

FUNDING APPLICATION

GENERAL INFORMATION

Organization Information

Legal Name: Ecumenical Center for Religion and Health (The)		Federal Tax ID#: 74-1587388		501(c)(3) Public Charity 509 (a)(1)	
Address: 8310 Ewing Halsell Drive		City: San Antonio		State: TX	
				Zip Code: 78229	
Website: www.echr.org		Fax: (210) 616-0885		United Way Funded: No	

Fiscal Year:
January 01 to December 31

Head Of Organization

Name: Mary Beth Fisk		Title: CEO/Executive Director	
E-Mail Address: mbfisk@ecrh.org		Phone: (210) 616-0885	

Application Contact

Name: Sandra J Preininger		Title: Outreach Coordinator		E-Mail Address: spreininger@ecrh.org		Phone: (210) 616-0885	
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Previous Najim Funding

Year	Funding \$
2008	\$40,000
2015	\$25,000
2017	\$38,000
2018	\$53,000
2019	\$63,000
Total	\$219,000

Has the organization applied to the Najim Family Foundation in the past and been declined?
No

Grant Amount Requested \$: \$83,000	Total Project Budget \$: \$1,047,320	Organization's Annual budget \$: \$2,925,517
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Mission Statement:
The Center is a faith-based force for hope for children, adolescents and families dedicated to alleviating suffering and facilitating mental, physical and emotional healing and growth for the community.

PROJECT INFORMATION

Program / Project Title:

To support children's mental health services for the uninsured, underinsured, or economically disadvantaged, which includes Counseling, Neurofeedback, Music/Neurologic Music Therapy and Camp Wellness.

PROJECT TIMELINE

Start Date	End Date
04/01/2020	03/31/2021

Harvey E. Najim Family Foundation Priorities:

Mental Health

Program / Project Description:

Everyday 1 in 5 children in the Bexar County area face the unthinkable: child abuse, neglect, bullying, depression, anxiety or suicidal thoughts. Many of these children are children living in poverty, some of them are children whose parents are uninsured, under-insured or can not afford the high costs of insurance deductibles. For all these children, The Ecumenical Center provides fee assistance through the generous contributions of foundations, like the Najim Foundation, and others. In 2019, 99% of children requesting services from the Ecumenical Center required fee subsidies. The goal of this project is to provide 400 children with 8 counselor visits, for a total of 3,200 more mental health visits and group sessions. The Ecumenical Center provides Cognitive Behavioral Therapy for Children, Neurofeedback for ADD/ADHD or Brain Trauma, Play, Art and Music Therapy, Nature Therapy and Psychological Testing Services, for children and adolescents. Camp Wellness, a Summer Camp for children with mental health issues, is offered in response to the many suicides and attempted suicides that are occurring around the area from children and adolescents who are bullied, anxious, depressed or traumatized. Camp Wellness is offered for children 5 years old to 15 years old, with 13-15 year old's acting as camp counselors. Camp Wellness is a chance for children and adolescents to work with licensed professional counselors in an informal way. This camp focuses on helping children learn strategies to help them overcome crisis, trauma, bullying and the effects of bullying while teaching them relaxation techniques through music, movement, art, nutrition and deep breathing. Camp Wellness was introduced in response to the increase in calls from local school districts asking The Ecumenical Center to send a crisis team of counselors to work with faculty and students after a recent rash of suicides and suicide attempts in local schools. Every year, two Camp Wellness sessions will be provided by The Ecumenical Center. A brand new program, in a partnership with Girls, Inc. will allow The Center to provide 18 Group Sessions for Mothers and Teen-Age Daughters to build self-esteem and help Mothers and Daughters discuss the difficult issues that often separate mothers and daughters during the teen years.

All children learn and heal in different ways, therefore, The Ecumenical Center provides many different healing modalities and combinations of therapies for children and adolescents. Programs offered include: Evidence-based children's psychotherapy, Nature Therapy for Children in the Seeds of Hope Garden, play and art therapy provided by registered play and art therapists, Music and Neurologic Music Therapy in the new Harvey Najim Wing at The Ecumenical Center. According to Good Therapy.org (2018), Nature Therapy "is based on the idea that people are connected to and impacted by the natural environment. A growing body of research highlights the positive benefits of connecting with nature." Children use the outdoor spaces with their Registered Play Therapist to overcome anxiety, depression, relieve symptoms of ADD/ADHD and overcome the stress of bullying. Music Therapy and Neurologic Music Therapy is part of the expressive therapeutic arts program for children that is used in addition to the evidence-based therapies used at The Center. C. Molchioti in "Expressive Therapies," writes, "Creativity in therapy has the potential to impact clients in memorable ways....When therapists choose to use expressive therapies, they give their clients the opportunity to become active participants in their own treatment and empower them to use imagination in productive and corrective ways. Whether through art, play, music, movement, enactment or creative writing, expressive therapies stimulate the senses, thereby 'sensitizing' individuals to untapped aspects of themselves...thus facilitating self-discovery, change, and reparation."

The mental health needs of Bexar County children continue to grow as the population of Bexar County expands. According to the Meadows Mental Health Institute, Bexar County Community Health Assessment, 2019, one in five children suffer from mental illness. The website, "One in Five" (2018) reports, "that 80,000 children in Bexar County alone suffer from mental illness, but, only 1 in 5 of those 80,000 children, who suffer from mental, emotional, or behavioral problems actually receive treatment. Furthermore, the statistics for those who don't get help are staggering: half of the children will drop out of high school; these children are twice as likely to start using illicit drugs and alcohol; they are more likely to end up in the juvenile justice system; and many attempt suicide. Untreated mental illness is the second leading cause of death in children." But it doesn't have to be that way. The Ecumenical Center would be honored to partner with The Najim Family Foundation in our fifty-third year of bringing hope and healing to children through the mental health services of The Ecumenical Center. Because of Mr. Najim's generous gift of \$400,000 to create The Harvey Najim Wing, the number of children served will increase by 500 children in 2020.

Evaluation Plan:

The Ecumenical Center continues to use the ACORN Data Center's Evaluation tool for determining the outcome of assessment, counseling, and psychotherapy done at The Ecumenical Center. This is a mandate from the Solihthen Center (Samaritan) with whom the Center is affiliated and certified. The survey instrument assesses self-reported improvement for children (the survey may be completed by parents or guardians, (if necessary), adolescents and adults. ACORN surveys are given at the initial visit and then with each subsequent visit, thereby compiling a picture of change in thoughts, moods, attitudes and behaviors over the course of the therapeutic treatment(s). Evaluation is also done monthly to determine how many children were served in all The Center's Programs for Children and how many children required fee subsidy assistance, and the amount needed with breakdown by age, gender and ethnicity.

Plans to sustain project beyond the term of this request:

Plans to sustain this project beyond this request include grants from foundations, contributions from the Board of Directors, The Foundation Board, individuals and fees for counseling services.

Children Impacted:

How many unduplicated children will the TOTAL PROJECT INITIATIVE impact?	How many unduplicated children will NFF REQUESTED FUNDS impact?
3,200	400

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)	10%	African American	4%
Children (6-13)	63%	Asian American	1%
Young Adults (14-18)	27%	Caucasian	36%
TOTAL:	100%	Hispanic/Latino	46%
		Native American	0%
		Other and Define	13%
		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
Children's Counseling	\$783,320	\$53,000
Children's Neurologic Therapies	\$25,000	\$15,000

Child-Parent Relationship Training	\$10,000	\$0
Children's Art/Music/Neurologic/Movement Therapy	\$75,000	\$10,000
Child Therapy Training Workshops for Mental Health Professionals	\$124,000	\$0
Camp Wellness	\$25,000	\$5,000
Mother/Daughter Group Wellness Sessions	\$5,000	\$0
TOTAL:	\$1,047,320	\$83,000

OTHER FUNDING RESOURCES

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

PROJECT - PENDING

Funder Name	Amount Requested
St. Susie	\$75,000
Najim Foundation	\$83,000
TOTAL:	\$158,000

PROJECT - COMMITTED

Funder Name	Amount Requested
Valero Benefits for Children	\$40,000
Methodist Healthcare Ministries-Child Therapy	\$100,000
Alamo Kiwanis-Children's Programs	\$2,500
Methodist Healthcare Ministries-Child Parent Relationship Training	\$4,500
Methodist Healthcare Ministries-Neurofeedback for Children	\$32,500
Texas Cavaliers	\$3,000
TOTAL:	\$182,500

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

ALL OTHER ORGANIZATION REQUESTS - PENDING

Funder Name	Amount Requested
Charity Ball Association	\$37,000
Kronkosky Foundation	\$75,000
San Antonio Area Foundation	\$50,000
Victims of Crime	\$165,000
TOTAL:	\$327,000

ALL OTHER ORGANIZATION REQUESTS - COMMITTED

Funder Name	Amount Requested
Methodist Healthcare Ministries-Pastoral Care	\$157,890
Methodist Healthcare Ministries-Medical Ethics	\$126,231

Methodist Healthcare Ministries-Child Therapy Training Workshops for Mental Health Professionals	\$124,881
May and Stanley Smith Foundation	\$50,000
TOTAL:	\$459,002

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?
Besides financial commitment, Board members volunteer for a variety of different events. they are chairmen of fund-raising committees, make calls to people for contributions and participate in fund-raising events. The Board members also reach out to churches and other organizations to find new locations for counseling offices and they recruit new board members and volunteers. Decorating for events, hanging art, serving food and acting as hosts and hostesses for events are some other invaluable services performed by The Center's Boards.

LIST OF BOARD DIRECTORS

Name & Office Held	Corporate Affiliation
Mrs. Nancy Torgerson	Community Volunteer
Mr. John Weber	Attorney
Mr. Charles Robinson, III	Robinson Value Management, Ltd.
Mrs. Lupita Medina	Community Volunteer
Mrs. Mary Carter	Kuper Realty
Dr. Barry Abrams	PhD
Mrs. Mary Ellen Archer	Jefferson Bank
Ms. Lynn Breuer	Community Volunteer
Mrs. Elizabeth Hetrick	Broadway Bank
Rev. Dr. Les Hollon	Senior Pastor Trinity Baptist Church
Dr. Randy Singleton	Physician
Ms. Kristin Tips	Mission Park Funeral Homes

Signature
Mary Beth Fisk