

LOI Form

Organization Information

A Word version you can use to draft your request is available for download.

The rubric that will be used to score your LOI is available for download.

Project Name*

Please give your proposal a short, descriptive title. This is how your request will appear throughout the PCF grant portal.

Pathway To Success Hunger Relief

Amount Requested*

The minimum grant request for this process is \$50,000.

The maximum grant request for this process is \$325,000.

If you request the full \$325,000, your organization should be able to demonstrate a *significant* impact to be made from these funds.

Please be sure that your grant request is proportional to your annual operating budget. If you have any questions about how much funding to request, please contact Jocelyn Howard at jhoward@pinellascf.org.

\$54,898.00

Annual Operating Budget*

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

\$115,012.00

Grant Start Date*

PCF expects to issue a contract to approved organizations in September 2023. If awarded with a contract issuance date of September 1, 2023, when would your organization begin to spend funds?

09/06/2023

Grant End Date*

PCF expects the grant period to be between 12 and 24 months for this process. Given this range, when would your organization expect to finish expending funds if awarded?

05/01/2024

Mission Statement*

Please write your organization's mission statement below. This should be no longer than one or two sentences.

Pathway To Success Ministries Mission is to meet the Physical and Spiritual needs of individuals in the nearby communities through hunger relief and transitional housing programs. Our ultimate goal is to be the beacon of hope for malnourished children, nursing mothers, emergency food distributions in crisis situations, food parcels for families in poor neighborhoods, homeless Veterans assistance, and hot meals for orphans and seniors.

Is your organization headquartered in Clearwater?

Why PCF asks this: Given that the City of Clearwater is the funding source for this grant program, PCF may prioritize organizations headquartered in Clearwater or those that have a strong presence in the City.

Yes

Programming Background*

Please describe the program that this grant would support.

Example

Peer Counseling Services Inc. offers after-school support groups for middle schoolers and high schoolers. Below, Peer Counseling Services Inc. would describe what its programming is, how its programming works, and who is served.

Why PCF asks this: PCF wants to learn about what your organization does and how it carries out its mission.

Pathway to Success Ministries (PTS) offers weekly, monthly and mobile food pantry services assisting low-income families with children and individuals who are in crisis situations. Once week feedings are offered on Tuesday to households needing food relief. We also offer transitional housing for homeless veterans and seniors.

The individuals are given bagged foods including meats, fruits/vegetables, rice, breads, and desserts. The bags are prepared to serve up to 4 for (1) entire week. There is no limit to the visiting times per month a household may visit the site for assistance. PTS food pantry are open to guests who reside in Clearwater. Our monthly community give aways includes traveling to poverty-stricken parks or churches to offer monthly relief, as well as hot meals. At the community events, hygiene products are distributed, and free grooming is available. Our goal is to set up tents and tables to facilitate community leaders and churches to canvas neighborhoods instead of the communities coming to us when they're in hard times. Our heartfelt relief includes but are not limited to: Free bagged groceries, hot foods, clothing, and hygiene products. Established agencies such as Clearwater Police Department, Pinellas County Sheriff Department, More to Life Agency, Pregnancy centers, Restoration Ministries, Churches and many volunteers has served with us at our monthly gatherings! Restoration Ministries offers assistance by providing food assistance for sustainability of our programs. Many donations and monthly sponsorships have partnered with us to ensure we have the supplies needed to fulfill all families without any empty turn around of individuals.

We are dedicated to feeding the homeless, specifically our homeless seniors and veterans, as well as low-income families with children! We will be expanding this initiative to include a bus and or gas card to the facility for feeding visits.

PTS transitional Housing opportunities are based upon the homeless individual income for affordable housing purposes. We have partnered with St. Vincent De Paul for the homeless veterans who qualify for home ownership in the near future and needing a transitional place to live.

Our ultimate goal this year 2023 is to eliminate homelessness by providing transitional housing for the veterans and seniors whom we have served through food relief.

We desire to ensure families are able to sustain not just on a weekly or monthly basis, but on a consistent basis.

History in Clearwater*

Please describe how long you've been providing services in the City of Clearwater, and the nature of such services.

Why PCF asks this: Given that the City of Clearwater is the funding source for this grant program, PCF may prioritize organizations headquartered in Clearwater or those that have a strong presence in the City.

Pathway to Success Ministries began and started making community impact in 2013. We originally began traveling from park to park in low income and impoverished neighborhoods. In 2013, at one of the outings where we invited the late Sol Pitchon (More to Life and Pregnancy Center of Pinellas), we were advised to establish an Incorporation with the State of Florida outlining the great work we are doing. In 2014, Pathway to Success Ministries became a Incorporation with Florida and receive our 501c3 non-profit status. We expanded our community efforts to once a week food pantry and transitional housing for the homeless in 2018.

Our outstanding Board of Directors are made up of volunteers who started the journey with us 10 years ago! Majority of the Board of Directors are local and Pinellas County residents.

Pathway to Success was birthed through a dream (dreamt 3 times) by the President and lived out to show love to individuals who are facing life challenges. Some of the Clearwater establishments PTS started the journey with are- Clearwater Police Department, Aquatic Center of Clearwater, GM Gainey Tax Of Clearwater, St. Matthew Church, Martin Luther King Center of Clearwater, TR Dallas Funeral Home and more! In total, PTS has been making gradual impact for 10 years!

Our mobile food pantry has been recognized by established agencies for the fact of PTS going out to the needed populations, instead of requiring individuals the strain of coming to us as most sites. Many of the families with children or individuals do not have the luxury of transportation. PTS set up mobile food pantry in the city of Clearwater, providing food bags, including hygiene products to ensure families a walkable option to receive the love and care we provide. PTS food pantry are open to guests who reside in Clearwater on Tuesday and Thursday.

PTS also has 4 bedrooms that we use to provide transitional housing in the Clearwater area! We are dedicated to reducing the number of individuals sleeping behind the stores and buildings in our beautiful city of Clearwater!

PTS has also partnered with Restoration Ministries Inc to allow any overage of donations are disbursed at weekly food pantry nearby. Our motto is "We share as we care"

Outcomes*

Define one to two outcomes already being measured by your organization in relation to the programming this grant would support. This is not the outcome of this specific funding, but of the programming itself. **Outcomes are not the number of people you will serve, but how they or their situation will change.**

"Outcomes - are specific, measurable statements that let you know when you have reached your goals.

Outcome statements describe specific changes in your knowledge, attitudes, skills, and behaviors you expect to occur as a result of your actions. Good outcome statements are specific, measurable, and realistic."

(W.K. Kellogg Foundation Logic Model Development Guide)

Example

80% of youth involved in peer counseling will show increased emotional intelligence after six months of participation.

Why PCF asks this: PCF considers measurable outcomes to be a cornerstone of effective social service programming. Tracking outcomes allows both an organization and its supporters to know how effective its programming is and helps an organization improve its programming over time.

Many of the families we assist were impacted financially, socially and mentally during the pandemic and has not had the opportunities to get back to the norm. PTS offers bi-monthly assessments with the underserved to address and redirect individuals in way of financial stability, housing, and food/hygiene request. At that time, if PTS is not able to assist, the referral program of established agencies is suggested. 62% of all will be assisted in some way, rather food and hygiene assistance or transitional housing opportunities. The Clearwater Urban League suggest there are 51% of families living in poverty in Clearwater, and over 13.8% suffer in social insecurities. PTS served approximately 2,029 families with children first quarter of the year and looking to serve 3,000 or more this current quarter. There's a growing need and concern we are addressing in year 2023 by serving approximately 20,000 in food assistance, 7,000 in daily hygiene products, and 50 in transitional housing!

Measurements*

Explain what measurement tools you will use to evaluate the stated outcome(s) above. That is, how will your organization know it is achieving or not achieving the outcome(s) stated above? Stronger requests will use a validated tool or method of data collection.

Example

Peer Counseling Services administers the Schutte Self Report Emotional Intelligence Test before counseling begins, and in six-month intervals thereafter.

Why PCF asks this: PCF would like to know how the outcome(s) you've specified are measured, and if you used a validated tool that has been proven in usage outside your organization. If you've developed your own tool, please describe how it was made.

PTS uses a measurement tool (Shepherd Base), which auto track assisted family names and contact information, assisted family's visitation/donation dates, contribution and expenditure records, volunteers contact information, and goal percentage tools. Shepherd Base is broken into categories for example: Food assistance Goal-3,000 you have reached 50% of your goal as to date 1,500 families has been reached. This powerful database monitor how much of our budget has been spent over time, to see how much is remaining and course-correct when necessary.

Our Boad of Directors Treasurer and Secretary is well trained in tracking grant expenditures, Invoices and oversight and planning of funds and reporting.

All expenditures will be discussed and approved by the officiating Board of Directors, requiring 2 signatures of approval.

Grant Impact*

How would this grant help your organization and its clients achieve the outcomes stated above? That is, what would you be able to do with this funding that you otherwise could not?

Why PCF asks this: The intention of this grant is to fund organizations providing support for individuals and families in Clearwater with emergency housing and social services needs. How that support happens, and how this grant could help, differs from organization to organization. PCF would like to know specifically how this grant would help your organization and the clients you serve.

PTS is at the center of Clearwater, in the downtown area which is in the center of need and support for a city who has had one of the highest poverty rates in Pinellas County. The Pandemic has caused a great amount of strain, requiring additional assistance for those who lost their jobs and way of income and not quite back to

normal. This grant will assist PTS with additional supplies, food, and products needed to accommodate in the increase in demand for additional services. Each dollar will be spent in the benefit of social services for the homeless and low-income population. Providing transitional housing and allowing a small stipend upon completion of the 6-month timeframe is our promise to help each individual needing emergency housing.

We will be purchasing:

2 Deep freezers (\$1,398.00) to house the meats and foods, including the foods received from RCS and Feeding Tampa Bay. We currently have 2 stand-alone refrigerator/freezer which is not enough for the population served. We are currently asking volunteers and the Board of Directors to house the foods until time to serve.

2 deep freezers will allow greater of meat, produce and dairy products. The deep freezers is estimated to have a life span of 5-10 years.

4 Large Serving Tables (\$2000.00) to prep and serve in the community as well as in house feedings. We currently have 4 tables and are in need of 4 additional tables.

1 Full time/1 Part time lower paid staff- hiring to manage daily pantry operations, planning and marketing. The management of the pantry requires PTS to hire a full-time manager (\$27,250.00) and part time Executive Director (\$14,750.00) to assist with the communications and operation planning.

Transitional Housing project-New location (\$19,600) PTS has landed on a new location in Clearwater to allow homeless shelter for up to 8 persons. The location requires first, last and security deposit with the monthly amount of \$2800.00. PTS currently has a waiting list of homeless veterans who are in need of transitional housing and job assistance. Staff is dedicated to assisting in the housing and job area for up to 8 additional individuals.

Stipend to Individuals completing transitional timeframe (\$9500.00)

PTS will not be seeking Indirect Cost

Total In Kind Amount (\$54,898.00)

Preliminary Budget Narrative*

Please write a brief breakdown of line items showing how your requested funds would be used. You may add context to the expenses if needed (for example, if salaries are requested, state how that position supports the programming described in your proposal). A more detailed, formal budget will be required if your request is moved forward in the funding process.

Small equipment purchases are permitted under this grant provided they are directly tied to service delivery. You may include those purchases in this narrative.

If your organization will be requesting indirect costs, please include this in your narrative. Note that the indirect cost rate for this grant is capped at 5% of the grant.

Why PCF asks this: PCF would like to gain a general understanding of the proposed programming costs for this grant.

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\$6,000 to purchase a 26kW generator and heater lamps -Community events require lighting, heating (Winter months), power for microphone and speaker purposes.

Total In Kind Amount (\$54,898.00)

Reduction in Funding*

Due to limited funding, your request amount may not be fully awarded if it is moved forward in the grant process. How would reduced/partial funding impact your proposed program?

Why PCF asks this: The review committee that ultimately recommends proposals for funding may consider partial funding. PCF would like to know upfront what impact this would have on your proposal.

Any reduced/partial funding will be offset by continuous fundraisers and donations. Often times, if PTS is lacking small amount of funding needed to reach any goal, we are partnered with sponsors for contributions. PTS is currently seeking additional funding sources to ensure all financial goals are met the duration. Outside of requested funding, PTS is proactively working on securing funding by way of a upcoming grant opportunity. PTS has a current gift donor-\$7,500.00 at this time.

File Attachment Summary

Applicant File Uploads

No files were uploaded