



LETTER OF INQUIRY

Mission Road Developmental Center (MRDC)

Project Title: To support the Shindig S.O.A.R & MORE challenge (\$25,000) and provide partial funding for a shade structure over the children's sport court. (\$25,000).

Amount of Funding Request: \$50,000

Organization's Purpose and History: From humble beginnings in 1947, MRDC has grown to serve 410 children and adults with Intellectual Developmental Disabilities (IDD) daily. Through specialized programs, we enable those in our care to reach their God-given potential to become as independent and productive as possible, and to live as an integral part of the San Antonio community. MRDC owns and operates 22 group homes for children and adults with IDD and a number of program related structures on our 22 acre campus. Our *free.to.be* Adult Day Program now reaches 161 daily participants. Our children's program now includes monthly Mom's Morning Out respite, short term respite care to support care giving needs for area families, an emergency shelter for up to 6 children, fulltime residential placement for up to 50 children, and the S.O.A.R. & MORE Program for our MRDC resident children, shelter children, and 25 additional community children with IDD. We are currently and remain committed to operating entirely debt-free. MRDC is one of five nonprofit organizations under the governance and management of Mission Road Ministries, which serves 841 people daily.

Project Description: On behalf of our vulnerable children, we humbly request a \$25,000 under writing gift restricted to their S.O.A.R. & MORE program and a \$25,000 donation restricted to building a commercial grade shade structure over the children's sport court. The S.O.A.R. donation will once again be announced as a challenge grant at our annual Grand Western Shindig and used as a challenge to participants.

1. S.O.A.R. & MORE Program: Thank you for your ongoing support of this important program. Our summer S.O.A.R. program continues to grow. Currently, we are serving 25 community children with IDD in addition to our own resident children. Our MORE after school and school holiday time program continues to be a vital component of stabilizing the behaviors and academic progress of our resident kids. Program expenses are budgeted at **\$219,597 for FY18**. These critical funds are still unfunded by state program fees and must be raised annually through the Shindig S.O.A.R. and MORE Challenge. We intend to use the same successful fundraising strategy we have used in past years.

2. Sun Protection: Funds are needed to install one large scale, commercial grade sunshade over the sport court. The psychotropic medications our children take make them especially sun sensitive. This sunshade will provide essential protection for our children and staff and allow them to be outside more frequently during the day. We know from the SOAR program that increased physical activity helps our kids control their behaviors and improve their stamina. Although medically necessary for our fragile children, the expense of these large structures coupled with client fee cuts by our State legislature, has made it impossible for us to afford and install them.

Brief statement of any previous funding received from The Harvey E. Najim Family Foundation:

Date of Gift	Amount of Gift	Project Funded
July 2008	\$100,000	\$50,000 Shindig Underwriting \$50,000 Capital Campaign
August 2009	\$50,000	Capital Campaign
December 2009	\$20,000	Help a Kid S.O.A.R. Challenge
July 2010	\$45,886	Cooler/Freezer for Campus
November 2010	\$ 5,000	Shindig Underwriting
December 2010	\$10,000	\$10,000 S.O.A.R. Challenge
October 2011	\$35,000	\$ 35,000 Generator for freezer
December 2011	\$15,000	\$ 15,000 S.O.A.R. Challenge
February 2012	\$10,000	\$10,000 S.O.A.R. Challenge, pledged during Shindig
November 2012	\$50,000	\$25,000 Kitchen Upgrade \$25,000 S.O.A.R. Challenge
October 2013	\$49,966	\$24,966 Bathtub Replacement \$25,000 S.O.A.R. Challenge
December 2013	\$10,000	\$10,000 S.O.A.R. Challenge
November 2014	\$75,000	\$25,000 S.O.A.R Challenge \$25,000 Emergency Shelter \$25,000 Capital Campaign
November 2015	\$50,000	\$25,000 S.O.A.R. Challenge \$25,000 Emergency Shelter
November 2016	\$50,000	\$25,000 S.O.A.R. Challenge \$25,000 Emergency Shelter

How the proposed project relates to The Harvey E. Najim Family Foundation's funding priorities: We are an excellent fit for the Najim Foundation because we are a 501(c) (3) organization providing residential care on our campus to children with IDD, ages 3-17. MRDC is one of only two non-profits in Texas caring exclusively for children with IDD who have been removed from their home because of abuse or neglect and are placed with us by the Texas Department of Family and Protective Services. We are dedicated to safely and lovingly caring for these children by providing food, shelter, clothing, education, and medical treatment. Our S.O.A.R. program also positively impacts an additional 134 young people through the Koala, youth facilitator, and church youth volunteer programs.

**Line-item budget for project in which funds are being requested:
S.O.A.R. and MORE Program Budget**

Line Item Description	Total Allocated Funds	Najim Funds Allocation
Salaries/Benefits/ Insurance	\$127,411	
IT/Professional Fees	\$10,817	
Educational Training/Supplies	\$28,920	18,000
Occupancy/Maintenance	\$33,720	
Meals during summer camp	\$8,490	7,000
Other	\$10,240	
Total	\$219,597	\$25,000

Sun Shade Budget

Line item Description	Total Allocated Funds	Najim Funds Allocation
(1) 40' x 80' Joined Hip Shade Structure Includes drawings, calculations permit, permit fee, foundation design, engineering & installation.	\$44,622	\$25,000

Unduplicated Children Impacted: SOAR and MORE 182 Sunshade 94

NFF requested funds will impact: SOAR and MORE 182 Sunshade 94

Organization total revenue and expenses for current fiscal year: Our fiscal year ended on June 30, 2017. We do not have final audited financials yet; however, unaudited total revenue was **\$14,806,903** and unaudited total expenses were **\$14,834,576**. The Board, at the Sept. 14, 2017 meeting, will approve the FY18 budget.

Project timeline (*beginning and ending dates*): Help a Kid S.O.A.R. Challenge: We have already started raising funds for the S.O.A.R. Challenge. If we do not raise the entire amount needed at Shindig, we will continue to write grants throughout the remainder of FY18. **Sun Shade:** We will complete this project when funds are committed, hopefully in FY2018, which runs July 1, 2017-June 30, 2018.

Brief project evaluation criteria: We measure the children's success in meeting goals that help them become as independent, productive and included in the community as possible. Our system integrates suggestions from the child's care givers, case workers, doctors and the children themselves to establish each goal. Staff records their progress or lack thereof, and sets new goals as appropriate. The child's care team keeps the records which are reported to the Executive Director, the President of MRM, the MRM Board and MRDC small board. The success/failure of the children to reach their goals is reported annually to United Way of San Antonio and Bexar County.

List other project funders (pending and committed foundations): We are actively soliciting funds for the **FY18 S.O.A.R. Challenge:** Three other foundations have contributed to S.O.A.R. 2018 so far: the Hartman Family Foundation \$25,000; The San Antonio Area Foundation High School Completion Grant for \$10,000 and the Texas Cavaliers Foundation for \$5,000. Grants outstanding include: H-E-B Tournament of Champions \$35,000; The Saint Susie Charitable Foundation \$10,000; and Shield Ayres Foundation \$5,000. **Total: \$90,000 Sun Shade:** We have asked Impact San Antonio for 2 sun shade structures for the campus.

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