

FUNDING APPLICATION

GENERAL INFORMATION

Organization Information

Legal Name: S.L.E.W., Inc. (Support Lending for Emotional Well-Being)		Federal Tax ID#: 42-1580967		Are you a 501(3)(c) charity? Yes	
Address: 12525 Nacogdoches Road, Suite 104		City: SAN ANTONIO		State: Texas	
				Zip Code: 78217	
Website: www.slewellness.org			Fax: (210) 654-7900		

Head Of Organization

Name: Olga Young		Title: Founder/Executive Director	
E-Mail Address: josay@netscape.net		Phone: (210) 654-7900	

Application Contact

Name: Olga Young	Title: Founder/Executive Director	E-Mail Address: josay@netscape.net	Phone: (210) 654-7900
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Previous funding received from The Gordon Hartman Family Foundation		
Year	Funding \$	
2018	\$5,000	
Total	\$5,000	
Has the organization applied to the Gordon Hartman Family Foundation in the past and been declined? No		
Grant Amount Requested \$:	Total Project Budget \$:	Organization's Annual budget \$:
\$5,000	\$605,300	\$605,300
Mission Statement: SLEW Cancer Wellness Center's (SLEW's) mission is to improve the emotional and physical health of uninsured, under-insured, and low-income cancer patients and survivors by offering programs at no cost to clients to promote a better quality of life and long-term survival.		
PROJECT INFORMATION		
Program / Project Title: Cancer Survivorship Services for Elderly, Disabled and the Working Poor		
PROJECT TIMELINE		
Start Date	End Date	
11/01/2020	10/31/2021	
Program / Project Description: Incorporated in 2003, SLEW Cancer Wellness Center is an integrative cancer survivorship agency with a goal of delivering essential services at no cost to 700 unduplicated low-income, uninsured and underinsured cancer patients to improve a woman's emotional well-being, altered body image, self-esteem, physical pain, and mobility limitations while empowering her with knowledge and skills to take charge of her healing and long-term survival. SLEW is the only agency of its kind in San Antonio and offers the most comprehensive program of cancer aftercare for disadvantaged women in Bexar County and the surrounding areas providing over 10,000 services annually. Programs include mental health counseling; lymphatic drainage therapy; oncology massage therapy; patient navigation, case management; nutrition classes; art classes; health education; bra and prosthetic fittings; wigs and hair dressing; emergency food and utility assistance; diabetes workshops and transportation. SLEW's target population includes medically under-served, uninsured and underinsured women with high cancer rates; women with high mortality rates (African Americans and Hispanics); low-income, elderly, disabled, and the working poor. To qualify, women must be at or below 200% of the Federal Poverty Level, uninsured or underinsured. Demographically, of the 700 survivors seen in 2019 in the program, 85% were diagnosed with breast cancer, 58% are Hispanic, 21% Anglo, 20% African American and 1% other ethnicities and races. Participants receiving services have an average household income below \$14,000 for a family of three, falling far below the federal poverty guideline of \$43,440 at the 200% level. The average client is 60 years old and has a tenth grade education level. Clients range in age from 18 to 85 years old. Ninety-six percent of the agency's survivors are unable to work because of the permanent or temporary disability. As the number of long term cancer survivors increases in Bexar County, the continued need for psychological,		

psychosocial, physical and financial aftercare services are in greater demand. Depression and anxiety can develop in many cancer patients. The physical impact of a life-altering and often traumatic diagnosis can be challenging to recover from. Imagine the emotional impact of emerging from a life-altering traumatic event and not understanding the medical system, not having insurance, and without sufficient income or transportation to get to and from a vast amount of medical appointments. Many patients and survivors become weak, confused, and depressed while recovering from surgery, chemotherapy, or radiation treatments. Survivors voice concerns centered around recurrence of cancer, grief and identity, self-image, sadness/depression, and concerns about risk to family members, establishing a need for our psychotherapy component. Cancer treatments and medications can also lead to an array of physical disabilities, from chronic lymphedema, to heart damage, to arthritis. The need created by these physical disabilities is for rehabilitation services such as lymphatic drainage therapy, and range of motion therapy. SLEW is the only agency in San Antonio offering lymphatic drainage therapy, and oncology massage therapy at no cost to the uninsured cancer population.

Many low income individuals who experience a cancer diagnosis often do not have a clear understanding of the medical system and how to navigate medical needs, thus the need for our patient navigator and case manager.

Although SLEW accepts under-served women throughout Bexar County diagnosed with all stages of cancer, due to issues such as less access to cancer screening test, internal intake data shows that approximately 60% of our women, who are patients of the public health system, enter into this program at advanced cancer stages 3 and 4. Implications of a later stage cancer diagnosis increase the need for multiple, complex survivor services. SLEW Cancer Wellness Center provides a multidisciplinary team of compassionate healthcare providers trained to address these concerns during this stressful time in a woman's life.

In the mist of the COVID-19 Pandemic, we have found that our low income, elderly and disabled clients have become extremely vulnerable physical, emotionally and financially. The COVID-19 outbreak has disrupted healthcare services for our clients who are being treated for cancer.

Imagine how freighting it can be just to have cancer, but there's yet another layer of stress as the coronavirus surrounds you.

- o While chemotherapy is continuing, other healthcare services are being temporarily postponed.

- o Experts say these delays can increase anxiety for people who are already feeling stressed about cancer.

Common cancer treatments, such as chemotherapy, radiation, immunotherapy, and bone marrow transplant, can suppress the body's immune system opening the door for disease to attack a vulnerable body, leading to psychological instability. For these reasons, our psychotherapist, patient navigator and case manager has been in high gear responding to the needs of our clients.

Women who receive care team (psycho-social) services will perceive improved quality of life. Clients' emotional balance and social behavior will improve as they acquire coping skills to enable them to accept their chronic, possibly fatal, illness. Survivors will have a better understanding of their disease, and be able to obtain needed medical treatment, as the patient navigator helps them overcome healthcare system barriers, provides medical accompaniments, and/or helps them find affordable medications. The case manager will help clients find financial and community services to furnish essential day-to-day survival, such as food, utilities and shelter, helping clients to look beyond just functional needs.

Behavior will change as women acquire specific coping skills to regain emotional balance when they experience feelings of depression and despair as they learn to accept their chronic illness and new appearance.

Attitude change will occur as clients acquired an increased sense of self-sufficiency as mobility of affected limbs show improvement after lymph drainage. Clients will gain knowledge in how to practice appropriate self-bandaging.

Behavior and attitude will change as mobility increases after massage therapy.

Attitudes will change as clients adjusted to their "new normal" appearance with the assistance of wigs, bras and prosthetic fitting.

After receiving services at SLEW, our clients' will be empowered by understanding how to cope with the long-term effects of their disease, the importance of continuing any doctor recommended treatments, and the ability to better communicate with their medical caregivers.

Evaluation Plan:

Objective1: By December 31, 2021, of the women who remain in the program for at least 6 months utilizing psychotherapy, patient navigation or case management, 80% will experience a measurable increase in perceived Quality of Life. A 2008 study found that better quality of life provides "distinct prognostic information beyond standard clinical measures in cancer clinical trials"(Gotay,et al, 2008). In other words, women who experience a better quality of life are more likely to beat cancer

Objective 2: By December 31,2021, of those women with treatable lymphedema, 85% will experience a measurable reduction in swelling. Manual lymph drainage therapy is a gentle massage treatment that improves the lymph flow around blocked areas of the extremities, which in turn relieves swelling, pain and discomfort.

Objective 3: By December 31,2021, of those women experiencing a change in physical appearance after undergoing chemotherapy, radiation or surgery 90% will be satisfied with their personal appearance as they access personal care items including wigs, mastectomy bras, breast forms/prostheses and mastectomy camisoles to help them adjust to their "new normal" appearance. This service provides self-esteem to survivors with issues of depression and shame as their body goes through a transformation.

Outcome Measurement Tool: SLEW assesses quality of life using the FACT-G (Functional Assessment of Cancer Therapy - General) psychological tool. This universal instrument is designed to measure physical well-being, social/family well-being, emotional well-being, and functional well-being of cancer patients. Each woman receiving psychotherapy is also followed up by the patient navigator and case manager. Person responsible: The Masters level LPC psychotherapist will administer the assessment upon intake and in 6 month intervals.

Outcome Measurement Tool: Lymphedema is a condition common for cancer patients after lymph node removal, surgery, or radiation treatment. Physical measurements are charted at the beginning and end of each lymph drainage session. Person responsible: The Masters level physical therapist/ lymphatic drainage therapist is responsible for the charting the measurements.

Outcome Measurement Tool: SLEW's certified wig, bra, and prosthetics fitter offers hope and self-confidence to the client when she is at her lowest by offering an array of personal care items to fit the clients' needs. Patient Satisfaction Surveys, self-reporting and observations will be used. Person responsible: Survey administered by the certified prosthetics fitter.

Plans to sustain project beyond the term of this request:

Services provided through a continuum of care effort with our collaborative resources allow us to mitigate the cost for the overall program. By utilizing services such as nutritional counseling provided by the San Antonio Food Bank, we are able to minimize the costs of hiring our own nutritionist. Allowing organizations who have the infrastructure and the expertise to provide specific services is an efficient way to maximize services and avoid duplication. External services such as utility assistance through Bexar County Economic Development are brought to SLEW at no cost to our agency. This service helps to expand our resources by providing utility assistance to our clients to maximize our budget. SLEW operates with approximately \$200,000 of in-kind support annually through volunteer staffing, donated goods and other services.

Because of the San Antonio Food Bank's Nutrition Education program, cancer survivors can receive nutritional advice to improve their diet to fight cancer recurrence. SLEW clients participate in cooking demonstrations illustrating foods recognized as cancer fighters. In addition to group sessions with 20-30 participants monthly, nutritionists are available as needed for one-on-one sessions to address specific dietary concerns.

SLEW has a MOU with Bexar County Utilities Assistance Program to assist our low-income clients in utility assistance. They provide approximately \$20,000 to our clients annually in the form of vouchers.

American Cancer Society refers cancer patients in need of lymphedema therapy and supplies, mastectomy supplies, psychotherapy, and nutrition counseling to SLEW.

Susan G. Komen was a long term collaborator for many years but will be closing its doors at the end of the year.

SLEW partners with Methodist Healthcare Ministries to provide an annual health fair at SLEW utilizing the Wesley Nurses. Services provided at the health fair consist of glucose checks, blood pressure checks, weigh-ins, and nutritional counseling.

Through a collaboration with Texas Capital Bank funding was provided to purchase a van that is used to provide over 200 rides to and from SLEW yearly.

SLEW is the ONLY agency of its kind in Bexar County offering an innovative approach to cancer survivorship for medically under-served women. Although other agencies in San Antonio may offer one of the services provided by SLEW, no other agency provides a full array of integrated, holistic program services in a single location targeting the care of the indigent cancer population of Bexar County. SLEW is the ONLY agency in the city providing lymphatic drainage therapy and oncology massage therapy at no cost to under-served cancer patients. SLEW is also the ONLY agency in the city offering emergency food and utility assistance specifically to disadvantaged cancer patients through a MOU with Bexar County.

Line item Budget:		
Line Item Description	Total Project Funds Allocation	Gordon Hartman Funds Allocation
Prosthetic bras, prostheses and lymph supplies	\$69,650	\$5,000
TOTAL:	\$69,650	\$5,000

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

LIST OF BOARD DIRECTORS

Name & Office Held	Corporate Affiliation
Cornelius Cox	Attorney, Law Office of Cornelius Cox
Gloria Delgado	Assistant Vice President, Texas Capital Bank

Helene DePeralta	Community Volunteer
Lisa Fichtel, MD,	Physician, South Texas Oncology and Hematology
Carla Guerra	Marketing Director, Mortgage of Texas and Financial, LLC
Larry Keller, Jr.	Director of Sales Operations, AT&T Corporation
Jeffrey Young	Community Volunteer
Olga Young	Founder/Executive Director, SLEW Cancer Wellness Center