

# FUNDING APPLICATION

## GENERAL INFORMATION

### Organization Information

<b>Legal Name:</b> Sight Savers America		<b>Federal Tax ID#:</b> 30-0188234		<b>501(c)(3) Public Charity</b> 509 (a)(1)	
<b>Address:</b> 337 Business Circle		<b>City:</b> Birmingham		<b>State:</b> Alabama	
				<b>Zip Code:</b> 35124	
<b>Website:</b> <a href="https://sightsaversamerica.org/">https://sightsaversamerica.org/</a>		<b>Fax:</b> (877) 942-2627		<b>United Way Funded:</b> No	

### Fiscal Year:

October 01 to September 30

### Head Of Organization

<b>Name:</b> Jeffery Haddox		<b>Title:</b> President and CEO/Founder	
<b>E-Mail Address:</b> jhaddox@sightsaversamerica.org		<b>Phone:</b> (877) 942-2627	

### Application Contact

<b>Name:</b> Sarah Jennings		<b>Title:</b> Grants Manager		<b>E-Mail Address:</b> sjennings@sightsaversamerica.org		<b>Phone:</b> (877) 942-2627	
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### Previous Najim Funding

Year	Funding \$
2015	\$25,000
2016	\$30,000
2017	\$50,000
2018	\$50,000
2019	\$55,000
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$210,000</b>

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

Yes  
March 2014

<b>Grant Amount Requested \$:</b>	<b>Total Project Budget \$:</b>	<b>Organization's Annual budget \$:</b>
\$80,000	\$287,840	\$4,396,987

### Mission Statement:

To identify and secure treatment for unmet vision and health needs.

## PROJECT INFORMATION

### Program / Project Title:

To support the Children's Low Vision & Eye Care Program: Giving the Gift of Sight

## PROJECT TIMELINE

Start Date	End Date
08/01/2020	07/31/2021
<b>Harvey E. Najim Family Foundation Priorities:</b> Medical Needs	
<p><b>Program / Project Description:</b></p> <p>Thanks to the support of generous partners such as the Harvey E. Najim Charitable Foundation, SSA eliminated the historic low vision backlog in the homes of all 115 San Antonio area children with severe visual impairment in 2016. We continue to provide EVMs for newly identified children each year (children who age into the program, develop new/worsening vision conditions or move into the area). Over the last year, SSA received a larger number of referrals for the maintenance phase. 26 children are currently on our waiting list. These additional children were previously unreachable due to unresponsive parents or lack of knowledge of their existence. SSA worked extensively with local partners, such as SA Lighthouse for the Blind, to locate these children. SSA requests funding from the Najim Family Foundation to provide life-changing EVMs to 20 children at the SSA/San Antonio Lighthouse clinic in Fall 2020.</p> <p>EVMs digitally enhance contrast and magnify objects up to 118x, empowering children with low vision to see the world more clearly and perform daily activities independently, often for the first time. This includes reading, writing, completing homework assignments, grooming, and other daily tasks that enhance academic performance. This cost effective solution includes ongoing follow-up support from SSA staff over the life of the equipment and is an investment in a child's life. The high price of this technology (not covered by health insurance) prohibits most families from purchasing one.</p> <p>Due to the success of the children's program and the desire of local foundations, SSA began providing EVMs for San Antonio area adults with severe visual impairment. In our overall project, over 50 children and adults will receive EVMs this coming year (dependent on full funding). Funds awarded by the Najim Foundation will be allocated exclusively to serve children within the Foundation's specified footprint and would support the majority of children. Funds awarded to this program from other sources will serve mainly adults. The attached budget reflects expenses for all activities within SSA's San Antonio service area for the coming program year.</p> <p>Using a state-of-the-art Plusoptix vision screening device, SSA's Vision Screening Program screens thousands of children annually in THC counties. Trained SSA staff administer vision screenings, detecting conditions such as anisocoria, anisometropia, astigmatism, corneal reflex abnormalities, myopia (nearsightedness), and hyperopia (farsightedness). Children found to have a potential vision issue are referred to SSA's Eye Care Program for case managed follow-up eye care. SSA screens and receives referrals from day cares, head starts, preschools and elementary schools in Kerr, Bandera, Kendall counties.</p> <p>We also propose continuing the successful pilot project in Bexar &amp; Comal counties for San Antonio daycares, head starts, and community preschools. The second year of this screening program would provide screenings for up to 1140 children in Bexar and Comal counties (with full funding from all sources). We anticipate providing eye care for up to 1,000 children referred in the coming school year in THC and up to 114 in San Antonio.</p> <p>National data show that only 30% of children failing a vision screening actually receive treatment. Failure to receive treatment causes delays in and out of the classroom, and can result in permanent vision loss for children with amblyopia. Amblyopia occurs in 2% of all children, but can be successfully treated in almost all cases with minimal cost during preschool years. However, if left untreated until later in elementary school, the overwhelming majority of cases fail even the most expensive treatments (surgery). After failed vision screenings, SSA case manages each child's eye care treatment from start to finish, successfully obtaining treatments for over 75% of referred children, an increase of 150% over national data.</p>	

Upon referral, SSA connects children with local eye care providers within our network for eye examinations and treatments. Services provided through case management include: parent education about eye care needs, eye exams, eyeglasses, treatment for amblyopia, all other recommended treatments/continuing care, results reporting to schools and support for school nurses. And children establish an eye care home for recurrent care throughout childhood.

SSA proactively removes barriers for needy children by ensuring they have access to vision treatments (provided at no cost to qualifying families). When children's vision needs are addressed, reading scores increase, classroom performance improves, graduation rates increase, and children can become more productive citizens and future members of the workforce. These programs are more critical than ever before as our country faces COVID-19. With nationwide school closings, the special needs and low-income children we serve face additional barriers. Students with low vision are likely to fall and stay further behind than their normally sighted schoolmates as they transition to remote learning. While some schools are able to provide vision technology for classroom use only, the children our program serves are not able to afford this vital equipment in their homes. They often rely on their parents to help read even normal size print or they utilize special large print handouts from teachers. These children need autonomy and an ability to see and complete their schoolwork now more than ever.

For these reasons, your support is life-changing. Funds requested from the Harvey E. Najim Family Foundation are detailed in the attached budget. The present Najim request would support follow-up eye care services for 286 children referred in the THC, EVMs for 20 children with severe visual impairment in San Antonio, and vision screenings for 771 children in San Antonio (estimated 77 referrals for follow-up eye care).

**Evaluation Plan:**

The success of the Low Vision Program is evaluated by the number of persons served & the impact of the program. SSA follows up with each child served through age 19 to evaluate progress & gather feedback/measure the impact of technology. Our follow up survey captures data in a statistical, scientific manner using the Likert Scale, allowing us to evaluate the significance of the equipment immediately and over time.

Our goals for the coming school year include providing vision screenings for up to 3,300 children in THC and up to 1140 in SA (Vision Screening Program) & ensuring over 75% of children referred achieve their best possible vision (Eye Care Program). SSA keeps detailed records on eye exams, glasses, surgeries, & other prescribed treatments. SSA calculates the percentage of children attaining their best possible vision out of the total number of children referred during the year (outcome-based measurement).

**Plans to sustain project beyond the term of this request:**

SSA has been working in the San Antonio area since 2013. Plans for sustaining these programs in the future involve utilizing in-kind funding as well as actively pursuing local and national grant support and corporate support. SSA's partnering eye care professionals provide donated or significantly discounted services for these programs, maximizing every dollar provided by our valued funders. SSA's partnership with Vispero provides equipment discounts and travel reimbursements to offset the costs of delivering EVMs. We are pleased with our recent successes in securing funding in the San Antonio area - thanks to the support and involvement of many local partners - and are confident in our ability to sustain programming in future years.

**Children Impacted:**

<b>How many unduplicated children will the TOTAL PROJECT INITIATIVE impact?</b>	<b>How many unduplicated children will NFF REQUESTED FUNDS impact?</b>
4,466	1,077

**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%.**

<b>A. Population Served Age</b>	<b>B. Population Served Ethnicity</b>
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Infants (0-5)	45%	African American	0%
Children (6-13)	45%	Asian American	0%
Young Adults (14-18)	10%	Caucasian	0%
<b>TOTAL:</b>	<b>100%</b>	Hispanic/Latino	0%
		Native American	0%
		Other and Define	100%
		<b>TOTAL:</b>	<b>100%</b>

**City Council District for Which Children are Being Served:**

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

**Line item Budget:**

<b>Line Item Description</b>	<b>Total Project Funds Allocation</b>	<b>Najim Funds Allocation</b>
LOW VISION PROGRAM EXPENSES:	\$0	\$0
Case Management (SSA Low Vision Personnel): Identify persons in need of vision aids in collaboration with established network of partners; review existing medical records and specialist-recommended treatments; coordinate low vision evaluations as needed; make reminder calls; arrange transportation as needed; coordinate EVM delivery/training clinic(s) as appropriate; train each person individually on his or her equipment; conduct long-term follow-up for each person receiving an EVM; track all activity, treatment and outcomes in database. SSA has also developed new safety standards for low vision clinics in response to COVID-19. SSA is ready to implement social distancing and health procedures to protect all involved in the 20/21 school year (such as wearing masks, gloves, protective gear, testing temperatures, allowing for 15+ feet between training stations, and more).	\$26,500	\$10,000
Electronic Video Magnifiers: An estimated 50 EVMs will be purchased/delivered for persons of all ages, retailing at \$2,595 each (before \$515 discount).	\$129,750	\$38,500

Other Optical Vision Aids: Other optical vision aids will be provided as needed, such as magnifiers, telescopes, bioptics, mobility aids, Braille devices, etc.	\$3,100	\$1,500
Low Vision Evaluations: Conducted by local low vision experts	\$800	\$0
VISION SCREENING PROGRAM EXPENSES:	\$0	\$0
Vision Screening: Up to 3,300 pre-school and school-age children will be vision screened in THC. Up to 1140 pre-school children will be screened in SA. The same safety protocols for low vision clinics will be adjusted and implemented for school vision screenings (such as wearing masks, gloves, protective gear, testing temperatures, allowing for 15+ feet between vision screening stations, and more). SSA's Plusoptix vision screening device is a mobile device, and allows for six feet distance between the vision screener and the child. SSA will limit the number of vision screeners present at each event to two people. SSA is monitoring the situation and will continue to update our protocols based on local and state government's directions.	\$39,960	\$6,940
EYE CARE PROGRAM EXPENSES:	\$0	\$0

Comprehensive follow-up eye care for up to 1000 children failing the vision screening or otherwise referred to SSA in THC and up to 114 children failing the vision screening in SA. Personal case management of eye care includes, but is not limited to: parent education about eye care needs, dilated eye exams, (including appointment scheduling and reminders for eye exams), eyeglasses, eye therapies, surgeries and all other recommended treatments, transportation services as needed, continuing care and maintenance of results reporting in SSA's custom database. In response to COVID-19, SSA has designed and adjusted case management protocols based on local and state government's directions and the best medical data available. For example, our Case Specialists make note of any specific safety protocols that need to be followed during eye examinations and direct parents on those new standards before they visit the eye doctor (such as wearing a mask, social distancing, etc). SSA Eye Care Program Case Specialists are all working remotely from home, and are able to conduct all case management work in a safe environment. SSA will continue to update our protocols as we move forward.	\$77,980	\$23,060
IN-KIND REVENUE:	\$0	\$0
Travel: Low Vision clinic expenses are covered in full by Vispero. Amount to be determined. An estimated \$9750 additional expenses will be covered in full by SSA for travel expenses related to the SSA Vision Screenings (hotel, car rental/gas, airline tickets, and food)	\$9,750	\$0
<b>TOTAL:</b>	<b>\$287,840</b>	<b>\$80,000</b>
<b>OTHER FUNDING RESOURCES</b>		
<b>For Project being Requested: Funding sources and amounts, pending and committed.</b>		
<b>PROJECT - PENDING</b>		

<b>Funder Name</b>	<b>Amount Requested</b>
Community Foundation of TX Hill Country	\$35,000
Hal & Charlie Peterson Foundation	\$35,000
George and Fay Young Foundation	\$12,500
Perry and Ruby Stevens Foundation	\$55,000
James Avery Artisan Jewelry	\$4,840
Najim Family Foundation	\$80,000
<b>TOTAL:</b>	<b>\$222,340</b>
<b>PROJECT - COMMITTED</b>	
<b>Funder Name</b>	<b>Amount Requested</b>
In-Kind / Vispero Corporation (\$515 per EVM)	\$25,750
Greehey Family Foundation	\$25,000
St. Luke's	\$5,000
In-Kind/ SSA: travel related expenses for Vision Screenings	\$9,750
<b>TOTAL:</b>	<b>\$65,500</b>
<b>Other funding sources and amounts, pending and committed not specific to this request.</b>	
<b>ALL OTHER ORGANIZATION REQUESTS - PENDING</b>	
<b>Funder Name</b>	<b>Amount Requested</b>
John and Mary Franklin Foundation	\$10,000
Moody Foundation	\$120,000
Dell Foundation	\$115,000
Hillcrest Foundation	\$25,000
Communities Foundation of Texas	\$120,000
Helen and Jabie Hardin Charitable Trust	\$20,000
George and Fay Young Foundation	\$72,500
Baton Rouge Area Foundation	\$15,000
Protective Life Foundation	\$20,000
Mercedes-Benz	\$12,500
Independent Presbyterian Church	\$6,000
JL Bedsole Foundation	\$12,000
Employees Community Fund of Boeing AL	\$30,000
Reynolds American Foundation	\$30,000
F.M. Kirby Foundation	\$50,000
Rees-Jones Foundation	\$60,000
Meadows Foundation	\$75,000
<b>TOTAL:</b>	<b>\$793,000</b>
<b>ALL OTHER ORGANIZATION REQUESTS - COMMITTED</b>	
<b>Funder Name</b>	<b>Amount Requested</b>

Alabama Department of Education	\$1,293,230
Alabama Department of Human Resources	\$375,000
Mississippi Department of Education	\$341,178
EyeSight Foundation of Alabama	\$130,000
SSA Annual Fundraiser	\$130,000
Wiregrass Foundation	\$25,000
Shelby County Community Health	\$25,000
Walker Area Community Foundation	\$27,552
Community Foundation of Northeast AL	\$61,128
Robert R. Meyer Foundation	\$10,000
Henry Sims Memorial Fund	\$2,100
BCBS Caring Foundation	\$15,000
Speedway Children's Charities	\$1,000
Katz Foundation	\$30,000
Joe & Dorothy Dorsett Brown Foundation	\$15,000
Lower Pearl River Foundation	\$55,000
Doherty Foundation	\$45,000
Impact Alabama	\$190,000
Vispero Corporation (for travel)	\$25,000
In-kind services	\$580,000
Delta Gamma Foundation	\$5,000
Atherton Family Foundation	\$15,000
TumTum Tree Foundation	\$10,000
John and Mary Franklin Foundation	\$5,000
Verizon	\$10,000
AL Civil Justice Foundation (two funds)	\$17,000
Southeast AL Community Foundation	\$2,500
Houston Delta Gamma Foundation	\$3,800
Daniel Foundation	\$30,000
Montgomery City Council	\$11,150
UAB Benevolent Fund	\$5,154
Community Fdn of Northeast Alabama (multiple funds)	\$59,016
Wells Fargo	\$2,000
The Thompson Foundation	\$5,000
Honda	\$5,000
Walker Area Community Foundation	\$35,737
St. Joe Community Foundation	\$10,000
Maui Jim, Inc.	\$30,000



BCBS of Louisiana	\$5,000
Belz Foundation	\$1,000
BCBS of Tennessee	\$2,000
Herzstein Charitable Foundation	\$7,500
Valley Baptist Legacy Foundation	\$30,000
<b>TOTAL:</b>	<b>\$3,683,045</b>

**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 help set the direction of the organization and also provide financial oversight. Board members are involved in connecting SSA programs to eye care partners when appropriate. Board members also fundraise actively for SSA, particularly through SSA's annual fundraiser, Hero For Sight, by soliciting community members and endorsing SSA's programs. Board members are also expected to participate in quarterly board meetings to review financials and progress of SSA's programs.

**LIST OF BOARD DIRECTORS**

<b>Name &amp; Office Held</b>	<b>Corporate Affiliation</b>
Stancil Handley, O.D., P.C. - Chairman	Optometrist, Handley Optometry; Mayor of Columniana, AL
Kerry Stein - Secretary	Vice President - KGS Steel
Mateo Forero - Treasurer	Attorney, Zipin, Amster, & Greenberg, LLC
William Burrus	Financial Advisor - McGriff Burrus Alliance
Holly Lollar, APR	Founder/President - The Lollar Group
Dr. Dawn DeCarlo, O.D., MS, MSPH	Optometrist - UAB Center for Low Vision Rehabilitation
Judy Mayo	District Nurse, Fredericksburg Independent School District
Frances Ford, RN	Healthcare Coordinator - Perry County & Executive Director - Sowing Seeds of Hope

**Signature**  
Jeffery L. Haddox