

FUNDING APPLICATION

GENERAL INFORMATION

Organization Information

Legal Name: Spina Bifida Texas	Federal Tax ID#: 74-1936785	Are you a 501(3)(c) charity? Yes	
Address: 1550 NE Loop 410 Suite 224	City: San Antonio	State: TX	Zip Code: 78209
Website: www.sbtx.org	Fax: (210) 826-7289		

Head Of Organization

Name: ROSANNE GONZALES	Title: Executive Director
E-Mail Address: rgonzales@sbtx.org	Phone: (210) 826-7289

Application Contact

Name: ROSANNE GONZALES	Title: Executive Director	E-Mail Address: rgonzales@sbtx.org	Phone: (210) 826-7289
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Previous funding received from The Gordon Hartman Family Foundation	
Year	Funding \$
2009	\$5,000
2010	\$5,000
2012	\$5,000
2013	\$5,000
2016	\$5,000
2017	\$5,000
2018	\$10,000
2019	\$5,000
Total	\$45,000

Has the organization applied to the Gordon Hartman Family Foundation in the past and been declined?
 Yes
 2011, 2014, 2015

Grant Amount Requested \$:	Total Project Budget \$:	Organization's Annual budget \$:
\$10,000	\$69,918	\$129,500

Mission Statement:
 The mission of Spina Bifida Texas is to improve the lives of those affected by Spina Bifida and to promote its prevention through folic acid awareness.

PROJECT INFORMATION

Program / Project Title:
 Spina Bifida Support & Education

PROJECT TIMELINE

Start Date	End Date
01/01/2021	12/31/2021

Program / Project Description:
 Education:

SBTX has free educational opportunities available throughout the year. Because Spina Bifida is the most preventable birth defect, SBTX provides monthly prevention information through education at colleges, high schools, and health fairs where we teach young women that a vitamin is able to reduce the risk of having a child born with Spina Bifida. These opportunities are currently available through zoom and reaching 80% more college and high school classes than 2019. We expect for SB rates to decrease in Bexar and surrounding counties. Monthly SBTX features information on how to be proactive regarding medical decisions, available programs/resources in community, 504, IEP and how it applies to the current education system, and we feature motivational guest speakers. COVID forced us to go virtual and it changed the way we provided information to our community, we now reach a larger, different demographic. We expect families to make informed decisions regarding their loved ones care do to our virtual sessions. For those unable to attend these education sessions, SBTX will provide them on the website and mail out DVD's and printed PowerPoint presentations by request. If COVID permits, we will conduct a SB-Day and the Spina Bifida Conference in 2021 to give individuals/families an opportunity to engage with each other, the medical community, and education professionals so caretakers can learn more about their loved one's condition. Having a conventional conference will allow more demographics to receive information. Additionally, SBTX still holds a resource library that has information to assist families in finding answers as well as linking them to applicable agencies. Our main goal is to provide relevant, accurate information about resources and issues/conditions associated with Spina Bifida to the community we serve despite their socioeconomic status.

Support:

Spina Bifida Support contains several features. One feature is our New Parent Mentoring Program. Upon notification of a SB related birth, SBTX assigns a veteran parent to visit with the family and provide them with a New Parent Packet. This packet contains resource information, "A Parent's Guide to Spina Bifida" book that has detailed information on the issues associated with Spina Bifida written so a parent can understand. Most importantly, the parents receive comforting words from a peer who has been in the same situation. Annually we host a New Parent Breakfast that connects parents of young children with each other and with the resources of other nonprofit agencies that they can benefit from. The goal of both of these opportunities is to start parents on the right track to being strong advocates for their child's physical health and well being. SBTX also contains monthly support groups that provide those who have disabilities with relatable connections and a support network to lean on when they become overwhelmed or need assistance. SBTX Parent Support Group and The Adult Group (TAG) serve two distinct clusters and cater to these two demographics individually to address the different needs. The parent support group is geared toward parents and focuses on positive outlooks, proactive techniques, and strategies for living with disabilities. With the assistance of a trained facilitator, families engage in dialogue that empowers, motivates, and connects them. TAG targets older teens and adults with physical disabilities (not just SB). By encouraging them to facilitate their own meetings, they are empowered to plan their own discussions and activities that foster independence, leadership, and employment opportunities. Meetings are strategic and teach the teen and adult life skills like networking, interviewing, socialization, leadership, volunteer service, and how to build a rapport with others. These support groups are expected to yield positive connections within the community and create productive members in society. These meetings have all gone virtual, which has lead to more frequent check-ins, increased mental health awareness, and increased meeting attendance. The expected result of SBTX support group is to increase social connection despite social isolation and create relationships that provide a network of help. With a goal of making sure no one will go without incontinence supplies, the SBTX Lending Closet connects families in need of medical supplies/equipment with others who have a surplus. A loss of employment, a lapse of insurance, rejection from Medicaid, a natural disaster, and a wrong shipment can lead to a health shattering catastrophe for those with a spinal cord injury. During extreme weather conditions, San Antonio has become a safe haven for those escaping dangerous conditions, including COVID, and the lending closet has been able to help displaced families since Hurricane Katrina. After families are provided with medical supplies, they are given information on available community resources for long term assistance. SBTX also provides both college scholarships and quality of life program scholarships. SBTX offers up to four \$250 educational scholarships for any adult that has SB and wants to go to college. Additionally, quality of life scholarships are available for children who have Spina Bifida and want to participate in other programs that SBTX does not provide. Funds are used pay fees for softball, swimming, and wheelchair dance programs. The expected outcome is contribute in building experiences that will increase the quality of life for the individual with Spina Bifida.

Evaluation Plan:

A variety of quantitative and qualitative evaluation techniques will be used to track the program's effectiveness. SBTX staff documents every call and request received and conducts "call backs" if a question or problem wasn't automatically resolved. To evaluate the effectiveness of the support groups we will track attendance and measure their satisfaction with social situations monthly through online questionnaires. Quarterly SBTX distributes participant surveys regarding enjoyment, educational opportunities, and personal satisfaction. To evaluate the effectiveness of the New Parent Mentoring, and New Parent Breakfast a SBTX representative will preform a follow up phone interview at 3 and 6 months post initial contact to see if they are still in contact with with the veteran parent they were connected with. Ninety days after utilizing the Lending Closet, a SBTX representative follows up with the client to see if they are still in need of medical supplies and/or utilizing the resources provided at initial contact. Before all educational opportunities, a quick pretest is be conducted to measure the attendee's baseline knowledge of information through Survey Monkey. Thirty days after the educational intervention, the identical test will is administered to measure the long term knowledge attained.

Plans to sustain project beyond the term of this request:

We recognize that SBTX is the only organization providing programs and services to families touched by Spina Bifida in Central Texas, and will continue to seek funds to keep our doors open. To sustain the project beyond this term, we will continue to submit grants to other foundations and send appeal letters to corporate sponsors. Because we want to continue providing this service to individuals and families at no cost, we will continue to encourage our families to fundraise through Facebook, participate in smaller fundraisers, and advocate for us to larger corporations. COVID affected us greatly, forced us to move to a smaller office and ask staff and key volunteers to work from home. We will continue to provide our valuable service to this undeserved, medically fragile community.

Line item Budget:

Line Item Description	Total Project Funds Allocation	Gordon Hartman Funds Allocation
Payroll Expenses	\$44,450	\$3,000
Payroll Taxes & Fees	\$3,763	\$0
Contract Labor	\$3,250	\$0
Internet/Email/Phone	\$1,260	\$300
Mileage & Delivery	\$100	\$0
Postage	\$150	\$0
Office Space/Storage/Lending Closet	\$6,020	\$2,000
Supplies	\$700	\$500
Volunteer Expenses	\$500	\$250
SB Day/Conference Expenses	\$5,000	\$1,200
Disability Awareness Expenses	\$250	\$0
Folic Acid Awareness Expenses	\$500	\$250
Quality of Life Sponsorships	\$475	\$0
Scholarships	\$1,000	\$0
Laptop	\$1,500	\$1,500
2 Tablets (to assist in virtual education)	\$1,000	\$1,000
TOTAL:	\$69,918	\$10,000

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

LIST OF BOARD DIRECTORS

Name & Office Held	Corporate Affiliation
Jacqueline Perez	H-E-B
Chuck Isler, PhD	N/A
Analisa Spicer, MA	N/A
Esther Puente, BS	N/A
Abraham Robles	N/A
Vicky Garcia, COTA/L	ISR Burn Center of Excellence of DHA
Anna De Llano	N/A