Council District for Which Children are Being Served:

District1, District2, District5, District7, District8, District9

Line item Budget:

Line Item Description	Total Project Funds Allocation	Najim Funds Allocation
Community Engagement	\$129,100	\$15,000
Trauma Training	\$60,674	\$5,000
Care Portal	\$51,142	\$15,000
TOTAL:	\$240,916	\$35,000

OTHER FUNDING RESOURCES

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

PROJECT - PENDING

Funder Name	Amount Requested
St. Luke's Lutheran Health Ministries	\$6,000
Kronkosky	\$50,000
First Presbyterian Church	\$25,000
TOTAL:	\$81,000

PROJECT - COMMITTED

Funder Name	Amount Requested
Community Bible Church	\$10,000
Texas Cavaliers	\$2,000
Tres Grace	\$20,000
TOTAL:	\$32,000

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

ALL OTHER ORGANIZATION REQUESTS - PENDING

Funder Name	Amount Requested
Gage Foundation	\$8,400
TOTAL:	\$8,400

ALL OTHER ORGANIZATION REQUESTS - COMMITTED

Funder Name	Amount Requested
Gary Seals	\$25,000
TOTAL:	\$25,000

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 commit to attend 75% of board meetings, actively participate in board decisions, and review and provide insight into financial statements. Board members have served as advocates for the Alliance in the community; educated themselves on current events, trends and research surrounding the foster care system; and held staff accountable for our three-year strategic plan developed in 2017. Board members also commit to various development opportunities and events including: adding personal notes to annual appeals, participating in prospect meetings, writing personal notes to strengthen donor relationships, and inviting guests to events. The 8 meetings held since January of 2020 have had 80% attendance. One hundred percent of board members made meaningful financial contributions to the Alliance in 2020.

LIST OF BOARD DIRECTORS

Name & Office Held	Corporate Affiliation
Teresa McCaleb, President	First Presbyterian Local Mission
Mike Sharrow, Vice President	C12 CEO, Board member of Breakthrough Moments, Hand and Hand Foundation
Melody McCrae, Secretary	Project Manager 1Prospect Technologies, LLC
Fred Wall, Treasurer	Retired Air Force
Jeffrey Kantor, Board Member	Adjunct Faculty at John Hopkins University
Jennifer Smith, Board Member	Founder, Executive Director of South Texas Alliance for Orphans, Family Tapestry Advisory Counsel, Board member of Texas Grandparents Raising Grandchildren

Signature

Jennifer Smith