

# Sole-source Special Community Initiatives Grant Application Form



This form is to be used to apply for non-competitive funds from the Escambia Children's Trust (ECT). Sole-source Special Community Initiatives requests for funding may be submitted by a community organization based solely upon the applicant's initiative and not in response to a formal solicitation or procurement process of the ECT. Applications will be considered for funding on a case-by-case basis. Please allow up to eight (8) weeks for a funding decision.

## APPLICANT INFORMATION

Contact Person: Joshua Bugby

Email Address: [joshuabugby@childrenincrisisfl.org](mailto:joshuabugby@childrenincrisisfl.org)

Phone Number: 850-864-4242

Organization: Children in Crisis, inc.

Program Address: 1000 Lukes Way, Fort Walton Beach, FL. 32547

Administrative  
Address (if different):

## REQUEST INFORMATION

**Need Statement:** What priority need(s) identified in the ECT Needs Assessment will this project address in Escambia County?

Children in Crisis, Inc. is a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization of caring people, working together to provide homes and keep brothers and sisters together. We give a home to the abused, neglected, and abandoned children of our community. Before Children in Crisis, there was no Emergency Shelter in Circuit One (which includes Okaloosa, Walton, Escambia, and Santa Rosa Counties in Northwest Florida) for young children removed from an unsafe environment on short notice. Without CIC and the stability it brings, many foster children would be moved from home to home, some as many as ten times per year. We have given a safe, loving home to over 1000 children since 2008.

**Program Description:** What services will be offered for children? How many children will be served? How and where? By whom? Please list all project partners and their roles.

**7 Pillars of Care (Objectives in which our goals are accomplished)** Children in Crisis approximately serves 100 children a year as we provide an emergency shelter, foster homes, and a therapy center at The Children's Neighborhood.

**1. Protection from harm:** CIC provides trained staff to ensure the safety of every child who enters our Children's Neighborhood. CIC provides a secure community equipped with surveillance cameras and safety protocols. CIC is a refuge to children who have suffered from physical abuse, and provides safe homes where children work on healing. CIC has become a beacon of hope and protection for children who have suffered abuse. Our children feel safe in our Children's Neighborhood, and it is reflected in their actions, behaviors, and gratitude as children are introduced to their new normal routine in our foster homes to create stable minds.

**2. Improved physical and mental health:** Our children receive regular health check-ups to track improved physical health benchmarks after adjusting to a new diet and exercise routine. As children are evaluated, every child who needs therapy will continue to be monitored for progress in various areas of emotional stability, mental stability, and interaction with siblings and peers in the Children's Neighborhood.

**3. Improved quality of education:** Children In Crisis provides various tutoring programs to ensure that our children improve academically. Many children who enter our Children's Neighborhood have unfortunately fallen behind due to lack of educational routines. Education and higher learning are a major priority of Children In Crisis. The CIC helps our young adults apply and prepare for college if that is the path they choose. Every year the staff at CIC celebrate our graduates with their own graduation party! Our Transitional Living Coordinator works with our high school students to prepare them for life after graduation. We make it a big celebration on every milestone including: drivers license, graduation, first job, and college.

**4. Enriched cultural experiences:** Children In Crisis provides a loving and diverse community of peers that help enrich and encourage cultural growth in our Children's Neighborhood. Every child at Children In Crisis has the freedom to express their uniqueness and culture. We provide a healthy balance of interactions and activities so that children of different ethnic backgrounds can express their cultural diversity.

**5. Improve agricultural production/promotion/education:** Children In Crisis provides a Kids Club House that promotes educational summer programs including cooking and health classes, which give the children the skills it takes to provide for themselves nutritionally throughout their lives. During the summer, our children are learning the origins of ingredients while learning to cook. Our children learn the basic necessities on how to take their cooking skills with them after they leave the Children's Neighborhood. Each child will leave with a cookbook of items they have learned to prepare.

**6. Enhancement of specific individual economic self sufficiency:** CIC provides vocational and mentoring programs made up of volunteers, staff, and churches providing budgeting skills for our young adult population ensuring job stability and banking investments. Our goal is when children leave CIC, students will have a high school diploma, know how to budget a savings account, obtain a driver's license, car insurance, and a dependable vehicle. Our greatest desire is to see our high school graduates become enrolled in college, and graduate college.

**7. Reduction of substance abuse:** CIC provides mentors, role models, and special speakers to help reduce and prevent substance abuse for children who are at risk due to prior unstable home environments. As we mentor our children to become young adults, we reduce the chances significantly for substance abuse by raising substance awareness, and then devastating realities that come as a result of substance abuse.

**Who will carry out those activities?**

- Children's Neighborhood Operations Director, Saraha Traver
- Program Supervisor, Tammy Middleton
- Education Liaison Academic Development Tutoring Evaluation Activities, Melissa Parsons
- Transitional Living Coordinator, Jeff Stovall

**Anticipated Outcomes:** What will the outcomes of your project be? How will you measure success for the project? Which ECT indicators will the project address?

The main outcome is to provide a safe and loving home for abandoned, abused, and neglected children for however long they need a home. Our goal is to see every child that we have the privilege to impact become citizens of our community who will not only defy the odds, but eventually be bold enough one day to share their stories and advocate for others who have experienced abuse, neglect, trauma, and setbacks. Children in Crisis believes what we model and models what we believe. And by doing this, our actions of care are our words of affirmation to our children in The Children’s Neighborhood. Children in Crisis measures its success every time a child chooses to move forward regardless of their emotional and physical setbacks in life. Most children that arrive at Children in Crisis are fighting against some type of odds in life, but when children take these unfortunate circumstances and keep moving forward they are teaching the world how to win in life. Children in Crisis has a powerful presence in our surrounding communities, and due to our track record and influence, we are recognized as a beacon of hope for children as the only Circuit One Emergency Shelter resource in our surrounding four counties. Children in Crisis believes that our mission aligns perfectly with ECT in that we ensure that children are healthy, successful in school, protected from neglect and abuse, and are educated to avoid risky behaviors and relationships with other peers and or adults.

## FUNDING INFORMATION

Is your agency currently receiving other funding from the ECT?  Yes  No

Have you spoken to an ECT team member regarding your request?  Yes  No

Other Funding Source(s): Various local events and fundraisers

Other Funding Amount: \$

Total Project Budget: \$1,126,411

Amount Requested from ECT: \$7,5000

- Attach a Detailed Project Budget (please use one of the following file formats: DOC, DOCX, XLS, XLSX, TXT)

- Attach any Additional Information that you would like to be considered by ECT.

The undersigned confirms that the proposed project:

- Addresses identified gaps in services or community needs identified in the Trust's needs assessment
- Is typically administered in Escambia County solely by the applicant(s)
- Provides a specialized or unique service or product that does not lend itself to a competitive proposal process

Joshua Bugby

Development Director

\_\_\_\_\_  
Name of Authorized Official

\_\_\_\_\_  
Title

Joshua Bugby

04/21/2023

\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature of Authorized Official

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date Signed