

LOI Form

LOI

If you would like to complete this Letter of Intent in Word first and copy your answers over later, use the following link: [Download LOI](#)

The rubric that will be used to score your Letter of Intent can be found here: [Download LOI Rubric](#)

Please pay attention to character limits while working on your draft. These limits include spaces.

Organization Name*

Clearwater Historical Society Museum and Cultural Center

Project Name*

Create a brief name for this large capital project. This is how it will appear throughout the PCF grant portal.

Save South Ward Community School

EIN*

59-1938824

Incorporation Year*

What year did your organization incorporate? This will be the year listed on your determination letter from the Internal Revenue Service.

1978

Organizational Mission Statement*

What is your organization's mission statement? This should be no longer than one or two sentences.

The Mission of the Clearwater Historical Society is to Educate, Collect, Preserve, Exhibit and Promote the People, Culture and Events of Clearwater's rich past.

Unique Entity ID (SAM)

Please provide your organization's Unique Entity ID number. This is a specific number used by the federal government to identify your organization. **This is different from a DUNS number, which the federal government no longer uses.**

If you do not have a Unique Entity ID number, you can create an account on SAM.gov and apply for one here (it is free and may take 3-4 days for approval): <https://sam.gov/content/home>

This field is optional as to not stop a qualifying organization from applying. HOWEVER, a Unique Entity ID number will be required if your organization is approved for a grant. Your organization should apply for a number now if it does not yet have one.

Character Limit: 12

P6PYHG4K9NRI

Annual Operating Budget Size*

Please provide the amount of your annual operating budget (expenditures only) for your entire organization.

\$60,000.00

Amount Requested*

The maximum grant amount is \$5 million. You may request up to 5% for grant administration, project management, and other indirect costs. Please be sure your indirect cost rate is represented in the figure you put below.

Note: You will be required to upload a more detailed budget if you are approved for the full application stage. You will need to also attach any bids, estimates, and agreements with contractors or other vendors in relation to the proposed project.

\$2,846,515.00

Does the total project cost exceed the amount your organization is requesting?*

Please note: Answering "Yes" will cause additional questions to load later in this application.

Examples

ABC Childcare is seeking funding for a new playground. ABC Childcare is asking PCF to fund \$150,000 for certain equipment, and will seek other funding and donations for the remaining \$20,000 of the playground. ABC Childcare would select "Yes" for this question.

Better Tomorrow, a mental health provider, is looking to expand their counseling center by two rooms to meet increased service demand arising from the pandemic. Better Tomorrow has secured \$25,000 in private contributions, and wants to request the remaining \$125,000 in this grant. Better Tomorrow would select "Yes" for this question.

DBE Food Pantry is seeking funding for a new HVAC unit for their pantry, and is requesting \$40,000 from PCF to cover the entire cost. DBE Food Pantry would select "No" for this question.

No

Parent Non-Profit/Subsidiaries*

If your organization has a parent non-profit that has multiple subsidiaries, will multiple subsidiaries be applying in this process?

Example

Better Tomorrow is the parent non-profit of three organizations. Two of those organizations want to apply in this process. Both would select "Yes" on this question.

No

Request Specifics

Organization Programming Background*

Please describe the programming your organization offers to the community and the length of time it has been doing so. That is, what does your organization **do** and **how long** has it been doing it?

The Clearwater Historical Society, Inc. established in 1978 as a 501 (c)(3), saved the 56-year-old Capitol Theatre from demolition and the 300 inaugural members laid the foundation for CHS today. 40 years later, in 2019, a group of volunteers opened the Museum and Cultural Center, in the first public school in CLW, one of eight buildings on the campus. They intended to restore the remaining buildings for all citizens to explore local history, cultural, meeting and educational opportunities. They envisioned a place people could gather, meet, connect, share and learn from each other. Despite the COVID-19 closing in 2020 three Annual Women's History Month exhibitions, a Mullet Boat Exhibit recognizing the Mullet industry that fed and supported families, an exhibit on CLW Restaurants, and a tribute to the Founding Families of CLW have opened to emotional and positive reviews. Tim Boatright's Mural of CLW, on the former CLW High School, captures the story of CLW and the influence of the African American community, inspiring artists and performers to utilize the campus. With 5 acres, a spacious lawn and generous parking, the site is prime for outdoor activities. Monthly, CHS welcomes the CLW Hispanic Farmers Market, Airmid Theatre Group highlighting women and persons of color, and a comprehensive Speakers Series. South Ward has become a positive and central venue for the Leukemia/Lymphoma Society, Rotary, Kiwanis and the Greater Federation of Women's Clubs, as well as government regional meetings. CLW High School has held their annual reunions since 2020 with many planned for 2023. Celebrations of life and family reunions have become popular on the grounds of their alma mater. The McMullen Family reunion, with 200 plus descendants, celebrate on the lawn every July. The annual Fish Fry, Family Fun Days and charity Vintage Car Shows have begun to flourish. Youth and Family programs, Holiday Fairs and the Twelve Days of Christmas provide a peak into early Clearwater life.

Community Need*

Please describe the community need that exists for your programming. If you are able to cite quantitative, local data, that will strengthen your proposal.

CLW has an abundant source of entertainment the beach, hotels, restaurants, & festivals. But within a 6-mile radius of downtown there is little available, affordable or non-restrictive space for community programming, events and presentations. The lack of a dedicated community museum for CLW had never transpired. The CHSM offered a home for the boxes full of artifacts that told the stories of early settlers, first businesses, land development, and the families from all walks of life who made CLW their home. If CHS doesn't save these stories they will be lost, like the 250 plus names of African Americans buried in the lost AA Cemeteries that were initially considered unknown. The Society's records assisted in identifying names and dates of death. COVID-19 demonstrated our important role locally and perpetually. While Rec Centers were shut down

longer than private entities, the CHSM site offered large space gatherings never utilized before. Bright Futures & college interns were able to continue their volunteer requirements & study programs. Celebration of Life receptions & local government meetings were held at CHSM. The Speakers Series, videotaped & streamed on YouTube, provided bi-monthly presentations on topics from early settlers to astronauts. ASL facilities have embraced outings for their senior residents, families have found new avenues of discovery & school & home school visits are expanding as word spreads. A partnership with Jolley Trolley evolved after inquiries into a Historical Tour of CLW and the need for accurate accounts of people, buildings and events along their routes. A walking tour of downtown was developed with CHS resources, photos and documents. Inquiries from non-profits for office and program space have created a waiting list of potential partners. We have discovered our value is demonstrated in our mission and the positive outcome is knowing a visitor learns our beginnings and future descendants will know the stories of their ancestors.

Negative Economic Impact*

The following question is the keystone of a strong application in this process. If your organization cannot demonstrate a negative economic impact from the pandemic, your application will not qualify for committee review. If you are uncertain about what constitutes negative economic impact or how to demonstrate it, please contact PCF staff for technical assistance.

Describe your organization's negative economic impact arising from the COVID-19 pandemic. Examples could include:

- A reduction in revenue from 2019 to 2020
- Inflationary pressures
- Increases in demand for services that have not been compensated for through new revenue
- The use of reserves for unbudgeted expenses since the onset of the pandemic, and such use of reserves has prevented the purchase of capital assets
- A need for capital assets to offset community need for which your organization does not have the resources to purchase due to the negative economic harm from the pandemic
- A need for additional capital assets to adapt operations to accommodate health and safety guidelines by the CDC
- Growth in restricted pandemic-related revenue that does not permit capital asset acquisition

Note: If you are applying for both a Small Purchase and Large Project, you may reuse the answer for this question PROVIDED THAT the negative economic impact is relevant to both requests.

CHS was blindsided by the pandemic that negatively impacted all revenue streams & the ability to fundraise for annual & capital needs. As the new kid on the block seeking donors & funding, we were yet to build a solid donor base. Our Pioneer fundraiser brought in close to 100 major donors above \$1,000 in 2019 & instilled confidence that we could build on this in 2020, but revenue from memberships, Event Center rentals, donations & gifts of tangible property dried up as fear spread. CHS was preparing to launch a \$6 million capital campaign to restore the whole of South Ward School campus & was forced to put plans aside. Unforeseen inflation, shortages & doubling of cost for supplies, display materials, service costs and unplanned pandemic supplies for on-site limited access programs cut into resources, without replenishment. Additionally, demand for services such as providing venues for Celebration of Life receptions for long time members who died from COVID, put additional burden on CHS, provided as a courtesy, but eating into precious maintenance & equipment funds. The moveable exhibit panels for the 2020 exhibits rose more than 100% & have continued to rise.

The PCSB offer of their decommissioned South Ward site for \$1 a year & a 50-year lease provided 5 acres, 8 buildings, a city block size lot & plenty of parking. It came with no additional support. All repairs & renovations were the responsibility of CHS. The first public school in Clearwater (now the museum building) was the least deteriorated & funding from the State of Florida, through a \$500,000 grant partially completed the renovation. It opened in June 2019 & within 9 months COVID-19 shut it down. When isolation hit, resources, people power and programs suffered or dried up immediately. Launching a capital campaign was out of the question when people feared for their lives. Remaining building repairs were shelved but the need to renovate, restore and completely update the campus never diminished. Closures, weather and neglect due to lack of revenue has left the South Ward site in peril. Major damage has occurred to the south wall of the 1912 High School. Whole patches of bricks fell off or are continuing to dislodge, allowing water intrusion, corrosion of metal windowsills and the roof. The roof of the Cafeteria and Kindergarten room collapsed and CHS replaced the roof but the interior needs to be completed. The need for a meeting space with kitchen capabilities is a much-needed resource for the community. South Ward needs help before it is too late. We lost time COVID-19 left its mark on the CHS has no choice but to stabilize for the short term while reopening the long -shelved project to restore South Ward Campus before it is too late.

Proposal Description*

The American Rescue Plan Act requires a request that is reasonable and proportional to the level of economic impact your organization experienced. This means the request you describe below should not be greater than the economic harm your organization has suffered.

Please describe your project proposal and address the following:

- What project will be undertaken with these funds?
- What is the estimated lifespan of the project/property improvement?
- How does it address the negative economic harm you described in the previous question?

CHS is seeking \$1,250,000 to save South Ward's 1912 Clearwater High School. Almost a century of families attended these schools, once full of life, children, & dreams of the future. The total project cost is close to \$1,564,203 & the balance \$264,203 to be raised by CHS. It is a long-term solution with a 20 plus year life expectancy. A Structural Engineer's report identified the exterior repairs for the 1912 High School to be close to \$1 million, and numerous areas to be considered in Dangerous Condition according to Florida Existing Building Code. Interior repairs and upgrades need to be addressed as well. Addressing these problems will allow a waiting list of non-profits access to safe and centrally located office space for their operations and those working in or participating in their programs. Maintaining public safety outside the buildings, away from the damage, can be handled with a remote access gate at the Hamilton Avenue entrance and installing industrial lighting for after hours. Structurally the High School is sound and worthy of saving. Projected work includes repointing mortar in selected areas, current estimate is approximately 6,000 sf of exterior brick, removal and repair of walls and drywall, upgrading electrical, plumbing, introducing technology, installing fire sprinklers, Fire Alarm and HVAC systems, replacing windows, doors, ceiling tiles, floor tiles, exterior and interior painting. CHS is seeking \$1,596,515 to open the Cafeteria and Kindergarten room for a larger meeting space with a catering kitchen that is needed in the area. When CHS leased the property from PCSB the roof had collapsed, and we replaced the roof but the interior needs to be brought to code. We have a commitment from Publix for the terrazzo flooring and the Clearwater Rotary club is going to "Adopt" the kindergarten room and will provide volunteers and money towards the project. CHS will replace the ceiling, add lighting, upgrade the electrical, put in a new HVAC system, install a fire system including sprinklers, add 2 ADA restrooms, and put in a catering kitchen in the cafeteria and kindergarten room. SAVE Southward, will reverse the damage created after 2 years of deferred maintenance, lack of revenue and inability to fundraise like pre- COVID-19. Providing a secure and accessible environment will allow for safe community programming and will infuse energy and interest in major donors.

Number Served*

How many people will directly benefit from this capital project annually?

7000

Unduplicated vs. Duplicated*

Is the number indicated above duplicated or unduplicated?

Duplicated: A client is counted each time they access services

Unduplicated: A client is counted once, regardless of the number of times they access services

Example: ABC Food Bank operates two mobile food pantries, one in Clearwater and one in St. Petersburg. Taylor, a Pinellas County resident, goes to both food pantries. If ABC Food Bank counts Taylor's visit TWICE, it is **duplicated**. If ABC Food Bank counts Taylor's visit ONCE, it is **unduplicated**.

Unduplicated

Other (Explanation Required)

If you selected "Other" in the previous question, please explain how your organization determined the number of clients that will benefit from the proposed capital project.

We were having a large number of visitors and sponsors before COVID and continued reaching out to our Senior Citizen's by hosting private tours and lunch from nursing homes. We also moved our Speaker Series to our You Tube channel and helped nursing homes set up for groups to view. We also started and continued our Podcast by interviewing residents about their life in Pinellas County, with use from the equipment for the City of Clearwater. We also reached out and attended as many community meetings as possible online and in person. We hosted groups to have meeting because the of lack of affordable meeting space in the downtown Clearwater area. These groups included Clearwater Rotary Club's, The Kawanis Club' s, The Greater Federation of Womans Clubs, The Clearwater African American Memorial Committee, The Airmid Theatre Group, Clearwater High School History Club Meetings and many other smaller nonprofits and community organizations in the Northern Pinellas County groups.

Rent vs. Own*

Does your organization rent or own the property for which you are proposing modifications?

Note: Selecting "Rent" will cause more questions to load below.

Rent

Guiding Principles - Client Impact*

The American Rescue Plan Act, which provides the funding for this grant program, aims to ensure an equitable recovery from the COVID-19 pandemic. The term "equity" is defined as:

The consistent and systematic fair, just, and impartial treatment of all individuals, including individuals who belong to underserved communities that have been denied such treatment, such as Black, Latino, and Indigenous and Native American persons, Asian Americans and Pacific Islanders and other persons of color; members of religious minorities; lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, and queer (LGBTQ+) persons; persons with disabilities; persons who live in rural areas; and persons otherwise adversely affected by persistent poverty or inequality.

One of the guiding principles of this fund is that it will apply a lens of equity to ensure the needs of specified priority populations are met.

Will this project benefit the community members defined above that have experienced disproportionate negative impacts from the COVID-19 pandemic? If so, how?

CHS was created to record & save local history that otherwise would be lost. It's collection of documents, maps, genealogical records & artifacts are unique to CLW. CLW's demographic is 76.63% White, 11.91% African American, Other Race 8.02%, Asian 2.97%, Native American 0.39%, Native Hawaiian or Pacific Islander 0.07%. Within this demographic area the CHS is an open membership organization with free public access to the museum and programs to all people regardless of age, ability, color, race, religion, income and gender identity. As CHS grows and becomes the center of local history, sharing its mission and vision, the community has come to understand its importance. The people we honor & celebrate are reflective of the CLW demographic makeup, many from the QCT community. The annual Women's History Month Exhibit, launched in March 2020 as COVID -19 surfaced, has yearly honored 40 – 50% non-white women who have contributed to making CLW a better place to live. The LET'S EAT exhibit, featured AA, Latino and White owned restaurants. The current Founding Families of Clearwater Exhibit features the early settlers, AA and White. The annual Settler Program, supporting the museum programs, has welcomed donors and members of every heritage. Embracing our military began with volunteers from the Coast Guard, now a large group of veterans and active individuals of all races who are finding validation & recognition for their service. Artifacts from the CLW's Sister City, Nagano, Japan, have encouraged new avenues of programming. The stabilization of the South Ward property is the first step in securing a gathering place for the people of Clearwater.

Community Connection

The American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) prioritizes organizations that either have headquarters or carry out the majority of their operations inside Qualified Census Tracts (QCTs). QCTs are a standard method of identifying communities with a large proportion of low-income residents. The U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development determines what areas qualify as QCT.

To assess if your organization serves or is headquartered in a QCT, use the following link:

https://www.huduser.gov/portal/sadda/sadda_qct.html

In the top right-hand corner, choose the state of Florida and Pinellas County. Then on the left-hand side of the screen, click the box next to "Color QCT Qualified Tracts." The QCT zones are denoted in purple. You can also map your address by adding it into the address box at the top to see if your location is inside the zones.

Below, please provide the location of your operations and the location of your headquarters, if different.

Headquarters Location*

Please provide your organization's headquarters address as it appears on your Sunbiz account. To check your Sunbiz registration, you may search here: <https://dos.myflorida.com/sunbiz/search/>

610 South Fort Harrison Clearwater, Florida 33756

QCT Determination - Headquarters*

Is this organization headquartered in a QCT?

Yes

Project Location*

Please provide the address or intersection where the property being modified is.

N/A

QCT Determination - Project*

Is this organization's project in a QCT?

Yes

QCT Impact*

PCF understands that just because a project may not be located in a Qualified Census Tract, those who reside in one may access your services and may come to the location where your organization's project will take place.

- If applicable, please describe if you have clients that reside in a QCT as indicated on the map linked above, and the proportion of your clients that come from these areas.
- If your organization does not serve clients from a QCT, you can write "Not Applicable" below.

In 2019 CHS welcomed, served and toured – 3,423 visitors, 113 volunteers and 98 major donors. In 2020 COVID-19's forced closure saw numbers drop significantly – 895 visitors, 12 volunteers, 21 major donors. The Clearwater Historical Society Museum & Cultural Center headquarters at 610 S. Fort Harrison Avenue, Clearwater, FL 33756 are located in the midst of a QCT district. Programs are open to all citizens.

QCT Determination - Clients*

Does this organization's project benefit residents of QCTs?

Yes

This section aims to capture general demographic data about your organization and to see how you engage with and represent the community you serve. PCF has generalized the demographic data questions more than it has in other processes because of the public nature of this process. PCF understands that identity disclosure can be a sensitive matter and wants to respect your organization's board and staff. If your organization feels comfortable sharing more detailed demographic information, it may do so in the "Community Representation and Connection" section.

Community Representation and Connection*

Describe how your organization is representative of, or has authentic connections to, the community your proposal seeks to serve. You can list other community-based organizations that work on programming with you and/or list examples of your work within this community.

A change in leadership in 2018 saw CHS take on a new & visible role in CLW. Previously there was very little contact with schools, service clubs, neighborhoods, downtown businesses, the Chamber of Commerce, Pinellas County or the City of Clearwater. It was a dormant organization, with a stagnant membership unable to attract new members, community leadership and funding. Since COVID-19 the board has decreased from 21 members to 9 with a max of 13. Closures, fear & self-isolation, combined with illness have contributed to the reduction. But it also has opened opportunities to recruit members representative of the community with time, talent and treasure to invest. The current society president has networked and opened doors to programs, exhibits & resources previously unavailable to anyone. Neighboring museums throughout Pinellas County are now partnering with CHS. Relationships have been positively nurtured with seniors, some willing to do videotaped histories. The NAACP & AA community have begun to trust CHS is respectful of their history and has contributed to the Annual Women's History Month exhibits, by nominating, advising, & providing resources. The opening nights of each annual exhibit have been joyous occasions with generations of family members, and colleagues of many loved citizens such as African American trailblazers: Willa Carson, Jai Hinson, Arabella Williams Faust, Christine Wigfall Morris, Isay Gulley, Blanche Littlejohn, Cherry Harris, Mayme Hodges and Betty Perry.

When COVID-19 hit, CHS was on a positive high. Passersby had watched the derelict South Ward property come to life again. They arrived in droves for the opening June 2019 and were shown what CHS could become. Volunteer numbers were soaring as the site looked better each day. But as 2020 evolved it was clear that connecting was difficult, if not impossible. Community leaders were burdened with the pandemic & reallocating resources. As 2022 nears an end CHS has lost two years of goodwill, networking, fund raising and friend raising opportunities, Restoring the High School and Cafeteria ensuring the site is safe for gathering is the first step to getting CHS connected again.

CHS now has the annual Fish Fry, Fall Family Fun Day, The Hispanic Market, 12 Days of Christmas, local theatre groups, antique car shows and charity markets to name a few of the new events at the museum. CHS helped with the research of the lost cemeteries and has entered into a partnership with the City of CLW.

Leadership Demographics - CEO/Executive Director*

Does your CEO/Executive Director consider themselves a member of one or more of the following populations?
Check all that apply.

- BIPOC defined as Black, Latino, and Indigenous and Native American persons, Asian Americans and Pacific Islanders and other persons of color
- LGBTQ+ (Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender, Queer+)
- Neurodiverse/physically disabled

Declined to State

Leadership Demographics - Executive Level Leadership Team*

Does your executive leadership team consider themselves a member of one or more of the following populations?
Check all that apply.

- BIPOC defined as Black, Latino, and Indigenous and Native American persons, Asian Americans and Pacific Islanders and other persons of color
- LGBTQ+ (Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender, Queer+)
- Neurodiverse/physically disabled

Declined to State

Leadership Demographics - Board Membership*

Do your board members consider themselves a member of one or more of the following populations? Check all that apply.

- BIPOC defined as Black, Latino, and Indigenous and Native American persons, Asian Americans and Pacific Islanders and other persons of color
- LGBTQ+ (Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender, Queer+)
- Neurodiverse/physically disabled

Neurodiverse/physically disabled

Rented Property

Tenant Responsibility*

Please explain how your organization is responsible for modifying the building despite being rented. Be sure to describe the length of your organization's lease and to indicate whether or not you have obtained permission from the landlord for the proposed project.

The Clearwater Historical Society Inc. has a 50-year lease with the Pinellas County School Board for 610 South Fort Harrison Ave. Clearwater FL 33756. The annual rent is \$1 and provides for no financial or tangible assistance with the property, buildings, insurance and liability. CHS seeks consent/approval for major changes, modifications and use of the property, and keeps the School Board aware before work starts. CHS has been approved to restore South Ward School Campus for the use of a museum and cultural center and the renovations and repairs required to accomplish this. The School Board sought Clearwater Historical Society as the "tenants" for its mission and commitment to preserving history and historic buildings. The 5 acres of land sits south of downtown Clearwater is extremely valuable property eyed constantly for private development. It was an incredible gift to the citizens of Clearwater and has yet to achieve its potential as a gathering, learning and creative space for everyone to enjoy.

Financial Overview

Budget Summary*

Please provide a brief sketch of the categories of expenses and the costs needed for your project. If your organization is requesting compensation for indirect costs, be sure to note the percentage (up to 5%) and dollar amount below.

If you are invited to complete the full application, you will be asked to upload current verifiable bids, proposals, price lists [from your potential vendor(s)] from the past 60 days. If a contractor has already been selected for a construction project for which you are requesting funding, you will need to upload their bid. You are strongly encouraged to collect any remaining bids, proposals, and price lists shortly after submitting this LOI.

High School Building - \$1,250,000, repoint and replace the brick, this cost is estimated at @\$30 a sq ft, replaster the walls \$2,500, repair the water damage to the flooring \$3,100 and paint the rooms on the three floors of the building \$3,700.

Cafeteria and Kindergarten room - \$1,596,515 - this work has been estimated at @\$200 a sq ft = \$981,400 includes replacing the ceiling, adding an HVAC System, new lighting, painting, insulations, ceiling fans and replace 3 existing restrooms to ADA and replacing the flooring in the kindergarten

Plumbing - \$26,000 to get water to the buildings, during the pandemic we had a water leak and had to shut off the water to the buildings, so we need to run new lines and install a hot water heater

Water to the buildings from the Fire Hydrant on Hamilton Crescent for Fire Sprinkler System \$ 270,000

Install a Fire Alarm with sprinklers including the Event Center - \$255,000

Catering Kitchen in Cafeteria - Commerical Refrigerator \$3,389, Commerical Dishwasher to complete the items left by PCSB \$ 5,000, Warmer \$2011, Ice Maker \$2230, Fix the existing

walk in Freezer \$5,000 and add two tables \$500

reinstall the kitchen in the kindergarten room - Residential stove \$749, Refrigerator \$2,200, Microwave \$279, Sink with faucet \$339, dishwasher \$449

Project Preparedness*

If your letter of intent is approved, you will have 30 days to submit a full proposal. This will require multiple estimates/bids for your project that detail the costs you've sketched out above from potential contractors that would do the actual work.

Where are you in the planning process for the implementation of this project? Please describe your organization's readiness for this project including your ability to collect bids and select contractors and/or vendors. **If you have already selected a contractor for the project, you will need to describe how that contractor was chosen.**

Example

Better Tomorrow has spoken with contractors about their counseling center expansion project, but has only sought one proposal from a contractor. Better Tomorrow would describe so below, having sketched out the costs in the previous question. Better Tomorrow would indicate its plan to obtain more quotes/bids upon submitting this LOI.

Community Arts 'R Us has begun construction on its new arts center, as it had secured 75% of the funding for it before the pandemic. Therefore, a contractor has already been selected, and is looking to obtain the funding necessary to complete the project. Below, Community Arts 'R Us would explain it has a cost proposal ready to upload from their selected contractor, and is ready to carry out the rest of the project if funding is awarded.

CHS commenced pursuing bids in July 2022, as damage to the 1912 High School was discovered. The discovery created an urgent response and Board members and key volunteers stepped up to respond. The site is home to the first schools in Clearwater and are on the National Register of Historic Buildings which require specialized repairs and remediation. Locally, contractors have shied away from renovating and restoring old buildings because of the unknown problems beneath the walls, surfaces and infrastructure. The unknown has led them to decline from bidding. CHS has worked with Specialized Services, who promptly arrived to assess the damage and is willing to do the actual work. We hired them on the first phase of the project, and we have a great working relationship, and they know what can and cannot be done to historic structures.

Other Funding Sources*

Please describe any other funding not already mentioned that your organization has applied for or obtained for this project. This includes but is not limited to Community Development Block Grants (CDBG), local government grants (including Tourist Development Council funding), foundation grants, and donors (you do not need to disclose donor identities, simply amount raised that is allocated to this project). This includes any matching grants or in-kind contributions you may have obtained.

If none, please write N/A.

CHS will secure the remaining funding, close to \$4 million, through a comprehensive capital campaign and naming program. If successful, CHS will seek funding from private and public sources, individuals, members, sponsors, foundations and corporations. The Capital Campaign Plan and Case Statement will require updating and the Naming Program adjusted to reflect the current project. The City of Clearwater has approved a major increase in operating funding for CHS and has acknowledged the importance of a museum for Clearwater. With the new partnership with the City of Clearwater they will be approached to invest in the project. The Clearwater Rotary Club has approached CHS about celebrating their 100-year anniversary with their monetary support for renovations for the much-needed community space.

Changes in Operating Costs*

Please answer this question based on the descriptions below:

- If this project **increases** ongoing operational costs (programmatic, operating maintenance or other costs), how will you compensate for the difference?
- If this project **decreases** ongoing operating costs, how will it do so?
- If this project **does not affect** operating costs, please note so below.

The project will increase operating costs as buildings become safe and useable. It is the intention of CHS to offer affordable but realistic fees for use of space and utilities. The High School building currently has a waiting list of non-profit organizations eager to rent space for their headquarters. These “tenants” will be responsible for rent and their own utility costs. With the partnership with the City of Clearwater we will be able to continue providing space for organizations and groups that need it in the downtown area.

Fund Management Capacity*

Please describe your organization’s capacity to manage these potential ARPA funds in terms of fiscal management and financial infrastructure.

This includes, but is not limited to, the use of accounting software that can track a general ledger and multiple accounts and the ability to work on a reimbursement-basis.

The inability to handle a reimbursement-basis grant does not disqualify your organization from applying.

The President of the Clearwater Historical Society has a Bachelor's degree in Historic Preservation and a Master's in Public Admission. She has worked for the State of Florida, Bureau of Historic Preservation and currently serves on Pinellas County Historic Preservation Board. She also has been responsible for the past grants awarded to the Society. There are no paid staff at CHS and the progress to date is due to dedicated and talented volunteers, many of which are former professionals in fiscal management and accounting. The former Accountant for the Eckerd Corporation, Les Smout, CPA, has kept CHS on course for the last 4 years. Former Banker, Suz Priest, the current CHS Treasurer, works closely with the CPA to prepare reports and

reimbursements through QuickBooks for non-profits. CHS received a \$500,000 grant from the State of Florida to restore the first public school in Clearwater and successfully fulfilled the grant requirements and reporting.

Additional Information

Additional Upload

If you have something else to share, you can upload it here in PDF format.

Please note: Due to limitation of this grants system, the upload field will not carry over to the full application if you are moved forward to the full application phase. You will need to upload this file again if you are moved forward in the process.

kitchen.pdf

Anything else to share?

If you have any details to share regarding this grant request, you may do so below.

The CHS was incorporated in 1978 in the Plumb House until the lease with the PCSB in 2014, a 50-year lease for the South Ward School, a 5-acre 8 building campus. The museum is housed in the 1906 building, the first school building built with public funds, with later building being added in 1912 - 1971 the first Clearwater High School, cafeteria, Library, Kindergarten, PE Office, Maintenance and Teachers' Lounge. CHS received a \$500,000 grant from the State of Florida to upgrade & ADA compliance in 2016 & after 3yrs of construction, opening 2 buildings we were able to open only to close 9 months later because of COVID. Our plans to open the other buildings for the community have been put on hold. We were able to work with the community to hold outdoor events, help with research for local groups and neighborhoods, and work with the local colleges and high schools to help the students get their volunteer hours. Within the area of downtown we are able to provide a meeting space for local groups in the event Center but being able open these 2 additional buildings we can house meet more of the community's needs. This is all being done by Volunteers only

File Attachment Summary

Applicant File Uploads

- kitchen.pdf

