IN-NEED

GRANT PROPOSAL

Making a Difference in Schools: A Grant Proposal for In Need's Anti-Violence and Empowerment Program.

Submitted to: Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention

IN NEED - Non Profit Organization

2001 Newport Dr, Pittsburg, California, 94565

(510) 631-4657

inneedorganization@yahoo.com

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Cover Letter

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Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention

Dear [Funder Name],

I hope this letter finds you well. My name is Da'Mahn Miller, and I am the founder of In Need, a non-profit organization.

In Need is a nonprofit organization designed to help those in need. Our goal is to provide various resources to all; to those in and out of our community. We want to provide an outlet and share access to resources. Resources include food, basic necessities, skills, and services. Our mission is to bring people to one platform from where they can donate and help people in need around the globe from their homes, offices, car and more.

I am writing to request a grant of ***$30,000*** to support our efforts to address school violence and how to prevent students from becoming victims. We aim to increase awareness of this issue and get everyone to participate in making a difference. This initiative fits perfectly with our strategy of helping those in need to make a difference in their communities.

The grant will be used to fund a variety of initiatives, including educational resources, programs, and events. It will also be used to hire staff members and fund operating costs.

I think that with your help, we can make a huge difference in the lives of people affected by school violence.

Thank you for considering our request!

Sincerely,
Da'Mahn Miller

2001 Newport Dr, Pittsburg, California, 94565

Executive Summary

School violence is a major and evolving issue affecting students, parents, and communities across the country. Consequently, finding a solution to this issue is critical.

In Need is a non-profit organization committed to helping individuals in need by providing resources such as food, basic necessities, skills, and services in and out of the community. We recognize the importance of addressing school violence and seek a grant of ***$30,000*** to address the issue and prevent students from being victims of school violence.

This grant will initiate multiple programs and activities, including providing backpacks to elementary school children, establishing an athletic program in high schools, and organizing a career day at an elementary school. Besides that, our organization will also allocate funds to cover operational costs to ensure the effective execution of these programs and activities.

Our primary objective is to raise mindfulness of school violence, highlight its impact on students, and create a safe and preventive culture in schools across the country.

To further strengthen our initiative, we will collaborate with local schools and community organizations, bringing more sustainability to our program.

Thank you for considering our grant proposal. We look forward to the opportunity of collaborating with you in our shared mission of establishing a nation where there is no room for school violence.

Organizational Background

About the Organization

In Need is a nonprofit organization designed to help the victims and collaterals of school violence. Our goal is to provide various resources to those in and out of our community. We aim to provide an outlet and share access to resources. Resources include food, basic necessities, skills, and services.

We also provide access to various skills and services that can help individuals build resilience and improve their quality of life. For example, we may offer counseling services, financial support, and job training programs, among other resources.

At In Need, we believe that it is important to work closely with our community partners and other non-profit organizations to achieve our goals. By collaborating with others who share our vision, we can more effectively address the complex challenges facing individuals impacted by school violence. Together, we can make a positive impact in the lives of those who need our support the most.

Our Story

During the global pandemic, it became apparent that a significant number of individuals across the world were facing various challenges. In response, we aspired to develop a solution that could provide aid to those in need, including single parents, students, the elderly, those impacted by natural disasters, medical bills, and other related issues. In Need, our initiative, offers support to individuals facing these and other challenges, and collaborates with non-profit organizations to provide assistance in their respective areas or regions.

Our Mission

Our mission is to bring people to one platform from where they can donate and help people in need around the globe from their homes, offices, car and more.

Standard Market Research

In contemporary times, students are faced with a multitude of concerns, and unfortunately, ensuring a safe and secure school environment has become one of them. As a country, we have been unsuccessful to adequately address this issue, leaving students vulnerable to the various forms of school violence that can occur both within and outside the school setting.

School violence is a complex and serious problem that can take on many forms, including bullying, fighting, weapon use, gang violence, mass shootings and sexual violence. These types of incidents can have a profound impact on students' well-being, academic performance, and future prospects, creating a need for immediate and effective action.

It is essential that we recognize the seriousness of school violence and work collaboratively to implement measures that prioritize the safety and well-being of our students. This requires a multi-faceted approach that includes preventive measures, intervention strategies, and comprehensive support for those impacted by school violence. By taking a proactive stance, we can create a secure learning environment for all students.

As per the National Center for Education Statistics, in the United States of America, in 2020, around 77% of the public schools recorded more than 1 incident of school violence, which converts to 1.4 million incidents.

Similarly, since 1992, the percentage of violence in elementary, middle, and high schools has been declining. Nonetheless, the rise in gun violence, particularly mass shootings in schools, contributes to the public's view that public schools are hazardous.

Between 2000 to 2017, an approximate of 37 active shooter events took place in schools and 15 at secondary institutions. Between the 1992-93 school year and the 2017-18 school year, there were 1,193 fatal injuries in U.S. primary and secondary schools, according to the National Center for Education Statistics (NCES). In 2015-16, a total of 38 school-related violent deaths, or approximately 10 per 1,000 students took place. Middle school children are more likely than elementary or high school students to be victims of school violence. In 2017, approximately 2% of children aged 12 to 18 reported being victimized at school.

As per the most recent data accessible, there were around 939,000 violent occurrences (including sexual assaults, robberies, and physical attacks with or without a weapon) in U.S. public schools during the 2019-20 school year. There were around 487,000 nonviolent occurrences (including a firearm, knife, or other sharp object, theft, drug or alcohol possession or use, and vandalism). During the school year, 70% of schools reported at least one violent incident. According to the NCES, there were 75 school shootings with injuries, including 27 deaths, and 37 school shootings with no injuries during the same year.

Reasons for School Violence

Increased access to weapons, exposure to violence in the media and online, and the influence of the school, community, and home settings are some of the factors that contribute to school violence.

- Weapons: Numerous houses with schoolchildren contain firearms. Youth can also occasionally buy weapons illegally, such as through unlicensed transactions at gun shows.
- Media Violence: Young children who watched a violent cartoon were more likely to act aggressively than those who watched a nonviolent video, according to research on media violence. However, the conclusions remain debatable, with some researchers concluding that violent imagery in movies, television shows, and video games causes young people to become more aggressive, while others found no evidence to support these conclusions.
- Internet: The prevalence of cyberbullying among teens has increased since the 1990s as a result of increasing access to the internet, email, and text messaging, with girls experiencing cyberbullying more frequently than their male counterparts.
- The Environment: Families, schools, and communities all have a big impact on the attitudes and behaviors of young people. Students' perceptions of safety are impacted by gang activity in schools and the community, despite the fact that few young people actually join gangs, according to certain studies. Other peer pressures play a similar role in influencing how young people view violence and criminality.

Psychological Effects of School Violence

In addition to its direct victims, school violence also has an impact on those who see it. Young individuals who experience school violence experience fear as well as elevated anxiety and sadness.

Bullying is the outcome most closely associated with the commission of school violence. This connection suggests that young people who engage in violent behavior at school may also bully others there or in other settings. Self-harm, suicidality, carrying weapons, dropping out of school, being a victim of dating violence, any violence committed, and any offending or antisocial behavior are additional repercussions that were only moderately connected with perpetrating school violence. School performance, academic success, and a variety of mental health indicators (such as depression, low self-esteem, and anxiety), among others, are only sporadically or not at all linked to the commission of school violence.

Violence Victimization in Schools and its Impact

Bullying is the most severe effect of being a victim of school violence. Loneliness and low self-esteem are the second and third worst effects. Other moderately significant effects are victimization of dating violence, sadness, anxiety, suicidality, headache, self-harm, somatic symptoms, fear, limited social support, and psychotic symptoms. Weapon carrying, poor academic performance, dropout rates, and criminal/antisocial conduct are consequences that are either weakly or completely unrelated to being a victim of school violence.

Problem Statement

Schools should be a safe and cultivate a nurturing environment where students can learn, grow, and develop skills. However, unfortunately, in many cases, schools have now become a place of violence, intimidation, and fear.

The issue of school violence is pervasive and complex, with far-reaching consequences. Students who witness school violence are more likely to suffer from anxiety, depression, and other mental health problems.

Therefore, addressing school violence issues proactively and comprehensively has become significantly important.

Needs Assessment

The urgency to address the school violence issue is more in low-income and underserved communities. This issue can exacerbate inequalities in these communities and make it harder for students to progress academically and socially.

In Need organization's grant proposal seeks to address this pressing issue by offering backpacks, an athletic program, and a career program. By providing these resources, we aim to promote and create a safe and secure school environment where students can learn and progress.

Goals and Objectives

Goal

In Need's short-term goal is to raise awareness about school violence issues, while the long-term goal is to get everyone on board and establish a safe and inclusive school atmosphere.

Performance Objective

1. Develop and distribute 1000 backpacks with educational materials and resources to elementary school students.
2. Initiate an athletic program for high school students that promotes leadership skills, teamwork, and conflict-resolution strategies.
3. Organize career day programs, encouraging students to focus on their careers and pursue goals.
4. Hire and pay staff to lead and facilitate career day, ensuring to engage and inspiring students.
5. Possess effective operations by allocating funds for operational costs, including marketing, volunteer training, and other programs.

Outcome Objective

Increase awareness of school violence among students, teachers, parents, and communities and enhance students' social and emotional well-being.

SWOT Analysis

Strengths

- The grant application addresses the crucial topic of school violence, it's devastating consequences, and prevention.
- The suggested projects are well-defined, with a clear goal in mind for how the funds will be used.
- The project targets many age groups and a wide portion of the population.
- The idea emphasizes the importance of raising awareness and requiring participation in order to have a long-term impact.
- In Need was founded in 2021 as a non-profit organization. In just two years, the organization has demonstrated its dedication to assisting those in need. This demonstrates the organization's ability to complete this project successfully and efficiently.

Weaknesses

- The breakdown of how the grant will be used may be vague, impairing convenience.
- The proposal does not mention collaborations with other organizations, which may limit the initiative's influence.

Opportunities

- The proposed project can potentially have a community-wide impact by encouraging others to participate in and support the prevention of school violence.
- The grant proposal may attract the attention of other organizations and individuals who believe in the same cause.
- The proposed project may encourage the implementation of numerous other programs and initiatives to increase awareness and prevention.

Threats

- The grant proposal may face competition from other organizations seeking funds for the same cause.
- The planned project may confront logistical and resource restrictions.
- The project's success may be dependent on community engagement and participation.

Risk Analysis

The following are the risks that we think our organization may face; nevertheless, we intend to address them using certain strategies.

- ❖ **Funding Risk:** There is always a risk that the grant proposal may not be accepted or get delayed.

  - ➢ **Strategy:** To mitigate the risks, we propose researching and identifying potential grant opportunities and applying well before the deadline.

- ❖ **Implementation Risk:** This could involve delays in procuring educational materials and resources and implementing programs and career fairs.

  - ➢ **Strategy:** We intend to develop a detailed project plan that includes timelines, milestones, and contingency.

- ❖ **Operational Risk:** With day-to-day operations, we could face staffing issues, equipment failure, or unexpected expenses.

  - ➢ **Strategy:** We plan to avoid this risk by having strong financial management practices in place.

- ❖ **Reputation Risk:** If the grant proposal is not implemented successfully or the funds are mismanaged, there is a possible risk to the reputation of the organization.

  - ➢ **Strategy:** In Need is a reputable non-profit organization, and we look forward to avoiding this risk by employing transparency, accountability, and effective communication with stakeholders in the organization.

Heptalysis Analysis

In Need breaks down its Heptalysis analysis into 7 key categories, which are as follows:

1. **Human Need:** This grant application addresses school violence, which is a critical problem in our community.
2. **Effectiveness:** This proposal outlines specific goals and objectives to create awareness and prevent school violence.
3. **Probability of Success:** The project's success will be determined by a number of parameters, including the viability of the proposed initiative, the organization's track record, and how well the proposal's fit with the idea of funding organization.
4. **Timeline:** The timeline is reasonable and achievable, with activities spread out over the next year.
5. **Amount Needed:** The grant proposal seeks ___$30,000___ in funding. The amount required is well-suited to the proposed activities, goals, and objectives.
6. **Leverage:** The proposal drives complete leverage to specify how the fund will be used to achieve the short-term and long-term goals.
7. **Sustainability:** The proposal explains how the initiatives will be integrated into the organization's existing programs to ensure long-term impact of the grant funding.

Additional Market Research Report

School violence is a major concern in the United States of America. Recent shootings and other violent episodes have become a serious problem and a source of public worry.

Multiple research has suggested that prevention and intervention programs can halt school violence. A report by the *U.S. Department of Justice* revealed that school prevention programs could eventually reduce student violent behavior.

There are multiple organizations in the United States of America that provide resources and support for preventing school violence. The *National School Safety Centre* assists schools and communities with school-safety problems, including prevention of school violence.

The Safe and Drug-Free Schools and Communities Act, part of the *U.S. Department of Education*, also offers schools funds and assistance in implementing preventative programs and tactics.

However, there is still room for additional resources and support, and In Need aims to make a difference by offering effective resources, programs, and activities.

More Predictors of School Violence

- Criminal risk factors include antisocial behavior, troubled peers, and lack of self-control or impulsivity.
- Risky, prosocial, and avoidant behaviors, including substance abuse, carrying a weapon, delinquent or antisocial behavior, and prosocial activity.
- Personality qualities include openness, conscientiousness, extraversion, narcissism, and callous unemotionality.
- Attention deficit hyperactivity disorder (ADHD), empathy, aggression, internalizing issues, moral disengagement, and self-esteem/self-efficacy are psychological risk and protective factors.
- Victimization involves exposure to violence, including all forms of victimization, child abuse, exposure to domestic violence, and peer victimization.

- Peer acceptance and social preference, peer rejection, popularity, and social competency are sociological factors.
- Parental factors include bad parenting, strong parental relationships, and parental monitoring.
- Academic and extracurricular variables, including extracurricular activities, school ties and functioning, and school performance.
- Demographic traits: age, immigrant status, non-white race or ethnicity, SES, and sex.
- Other personal traits, such as overweight, LGBT identify, or a physical or learning handicap.

School Factors
- Characteristics of educational environments include climate, chaos, size, urbanity, and level of violence.
- Factors affecting school security, such as officers or guards on campus.
- Community risk factors include poverty and crime/disorder in the area.

KPI Development

In Need will align key KPIs to gauge the project's success. These KPIs will monitor progress and make any required adjustments to ensure the project's success.

Goal: To create awareness and prevention for the on growing problem: School Violence.

KPI	Target	Measurement	Timeline
#1: Students who receive backpacks.	10,000 elementary school students.	Number of backpacks distributed to students in elementary schools.	Within 03 months of receiving the grant.
#2: Participation rate in the athletic program.	1000 high-school students	Number of students who participated in the athletic program.	Within 06 months of receiving the grant.
#3: Success rate of career day program.	90% of students report increased interest in future goals.	Survey students after the career day program.	Within 09 months of receiving the grant.
#4: Staff members hired.	50+ staff members.	Number of staff members who receive training.	Within 06 months of receiving the grant.
#5: Operational Efficiency.	Maintain operational cost at or below 20% of the grant amount.	Track expenses and compare it to the grant budget.	Throughout the period.

Scenario Planning

| Scenario Planning #1 | → | In Need receives the full grant of $30,000 and allocates according to the plan. |

| Scenario Planning #2 | → | In Need receives partial funding for its grant proposal.
1. Prioritizes anti-school violence program.
2. Prioritizes either the athletic program or the Career day.
3. Purchases necessary equipment and resources. |

| Scenario Planning #3 | → | In Need receives no funding for its grant proposal.
1. Continues to seek alternative funding sources.
2. Partner with local businesses, non-profits, and volunteers to achieve its goals.
3. Prioritizes its initiatives based on the availability of funding and resources. |

Budget

To utilize the ***$30,000*** grant effectively and efficiently, we have crafted a detailed budget to cover all necessary expenses. Here is the breakdown of how we plan to use the grant:

Program Component	Budget Amount
Backpacks for Elementary School Students	$2,000
Athletic Program for High School	$10,000
Career Day	$7,000
Pay Staff Members	$4,000
Operational Costs	$5,000
Other Expenses	$2,000

Total Grant Budget	***$30,000***

Closing

We extend our sincere gratitude for considering our grant proposal to support In Need's mission of providing resources and assistance to those impacted by school violence. With your substantial support, we are confident that we can make an eloquent difference in the lives of students and families across the United States.

School violence is a significant issue that affects the well-being and safety of countless individuals in our communities. Your contribution will enable us to provide essential resources and support to those in need, including access to food and basic necessities, counseling services, financial support, and job training programs. By addressing the immediate needs of those impacted by school violence, we can help them build resilience and move forward with hope and confidence.

Through efficient programs and activities, we also hope to raise awareness about preventing school violence in addition to offering crucial resources. Our team of committed professionals puts forth a lot of effort to create programs that inform parents, teachers, and kids about the indications of school violence and how to avoid it. To make all children' learning environments safer, we can broaden these activities and engage a larger audience with your help.

We want to appreciate again for taking the time to read through our grant application. We can keep improving the lives of people who need it the most with your help. Together, we can sow the seeds for a future in which all students are empowered to achieve their greatest potential while also feeling protected and supported.

Thank you for your time and consideration!