

The League Club 35th Anniversary Grant Proposal

You have been invited to submit a full grant proposal. It is due by 5 pm on June 29, 2021.

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| Agency Legal Name: Jennifer Nieves | Total Project Cost: \$339,500 |
| Year Founded: FEIN : 27-0401702 | Amount of TLC Request: \$35,000 |
| Agency Mail Address: 2685 Horseshoe Drive South, Suite 211 | |
| City, State, Zip: Naples, FL 34104 | Website: lighthouseofcollier.org |
| Contact Person: Jennifer Nieves | Title/Role: Director of Children's Programs |
| Email: jennifer@lighthouseofcollier.org | Phone: 239-430-3934 |
| CEO/ED Name: Scott Flagel | Title: CEO |
| CEO/ED Email: scott@lighthouseofcollier.org | CEO Phone: 239-430-3934 |
| 501 c(3)? Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> Is this a new program? Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> (expand current program) County(ies) Served by Project? Collier <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Lee <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> (southern lee county only) | |
| Agency Mission: The Mission of Lighthouse of Collier, Inc. (LOC) is to foster independence and enhance the quality of life for the blind, visually impaired and their caregivers. | |
| Project Name: Art & Music Studio at Lighthouse of Collier | |
| Project Summary (One or two sentences max): The development of the Arts and Music Studio at Lighthouse of Collier will provide unique opportunities for clients to participate in adaptive arts and music programs that they otherwise may not be able to take part in due to their vision loss. The Program will enhance critical thinking skills, creativity, social skills and improve academic achievement. | |
| Statement of Need: (Provide documented evidence of the need for this project) | |
| <p>Vision loss often creates a sense of isolation for individuals, which can result in depression, low self-esteem, and disconnecting from peers and their community. Participation in art and music can create a wonderful, and fun, way for those living with vision loss to connect and socialize with others, while also gaining a new skill and hobby. There are no agencies in Collier County that are providing specialized recreation and leisure classes for those living with vision loss, indicating a true need for this program in our community.</p> <p>Participation in the music program will provide students equal access to music as their sighted peers. Currently, sighted students in band or choir are given print music to play or sing. Blind students are not given a print equivalent, but instead must wait, listen and memorize. Learning music Braille, or training in the use of Limelighter software, will give these students tools to be leaders who show up to band or choir prepared and confident.</p> <p>Music Braille coursework, training in Goodfeel/Limelighter software, group music classes, and adapted crafts and art activities all provide opportunities for individuals with varying degrees of vision loss to access and participate in the arts. It is our hope that all interested individuals will benefit, from the seasoned artist/musician to the youngster who never considered the arts before due to inaccessibility.</p> | |
| Project Description: (Please include who, what, when, where and why) | |
| <p>Part of being a successful, well-adjusted adult is to maintain a variety of hobbies and interests. Recreational activities can provide an individual with a sense of balance, self-esteem, and may even reduce anxiety and depression. Unfortunately, adults and seniors living with vision loss often give up their favorite recreational activities after the onset of vision loss, and many children with vision impairment tend to feel discouraged from pursuing many hobbies and interests due to their decreased vision.</p> | |

However, this does not have to be the case. Clients who come to the Lighthouse of Collier may learn of possible accommodation, or be provided with adaptive aids, to enable them to continue enjoying their favorite sports and hobbies, or pursue new interests they may not have previously thought of.

Lighthouse of Collier currently offers a variety of Life Enrichment Classes such as: weekly arts and crafts class, game days, fitness and wellness activities, bi-monthly audio book club, and various group outings. These classes also provide opportunities for clients to socialize and integrate within the community.

All Lighthouse of Collier classes and activities are supervised or taught by Certified Vision Rehabilitation Therapists who are trained to ensure all activities/lessons are specifically designed/planned to be accessible for all.

Additionally, Lighthouse of Collier has recently added Music Braille to its curriculum with the goal of enabling our clients living with vision loss to access music independently. Music Braille coursework is offered to teach Braille music reading, sight singing, theory and ear training. Clients utilize Dancing Dots' Goodfeel software to translate print music into Braille, make a Braille copy with use of an Embosser, compose music, and practice music by navigating throughout an audio described score. Participation in the music Braille program will provide our clients with equal access to music as their sighted peers.

Currently, sighted students in band or choir are given print music to play or sing. Students who are blind are not given a print equivalent, but instead must wait, listen and memorize. Learning music Braille will give these students tools to be leaders who show up to band or choir prepared and confident. Additionally, it provides a means for adults and seniors to continue to independently accessing music despite onset of vision loss.

Lighthouse of Collier's music program has also consisted of instruction in the use of the software LimeLighter. LimeLighter is useful for low vision users of any age, from the elementary school student to the elderly community band player. LimeLighter enables sheet music to be magnified up to ten times, viewed in different colors to optimize contrast, and scrolled through, with or without sound. Using foot pedals, the user can scroll through magnified music beginning at a very slow pace and then increase speed over time to keep tempo with the group.

This is an exciting time for the Lighthouse of Collier, as we will soon be moving to a larger facility. We will thus be able to expand all programs, including recreation and leisure activities. As part of this move, Lighthouse of Collier will be opening a large, dedicated room for the Arts and Music Department. To help make this feasible, we require a quality storage system to organize the art materials, art supplies, and instruments for our classes, as well as quality supplies so we can expand the services offered and art projects the clients can complete. We also need materials to professionally display the art for clients and the community to view.

Furthermore, we would like to continue expanding our music program. Our goal is to acquire sets of instruments so clients can gain direct instruction to the performing arts at our facility. Specifically, we would like to begin with sets of drums. Drumming provides social connectedness, cardiovascular and immune system benefits, release of endorphins to reduce stress, improved brain health, pain relief, and opportunity for creativity. Drumming is accessible to the visually impaired as it utilizes auditory skills to play rhythms and does not require knowledge of music notation. Participation in a Lighthouse of Collier drum circle would provide a fun, relaxing and social activity that could lead to further participation in community drum circles.

Our main focus as a whole is to foster independence and confidence, and to provide our clients with the tools needed to be successful, and integrate within the community. So additionally, we would also like to provide regular opportunities for clients to go out and participate in outings to community art and music events.

Project Methodology: (Describe in detail the specific steps for each phase of the project)

Step One

The goal of the Music and Art Studio is to expand our recreation and leisure services to individuals in Collier County living with vision impairment and blindness. We will be moving to a larger space in the Fall which will enable us to have a designated space that will be used for our recreation and leisure activities. In order to accommodate this program

expansion, we will need to purchase the following supplies to organize and set up this space in a way that is accessible, as well as have the necessary training materials:

- A year supply of arts and craft supplies, including: paints, brushes, canvases, easels, paint pens, oil pastels, Sketchpads, aprons, Canvas Paper, etc.
- Storage for clients' art and the supplies (drying racks, storage drawers and bins, art racks)
- Supplies to display artwork (frames, art display panels)
- Sheet music and scores for clients to reference when learning songs
- Set of small instruments for group activities: loog guitars, set of xylophones, set of bongo drums
- Additional braille instructional materials (Introduction to Music for the Blind Student Part I and II) so each participant has a braille copy of the exercises and lessons
- Who's Afraid of Music Braille? (braille and print set)
- Electronic Keyboard. This offers a means for students to compose music directly into their laptop, and also can be used as a tool for music instruction and matching pitch during group activities.
- An Introduction to the Piano for the Blind Student, Graded Studies Parts I and II (braille and print set)
- Lime Lighter software which magnifies, adds contrast and operates with foot pedals to enable the low vision user to read and write music

Step Two

As clients continue to attend activities and their skillsets advance, we will incorporate training in more advanced skills and activities, which will require these next steps:

- Purchase supplies for pottery classes: Electric Pottery wheel, clay, pottery needles and trimming tools, kiln
- Purchase additional canvases
- Provide opportunities for clients to submit artwork in the community and visit local galleries
- Purchase additional instruments as group sizes grow
- Purchase multi user licenses of Goodfeel software to accommodate additional workstations/students
- Purchase refreshable Braille display to display text and music braille. This would enable an individual who is blind to read a braille musical score.
- Purchase Braille embosser to print out paper copy of Braille musical score
- Purchase scanner to scan and print music into a computer for translation into Braille.

Step Three

As the program grows we will continue to add to our material resources and seek connections to increase community integration. The following steps will be taken:

- Purchase additional canvases, clay materials, additional needed materials
- Obtain additional Braille course materials
- Obtain additional Goodfeel software licenses for individual users
- Collaborate with music teachers, choir directors, and band directors to assist with translation of music materials into Braille or use of Lime Lighter magnification for low vision users
- Provide opportunities for program participants to perform in community, submit their artwork to contests, and attend music/art events

Target Audience: _____ *At Risk Women* _____ *X* _____ *At Risk Children.* _____ *X* _____ *Seniors*

Audience Description: What are the characteristics of this target and how will you identify these people?)

Lighthouse of Collier provides services to individuals of all ages living with vision loss. This program will help serve approximately 117 seniors, and 43 children, living with vision impairment and blindness.

Project Goals: (Include why your agency is qualified to address these goals)

The goal of the program is to provide Lighthouse of Collier (LOC) clients with appropriate opportunities to engage in recreation and leisure activities, including training in adaptive methods, and assistive technology software/programs, in order to participate in art and music independently. Lighthouse of Collier is the only agency in Collier county providing services to individuals living with blindness and vision impairment. The staff at Lighthouse of Collier are trained, and certified, in the area of vision rehabilitation therapy making them qualified to oversee and run this program.

Project Evaluation: (How will outcomes/success be defined and measured? How will results be used?)

Lighthouse of Collier utilizes several formal assessments to verify success and client outcomes within the programs. Each assessment is conducted at least annually to measure yearly gains. The primary assessments used are the Comprehensive Functional Assessment (CFA) and the Children's Comprehensive Functional Assessment. The assessments measure gains in the areas of: daily living skills, orientation and mobility (independent travel skills), communication skills (including Braille), self-advocacy, sensory/cognitive development, assistive technology, low vision training, job readiness skills, social skills, ability to access community resources and understanding of adaptive recreation and leisure activities, as well as their overall confidence in their ability to complete desired tasks. The assessments use a rating system to indicate if a client is able to perform a task independently or with minimal, moderate or intensive assistance. Informal assessment is also completed through staff observations and client, or parent, input. Overall attendance is also indicative of the impact on participants. Client Satisfaction Surveys are also completed on a yearly basis, and is another measure used to assess the impact of our programs. Questions measure satisfaction with: feeling more confident in one's abilities, involvement in plan development, satisfaction with the pace of training, and likelihood of recommending Lighthouse services to others.

Project Funding:

Organization's major funding sources for most recent fiscal year (check all that apply)

Government funding: Federal State Local
United Way Community Foundation Fundraisers Matching Gifts Collaborations
Social Entrepreneurship Earnings None

Other Sources of Project Funding: (List other funders for this project, if not requesting 100% from League Club)

Future Funding: (How will this project be funded after the term of the grant has expired?)

We will continue to utilize donations and grants.

People:

Role of the Board: (Describe the role of the Board in this project)

Board members will volunteer

Role of the Staff: (Describe the role of staff in this project) Lighthouse of Collier staff will provide direct instruction in the areas of art and music, as well as supervise activities and community outings.

Role of Volunteers: (Describe the role of volunteers in this project) Volunteers will assist and provide additional support during program activities and outings.

Number of volunteers needed for this project: 5

Is your agency rated by Charity Navigator? Yes No

If rated: Level: Encompass Rating 100 out of 100

NOTE: Funds will be disbursed in December 2021. Grant money must be expended by December 31, 2022

All information provided in this grant proposal is accurate and submitted with the

The League Club 35th Anniversary Grant Project Budget

Organization Name: **Lighthouse of Collier, Inc.**

Brief Project Description: The development of the Arts and Music Studio at Lighthouse of Collier will provide unique opportunities for clients to participate in adaptive arts and music programs that they otherwise may not be able to take part in due to their vision loss.

| | | Total Project | | The League Club Requested Amount |
|---|--|----------------|--|-------------------------------------|
| Project Costs (List by Costs Type i.e. project materials, project staff, transportation, supplies, equipment, etc.) | | | | |
| Staff - Administrative Salaries | | 165,000 | | Not Applicable |
| Staff - Project Related | | 134,000 | | 18,000 |
| Item 1 - Art Supplies | | 10,000 | | 3,000 |
| Item 2 - Storage/Materials for new Art & Music Dept. | | 5,000 | | 1,000 |
| item 3 - Instruments for Music Department | | 2,500 | | 1,500 |
| item 4 - Music Software | | 10,000 | | 5,000 |
| item 5 - Transportation | | 10,000 | | 5,000 |
| item 6 - Admission costs | | 3,000 | | 1,500 |
| item 7 | | | | |
| item 8 | | | | |
| | | | | |
| Total Project Costs | | 339,500 | | 35,000 |

Notes: