

# FUNDING APPLICATION

## GENERAL INFORMATION

### Organization Information

<b>Legal Name:</b> Epilepsy Foundation Central & South Texas		<b>Federal Tax ID#:</b> 76-0415338		<b>Are you a 501(3)(c) charity?</b> Yes	
<b>Address:</b> 8601 Village Drive, Suite 220		<b>City:</b> San Antonio		<b>State:</b> TX	
				<b>Zip Code:</b> 78217	
<b>Website:</b> www.efcst.org			<b>Fax:</b> (210) 653-5353		

### Head Of Organization

<b>Name:</b> Sindi Rosales		<b>Title:</b> CEO	
<b>E-Mail Address:</b> sindi@efcst.org		<b>Phone:</b> (210) 653-5353	

### Application Contact

<b>Name:</b> Amber Sizer	<b>Title:</b> Development Officer	<b>E-Mail Address:</b> amber@efcst.org	<b>Phone:</b> (210) 653-5353
-----------------------------	--------------------------------------	---	---------------------------------

Previous funding received from The Gordon Hartman Family Foundation		
Year	Funding \$	
2009	\$7,500	
2011	\$10,000	
2018	\$10,000	
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$27,500</b>	
<b>Has the organization applied to the Gordon Hartman Family Foundation in the past and been declined?</b> Yes 2014		
<b>Grant Amount Requested \$:</b>	<b>Total Project Budget \$:</b>	<b>Organization's Annual budget \$:</b>
\$14,400	\$129,582	\$1,119,704
<b>Mission Statement:</b> The mission of the Epilepsy Foundation Central & South Texas is to lead the fight to overcome the challenges of living with epilepsy and to accelerate therapies to stop seizures, find cures, and save lives.		
<b>PROJECT INFORMATION</b>		
<b>Program / Project Title:</b> Make Camp Brainstorm Dreams a Reality for 12 Children		
<b>PROJECT TIMELINE</b>		
<b>Start Date</b>	<b>End Date</b>	
06/22/2020	06/26/2020	
<b>Program / Project Description:</b> Program Description: Camp Brainstorm is a 5-day residential camp in Rockport, Texas, at Camp Aranzazu, a therapeutic recreational camp for children with special needs and chronic illnesses. The aroma of a campfire, pleasantly aching muscles from kayaking, late-night giggles in a darkened cabin, and the unfettered freedom of summer camp are poignant memories of childhood. Children with epilepsy normally only dream of such experiences, but Camp Brainstorm can make this dream a reality. For many children, Camp Brainstorm is the only place to find new friends and feel "normal" and safe. Due to the unique needs of children with epilepsy, the Epilepsy Foundation Central & South Texas (EFCST) staff will provide specialized training and education to the selected camp staff before camp, as well as assist in planning and overseeing activities during the week of camp. EFCST will provide onsite neurologists and nurses to be available 24 hours a day during camp to tend to any medical needs or emergencies. Activities at camp (art, archery, kayaking, rock climbing, swimming, zip-lining, and sailing) are customized for children with epilepsy.		
<b>Program Needs:</b> In Bexar and the contiguous counties, there are approximately 4,300 children diagnosed with active epilepsy. Active epilepsy includes children currently taking medication to control their epilepsy and those who have had one or more seizures in the past year. Epilepsy, which is the fourth common neurological condition, is a chronic brain disorder with unpredictable seizures. Seizure types do vary as does the age of onset but can affect anyone. Astoundingly one in 26 people will be diagnosed with epilepsy in their lifetime.		

Epilepsy presents daily challenges for families living with this terrible disease. Children diagnosed with epilepsy struggle with their medical diagnosis, emotional barriers, and varied societal factors that may limit their success. They often do not have friends outside of their family and feel ostracized, different, geeky, and disabled. Research indicates that children with disabilities demonstrate lower academic achievement levels, higher dropout rates, low completion of post-secondary education, and considerable levels of economic instability. Camp Brainstorm seeks to breakdown these barriers by providing a place where these children can make friends, develop life skills, and try new activities in a safe and encouraging environment.

The cost to send just one child to camp is \$1,200. Many families have significant financial distress due to the costs of caring for a child with epilepsy, and therefore all children attend camp FREE of charge. Requested funds will support camp facilities, transportation, food, and activity expenses. Physicians and counselors volunteer their time at an in-kind value of over \$56,000 per annual camp.

#### **Individuals Impacted:**

Surveys show that 42% of children and adolescents with seizures (4 in 10) live in poverty and low-income family households, and additionally, 3 in 10 live in homes without enough food. It is this reason that children ages 8-17 with epilepsy attend Camp Brainstorm at NO cost. The typical camper is from Bexar, and the contiguous counties are from a lower socioeconomic income level and are Caucasian or Hispanic. Having epilepsy can impact a person's living and recreational activities (e.g., bathing and swimming). All children with epilepsy should have a seizure action plan explaining what to do in case of a seizure, which might include providing support, giving emergency medications, calling the parents, or calling 911. Some children may go days, weeks, months, or even years between seizures. During a seizure, a person experiences abnormal behavior, symptoms, and sensations, sometimes including loss of consciousness. Families of children with epilepsy typically pay for expensive medications, tests such as MRIs and EEGs, and surgeries. Some children even spend several overnights in an Epilepsy Monitoring Unit, a specialized area of a hospital designed to evaluate, diagnose, and treat seizures.

#### **Expected Results:**

For the past seven years, Camp Brainstorm has changed the lives of children in so many ways, including the benefits from developmental programs that build on the critical aspects of a young person's identity. Some of these include self-image, self-sufficiency, coping skills, and quality of life skills. For many, Camp Brainstorm is the first time they have spent a night away from their families and often arrive with negative labels given to them by their peers. At camp, they quickly realize that they are in a safe environment and able to enjoy just being themselves. "No fear, no stigma, no embarrassment..." EVERY child deserves this freedom!

#### **Evaluation Plan:**

The impact of children ages 8-17 attending Camp Brainstorm will be measured through the following:

Improvement in Self Image (SI) - To include self-esteem, self-worth, self-efficacy, self-sufficiency, self-help, and responsibility for positive self-growth, critical thinking, self-directed problem solving, and perceived competence. Youth will indicate an understanding of developmental concepts, gained knowledge, and satisfaction by pre- and post-comparison.

Improvement in Quality of Life (QOL) - To include the following QOL skills: developing friendships, independence, teamwork, family citizenship, responsibility, respect for others; ability to reduce stress and improve health; also developing social skills, creative skills, and positive peer to peer interaction. Youth will demonstrate improved peer bonding, knowledge of conflict resolution, as indicated in pre- and post-comparison, and observation.

Analysis of pre- and post-evaluations and anecdotal findings will be included in a comparative final report.

Camp Brainstorm is often the first time that the children experience someone other than themselves having a seizure. Camp Brainstorm provides the opportunity to learn how to administer seizure first aid correctly. Being able to help others is empowering to children with epilepsy.

Camp Brainstorm provides a safe and nurturing experience where "epilepsy is the norm." The camp offers children the unique opportunity to make new friends and create life-long memories. Camp improves the child's ability to cope with and manage their seizures, build self-confidence, develop peer support, and increase independence. The impact camp has on a child with epilepsy is heartwarming. It is an emotional experience to watch a child's expression when they meet other children with epilepsy. The experience is priceless!

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

Families with the ability to donate to Camp Brainstorm, funds raised from their friends and family, or their ability to influence significant gifts are just a few of the means used to sustain Camp Brainstorm. Some Camp Brainstorm families help by donating supplies via an Amazon Wishlist. EFCST Program staff have fostered a need to 'give back' in children whose families benefit from Camp Brainstorm; this has resulted in families participating in fundraising activities. One such family, whose son was recently diagnosed with epilepsy, has benefited from EFCST's youth development programs, including Camp Brainstorm. After he attended camp, his mother reported he has a much more positive attitude at home and that he is now more hopeful for the first time since his diagnosis. The family volunteers at most fundraising events, mom is now a member of the walk event committee and is currently is the foundation's top individual fundraiser. She had no fundraising experience before joining the EFCST family.

EFCST is collecting more data on the families it serves to better document corporate funding and matching gift opportunities. EFCST requests corporate sponsorships, business and community donations, and foundation support and has increased its number and type of in-kind gifts. EFCST also works diligently to keep administrative costs below 11% to ensure good stewardship.

Camp Brainstorm is appealing to donors because it serves a vulnerable, underserved population of children who are unable to attend traditional summer camps. EFCST has been able to identify and successfully receive funding from new sources each year, which has allowed Camp Brainstorm to serve approximately 70 children for three years in a row and with a 2020 goal of 80 children.

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

<b>Line Item Description</b>	<b>Total Project Funds Allocation</b>	<b>Gordon Hartman Funds Allocation</b>
80 Campers	\$96,000	\$14,400
<b>TOTAL:</b>	<b>\$96,000</b>	<b>\$14,400</b>

#### **BOARD OF DIRECTORS**

<b>LIST OF BOARD DIRECTORS</b>	
<b>Name &amp; Office Held</b>	<b>Corporate Affiliation</b>
Michael Girouard	President, Entrepreneur
Christine Gorddard	Vice President, Greenwich Biosciences
Terry Hartman	Treasurer, Amegy Bank
Tracy Biltz	Secretary, Windrose Avenue
Blake Anderson	Member, LivaNova
Lizzy Aranibar	Member, Chasqui Spine
Francesca Barajas	Member, Visionworks
Barbara English	Member, Minerva Group
Jeff Jung	Member, Brain Sentinel
Harry Wright	Member, Valero
Jose Ochoa, III	Member, Martin Marietta
Janine Hornbeak	Member, Christus Santa Rosa
Sarah Parker	Member, Peaseley & Derryberry
Jane Morrison	Member, UCB
Alison Packard	Member, Packard Law Firm
Tex Morgan	Member, Fund Rocket
Scott Verstuyft	Member, UCB