

# FUNDING APPLICATION

## GENERAL INFORMATION

### Organization Information

<b>Legal Name:</b> Special Reach, Inc.		<b>Federal Tax ID#:</b> 45-1967838		<b>501(c)(3) Public Charity</b> 509 (a)(1)	
<b>Address:</b> 6851 Citizens Parkway Suite #220		<b>City:</b> San Antonio		<b>State:</b> TX	
				<b>Zip Code:</b> 78229	
<b>Website:</b> www.specialreach.org		<b>Fax:</b> (210) 784-7478		<b>United Way Funded:</b> No	

**Fiscal Year:**  
January 01 to December 31

### Head Of Organization

<b>Name:</b> Cici Osonma		<b>Title:</b> President & CEO	
<b>E-Mail Address:</b> ciciosonma@specialreach.org		<b>Phone:</b> (210) 367-8197	

### Application Contact

<b>Name:</b> Cici Osonma		<b>Title:</b> President & CEO		<b>E-Mail Address:</b> ciciosonma@specialreach.com		<b>Phone:</b> (210) 784-7478	
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### Previous Najim Funding

Year	Funding \$
2017	\$11,000
2018	\$20,000
2019	\$20,000
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$51,000</b>

**Has the organization applied to the Najim Family Foundation in the past and been declined?**  
Yes  
2013 & 2016

<b>Grant Amount Requested \$:</b>	<b>Total Project Budget \$:</b>	<b>Organization's Annual budget \$:</b>
\$25,000	\$226,834	\$403,750

**Mission Statement:**  
The mission of Special Reach is to provide dynamic enrichment programs for children with special needs and respite for their families.

## PROJECT INFORMATION

**Program / Project Title:**  
To support the Summer Enrichment Program, San Antonio Adventure Programs and "Party Nights" for children with special needs.

### PROJECT TIMELINE

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

**Harvey E. Najim Family Foundation Priorities:**

Disabilities/Special Needs

**Program / Project Description:**

Every child deserves a memorable childhood. This statement, along with our passion to build healthy families, is central to our purpose. Since 2011, we have enriched the lives of children, ages 6 to 18 years old, with developmental disabilities such as autism, Down syndrome, intellectual disability, etc. and their siblings ages 5 years and older, while simultaneously providing a much needed break to their parents/caregivers. We have accomplished this through our fun-filled, year-round programs which 915 children attended in 2019. Each summer we host a special program for these children and throughout the year we offer a unique twist on parents' night out, which we promote to the children as "Party Night" at different community centers in San Antonio. These parties are themed, inclusive, and designed to give each child a safe social outlet, regardless of their disability. In keeping with our strategic plan, in 2019 we added the "San Antonio Adventure Program" during school holidays like thanksgiving, winter, and spring break.

San Antonio continues to see a growing population of children with developmental delays. According to the U.S. Census Bureau's, 2012-2016 American Community Survey five-year estimates show that, in Bexar County alone, 24,794 children ages 5 to 17 live at home (not institutionalized) with a cognitive, ambulatory, hearing, or vision disability. These precious children struggle to find safe and inclusive social gatherings and recreational outlets that many others take for granted. Developing friendships at any age can be stressful and challenging, and for children with special needs the difficulty is amplified. In their daily lives, children with autism, Down syndrome, and other special needs have few opportunities to just have fun and be a 'normal kid'. For these children, adequate support is lacking outside the school. Making friends, being social, and having fun in an environment that is atypical from the highly structured classroom can make all the difference.

The Texas Health & Human Services identifies 70% of the I/DD population as being cared for by their family and will be cared for by the family for the rest of their lives (S1). This is a problem because a caregiver's well-being is inextricably linked to that of their child, and this role as caretaker can take a heavy toll. These parents need respite as much as their children need fun and enriching activities.

We are truly committed to meeting this need in our community through our carefully designed programs. Each Special Reach program is designed to help children with special needs and their siblings develop their social skills and build their self-esteem in an inclusive setting, while simultaneously providing their caregivers with a well-deserved break. In order to ensure peace of mind for the parents of these special children, all our programs are equipped with highly qualified staff which include speech pathologists, a registered nurse, special education teachers, and others with specialized skillsets, as well as teen and adult (including special needs) volunteers. Our programs are led by a Program Coordinator who supervises a team of full-time and part-time program staff.

Our programs:

Party Nights are a themed, unique twist on Parents Night Out featuring dance time, games, themed crafts, etc. This exciting program is held from 6:30 - 9:30 PM on Friday nights at any of these locations: Arc of San Antonio- Pam Stevens Ctr. 6530 Wurzbach Rd. San Antonio, TX 78240, Crown of Life Lutheran Church 19291 Stone Oak Pkwy San Antonio, TX 78258, Morgan's Wonderland 5223 David Edwards Dr. San Antonio, TX 78233.

Summer Enrichment Program features community guests such as Star Wars, Zumba, musicians, meal preparation activities, dance battles, etc. that provide the children with experiences that most children take for granted. This day program will offer 4 sessions in 2020 at Cross Roads Church 8102 Midcrown Dr. Windcrest, TX 78239.

San Antonio Adventure Program is similar to the summer program but offered during school breaks such as thanksgiving, winter and spring break. This program is typically offered at Morgan's Wonderland and Crown of Life Lutheran Church.

We are intentionally working towards our goal of developing healthy families and socially adept children in our community. Anecdotally and through surveys we know that meeting this goal. Our most recent November - December 2019 Parent Survey results show that 100% of parents say that our program improved their child's social skills and that volunteers and staff were courteous, professional, and prepared. Further, 100% of surveyed parents said that the program provided them with respite. This is important because research shows highly stressed parents are more likely to neglect and abuse a child. An analysis of our 2019 attendance data shows that each child attended our programs approximately 10 times. This is an important indicator of our success -- do the children want to be there? Your support helps us continue our passion of meeting the needs of these children and their families.

(S1-  
<https://hhs.texas.gov/sites/default/files/documents/laws-regulations/reports-presentations/2019/hb1-statewide-behv-hlth-idd-plan-feb-2019.pdf>)

**Evaluation Plan:**

We are committed to making a positive impact in the lives of children with special needs. We plan to measure improvement in the social skills of our participants as perceived by the parents/caregivers, program staff and volunteers. This life skill is critical to the overall well-being and development of children. Good social skills translate to good mental and emotional health which ensures that they become contributing members of our community. We also plan to provide parents with respite, in order to reduce the stress that these parents experience. These objectives will be evaluated using parent surveys, staff and volunteer feedback forms completed at the end of each program as appropriate.

In order to ensure that more families benefit from our services, we will use our sign-in sheets to develop attendance data and compare this to previous data to measure the increase and frequency in attendance.

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

Special Reach holds 3-4 fundraisers per year and charges a fee to help cover the expenses associated with our programs. As we have grown, we have been exposed to many more individual and corporate donors, as well as other grant makers. We are working diligently to further diversify our funding base through annual appeals, exploring other avenues to fulfill our mission, and applying to additional grant makers so that we can continue to meet this growing need in our community.

**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>
135	15

**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>	
Infants (0-5)	0%	African American	9%
Children (6-13)	55%	Asian American	1%
Young Adults (14-18)	45%	Caucasian	30%
<b>TOTAL:</b>	<b>100%</b>	Hispanic/Latino	60%
		Native American	0%
		Other and Define	0%
		<b>TOTAL:</b>	<b>100%</b>

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

District2, 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>
Program Equipment/Supplies	\$15,500	\$7,500
Program Facility Rental	\$6,500	\$3,500
Background Checks	\$450	\$200
Volunteer/Staff Training/meetings	\$1,000	\$1,000
Storage unit for program supplies	\$600	\$500
Automobile and Travel	\$4,500	\$3,500
Printing/Marketing/Publications	\$2,900	\$1,000
Program Staff	\$174,720	\$7,800
Program Software	\$2,100	\$0
Program Cell phone	\$1,094	\$0
Program Insurance	\$6,000	\$0
Depreciation	\$11,470	\$0
<b>TOTAL:</b>	<b>\$226,834</b>	<b>\$25,000</b>

**OTHER FUNDING RESOURCES****For Project being Requested: Funding sources and amounts, pending and committed.****PROJECT - PENDING**

<b>Funder Name</b>	<b>Amount Requested</b>
Kronkosky Charitable Foundation	\$50,000
The Greehey Family Foundation	\$10,000
The Tim Duncan Foundation	\$50,000
<b>TOTAL:</b>	<b>\$110,000</b>

**PROJECT - COMMITTED**

<b>Funder Name</b>	<b>Amount Requested</b>
The Gordon Hartman Family Foundation	\$10,000
Mays Family Foundation	\$10,000
<b>TOTAL:</b>	<b>\$20,000</b>

**Other funding sources and amounts, pending and committed not specific to this request.****ALL OTHER ORGANIZATION REQUESTS - PENDING**

<b>Funder Name</b>	<b>Amount Requested</b>
Annual Gala	\$170,000
Big Give	\$6,000
Birdies For Charity	\$10,000
Other Fundraising Events	\$17,000
<b>TOTAL:</b>	<b>\$203,000</b>

**ALL OTHER ORGANIZATION REQUESTS - COMMITTED**

<b>Funder Name</b>	<b>Amount Requested</b>
H-E-B	\$25,000
<b>TOTAL:</b>	<b>\$25,000</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?**  
 All our board members support Special Reach with their own resources. Financially, 100% of the board donates to Special Reach as they are able. Since January 2020, members of the board of directors and advisory board have contributed over \$24,500 and continue to make monetary and in-kind donations. They also work to secure donations to Special Reach as well as donate their various expertise as needed such as providing legal, leadership, and accounting guidance. Our board members are very actively engaged in fiscal matters and take a hands-on approach to all matters concerning Special Reach.

**LIST OF BOARD DIRECTORS**

<b>Name &amp; Office Held</b>	<b>Corporate Affiliation</b>
Rudy Vasquez - Chair	Owner, The Law Offices of Rudy Vasquez, P.C. 2939 Mossrock San Antonio, TX 78230
Barbara Johnson - Treasurer	EVP, Residential Mortgage Lending & Consumer Banking Braodway Bank 1177 NE Loop 410, San Antonio, TX 78209
Pepper Wilson - Secretary	Executive Director for Training and Development at Valero Energy
Doris Dollar - Kuretich	Owner, Dollar Wealth Management LPL Securities 19311 FM 2252 Garden Ridge, TX 78266
Greg Kinney	Adjunct Professor at Southwest School of Arts 1201 Navarro San Antonio, TX 78205
Lacey Kotzur	Public Affairs Manager, H-E-B Tournament of Champions Charitable Trust
Patty Ritter	Director of Clinical Services, Advantage Care Services 5038 Beckwith Blvd Ste 105 San Antonio, TX 78247

**Signature**  
 Cici Osonma