

FUNDING APPLICATION

GENERAL INFORMATION

Organization Information

Legal Name: VisionWorks, Inc.		Federal Tax ID#: 74-2924336		501(c)(3) Public Charity 509 (a)(1)	
Address: P.O. Box 692153		City: San Antonio		State: TX	
				Zip Code: 78269	
Website: www.visionworkscamps.org		Fax: (210) 683-9594		United Way Funded: No	

Head Of Organization

Name: Joel B Cavazos		Title: Executive Director	
E-Mail Address: joey@visionworkscamps.org		Phone: (210) 683-9594	

Application Contact

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Previous Najim Funding

Year	Funding \$
2017	\$50,000.00
2016	\$50,000.00
2015	\$50,000.00
2014	\$37,000.00

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

No

Grant Amount Requested \$:	Total Project Budget \$:	Organization's Annual budget \$:
\$50,000	\$305,088	\$390,588

Mission Statement:

To enhance the lives of children and their families who are dealing with a life-threatening illness through residential camping and other outdoor experiences designed to positively affect their emotional, physical, and spiritual needs.

PROJECT INFORMATION

Program / Project Title:

To support Camp Discovery, a week-long residential camp for children ages seven to sixteen throughout Texas that are battling cancer.

Harvey E. Najim Family Foundation Priorities:

Medical Needs

Program / Project Description:

Camp Discovery is a children's oncology camp established by the American Cancer Society (ACS) in 1984 to provide a unique camp experience to Texas children who were battling cancer. Camp Discovery provides these children a week away from all their worries of treatment, and replaces it with fun, friendship, and a yearning to return the following year. The first camp hosted approximately 50 children and grew every year until we reached our limit of 150 children, which is where we are today. Camp Discovery is available to all children in Texas who have been diagnosed with cancer and do not have a camp of their own to attend, either in their geographic area or through their treatment center. While Camp Discovery opens its doors to any child with cancer, the majority of our campers come from Central and South Texas.

In the summer of 2017, 142 children between the ages of 7-16 experienced a fun and "normal" camp experience at Camp Discovery. They were able to ride horses, canoe, climb rock walls, swim, fish, sing, dance, laugh, and participate in many other traditional summer camp activities. One of the many reasons that Camp Discovery is important is because without it, a child with cancer would not be able to have such an experience since many traditional camps are not designed to facilitate their needs. This experience is provided at no cost to the camper's family.

Camp Discovery is staffed solely by volunteers, and our staff members are dedicated to providing leadership, understanding, compassion, safety, and direction to the campers as well as enjoying the experience of being a counselor. The camp is abundantly staffed with volunteer nurses, nurse practitioners, physicians, and Child Life Specialists. Every treatment center that refers children to Camp Discovery also provides medical personnel. As a result, those that treat their patients at the hospital have stated that it is encouraging for them to see the children away from the hospital environment and "just being kid's" at camp. Through the years, those physicians familiar with Camp Discovery have found it so valuable that they make attendance at camp a part of the patient's treatment plan.

Camp Discovery also serves as a respite for the family of the child battling cancer. Many families utilize the week of camp to reconnect and show extra attention to the other members of the family, which is often hard to do when caring for a child with such a devastating disease.

As mentioned before, Camp Discovery is staffed solely by volunteers. Many of them return year after year, and we currently have a 94% return rate of volunteers. As of 2017, approximately 75% of our volunteers are cancer survivors, with over 50% of those being former campers. These "wounded healers" provide a strong base for understanding what the campers are going through in their fight with cancer.

VisionWorks is committed to keeping Camp Discovery at full capacity (150 campers) until there is no longer a need for a camp like ours. We have recently began providing Family Camp Weekends for children and families battling cancer, but Camp Discovery will always be the priority. These weekends are for family members of the children who attend Camp Discovery, as well as for other cancer patients who are also dealing with a second disability, such as Down Syndrome, Autism, etc. At the request of some families who have lost a child to cancer, we held our first bereavement oriented camp in the autumn of 2017.

The 150 children who attend Camp Discovery will be exposed to a natural and relaxed environment, promoting an appreciation of their capabilities, developing an awareness of common concerns among peers, demonstrating the value of adapting to their illness. This allows for independent expression of interests, and fostering as much as possible, self-care for daily needs by the end of that one week.

The major impact of Camp Discovery on a camper is that the child with cancer will go home feeling more confident about dealing with the effects of their disease, and is many times more willing to comply with treatment because of the peers they meet at Camp. A camper who meets a camp counselor who was once a camper themselves, and has overcome the disease, has a very positive influence on the emotional health of the camper. Campers also leave Camp Discovery a little more independent at home and are able to take care of daily needs on their own as much as they can.

Evaluation Plan:

Each camper and their parent(s) are provided with an evaluation form at the end of camp asking for feedback regarding their experience from Camp Discovery. The feedback is centered towards what the child gained from camp and from what changes the parent(s) see in their child after camp. The information gathered is used by our planning committee to determine what improvements we can make from year to year. Results of the camper evaluations are tabulated and kept on file for future use.

Plans to sustain project beyond the term of this request:

VisionWorks will continually pursue funding through various foundation, grants and fundraising events. We will also continue to make our program known to the community through a variety of media sources, and anticipate receiving additional resources as a result.

Children Impacted:

How many unduplicated children will the TOTAL PROJECT INITIATIVE impact?

150

How many unduplicated children will NFF REQUESTED FUNDS impact?

35

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	11%
Children (6-13)	60%	Asian American	1%
Young Adults (14-18)	40%	Caucasian	40%
TOTAL:	100%	Hispanic/Latino	48%
		Native American	0%
		Other and Define	0%
		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
Office Space	\$6,000	\$0
Office Supplies	\$8,800	\$0
Printing Costs	\$6,000	\$0
Insurance, Legal, Audit Fees	\$11,200	\$0
Salary and Payroll Taxes	\$80,738	\$0
Volunteer Training/Conferences	\$8,000	\$0
Facility Rental (Lions Camp)	\$86,000	\$45,000
Entertainment and Catering	\$20,200	\$0
Camp hats, shirts, backpacks, etc.	\$7,900	\$2,000
Medical Supplies	\$1,700	\$0
Camper Transportation	\$3,600	\$1,000
Arts and Crafts Supplies	\$5,450	\$2,000
Programming Supplies	\$4,200	\$0

Van/Truck Rental	\$2,300	\$0
DVD Design/Duplication	\$2,700	\$0
Background Checks	\$2,000	\$0
Contract Administrative Assistant	\$5,000	\$0
Contract Program Director	\$25,000	\$0
Contract Social Media Manager	\$5,400	\$0
Miscellaneous	\$12,900	\$0
TOTAL:	\$305,088.00	\$50,000.00

OTHER FUNDING RESOURCES

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

PROJECT - PENDING

Funder Name	Amount Requested
HEB Tournament of Champions	\$25,000
TOTAL:	\$25,000.00

PROJECT - COMMITTED

Funder Name	Amount Requested
Hermann Sons Lodge	\$12,000
Gordon Hartman Foundation	\$15000
Sadie Bug Scholarship	\$12,000
TOTAL:	\$39,000.00

ALL OTHER ORGANIZATION REQUESTS - COMMITTED

Funder Name	Amount Requested
Teed Off at Cancer	\$105000
OASIS	\$50000
Valero	\$30000
Party City	\$36232
Young Texans Against Cancer	\$3200
Jaxon's FROG Foundation	\$7500
TOTAL:	\$231,932.00

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

What percentage of your board contributes financially to the organization?

100%

How are board members expected to participate in your organization?

Each board member is expected to give financially, pursue funding sources from foundations and community connections, and participate in fundraising events. Board members are also expected to attend board meetings every 3 months or as otherwise scheduled.

LIST OF BOARD DIRECTORS

Name	Corporate Affiliation
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John W. Primomo, President	United States Magistrate Judge, Western District of Texas (retired)
Karen Torges, Vice President	KT Strategic Collaborations
Keith Howard, Secretary	Senior Pastor, Faith Presbyterian Church (PCA)
Jonathan Badger, Treasurer	Badger CPA Firm
Maria G. Falcon-Cantrill, MD	Methodist Children's Hospital
Leah Dabaghian, Child Life Specialist	Children's Hospital of San Antonio (retired)
Howie Nestel, Owner	Sharkmatic Advertising
Don Gregory, Jr.	Camp Discovery Volunteer
Jay Poirier	Attorney at Law
Bill Martin	Executive Director, YMCA of San Antonio (retired)
Joel Cavazos, Executive Director	VisionWorks, Inc.