

FUNDING APPLICATION

GENERAL INFORMATION

Organization Information

Legal Name: Autism Service Center of San Antonio (dba Autism Community Network)		Federal Tax ID#: 26-2592058	501(c)(3) Public Charity 509 (a)(1)	
Address: 4242 Woodcock Dr, 101	City: San Antonio	State: Texas	Zip Code: 78228	
Website: www.acn-sa.org		Fax: (210) 453-1000	United Way Funded: Yes	

Fiscal Year:
January 01 to December 31

Head Of Organization

Name: Tiffany Fresher	Title: Chief Executive Officer
E-Mail Address: tiffany@acn-sa.org	Phone: (210) 435-1000

Application Contact

Name: Patricia V. Vela	Title: Chief Development and Outreach Officer	E-Mail Address: pattyv@acn-sa.org	Phone: (210) 435-1000
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Previous Najim Funding

Year	Funding \$
2009	\$25,000
2010	\$25,000
2011	\$25,000
2012	\$25,000
2013	\$25,000
2014	\$25,000
2015	\$25,000
2016	\$25,000
2017	\$35,000
2018	\$50,000
2019	\$95,000
Total	\$380,000

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 \$:
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\$55,000	\$1,447,910	\$1,447,910
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Mission Statement:

Maximizing the potential of children with autism by providing early diagnosis for those with limited access and educating and empowering the community to support them.

PROJECT INFORMATION

Program / Project Title:

To support general operations of Autism Community Network to meet the needs of children, caregivers, and professionals living with, or alongside, autism.

PROJECT TIMELINE

Start Date	End Date
01/01/2020	12/31/2020

Harvey E. Najim Family Foundation Priorities:

Disabilities/Special Needs

Program / Project Description:

Autism spectrum disorder (ASD) is a disorder of development characterized by differences in social interaction, communication, and abnormal behavior patterns. Due to the nature of the disorder, it is critical to diagnose children early for the best chance of success. Children diagnosed by the age of three years, six months have a 50% chance of entering kindergarten with their same aged peers, while children diagnosed after that age have only a 10% chance (The National Academic Press, 2001).

Autism Community Network (ACN) is a non-profit agency working on behalf of children and families for whom autism spectrum disorder (ASD) is either suspected, or medically diagnosed, in Bexar and surrounding counties. ACN was founded in 2008 by a consortium of health care funders concerned with the growing prevalence of ASD and the lack of developmental services in our area to address the increase in incidence rates. Of particular concern were families challenged by obstacles to quality health care, putting them in greater danger of misdiagnosis or late diagnosis.

Over the last 12 years, ACN has served over 20,000 individuals and diagnosed over 7,000 children. A committed staff of 17 individuals is changing lives of families affected by ASD. ACN's 9 clinicians have a combined 183 years of relevant experience offering this community the most expert and comprehensive approach to medical diagnostics, therapeutic intervention, effective caregiver training.

ACN offers:

- Medical diagnostic services for children,
- Occupational, speech, and behavior therapy for children,
- Classes, hands-on courses, and online resources for caregivers,
- Caregiver wellness monitoring,
- Professional development for professionals serving children with autism,
- Summer camps for children, and
- Community outreach and awareness.

In April, 2020 The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) released a new incidence rate of autism of 1 in 54. At the local level, a report commissioned by the Kronkosky Foundation in 2016 found 1 in 81 individuals in Bexar County is diagnosed with ASD. The rate of autism has continued to grow since ACN's inception in 2008, yet the services available in our area are unable to keep pace with the demand. ACN provides medical autism diagnostic services to families who have limited options. ACN is currently one of two agencies serving the Medicaid population, in Bexar County and surrounding counties, with clinical diagnostic services. ACN's current wait list is an average of 14 months from initial referral to diagnostic appointment. This is currently the shortest wait list in the city and far from ideal.

ACN is committed to the following objectives for the 2021 fiscal year:

Objective 1: Provide high quality and autism diagnostic services to under-served children and families. It is our goal to schedule 900 diagnostic appointments and provide a minimum of 750 unduplicated services for children. The expected outcomes are children who are diagnosed earlier will have greater opportunities for future success in the school setting and a reduced life-time cost of health care. Every family will be surveyed for satisfaction with diagnostic services provided. Additionally, families will register for Autism Lifeline Links (ALL) at the time they are asked back for a full diagnostic evaluation. This information is collected by the Chief Operating Officer and analyzed on a monthly basis.

Objective 2: Provide high quality, best-practices education and intervention for children with autism, autism service providers, and families of children with autism. It is our goal to serve 1,250 through this effort. Outcomes include: improved systems dynamics due to increased awareness, education and knowledge; improvement in interactions between caregiver and diagnosed child; increased appropriate caregiver responses to diagnosed child; and increased functional and social-emotional capacities between parent and child. Additionally, ACN will provide high quality, best-practice intensive, parent-mediated therapies for families of children with autism, high quality, best-practice, strengths-based camp experiences for children with autism, and continued care coordination through a behavioral health integration follow-along program for families of children with autism. The Chief Operating Officer collects this data and analyzes it monthly.

Objective 3: ACN will cultivate a high level of awareness of autism in the San Antonio area by creating online event and services (for the foreseeable future) for families that are safe for children and allow parents/caregivers to connect and generate opportunities for enhanced programming and service delivery through collaborations and partnerships in the community. Expected outcomes are: increased awareness about autism within the community at large, a sense of relief among families who often feel isolated and overwhelmed, and efficient connection of services among organizations who work with the same population. This information is gathered by the Chief Development and Outreach Officer and analyzed on a bi-monthly basis.

ACN respectfully request \$55,000 from The Najim Family Foundation to be directed towards professional salary expenses. \$52,000 of granted funds would be used to offset the payroll costs of ACN's developmental behavioral pediatrician and \$3,000 would be used for direct assistance.

Evaluation Plan:

Quantitative goals related to number of clients served will be tracked through the clinic database monthly, and shared by the Executive Director with the Board of Directors, ACN staff, funders and the public. The quality of diagnostic services will be analyzed by Family Satisfaction Surveys, administered after every diagnostic appointment. These surveys are reviewed by clinic staff and leadership staff and shared with the Board of Directors and key stake holders in monthly and annual reports. Survey results are transferred into numeric data and stored in the clinic database, along with any additional comments the family might make.

Plans to sustain project beyond the term of this request:

Plans to sustain this program include seeking funding from corporations, foundations, individual donors, and annual fundraising events. ACN intends to partially sustain this program through earned revenue from third party payers. Over the last 12 months, ACN has continued to updated procedures by which we bill third party payers, negotiate contracts, and submit claims. We have secured all commercial and Medicaid insurances, contracted as a group and as individual providers, in order to capture the best reimbursement for each planner. ACN's budgeted earned revenue has increased from 8% to 18%. Program fees are the earned revenue we receive from insurance reimbursement for our patients. In 2018, 72.8% of patients seen for screenings were Medicaid qualified. Though return on Medicaid collections are typically lower than private insurance, we are secure in the fact that we file claims for a large number of patients.

Children Impacted:

How many unduplicated children will the TOTAL PROJECT INITIATIVE impact?	How many unduplicated children will NFF REQUESTED FUNDS impact?
800	150

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)	78%	African American	7%
Children (6-13)	22%	Asian American	2%
Young Adults (14-18)	0%	Caucasian	26%
TOTAL:	100%	Hispanic/Latino	65%
		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

Line item Budget:

Line Item Description	Total Project Funds Allocation	Najim Funds Allocation
Continuing Education and Professional Certification	\$12,000	\$0
Community Forum	\$8,000	\$0
Community Engagement	\$22,000	\$0
Contract Labor Expense	\$0	\$0
Development/Fundraising	\$10,000	\$0
Insurance Expense	\$9,600	\$0
Malpractice Insurance	\$5,000	\$0
Occupancy Expense	\$130,250	\$0
Office Expense	\$26,400	\$0
Payroll Expense	\$1,105,640	\$52,000
Professional Fees	\$51,020	\$0
Supplies and Materials	\$13,500	\$0
Direct Assistance	\$3,000	\$3,000

Travel and Meetings	\$7,500	\$0
Camp AUSOME/Camps	\$44,000	\$0
TOTAL:	\$1,447,910	\$55,000

OTHER FUNDING RESOURCES

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

PROJECT - PENDING

Funder Name	Amount Requested
Baptist Health Foundation	\$75,000
TOTAL:	\$75,000

PROJECT - COMMITTED

Funder Name	Amount Requested
Texas Cavaliers Charitable Foundation	\$5,000
TOTAL:	\$5,000

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

ALL OTHER ORGANIZATION REQUESTS - PENDING

Funder Name	Amount Requested
Myra Stafford Pryor	\$15,000
Baptist Research Grant (3 year)	\$500,000
Ed Rachal	\$50,000
Alice Kleburg Reynolds	\$5,000
TOTAL:	\$570,000

ALL OTHER ORGANIZATION REQUESTS - COMMITTED

Funder Name	Amount Requested
City of San Antonio	\$69,782
United Way	\$204,614
HEB Tournament of Champions	\$50,000
Valero Energy Foundation	\$25,000
Kronkosky	\$400,000
TOTAL:	\$749,396

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?
Board members are expected to attend 6 board meetings per year. Each member serves on one of the following committees: finance, programs, board development, marketing and/or fundraising. Board members are involved in all fundraising events, either through donation or volunteering, or both. Board members support Autism Community Network through personal financial donations and assist in securing funding from their respective employers.

LIST OF BOARD DIRECTORS	
Name & Office Held	Corporate Affiliation
Brenda Peterson-President	Tesoro - Retired
Wendy Faldet, RhP - Vice President	HEB - Director of Pharmacy Programs and Technology
Janet Enriquez - Secretary	ESC-Region 20 - Autism Specialist
Rose Cofer, MD - Member	Southwest Children's Center - Pediatrician
Leann Darnell - Member	Holy Spirit Catholic Church - School Counselor
Courtney Floyd	Norton Rose Fulbright
Laurie Klose, PhD - Member	RespectED - Owner / Licensed Specialist in School Psychology
Eulalio Guerrero - Treasurer	RSM US
Jose Hinojosa - Member	EISD - Director of Special Education
Tanya Navalta - Member	Spurs Sports and Entertainment
Sandra Gomez Obregon - Member	KENS 5
Valerie Simmons - Member	Easter Seals - Speech Language Pathologist
J. Morgan Stephens - Member	Epic MD - In House Counsel
Signature	
Tiffany Fresher	