

# FUNDING APPLICATION

## GENERAL INFORMATION

### Organization Information

<b>Legal Name:</b> Clarity Child Guidance Center	<b>Federal Tax ID#:</b> 74-1153067	<b>Are you a 501(3)(c) charity?</b> Yes	
<b>Address:</b> 8538 Tom Slick Dr.	<b>City:</b> San Antonio	<b>State:</b> TX	<b>Zip Code:</b> 78229
<b>Website:</b> www.claritycgc.org AND www.1in5minds.org		<b>Fax:</b> (210) 616-0300	

### Head Of Organization

<b>Name:</b> Jessica Knudsen	<b>Title:</b> President & CEO
<b>E-Mail Address:</b> jessica.knudsen@claritycgc.org	<b>Phone:</b> (210) 593-2222

### Application Contact

<b>Name:</b> Julia Crowley	<b>Title:</b> Grants Manager	<b>E-Mail Address:</b> julia.crowley@claritycgc.org	<b>Phone:</b> (210) 593-2222
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<b>Previous funding received from The Gordon Hartman Family Foundation</b>	
<b>Year</b>	<b>Funding \$</b>
2013	\$10,000
2014	\$5,000
2015	\$5,000
2016	\$15,000
2017	\$10,000
2019	\$20,000
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$65,000</b>

**Has the organization applied to the Gordon Hartman Family Foundation in the past and been declined?**  
 Yes  
 2017 grant LOI; 2015 grant LOI; 2014 grant LOI

<b>Grant Amount Requested \$:</b>	<b>Total Project Budget \$:</b>	<b>Organization's Annual budget \$:</b>
\$20,000	\$13,499,494	\$25,871,095

**Mission Statement:**  
 Clarity Child Guidance Center's mission is to help children, adolescents, and families overcome the disabling effects of mental illness and improve their ability to function successfully at home, at school, and in the community.

**PROJECT INFORMATION**

**Program / Project Title:**  
 Mental Health Services for Special Needs Children

**PROJECT TIMELINE**

<b>Start Date</b>	<b>End Date</b>
10/01/2020	09/30/2021

**Program / Project Description:**  
 Clarity CGC is the only remaining nonprofit in our region offering a continuum of mental health care services solely for children, ages 3-17, and their families, regardless of ability to pay or any other socio-economic factor. We work with kids to build the resilience and skills required to manage the stressors of everyday life. We help families understand, communicate, and learn to manage their child's illness. Our goal is that every child recovers from crisis and is able to reach their full potential.  
 We treat children and adolescents who have a range of emotional, mental, and behavioral illnesses from ADHD and anxiety to suicidal ideation, bipolar disorder and schizophrenia. The only requirement is that children are capable of participating in the therapeutic process.  
 Services include emergency care in our 24/7 Crisis Services, inpatient hospitalization, day treatment, and outpatient therapies (individual, group and family sessions).

Inpatient hospitalization provides a child at risk of harm to self or others with intensive services to provide stabilization. Treatment in our 66-bed psychiatric hospital allows the child to heal in a safe and caring environment, bringing them back to an appropriate level of self-control. During their stay, our dedicated staff of Board Certified psychologists, licensed psychologists, licensed professional counselors and social workers (LPCs, LCSWs and LMSWs), Certified Therapeutic Recreation Specialists (CTRSs), nurses, and LVNs work with patients to help them with their healing process. A part-time family practice doctor and nurse practitioner manage daily physical medical needs and an on-call physician is available nights and weekends. Over 65% of our employees are direct care staff, ensuring the safety and well-being of our patients. Children attend daily individual and group therapy sessions, and family therapy is an integral part of the care plan.

Once a child stabilizes, they may move to day treatment or outpatient therapy. Day treatment (also known as partial hospitalization) runs Monday through Friday from 8:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. on campus. A child in day treatment receives all of the same intensive services as an inpatient child does, however, they can go home at the end of the day, eat dinner with their family and sleep in their own bed. Day treatment can be used to prevent unnecessary hospitalization of a child coming from the community or as a bridge from acute hospitalization to outpatient therapy. This type of treatment is especially useful for our very young patients for whom inpatient hospitalization can be traumatizing.

Play with Purpose(TM), our music therapy, art and active play program, is integrated into our inpatient and day treatment plans. Wraparound supports include case management, medication management, and bridge appointments after discharge. Our Next Steps Center (formerly named Family Support Center) supports continuity of care after discharge by ensuring follow-up appointments are made, answering questions regarding a child's diagnosis, assuring medications have been filled, assessing that the child is still stable, providing donated resources (food, clothes, etc.) and community referrals, and assisting the family with whatever they might need to ease their child's transition back to home and school.

In FY21, Clarity CGC expects to help over 7,500 children in Bexar and surrounding counties, all of whom need specialized care to overcome the obstacles preventing them from reaching their full potential. Each of them faces mental illnesses that impair their ability to function successfully. Many of these kids have additional special needs on which The Gordon Hartman Family Foundation focuses. "Research tells us that children with disabilities have a greater chance of developing mental health problems than children without disabilities." (Dix, I.L., et al, KidsMatter for Students with a Disability, 2010). These children may be autistic, have intellectual developmental disabilities, be medically fragile, or have other disabilities preventing them from successfully functioning, and are categorized as disabled by the Social Security Administration. We can identify them because they receive Social Security Disability Insurance from a Managed Medicaid provider (STARKids). In FY17, we treated 137 children in this category. In FY18, that number rose to 593. In FY20, 781 unduplicated STARKids came to Clarity CGC for help. The numbers continue to rise, and due to COVID-19, will likely climb next year. "There is evidence in the literature that children with SENDs (Special Educational Needs and Disabilities) and their families are likely to be at greater risk of experiencing poor mental health, and to be under substantially greater pressure, than less vulnerable families during COVID-19." (Asbury, Fox, Deniz, Code, & Toseeb, 2020, How is COVID-19 Affecting the Mental Health of Children with Special Educational Needs and Disabilities and Their Families?). Clarity CGC has seen higher acuity in children admitted since March, as evidenced by increased need for one-to-one patient to staff monitoring. "In particular, social distancing and its effects are extremely novel and difficult to understand for children, especially those experiencing developmental and intellectual delays. This affects their wellbeing and places them at a higher risk for clinically significant mental health issues. COVID-19 has disrupted lives across the globe and is more likely to disproportionately affect those children with pre-existing vulnerabilities." (Patel K., 2020. Mental health implications of COVID-19 on children with disabilities). As an essential service, we continue to stay open 24/7/365 to help these kids.

Over 60% of our patients are low-income, uninsured and under-insured, and our STARKids fall into this group. SSD insurance Managed Medicaid insurers rarely reimburse our actual cost of services. (Community First reimburses anywhere from \$200-\$700 less than cost of treatment, depending on service level.) Clarity CGC must rely on public funding to help cover gaps in treatment costs.

We respectfully request \$20,000 from the Gordon Hartman Family Foundation to help our STARKids and families receive the essential mental health services they need. Clarity CGC and the Gordon Hartman Foundation both strive to bring positive transformation to the lives of children with special needs and their families. Your support can help us give our STARKids the necessary tools and the resilience needed to overcome their mental health obstacles, so they can each fulfill the promise of their unique and individual potential.

**Evaluation Plan:**

Metrics used to track overall agency performance include patient demographics, social determinants such as ACEs, numbers of treatments received at each acuity level, re-admissions, follow-up appointment completion and numerous other factors. To determine the effectiveness of treatment for each child, however, Clarity CGC uses the Child and Adolescent Behavior Assessment (CABA) measure to describe the psychological functioning of a child or adolescent. The CABA is compliant with Joint Commission standards for monitoring outcomes in behavioral health care settings. This tool is a structured questionnaire that may be completed by a young patient if they are capable or by an adult informant if they are not. The measure consists of 32 questions that assess functioning in three domains: internalizing behaviors, externalizing behaviors and risk behaviors. According to the American Psychological Association (APA), internalizing behaviors and disorders are characterized primarily by processes within the self, such as anxiety (e.g., excessive worrying), depression (e.g. withdrawal, social isolation) and physical symptoms with psychological origins (e.g., upset stomach in response to perceived stress). Externalizing behaviors and disorders are characterized primarily by negative actions in the external world, such as verbal hostility, physical aggression, breaking rules or infringing on the rights of others. Risk behaviors are behaviors that increase the likelihood of harm being done to self and/or others. Each of the 32 questions is rated on a 4-point rating scale from "no problem" to "big problem." The ratings are summed and the sums are then averaged to yield an overall score. CABA scores are obtained at admission and at or near discharge. A change score (i.e., discharge score minus admission score) is calculated and represents any change in the intensity of problem behaviors and symptoms. A positive score indicates positive progress toward stability and functionality.

Mental health clinicians use individual CABA scores for each child's treatment planning and to determine patient progress. Agency leadership review aggregate score analysis quarterly to evaluate program effectiveness, to determine any necessary program improvements, and to ensure we continue to offer the best possible care for all patients. Clarity CGC's goal is that at least 75% of children who are STARKids that are treated between October 1, 2020-September 30, 2021 will show improved scores.

As a children-only psychiatric agency, we care for a vulnerable population and continuously monitor the quality of our care by responding to parent concerns and requesting feedback from our families. Upon a child's discharge from the program, families may voluntarily complete a Voice of the Consumer (VOC) discharge survey, allowing us to gauge success of our services and the impact of a child's treatment for the family as a whole. The survey allows families to rate staff, facilities, services, etc. VOC results and any written comments are powerful indicators of a family's understanding of treatment approach and perception of their child's illness, and can also pinpoint needed improvements for agency services and procedures. Our goal is that at least 80% of families surveyed feel that their child improved and 90% would recommend our services to others.

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

Clarity CGC engages in an active fund development strategy to support its program services from a variety of sources, including foundation grants, individual donations, community organization, corporate donations and fundraising events. The agency continues to plan ahead financially, and makes every effort to maintain and diversify its funding streams.

The agency has a dedicated grant writer and actively pursues grant funding. In the first quarter of FY21 (July-September of 2020), Clarity CGC has been awarded funding toward all program services from the Koehler Foundation--\$20,000; the Hogg Foundation--\$8,000; United Way Strong Individuals and Families Impact Council--\$338,060; Valero Champions Fore Charity--\$30,000; Methodist Healthcare Ministries Intermediate COVID-19 Relief grant--\$60,000; 3M Foundation--\$5,000; and an anonymous funder--\$77,524. We also were awarded match funding for Big Give from the Carl C. Anderson, Sr. & Marie Jo Anderson Foundation--\$20,000 and from Harvey Najim--\$5,000. The following are pending grants submitted: Baptist Health Foundation (3 year grant)--\$500,000; Methodist Healthcare Ministries--\$400,000; Greehey Foundation--\$100,000; Redman foundation--\$15,000; Alice Kleberg Reynolds foundation--\$10,000; Nationwide foundation--\$20,000; Cigna Foundation Healthier Kids for Our Future Initiative--\$80,000; and the Nancy Smith Hurd Foundation--\$100,000. The total for FY21 program grant funding pending is \$1,250,000. Many other additional program grants are calendared for submission over the next nine months for FY21 funding.

Claritycon, our seventh annual summit on children's mental health and signature professional education event, was "re-imagined" for this year due to COVID-19. It will provide up to 16 professional continuing education credits (CEUs) for children's mental health professionals, including school counselors, teachers, therapists, pediatricians, CPS employees, first responders and many others who need to maintain their credentials. Clarity CGC will host a series of four "mini-Claritycon" events at the KLRN Public Broadcast Studio. These mini-Claritycons will take place on September 25th, November 20th, February 5th, and April 9th. We are offering our audience three different options to participate: Live In-Person (following all COVID-19 guidelines from the CDC and city regulations to prevent spread of infection), Live On-Line, and On-Demand. The September mini-Claritycon has already been successfully held. Next year Claritycon is already scheduled to be held at the Hyatt Hill Country Resort in July, 2021.

In addition to our signature event, Clarity CGC has additional funding campaigns throughout the year, such as Big Give and our holiday appeal.

Clarity CGC has a Marketing & Development team dedicated to creativity, communication, community outreach, partner outreach and special projects. The team is dedicated to awareness and education regarding children's mental health, using every opportunity to build relationships and reach new audiences.

**Line item Budget:**

<b>Line Item Description</b>	<b>Total Project Funds Allocation</b>	<b>Gordon Hartman Funds Allocation</b>
Salaries & Wages	\$8,035,964	\$15,000
Employee Benefits	\$839,759	\$0
Payroll Taxes	\$614,751	\$0
Supplies	\$985,680	\$5,000
Telephone & Internet	\$78,985	\$0
Postage & Shipping	\$8,052	\$0
Occupancy (utilities, trash, grounds,etc.)	\$315,600	\$0
Equipment Repairs & Maintenance	\$46,494	\$0
Seminars & Travel	\$8,700	\$0
Bank Fees	\$19,380	\$0
Dues & Publications	\$2,700	\$0
Licenses & Registrations	\$5,040	\$0

Professional Fees	\$120,930	\$0
Contract Services (interpreters, dietition, on-call, etc.)	\$1,937,459	\$0
Insurance	\$209,400	\$0
Purchased Services (EEG's, lab services, etc.)	\$270,600	\$0
<b>TOTAL:</b>	<b>\$13,499,494</b>	<b>\$20,000</b>

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