

# FUNDING APPLICATION

## GENERAL INFORMATION

### Organization Information

<b>Legal Name:</b> Autism Service Center of San Antonio (dba Autism Community Network)		<b>Federal Tax ID#:</b> 26-2592058		<b>Are you a 501(3)(c) charity?</b> Yes	
<b>Address:</b> 4242 Woodcock Suite 101		<b>City:</b> San Antonio		<b>State:</b> TX	
				<b>Zip Code:</b> 78228	
<b>Website:</b> www.acn-sa.org		<b>Fax:</b> (210) 435-1000			

### Head Of Organization

<b>Name:</b> Tiffany Fresher		<b>Title:</b> Chief Executive Officer	
<b>E-Mail Address:</b> tiffany@acn-sa.org		<b>Phone:</b> (210) 435-1000	

### Application Contact

<b>Name:</b> Patricia Vela	<b>Title:</b> Chief Development and Outreach Officer	<b>E-Mail Address:</b> pattyv@acn-sa.org	<b>Phone:</b> (210) 435-1000
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Previous funding received from The Gordon Hartman Family Foundation		
Year	Funding \$	
2013	\$15,000	
2014	\$15,000	
2015	\$20,000	
2016	\$25,000	
2017	\$25,000	
2018	\$25,000	
2019	\$5,000	
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$130,000</b>	

**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 \$:
\$25,000	\$1,471,272	\$1,465,993

**Mission Statement:**

The mission of Autism Community Network is to maximize the potential of children with autism by providing early diagnosis for those with limited access and educating and empowering the community to support them.

**PROJECT INFORMATION**

**Program / Project Title:**

Clinical Diagnostic Program

**PROJECT TIMELINE**

Start Date	End Date
01/01/2020	12/31/2020

**Program / Project Description:**

Autism spectrum disorder (ASD) is a disorder of development characterized by differences in social interaction, communication, and abnormal behavior patterns. Due to the nature of the disorder, it is critical to diagnose children early for the best chance of success. Children diagnosed by the age of three years, six months have a 50% chance of entering kindergarten with their same aged peers, while children diagnosed after that age have a 10% chance (The National Academic Press, 2001).

According to a 2019 study by The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) the incidence rate of autism is 1 in 59. At the local level, a report commissioned by the Kronkosky Foundation in 2016 found 1 in 81 individuals in Bexar County is diagnosed with ASD. The rate of autism has continued to grow since ACN's inception in 2008, yet the services available in our area are unable to keep pace with the demand. ACN provides medical autism diagnostic services to families who have limited options. ACN is currently one of two agencies serving the Medicaid population, in Bexar County and surrounding counties, with clinical diagnostic services. ACN's current wait list is an average of 20 months from initial referral to diagnostic appointment. This is currently the shortest wait list in the city and far from ideal.

The primary purpose of ACN is to improve the health and quality of life of children with autism by providing early, interdisciplinary diagnostic services to children suspected of having autism, therapies to children who have a diagnosis of autism, and support through training for caregivers and providers whose interaction with these children is critical to their success. Additionally, ACN provides resources and information to the community at large and hosts community events designed for children with disabilities in mind. In 2018, ACN provided 824 autism diagnostic services. Since our inception over 20,000 individuals have utilized ACN services. A committed staff of 18 individuals is changing lives of families affected by autism. Our clinical staff of 9 highly trained and educated individuals combines for a total of 205 years of relevant experience.

ACN primarily serves economically and socially vulnerable children suspected to have autism or who already have a diagnosis, and the individuals who provide care to identified children through the following programs:

Clinical Diagnostic Program - Access to medical care for under-served children in South/Central Texas for whom autism spectrum disorder is suspected.

Family Empowerment Program - Support for caregivers of individuals living with autism.

Training and Education Program - Education and training for autism service providers.

Awareness, Outreach and Collaboration - Educates and empowers family members, caregivers and the community at-large to support children affected by autism spectrum disorders.

ACN is committed to the following objectives for the 2020 fiscal year:

Objective 1: Provide high quality and autism diagnostic services to under-served children and families. It is our goal to provide a minimum of 800 unduplicated services for children. The expected outcomes are children who are diagnosed earlier will have greater opportunities for future success in the school setting and a reduced life-time cost of health care. Every family will be surveyed for satisfaction with diagnostic services provided. Additionally, families will register for Autism Lifeline Links (ALL) at the time they are asked back for a full diagnostic evaluation. This information is collected by the Chief Operating Officer and analyzed on a monthly basis.

Objective 2: Provide high quality, best-practices education and intervention for children with autism, autism service providers, and families of children with autism. It is our goal to serve 1,250 through this effort.

Outcomes include: improved systems dynamics due to increased awareness, education and knowledge; improvement in interactions between caregiver and diagnosed child; increased appropriate caregiver responses to diagnosed child; and increased functional and social-emotional capacities between parent and child. This information is collected through participant surveys, pre- and post-training tests on course topics, and self-report measures of increased knowledge. The Chief Operating Officer collects this data and analyzes it monthly.

Objective 3: ACN will cultivate a high level of awareness of autism in the San Antonio area by creating social and recreational events for families that are safe for children and allow parents/caregivers to connect and generate opportunities for enhanced programming and service delivery through collaborations and partnerships in the community. This is measured by number of community events attended, number of targeted interactions with other community autism service agencies, and digital media results. Expected outcomes are: increased awareness about autism within the community at large, a sense of relief among families who often find recreational activities to be overwhelming, and efficient connection of services among organizations who work with the same population. This information is gathered by the Chief Development and Outreach Officer and analyzed on a bi-monthly basis.

ACN respectfully request \$25,000 from The Gordon Hartman Family Foundation to be directed towards program expenses. 100% of granted funds would be directed to the program salary of ACN's developmental behavioral pediatrician.

#### **Evaluation Plan:**

Quantitative goals related to number of clients served will be tracked through the clinic database monthly, and shared by the Executive Director with the Board of Directors, ACN staff, funders and the public. The quality of diagnostic services will be analyzed by Family Satisfaction Surveys, administered after every diagnostic appointment. These surveys are reviewed by clinic staff and leadership staff and shared with the Board of Directors and key stake holders in monthly and annual reports. Survey results are transferred into numeric data and stored in the clinic database, along with any additional comments the family might make.

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

Plans to sustain this program include seeking funding from corporations, foundations, individual donors, and annual fundraising events. ACN intends to partially sustain this program through earned revenue from third party payers. Over the last 12 months, ACN has overhauled and updated the procedures by which we bill third party payers, negotiate contracts, and submit claims. We have secured all commercial and Medicaid insurances, contracted as a group and as individual providers, in order to capture the best reimbursement for each planner. ACN's budgeted earned revenue has increased from 8% to 25%. Program fees are the earned revenue we receive from insurance reimbursement for our patients. In 2018, 72.8% of patients seen for screenings were Medicaid qualified. Though return on Medicaid collections are typically lower than private insurance, we are secure in the fact that we file claims for a large number of patients.

#### **Line item Budget:**

<b>Line Item Description</b>	<b>Total Project Funds Allocation</b>	<b>Gordon Hartman Funds Allocation</b>
Supplies and Materials	\$8,000	\$0
Direct Assistance	\$1,000	\$0
Travel and Meetings	\$6,000	\$0
Professional Fees	\$60,106	\$0
Program Expense	\$1,188,710	\$25,000
Office Expense	\$27,789	\$0
Occupancy Expense	\$123,555	\$0
Malpractice Insurance	\$5,000	\$0
Insurance Expense	\$9,162	\$0
Development/Fundraising	\$11,000	\$0
Community Forum	\$5,550	\$0
Contract Labor Expense	\$5,400	\$0
Community Engagement	\$5,000	\$0
Community Forum	\$7,500	\$0
Continuing Education and Professional Certification	\$7,500	\$0
<b>TOTAL:</b>	<b>\$1,471,272</b>	<b>\$25,000</b>

## **BOARD OF DIRECTORS**

### **LIST OF BOARD DIRECTORS**

<b>Name &amp; Office Held</b>	<b>Corporate Affiliation</b>
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Brenda Peterson - President	Tesoro - Retired
Courtney Floyd - Vice President	Norton Rose Fulbright US, LLP - Attorney
Janet Enriquez - Secretary	ESC-Region 20 - Autism Specialist
Lalo Guerrero - Treasurer	RSM US - Auditor
Rose Cofer, MD	Southwest Children's Center - Pediatrician
Leann Darnell	Holy Spirit Catholic Church - School Counselor
Wendy Faldet, RhP	HEB - Director of Pharmacy Programs and Technology
Laurie Klose, PhD, LSSP	RespectED - Founder
Irene Guerrero	SWRI
Jose Hinojosa	EISD - Director of Special Education
Tanya Navalta	Spurs Sports and Entertainment
Sandra Gomez Obregon	KENS 5
Valerie Simmons	Easter Seals - Speech Language Pathologist
J. Morgan Stephens	Epic MD - In House Counsel