



To complete the Application for Funding Cover Page type into the provided fields. Use your preferred word processing program to answer all other questions. **A complete application consists of the Application for Funding Cover Page; a narrative of five pages maximum (exclusive of attachments) answering the questions below; and the required attachments.** Completed applications may be emailed to grants@tfe.org or mailed to The Foundation for Enhancing Communities, PO Box 678, Harrisburg, PA 17108-0678. Emailed applications must be submitted by 4pm on the deadline date. Mailed applications must be postmarked by the deadline date. Contact Jennifer Strechay, Program Offer for Community Investment, at jstrechay@tfe.org or 717-236-5040 with questions.

Name of Organization KidsPeace Harrisburg Foster Care & Community Programs

Name, Title, Email, Phone of Executive Leader Ray Culp, Vice President for Foster Care & Community Programs, ray.culp@kidspeace.org, 610-799-7500 x 7614

Organization Mailing Address 4807 Jonestown Road, Suite 241, Harrisburg, PA 17109

Website www.fostercare.com

Name, Title, Email Phone of Application Contact Caren Chaffee, Director of Grants & Advocacy, caren.chaffee@kidspeace.org, 610-799-8914

Amount of Funding Requested \$3,000

Purpose of Funding Request KidsPeace respectfully requests funding to provide technology resources for staff to provide in-home therapeutic care and resources to foster youth and families.

Briefly describe your organization

- A. Mission, purpose, and history.
- B. Service population and geographic area served, including demographics.
- C. Current programs, activities, and accomplishments.

Briefly describe the project for which you are requesting funding

- A. Project goals, objectives, and planned activities/events.
- B. Project timetable and budget. *The project budget is separate from the organization budget.*
- C. Constituency served or targeted population.
- D. Other funding sources and amounts.
- E. Project benefits and anticipated results.
- F. Description of how project differs from similar projects in geographic area served.

Required Attachments

- A. Board of Directors List.
- B. Applicant organization's current budget.
- C. First page of the applicant organization's most recent 990. If 990 is not available, provide the most recent audit or financial statement to meet this need.
- D. 501(c) (3) Letter or proof of application.

E. Copy of your registration with the Pennsylvania Bureau of Charitable Organizations.

Please Note: Letters of support are not required, but are accepted. If your project represents a partnership or is 100% dependent upon participation by an organization presented in your application, provide a letter from each organization that confirms their agreement to participate. If your project utilizes a Fiscal Sponsor, follow the Fiscal Sponsor instructions at <https://www.tfec.org/grants/the-childrens-home-foundation-fund-grant-guidelines/>.



Organization

A. Mission, Purpose, History

KidsPeace, founded in 1882, has dedicated 138 years to the treatment of mental health crises. With a mission “to provide hope, help and healing to children, adults and those who love them,” Initially established as an orphanage, KidsPeace has grown and transformed in both size and scope over its 138 year history. Today, KidsPeace helps thousands of children and families through a spectrum of care that includes psychiatric hospitalization, residential care, education, foster care, community-based programming, services for youth on the autism spectrum and public education.

One of the most widespread services on the KidsPeace program spectrum is therapeutic foster care. Therapeutic foster care is a unique and specialized program that provides safe and supportive homes to children in the foster care system who have exceptional emotional and behavioral health needs. KidsPeace operates nine therapeutic foster care programs in Pennsylvania, including one in Harrisburg.

B. Service Population and Geographic Area Served, Including Demographics

The KidsPeace Harrisburg Foster Care & Community Programs (FCCP) office opened in 1990 and primarily works with youth who require therapeutic foster care to ensure their safety. Youth in therapeutic foster care typically have a mental health diagnosis and/or exceptional behavioral needs. KidsPeace trains and licenses foster families, matches foster youth and families and provides casework and treatment support to the youth and families.

Currently, 45 children are in the care of licensed foster homes throughout the greater Harrisburg region. Furthermore, there is a significant number of kinship foster families who are caring for youth within their extended families. The KidsPeace Harrisburg FCCP cares for approximately 60 youth each year from Dauphin, Cumberland, Lebanon and Northern York Counties.

C. Current Programs, Activities and Accomplishments

The unique building blocks of the therapeutic foster care program distinguish it from others in the foster care field:

- Children have experienced trauma and are in need of safe and supportive homes
- Children have mental health diagnoses and display exceptional needs, but are appropriate to live in community settings and attend local school districts
- Foster families are specially trained, certified and supported to care for children with emotional and behavioral challenges and generally care for no more than two foster children in a home at a time
- Staff carry a case load of eight or fewer children, allowing for weekly home visits and 24-hour, seven-day-a-week support

KidsPeace foster care outcomes are significant: In 2018, KidsPeace found foster homes for 1,233 youth. For those youth who were discharged from foster care, 86.6% moved on to an equal or less restrictive setting, including 13.6% who found their “forever families” through adoption.

Project

A. Project goals, objectives and planned activities/ events

As a result of the pandemic, KidsPeace made some modifications to its programming to ensure the safety and health of youth, families and staff. KidsPeace continues to support foster families and foster children through case management, therapeutic interventions and weekly phone calls or videoconferencing. When in-person interventions are needed, KidsPeace caseworkers are responding to crises in person using universal precautions, including face masks and gloves.

However, as a result of social distancing, staff across all KidsPeace programs are adapting their work environments, increasing the use of tele-mental health and utilizing videoconferencing to continue to meet the needs of youth and families remotely. As this is a new situation, there is a significant shortage of computer equipment. In fact, some staff are borrowing laptops and tablets from family members to provide uninterrupted care to the youth and families they serve.

Furthermore, youth at KidsPeace present with mental health needs, and the uncertainty and confusion of the pandemic has caused increased anxiety, fear and unwanted adverse emotions for many. Mobile devices will allow staff and foster families to facilitate “virtual family visits” for youth with their biological families. Having the ability to reach out to their families and see their faces and hear their voices through video conferencing will help to mitigate some of these fears and will help reduce their anxiety.

The funding respectfully requested will be used to purchase technology for staff to use to continue to provide well-rounded care and best meet the needs of children and families remotely. Through the use of tablets, staff will continue to provide uninterrupted care through tele-mental health and video conferenced case management services to youth, biological families of youth and foster families in the Harrisburg region. This will allow for more effective service provision to local youth and their families who require on-site mental health and clinical support to overcome crisis and learn real-time life skills.

Mobile devices are also both effective and efficient in the provision of services and improve outcomes for children and families when workers are physically in the foster homes. Currently, if needed, workers bring hard-copy paperwork for required signatures, make notes for follow up and track time spent and activities completed with the youth and families through their own handwritten systems. When they return to the office or to their remote work space (which may be several days later), they repeat this work by entering the information in the computerized clinical system, which they are required to use per state regulation. In addition, assessments, which ascertain specific needs of youth and families, identify their degree of safety and determine appropriate levels of care, are currently completed in hard copy form and then transferred into the computerized system once the worker has access to a computer.

Mobile devices would allow for more efficient and streamlined processes, in particular after the pandemic, when workers are able to spend more time with face-to-face visits in the foster homes. Specifically, as the vast majority of the staff work is conducted in the field, one-on-one with children and families, the case managers could complete all of their job responsibilities in real-time, instead of repeating their administrative work. This would allow for additional time with children and families, providing support, teaching life skills and helping navigate the social services system.

The KidsPeace IT department has determined the device that would best meet the needs of the programs and adhere to HIPAA compliance and security protocols. It will allow staff to provide the full range of required services on-site, in a client's home or in the community. It will allow for the completion of on-site assessments and safety and emergency plans; the input of case notes and required follow-up; and the ability to obtain necessary signatures immediately, instead of waiting for a form to be completed, printed and brought back to the home. Workers will have the ability to input case notes, assessments, time cards and follow up needs directly into the database.

The goal of the project is to provide improved social service and mental health services to foster youth and families through increased the use of technology, teleconference and tele-mental health.

Objectives include:

1. Identify and purchase tablets to be used by foster care staff in the KidsPeace Harrisburg FCCP program.
2. Utilize the tablets to provide improved and enhanced care to foster youth, foster families and biological families, including providing remote therapeutic care, facilitating virtual visits and taking the technology into the foster homes to work directly with children and families.
3. Ascertain impact of the use of technology from foster youth and foster families via verbal and/or written survey.

B. Project timetable and budget

Based on recent purchases made by the KidsPeace IT department, it is anticipated that a tablet will cost approximately \$480 each, and cases will cost an additional \$20 each. KidsPeace aims to purchase six (6) tablets for use by staff at the KidsPeace Harrisburg foster care program.

Tablets: \$480 (per tablet) + \$20 (per case) = \$500 x 6 tablets = \$3,000

These technology resources will allow children and families to receive enhanced and improved critical mental health care in a more efficient and effective manner at a time when they need it most.

Once funding is secured, mobile devices can be purchased, configured and distributed for use to workers within one month. As the KidsPeace IT department has already vetted the product and the configuration, the project implementation can occur efficiently.

C. Constituency served or targeted population

KidsPeace staff will have access to the use of the mobile devices while they are in the community and in foster homes. However, the foster youth and foster families will be the beneficiaries of the result of the staff use of the devices. Specifically, streamlining processes through the use of the mobile devices will allow for additional time with children and families, providing support, teaching life skills and helping navigate the social services system.

The KidsPeace Harrisburg FCCP has a high percentage of kinship foster homes, in which grandparents, aunts and uncles, other family members or family friends to be called upon to provide care and shelter to children who either are or would otherwise be in the foster care system. This is known as “kinship care.”

Kinship care often occurs unexpectedly, or the process of having the child move into the home progresses at a rapid pace. Kinship caregivers often feel emotionally overwhelmed, their household schedules and daily lives drastically change overnight and they are faced with legal and systemic challenges with few resources.

KidsPeace aims to mitigate these challenges for kinship caregivers in the Harrisburg region through the use of the technology resources, which will provide enhanced care in a more efficient manner.

D. Other funding sources and amounts

As a non-profit organization, KidsPeace maintains a budget that allows coverage of programmatic operating expenses through a fee-for-service structure with state and local referral sources. However, some equipment purchases often present financial challenges. KidsPeace pursues grants and other funding sources when new opportunities open in an effort to mitigate financial strain.

E. Project benefits and anticipated results

KidsPeace programs are essential and life sustaining. Throughout the pandemic, KidsPeace has continued to support foster families and foster children through case management, therapeutic interventions and weekly phone calls or videoconferencing. When in-person interventions are needed, KidsPeace caseworkers have been responding to crises in person.

KidsPeace foster families live the KidsPeace mission on a daily basis. They provide hope to children in crisis, and they keep them safe while their biological families prepare for the children to return home. While youth are in care, they receive an array of services, including case management and therapy to help them work through trauma.

However, the COVID-19 pandemic has brought new crises into homes across the country, further increasing feelings of confusion, uncertainty and fear. These crises are having a significant impact on children and families, who are experiencing added major changes and disruptions in all aspects of their lives as a result of the pandemic. These disruptions will likely exacerbate challenges that families who are already receiving care for social service or mental health needs are facing.

The use of mobile devices will enhance services and mitigate some of the stress and challenges facing both foster youth and foster and kinship families. Mobile devices will be used by staff to increase the use of tele-mental health and videoconferencing to continue to meet the needs of youth and families remotely.

Furthermore, in order to continue to provide well-rounded care and best meet the needs of children and families, these devices can also be used by staff to connect with families (both biological and foster) remotely. As a result, mental health staff will continue to provide uninterrupted care through tele-mental health and video conferenced case management services to youth, biological families of youth and foster families in the Harrisburg region.

F. Description of how project differs from similar projects in geographic area served

There are multiple providers of foster care in the Harrisburg area. However, KidsPeace provides therapeutic foster care, a unique and specialized form of foster care. Youth referred to therapeutic foster care have mental health diagnoses and require additional therapeutic supports to best meet their mental health needs. KidsPeace meets these needs with the support and input of a treatment team, which includes the foster youth, KidsPeace staff, foster family, biological family (if appropriate), therapists, counselors, school professionals, physicians and other professionals involved in the child's care.

Furthermore, KidsPeace staff provide a high level of ongoing support to the youth and the family. Caseloads are small (no more than eight children on a caseworker's caseload), and caseworkers meet with youth and families face-to-face on a minimum of a weekly basis. (Due to the pandemic, these face-to-face visits occur via teleconference, when possible.) In addition, a KidsPeace foster care staff person is on call 24 hours a day, seven days a week to ensure that families and youth can receive assistance they need in an emergency situation.



Board of Directors 2020-2021

Full Board and Committees meet on a quarterly basis

OFFICERS: Dr. Scott Reines, Chair of the Board of Directors
John Moses, First Vice Chair of the Board of Directors
Ben Garrett, Second Vice Chair of the Board of Directors

DIRECTORS

Dr. Larry Bell (2009-2021)
Senior Vice President, Deputy Chief Medical Officer, Global Head of Regulatory,
Horizon Pharma, Holland, Pennsylvania 18966

Ann Bieber (2020-2023)
President, Lehigh County Community College, Schnecksville, PA 18078

J. Jackson Eaton III, Esq. (2020-2023)
Attorney, Gross McGinley, LLP, Allentown, PA 18105

Wilson (Ben) Garrett (2016-2021)
Owner, RA-LIN and Associates, Inc., Carrollton, Georgia 30117

Tee Green (2016-2021)
President, Greenway Health, Carrollton, Georgia 30117

Dr. Sandra Kerr (2018-2021)
Retired Pharmaceutical Executive, Pipersville, Pennsylvania 18947

Diana Marshall (2019-2022)
Retired Nurse/ Attorney, Fogelsville, Pennsylvania 18105

Lonnie McCullough (2019-2021)
Technical Writer, Princeton Plasma Physics Lab, Yardley, Pennsylvania 19067

Connie Mitchell-Bates (2019-2021)
Process Solutions Manager, Penske, Reading, Pennsylvania 19606

John Moses (2012-2021)
President, Youth Services System, Wheeling, West Virginia 26003

L. Richard Plunkett (2007-2021)
Owner, Plunkett Associates, Carrollton, Georgia 30116

Dr. Scott Reines (2010-2022)
Independent Consultant, New Hope, Pennsylvania 18938

Jonathan Sharaf (2017-2022)
Managing Director/ Investment Officer, Wells Fargo Advisors, Doylestown, Pennsylvania 18901

David Small (2005-2021)
Executive Vice President, Verizon Wireless, Basking Ridge, New Jersey 07920

Richard Tisinger (2009-2021)
Partner, Tisinger Vance Attorneys at Law, Carrollton, Georgia 30117

Andrew Werner (2014-2021)
CPA, Owner, Werner & Co., Emmaus, Pennsylvania 18049

EX-OFFICIO DIRECTOR: Michael Slack, President & CEO, KidsPeace

**KidsPeace FCCP Harrisburg
2020 Budget**

Revenues	<u>\$ 931,551</u>
Expenses:	
Salaries	300,674
Employee health	48,877
Other benefits	2,750
Payroll taxes	22,935
Supplies	2,040
Equipment rental/maintenance	3,600
Property rental	44,664
Phone/Utilities	13,200
Transportation	22,104
Medical	360
Food	480
Client incidentals	3,220
Repairs and maintenance	720
Staff recruitment/development	8,180
Direct foster family costs	318,228
Other expense	6,880
Shared administrative costs	141,500
Total direct expenses	<u>\$ 940,412</u>
Excess revenue/ (expenses)	<u><u>\$ (8,861)</u></u>

Above represents 2020 unaudited budget for the named KidsPeace FCCP location.