SOROPTIMIST®

Investing in Dreams

Community Grant Application

Since 1930, Soroptimist International of Chico's mission is to improve the lives of women and girls by providing them with resources and opportunities to reach their full potential and live their dreams. We are a global volunteer organization that provides women and girls with access to the education and training they need to achieve social and economic empowerment. To learn more, go to SoroptimistChico.org.

Please tell us about your nonprofit organization

- Nonprofit Name: **Innovative Health Care Services, on behalf of the Peg Taylor Center for Adult Day Health Care**
- Website Address: **pegtaylorcenter.org**
- Facebook Address: **facebook.com/pegtaylorcenter**
- Mailing Address: **Peg Taylor Center**, **124 Parmac Road, Chico, CA 95926**
- Contact Name & Title: **Diane Puckett, Founding Executive Director/Admnistrator**
- Contact Email: **contact@pegtaylorcenter.org**
- Preferred Phone: **(530) 342-2345**

What is the mission of your nonprofit organization?

Our mission is to enhance health, dignity, and quality of life for older and younger adults facing serious health challenges by offering life-saving health care and person-centered support to uplift them and their families in a spirit of friendship and community.

For over 36 years of serving our community, we have been known for our compassionate care, high standards of excellence and stellar outcomes.

How does your nonprofit organization benefit women and girls?

Our unique daytime health and wellness program is designed to improve the well-being of both older and younger women who face serious illness, enabling them to live as independently as possible in the community setting of their choice.

Women are the primary beneficiaries of our services and the number of women who need support in their older years is high due to longer life spans. Women are generally also the principal caregivers for family members. This can impact both their health and their incomes and create tremendous stress. The lifesaving services that the Peg Taylor Center provides to help women in this situation include direct care and respite to significantly improve their health and reduce depression, stress and isolation.

Our person-centered support truly makes a world of difference for women in our community, whether they are older or younger, or providing or needing care. With age, health problems can lead to loneliness and isolation. Caring for older loved ones can also isolate women as they face overwhelming challenges. The Peg Taylor Center's loving support brightens and uplifts the lives of Butte County women and their families who are coping with serious illness, restores their quality of life and keeps them safe.

Since March 2020, we have remodeled this compassionate care to serve as a Center Without Walls, due to the high vulnerability of our participants to Covid-19. Our usual services include social work assistance, individualized nursing attention, enjoyable activities, physical, occupational and speech therapies, dietary counseling and other specialized care, as well as transportation and meals. We have been able to keep almost all of this

going through a number of creative approaches. For a period of time we provided all services to participants at their homes or via telehealth. We ensured that they had daily support, including meals, uplifting activities, attention for their mental health, and aid with whatever was needed, including crisis aid and getting vaccinated. This has worked really well and we have not lost any participants to Covid-19 despite their high vulnerability and the stress of the pandemic.

In June, 2021 we began our transition back to regular services, starting with serving participants coming in-center on an individual basis. Our goal is to restart in-center group programming as soon as it's safely possible, but first we have some urgent preparations to complete that we hope SI Chico can help us to accomplish!

Briefly describe the project or nature of the needs of your nonprofit organization. Is this a new or ongoing expense?

Our SI Chico project would focus on essential renovations needed to restore, brighten and improve the safety of the Peg Taylor Center facility. This will enable us to return to in-center services and address the needs of our current participants – as well as our waiting list of over 100 new applicants. (The majority of these are elderly women relying upon their daughters to help them with their needs, and they urgently need our support.)

Our project would focus on these two urgent needs:

1) Refurbishing our Activity Program's Arts and Craft Preparation Area.
   This is where our Activity Coordinator -- and participants, interns and volunteers -- prepare and work with arts and craft projects. The area is adjacent to our Activity Coordinator's office and has a sink, preparation counter and storage for arts and craft materials and projects. This invaluable program space is essential to much of what our participants love most in our Activity program, but has sustained damage from many years of intensive use and a recent leak. We have repaired the leak damage, but the room needs new paint, linoleum and wainscoting in order to go back into use. Based on bids we've received, the cost at $2,487.

2) Replacing the linoleum in our kitchen.
   This critical program area also has a problem that must be corrected before we can return to regular services. The kitchen linoleum -- which held up amazingly well over many years – is now unsafe due to tears and water damage and needs to be replaced. Our estimate of the cost is $7,527.

The total project cost to address both needs would be $10,014.

As we look ahead in 2022, we are more aware than ever of the tremendous community need. New referrals have been pouring in, however we can't move forward without completing these essential improvements to our program facility. Our goal for this SI Chico Project is to remain a positive and uplifting resource for our community through the restoration of two key program areas that are essential to our support of healthy nutrition and psychosocial wellbeing.

How many people will these funds benefit? What percentage are women and girls?

An estimated total of 150 individuals (participants and caregivers) are anticipated to benefit in the near future. (This number will rise to hundreds of people over time.) About 75% will be women.

What is the estimated cost of the project or needs of your nonprofit organization?

We have estimated our total project cost as $10,014 in order to renovate our Activities Arts and Crafts Preparation Area and Kitchen.

How much are you requesting?

We would like to request $10,014. If the full amount is not available, we will reduce the scope of our SI Chico project and seek further funds from other sources in order to complete the full project.

How did you hear about Soroptimist?

SI Chico has been supportive of the Peg Taylor Center since we first opened our doors in 1986. Thank you!

Have you requested funds from Soroptimist International of Chico or any Soroptimist club in the past?

Yes, we have made a number of requests for vital needs over the past 36 years.

Were funds approved? If so, when and how much?

Yes, since we opened our doors in 1986, we've been honored to have funding support a number of times from SI Chico, in amounts ranging from $750 to $10,000+.

If Soroptimist International of Chico has contributed to your non-profit in the past, how were the funds used and publicly recognized? Please be specific.

Previous funding has helped with a variety of important needs, including transportation, nutrition, and our facility. This support has been recognized through Letters to the Editor, as well as through our Annual Poppy WALK & 5K Run (on the back of the Poppy Walk t-shirt, sponsor poster, and through other acknowledgements that take place throughout the year). Recognition has also been provided through the Peg Taylor Center's Facebook page and our reports to the community. For example, the funding provided in connection with our Camp Fire recovery efforts was acknowledged in a number of related reports as having been invaluable to what we accomplished.

Please note that our review and procedural process is about 3-4 months and that our volunteer service organization is not in session during the Summer from July 1 to August 31. Feel free to attach additional information to your application.

Send completed applications to Giving@SoroptimistChico.org