

FUNDING APPLICATION

GENERAL INFORMATION

Organization Information

Legal Name: Chosen Care, Inc.	Federal Tax ID#: 81-2872095	501(c)(3) Public Charity 509 (a)(1)	
Address: 351 Main Plaza	City: New Braunfels	State: TX	Zip Code: 78130
Website: www.chosen.care	Fax: (830) 455-0101	United Way Funded: Yes	

Head Of Organization

Name: Jenni Lord	Title: Chief Executive Officer
E-Mail Address: jenclord@chosen.care	Phone: (512) 632-1599

Application Contact

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Previous Najim Funding

Year	Funding \$
2017	\$10,000
2018	\$25,000
Total	\$35,000

Has the organization applied to the Najim Family Foundation in the past and been declined?

Yes
2016 - \$24,475

Grant Amount Requested \$:	Total Project Budget \$:	Organization's Annual budget \$:
\$75,000	\$384,664	\$894,924

Mission Statement:

Chosen serves to strengthen families and help children heal from trauma. Chosen's mission is to support safe, loving and permanent homes for foster and orphaned children.

PROJECT INFORMATION

Program / Project Title:

To support and expand the Parent Education and Mentoring Program, which includes ground-breaking Dyadic Developmental Therapy.

PROJECT TIMELINE

Start Date	End Date
06/01/2019	06/01/2020

Harvey E. Najim Family Foundation Priorities:

Child Abuse & Child Neglect

Program / Project Description:

Chosen's Parent Education and Mentoring Program exists to meet the emotional needs of vulnerable foster and adopted children. Our custom approach not only addresses the individual child, but the holistic needs of the family. Our model of care includes a customized three-prong approach: 1.) Parent Education with life-on-life, trauma-specific coaching and a subsequent Trauma-informed Action Plan(R) (TAP(R)) for the entire family. Chosen's parent educators use Trauma Competent Caregiver curriculum and Trust-Based Relational Intervention(C) Practitioner curriculum as a foundation to train client parents on how to best care for their hurting children. 2.) Therapeutic services and resources that are trauma-specific. Matching parents with supplemental resources, therapeutic modalities and tools consistent with TBRI Principles further enhance the model of care. Attachment-focused services include Child Parent Relationship Therapy, Dyadic Developmental Psychotherapy, Adult Attachment Interviews, and trauma-informed therapists. 3.) Peer mentoring is available when stability has been accomplished using certified peer mentors who are trained at varying levels of trauma-informed techniques and are matched with clients that share a similar experience. Peer mentors provide support, reinforce concepts, and give accountability to ensure the action items of the TAP are completed.

Problem: there is a significant lack of critical post-placement support, which leaves families with good intentions, unequipped to meet the unique needs of a traumatized child. A matched child for a home is not enough. Children in the welfare system suffer trauma due to abuse, neglect, abandonment or the death of their biological parents. They are left with mental, neurological, psychological, relational and often physical pain. The impact of this trauma often renders children unable to receive the love their new families want to give. Frustration and feelings of rejection follow, perpetuating cyclical trauma and creating an even greater complexity of needs that the family is often unprepared to handle. Consequential problems include: lack of attachment, extreme behaviors fueled by fear and rejection, isolated families because of children's behaviors, strained family dynamics, parental resentment and dislike of the child, leading to extreme shame and guilt, abuse or desire to abuse the child, and dissolution of the adoption/foster placement; re-homing their children or placing them back into the child welfare system. By educating and mentoring parents and caretakers with trauma-informed, evidenced-based methods, caretakers are better enabled to effectively care for their children with the healing love that is desperately needed. Our holistic focus allows these children and families to heal, helping transform them into safe and reliable homes.

In 2018 we served 750 individuals. Additionally, in 2018, Chosen had zero foster disruptions or adoption dissolutions, meaning zero clients who went through our programs, for 6 months or longer, willingly re-homed their children or put them back in the child welfare system. This is vastly different from the general population where 50% of foster parents quit after one year and reportedly up to 25% dissolve their adoption. Chosen measures success in four major categories: parental stress levels, trauma symptom behaviors, parental ability to handle challenging behaviors, and numbers of dissolutions/disruptions. Chosen sees and expects to see decreases in the overall stress levels of foster/kinship/adoptive caregivers, as well as decreases in the trauma-symptom behaviors exhibited by the children served after six months or more of services. Because each child has experienced a different level of trauma, the initial stress and trauma levels are vastly different in each household. The target goal with each marker measured is to see each score to decrease after six months of services. Additionally, Chosen expects to see a decrease in stress levels as self-reported by caregivers after six months and an increase in the feeling of being equipped to parent foster/adopted children. Our primary goal is that the family does not break down and no one willingly puts their child back in the system.

Chosen has experienced accelerated growth over the past three years and been working diligently to increase capacity.

Past Growth in revenue:

2016 to 2017 - 25%

2017 to 2018 - 57%

2018 to 2019 - 31% (projected)

of people served:

2016: 71 (pilot launched in November 2016)

2017: 359

2018: 750

2019: 900 (projected)

We are currently in talks with Judge Sakai. Because of our proven outcomes, the Judge would like to see Chosen in children's court available for direct referral from all judges to families who are coming through. We are strategically planning for this project, and it could significantly boost the number served once it is launched. The Judge wants us to scale enough so that no family would be on a waiting list. To meet this requirement, we must add the program resources necessary to meet the anticipated demand. 900 served this year is a conservative estimate, and we expect continued large growth in 2020 due to Chosen's unique model of care.

We continue to see an increased demand for services and are working to build capacity. By equipping parents with trauma-specific tools, families are enabled to help their children heal. Our model of care has proven to be extremely effective in family transformation. Chosen continuously works to provide innovative initiatives using research-based techniques to help children heal and prevent future mental health issues. Chosen is seeking funding to become a Dyadic Developmental Psychotherapy-certified organization. This is an attachment-focused therapeutic tool that increases attachment between parent and child. This therapy has taken Europe by storm as the most effective treatment approach for children who have suffered from trauma. It is not widely known about in the United States. It is our hope to affect change in child welfare with the increased use of Dyadic Developmental and trauma informed therapy with clients.

The Najim Foundation's support of expansion to the Parent Education and Mentoring Program will provide six program staff members with ground-breaking Dyadic Developmental and therapy training. This would make Chosen the only organization in the area equipped to serve using this methodology. We would also be permitted to train future staff and outside mental health practitioners. Your support would also be used to provide program management support and advancements in program technology for this therapy.

Evaluation Plan:

Chosen uses:

- * Parent Stress Index
- * Trauma Symptom Checklist
- * Anxiety Survey
- * Stress Survey
- * Self-Assessment

Assessment tools are completed as the client enters the program, and again after six months of services, apart from the self-assessment, which is administered on a quarterly basis. Parent Stress Index and Trauma Symptom Checklist are scored and evaluated by Chosen staff, with unusual assessment results being consulted on a monthly basis with a licensed clinician. Anxiety Survey, Stress Survey, and Self-Assessments are administered and scored by Chosen staff. Chosen parent educators complete evaluations following each session with clients. Chosen also uses biopsychosocial intake and Adult Attachment Interview to ensure that the family is being supported holistically. Chosen's staff writes the Trauma Action Plan (R) based on a biopsychosocial assessment and full family history. A licensed clinician conducts the Adult Attachment Interview results and produces a detailed report and data at intake is evaluated by program staff.

Plans to sustain project beyond the term of this request:

In addition to seeking additional foundation contributions, corporate partners and individual donors, Chosen has two annual fundraisers that will both help sustain the Parent Education and Mentoring Program. Our 10th annual November race and 3rd annual benefit and auction in March of 2019 both yield program funding.

We have also implemented fee-based services for some clients who can afford to pay. Additionally, we are exploring the possibility of government reimbursement for post placement services.

Children Impacted:

How many unduplicated children will the TOTAL PROJECT INITIATIVE impact?	How many unduplicated children will NFF REQUESTED FUNDS impact?
550	550

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)	36%	African American	10%
Children (6-13)	36%	Asian American	0%
Young Adults (14-18)	28%	Caucasian	53%
TOTAL:	100%	Hispanic/Latino	27%
		Native American	0%
		Other and Define	10%
		TOTAL:	100%

City Council District for Which Children are Being Served:

District1, District2, District3, District4, District5, District6, District7, District8, District9, District10

Line item Budget:

Line Item Description	Total Project Funds Allocation	Najim Funds Allocation
Program Staff	\$208,573	\$0
Employee Benefits and Taxes	\$41,391	\$0
Professional Fees	\$37,400	\$0
Dyadic Development and Therapy Training	\$11,200	\$11,200
Books and Reference Materials	\$1,800	\$0
Program Technology/Supplies/Equipment for Therapy Svc.	\$6,600	\$3,800
Professional Staff Development	\$6,600	\$0
Therapy Program Management Support	\$60,000	\$60,000
Advertising & Marketing	\$3,200	\$0
Travel/Workshops/Conferences	\$6,100	\$0
Web Development	\$1,800	\$0
TOTAL:	\$384,664	\$75,000

OTHER FUNDING RESOURCES

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

PROJECT - PENDING

Funder Name	Amount Requested
United Way of Comal County	\$25,000
Downtown Rotary	\$10,000
Valero	\$25,000
Kronkosky	\$50,000
Meadows Foundation	\$86,500
TOTAL:	\$196,500

PROJECT - COMMITTED

Funder Name	Amount Requested
Baptist	\$37,500
Chick-fil-A	\$10,000
TOTAL:	\$47,500

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

ALL OTHER ORGANIZATION REQUESTS - PENDING

Funder Name	Amount Requested
Meadows Foundation	\$42,750
Gala	\$20,000
Race	\$20,000
TOTAL:	\$82,750

ALL OTHER ORGANIZATION REQUESTS - COMMITTED

Funder Name	Amount Requested
Individuals	\$28,000
Corporate Gifts	\$27,000
McKenna Foundation	\$30,000
Jamail Family Foundation	\$12,000
TOTAL:	\$97,000

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?

- * Stay informed about the Chosen's mission, services, policies and programs.
- * Review agenda and supporting materials prior to board and committee meetings.
- * Serve on committees as needed and offer to take on special assignments.
- * Give an annual gift according to personal means and participate in Chosen fundraising efforts.
- * Commit to Chosen as one of top three philanthropic priorities through gift of resources and time.
- * Cultivate nominees to Chosen's board of directors who can provide work, wisdom and wealth to support Chosen's mission.

LIST OF BOARD DIRECTORS

Name & Office Held	Corporate Affiliation
Zach Potts, President	CEO and Business Owner of Chanan Corporation, Kenergy Oilfield Solutions, Tundra Energy LLC, and JZ Realty Ltd
John Raimondo, Vice President	CEO and Business Owner of Pulmonair, Infinity Medical Equipment, and San Antonio Spine & Rehab
John Langdon, Treasurer	CFO of Midland Basin Partners and Basin Properties
Matt Hemberger, Director	Sales Office Director, The Wood Group - Fairway Independent Mortgage
Michele Norris, Director	AVP Contact Center Insights & Usability, USAA
Troy Herring, Director	CEO and Business Owner of Bioline Corporation
Heather Smith, Secretary	Retired Nurse; Chosen Mentor
Ed Mullins, Director	Senior Project Manager, Project Control
Paul Hoskins, Director	Founder and Owner P&M Hoskins Enterprises
Bob Buckley, Director	VP of Manufacturing, San Antonio Lighthouse for the Blind
Troy Blackmon, Director	VP of Field Ops, C12 Group
Dennis Noll, Development Chair	Retired, Former CEO of San Antonio Area Foundation
Signature	
Jenni Lord	