



August 10, 2017

Melissa Bauman  
Executive Director  
The Harvey E. Najim Family Foundation  
613 NW Loop 410, Suite 875  
San Antonio, Texas 78216

Dear Ms. Bauman,

Please accept this letter of inquiry on behalf of Healy-Murphy Center (HMC).

**Project Title:** Healy-Murphy Center is requesting funds to support childcare scholarships and subsidies which ensure quality care and early education for the infants and toddlers of teen parents and other families struggling with poverty.

**Amount of Funding Request:** \$50,000

**Organization Purpose and History:** The mission of Healy-Murphy Center is to provide compassionate service to youth-in-crisis by focusing on individualized education in a non-traditional setting, early childhood development and essential support services.

This organization began in 1888 as St. Peter Claver Academy, the first free school for African American children in Texas. With the advent of integration, the organization's focus was redirected to pregnant teens, high school dropouts and other students struggling in the traditional school environment. In 1970, the re-named Healy-Murphy Center became the first accredited alternative high school program in Texas. In 1972, a child development center was added providing much needed care for the children of Healy-Murphy students. Today more than 400 at-risk youth attend Healy-Murphy Center annually. Another 200 infants and preschoolers are served at the Healy-Murphy Child Development Center. More than 90% of these children come from low-income families; 25% are homeless; and 50% are pregnant and/or parenting teens. Our on-site Child Development Center provides a nurturing environment for infants and children while their parents pursue their high school diploma or G.E.D. at Healy-Murphy Center. As a result, teen mothers and fathers who would have had to stay home with their children can continue their education with the help of this excellent on-site childcare center.

**Project Description:**

Healy-Murphy Child Development Center serves approximately 200 infants and children each year. Over 50% of these children have teen parents attending Healy-Murphy Center. The remaining 50% are children of low-income, often single-parent homes. Since our mission is to serve at-risk youth, no pregnant or parenting teen is turned away. As a result, we care for up to 40 infants and toddlers daily, as opposed to the maximum number of infants (typically only 5-10) that other childcare centers usually accommodate. Approximately 80% of our children’s families earn less than \$15,000 a year. Over 95% of families receive child care support through either the City of San Antonio’s Child Care Services and Early Head Start programs or the United Way’s Eastside Promise Neighborhood. These tuition reimbursement programs, however, do not cover the full cost of care for each child. Additionally, many families need care while they are waiting for coverage. Healy-Murphy covers these expenses through foundation grants and individual and private contributions. We are requesting permission to submit an application for a \$50,000 grant from the Najim Family Foundation to help offset the cost of the childcare subsidies and scholarships needed to ensure that no child is deprived of quality care because of finances. This grant will help underwrite the 60 subsidy slots and 2 infant scholarship slots per week throughout the 2017-2018 school year. These subsidies and scholarships will essentially make childcare affordable and available for every infant belonging to the low-income families we serve, preparing them to pursue a brighter future.

Without early intervention, these children run a high risk of failure in school because of their low-income status and the fact that their parents are still in high school.

**Previous Funding Received:** The Najim Family Foundation has been an important source of support to the children we serve since 2007. In that year, the Najim Family Foundation provided a grant of \$63,263 to upgrade our classrooms and curriculum. In 2008, the Najim Family Foundation awarded Healy-Murphy Child Development Center a \$70,000 grant to provide infant scholarships and subsidies. In 2009, 2010, 2011, 2012, 2013, 2014, and 2016 the Najim Family Foundation awarded grants of \$50,000 to the Child Development Center for infant/toddler scholarships and subsidies. In 2015, Healy-Murphy Center received \$150,000 for the creation of the Center for Family and Community education and childcare support.

**Project’s Relation to Funding Priorities:** This project, which provides quality education in a nurturing environment to youth in crisis, is directly in line with the Najim Family Foundation’s priorities on improving the education, health and well-being of the children of our community.

**Line-item Budget**

<b>Line Item Description</b>	<b>Total Project Funds Allocation</b>	<b>Najim Requested Funds Allocation</b>
60 infant subsidies/week (\$78 wk x 42 weeks)	\$196,560	\$40,000
2 schol./week (\$180 wk x 42 weeks)	\$15,120	\$10,000
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$211,680</b>	<b>\$50,000</b>

**Children Impacted:** The total project initiative will impact 200 children. The NFF requested funds will impact 75 children.

**Organization Revenue and Expenses:** The Healy-Murphy Center total budgeted revenue and expenses for the current fiscal year which ends September 30, 2017 is \$2,078,937.

**Project Timeline:** Childcare services are offered year-round, Monday through Friday, 6:30 AM-6:00 PM.

**Evaluation Criteria:** The project's effectiveness will be measured by the number of children we are able to continue serving on a weekly basis and by measuring their educational development. For reporting purposes, we would be happy to submit a copy of the attendance records for all students at the Child Development Center in the 2017-2018 school year and summer school. This will allow you to verify the number of students that benefited from subsidies and the number of weeks that each student received funds. The educational development of the children in the project will also be evaluated quarterly using the Early Learning Assessment Profile, a tool that measures the progress of children four weeks to three years of age and assesses how well they are learning and developing.

**Other Project Funders:**

<b>Foundation</b>	<b>Amount</b>	<b>Status</b>
United Way	\$108,025	Awarded
Sisters of the Holy Spirit	\$10,000	Awarded
Texas Cavaliers Charitable Foundation	\$6,000	Awarded
Greehey Family Foundation	\$25,000	Awarded
Valero Energy Foundation	\$12,500	Awarded
<b><i>Total additional support</i></b>	<b><i>\$161,525</i></b>	

**Contact Information**

Primary: Douglas J. Watson, Executive Director, 618 Live Oak, San Antonio, TX 78202, (210) 223-2944, [dwatson@healymurphy.org](mailto:dwatson@healymurphy.org).

Secondary: Siri Lindholm, Director of Development, 618 Live Oak, San Antonio, TX 78202, (210) 223-2944, [slindholm@healymurphy.org](mailto:slindholm@healymurphy.org).

Thank you for considering our request.

Sincerely,



Douglas J. Watson  
Executive Director