**2022 Grants**

CAMP ARANZAZU $2,500 We respectfully request a grant of $5,000 to support our recreational therapy programs for 35 campers over 5 days. Camp Aranzazu’s Certified Therapeutic Recreation Specialists design programs that address therapy goals specific to each camping group’s challenges. Our curriculum combines camp activities to focus on physical strength, fine and gross motor skills, and interpersonal interactions. The opportunity to try new activities in a safe, inclusive environment leads children and young adults to test their physical limits away from caregivers and challenge themselves incrementally. Such self-awareness ultimately helps our campers to redefine their capabilities. We are proud to call these innovative, life-changing programs “intentional camping.”

CORPUS CHRISTI EDUCATION FOUNDATION $5,000 The CCEF is seeking $20,000 to help pay for materials needed to expand our highly popular and successful STEM Enhancement for At-Risk Students designed to help CCISD elementary students from underserved neighborhoods. The program will be expanded by supplying students 8 to 11 at Title I schools not yet involved in the program with materials needed to create and manipulate projects using robotic elements. Each school will receive a Lego Education “We DO” Education 2.0 Core Set, Lego Simple & Powered Machines Set, Lego DUPLO Early Simple Machines Set and software, worksheets, activity packs and lesson plans for hands-on STEM application.

CHILDRENS ADVOCACY CENTER OF COASTAL BEND $4,000 The CACCB is seeking funds to educate the community on preventing child abuse, sex trafficking, drug endangerment, and neglect of children. Each year, we provide more than 1,000 forensic interviews of children who have made an outcry of physical and/or sexual abuse. Our goal is to prevent future incidents by educating the public regarding our services and ways to prevent, identify, and deal with abuse. Funds are needed to better serve our 12-county area, allowing our outreach coordinator to communicate with schools and community organizations. Funds could be used to purchase public-service advertisements.

AGAPE RANCH $2,500 We support, equip, train, and empower foster and adoption ready children, youth, and families in the Coastal Bend. Nueces, San Patricio, and Aransas Counties. Agape Ranch has blessed families with gifts for foster children in kinship placements and at-risk children of the Coastal Bend. Often, families that provide for vulnerable children have large sibling groups of children in their care. To help relieve the burden of providing beyond basic needs, The Christmas Store allows guardians the opportunity to “shop”.

EDUCATING CHILDREN’S FUTURE COMMUNITY CENTER $2,500 The E.C.F. After-School Tutoring Program is a tutoring/educational enrichment program for at-risk, elementary age students and is designed to demonstrate that the trend of poor student achievement can be reversed and that all students can master academic standards. Due to the COVID-19 pandemic, the Face-to-Face Tutoring Program is suspended. We have transitioned to Online Tutoring that is offered Monday through Thursday from 3:30–7:30 pm. Each tutor develops an individualized plan to personally fit the exact areas of need for the student, so that together, the tutor and student can work toward the student’s mastery of the material and concepts.

PURPLE DOOR $6,500 Shelter and Supportive Services Program. The agency's Shelter and Supportive Services. Program provides free, comprehensive services to victims of domestic and sexual violence. These services include safe shelter, counseling, case management, legal advocacy. and youth services. These resources work to provide victims with the tools they need to create safe and independent, violence-free lives. Supports Aransas, Bee, Brooks, Duval, Jim Wells, Kenedy, Kleberg, Live Oak, McMullen, Nueces, Refugio, and San Patricio.

FOCUS FOUNDATION $3,000 We are requesting funds for transportation expenses only for the summer sports and wellness program. From 2002 -2014, CCISD was providing transportation at no cost to the program due to budget cuts, CCISD can no longer provide this service.

KINGSVILLE ISD EDUCATION FOUNDATION $3,000 The need for additional science tools was created when the district moved their 7th & 8th grades to the Intermediate and the 5th grade was moved to the elementary school. There are 3 campuses, 9 classrooms, for a total of 168 students. KISD needs additional calculators, laptops, lenses, circuit boards/models, scales, balances, thermometers, rulers, cylinders, prisms, magnets, and timing devices to explore the uses of energy. A well-equipped mobile lab station/table will support problem-solving, hands-on experiments, and digital learning. Students interests in STEM careers will be increased. KISDEF is researching other sources to ensure this is a priority for 2021-2022.

PROSPERA HOUSING $2,000 Prospera has two apartment communities in Nueces Electric Cooperative area: LULAC West Park (Corpus) and LULAC Amistad (Sinton). Our request is to establish a new onsite food pantry at each location for our residents and community members. Of the 172 combined households, one hundred percent of residents live at/below 30% area median income (approx. $26,500). Since the pandemic began, we discovered that by establishing food pantry at our other apartment communities, we can: address immediate food insecurity issues; address economic stability concerns; and provide community outreach. We will seek funding through private donations for continued pantry maintenance after the first operating year. Supports Nueces & San Patricio counties.

SOUTH TX CHILDREN’S HOME MINISTRIES $7,000 Children placed at Homes for Children live with house parents who provide a safe and loving home while difficult circumstances or conflicts are resolved at the child's permanent home. Each home functions much like a traditional household where children experience healthy family dynamics and extracurricular activities in an environment where they can grow socially, mentally and spiritually. The children (and their families) receive professional support services from our caseworkers and Licensed Professional Counselors. Funds from this request will go towards providing food, clothing, school supplies and other items needed for the children in our care. STCH Ministries' Homes for Children is located on our Boothe Campus in Pettus, Texas in Bee County. Children come to the Homes for Children campus from many surrounding counties: Bexar, Calhoun, Williamson, Hays, Victoria, Harris, Tom Green, Nueces, Bastrop, Burnet, Smith, Fort Bend, Polk. In 2020, 139 children were served through the Homes for Children ministry.

BRUSH COUNTRY $7,500 Brush Country CASA seeks funding to recruit, train and support Volunteers who will, in turn, advocate for Children in the Juvenile Court System to find a safe, permanent and loving home as quickly as possible. Funds may also provide continuing education opportunities for staff, board and volunteers and develop awareness efforts to educate the community on the signs and effects of Child Abuse on children, families and the costs on society.

CALALLEN EDUCATION FOUNDATION $5,000 Funding is requested to support the Calallen Education Foundation Mini-Grant Program. The Mini-Grant Program is designed to encourage and facilitate innovative and creative educational approaches to student learning throughout the school year with quick access to funding. Mini Grants must enhance student academic performance and support the objectives and initiatives of both the campus and the district. Educators can apply monthly from September through May. This grant requires a request form from the educator and a 5-7-minute presentation in front of a panel of judges. Mini-Grant requests have a $500 limit. Last school year we awarded 20 Mini Grants totaling $8,512.

CASA OF THE COASTAL BEND $2,500 Funds support assisting CASA of the Coastal Bend in its vital drive to find qualified volunteers that would become Advocates. The funds granted will support the outreach, presentations, recruitment, background checks (to help guarantee our children's safety) training of new CASAs, and retention of these Advocates. This funding will also help support the required continued education of CASA staff, and Advocates, to always be up to date on the child welfare laws, methods, and much more. This funding will help us in a tremendous way to reach our goals for 2022 of having 190 Advocates serving 650 foster children.

CC PREGNANCY CENTER $7,500 The funds will be used for direct Program Center Support to provide for pregnancy tests; ultrasounds; STD education, testing, and treatment; the Healthy Initiative Parenting Classes; Fatherhood Classes; Counseling, Support, and Mentorship; and Material Assistance for clients.

CC SYMPHONY $5,000 Musical Education and Outreach for Coastal Bend Youth is a comprehensive program fostering introduction, appreciation, and participation in symphonic music to Coastal Bend youth. It offers free, innovative programs and performances for children of diverse cultures. Youth are introduced to orchestral music through free performances of the orchestra, soloists, and ensembles. Performers visit schools and we host educational concerts in a major venue and provide free tickets to low-income students. The program serves 5,000 students annually. The components are Patricia Furley Education Concerts, CCSO on the Go, Corpus Christi Area Youth Orchestra, and Free Ticket Vouchers for Under-Served Youth.

CITIZENS FOR EDUCATIONAL EXCELLENCE $2,000 Funds are requested to support Education to Employment Youth Conferences and Events. The activities are designed to increase postsecondary enrollment and career success. The Discover Your Direction Conference is to assist students in Grades 7-10 in their selection of one of four graduation endorsements: Business & Industry, Arts & Humanities, Public Service, or STEM. The Ready for College and Career Conference is for "undecided" juniors and seniors. Postsecondary and career experts help students see the many educational and job opportunities in Coastal Bend. Other events include FAFSA Frenzy for financial aid application completion and Youth Summer Job Fair.

FAMILY COUNSELING CENTER $6,000 Senior Home-Based Therapy: Family Counseling Service meets the needs of the aging population through Home-Based Therapy. This program serves seniors (and caregivers) who are unable to leave their homes and need assistance to address isolation, depression, anxiety and grief. Since the pandemic, Seniors participated in telephone and/or video sessions and have returned to in-person services at their discretion. FCS has established collaborations with the City of Corpus Christi and the Coastal Bend Area Agency on Aging, as well as medical and dialysis clinics. Therapists utilize Cognitive-Behavioral Therapy, focusing on skills for improving mood.

FOSTER ANGELS OF SOUTH TEXAS $3,000 Funding for our daily request program will ensure children in foster care have their basic needs met and provide life-enhancing opportunities that fall in the following categories: clothing, food, housing, education, transportation, recreation, and adoption or medical assistance. Children enter foster care with very few belongings of their own - sometimes just a few items that fit in a trash bag. They have experienced sexual, physical, and/or emotional abuse and neglect. This is where Foster Angels steps in. We can respond to requests in 48 hours or less and assist the same child more than once.

HOPE HOUSE $3,000 Hope House requests funds to assist with the direct cost of our Emergency Shelter Program and Supportive Services for homeless pregnant women, single mothers/fathers; and families with dependent children.

SPIRIT CENTER $5,000 The pavilion was constructed in 1999 and has been used for the past 23 years for various gatherings of youth and adults. Currently, the pavilion requires repair and renovation, including replacement and upgrading of electrical lines and plumbing fixtures, and painting of interior and exterior walls. Renovation of the existing pavilion will provide a more inviting facility, for presentations, work sessions, and social activities and gatherings.

TENNIS SUCCESS $2,500 The After-School Program brings education, tutoring, and tennis to underserved students in grades three through 12. We work with at-risk youth in Corpus Christi’s Westside to provide educational assistance and access to tennis. The H-E-B Tennis Center is the primary location. The Corpus Christi Independent School District is the main community collaborator, allowing us to bring programming to several schools. When they arrive after school, students work on homework in the education room. Tutors and computer programs assist them. After one hour, youth move to tennis courts for conditioning, drills, and games. Those who develop adequate skills participate in local and out-of-town tournaments.

TIMMONS MINISTRIES $2,500 Timons Ministries requests funds for the purpose of repairing or purchasing much needed dental equipment - compressor, vacuum pump, parts, labor - to get our dental clinic operational once again. These are expenses not covered by the entity who covers the medical and dental health programs for Timons Ministries.

TX STATE MUSEUM $2,000 The program for which we seek funding is called “The Wonders of Asia Education program” encompassing several activities. At present, we have six activity plans correlated to Texas Essential Knowledge and Skills and national standards, with several more under development. Four works with longstanding and popular museum programs: Chopsticks, Calligraphy, Origami, and Cultural Dress. Our two latest programs are (1) Rangoli: traditional Indian geometric powder “painting” modified for classroom use and (2) Gyotaku: Japanese fish printing, which has been a hit with both children and adults.

YOUTH ODYSSEY $3,000 We would like to highlight NEC as a Leadership Camp Sponsor for one of nine annual week-long camps. These overnight camps take place at different locations varying from Big Bend National Park, Reimer's Ranch for rock-climbing, Sabine National Forest for backpacking. All camps teach basic life-skills through fun adventure activities like teambuilding games, ropes courses, rock-climbing, kayaking, and camping. Most of which, are activities that youth have never been exposed to before and by joining, they are equipped to overcome adverse situations they find themselves in, breaking the poverty-cycle, entering the workforce in a positive way, and having healthy relationships.

YWCA $2,500 YWCA seeks funding for the YWTeen Program. YWTeens provides education and guidance for 5th and 6th grade girls, often under-served, in making friends and keeping them; learning to avoid bullying behaviors; realizing the value of education and staying in school through character-building weekly on-campus activities.

TOTAL GRANTS AWARDED IN 2022 $97,000