

# **PLEASE SUBMIT AN ORIGINAL APPLICATION AND 7 COPIES**

**Attach additional pages as necessary.**

**PLEASE PRINT NEATLY OR TYPE YOUR ANSWERS TO THE QUESTIONS IN THIS APPLICATION.**

1. Describe your organization and list your Mission Statement.

Our organization provides **multiple supports for individuals experiencing teen dating violence, domestic violence, at-risk of domestic violence, teen dating violence, and/or living in areas of high crime and violence.** Our programs and services include support groups for men, women and teens who have experienced or are at-risk of increased exposure to domestic abuse. Our New Beginnings Annual Community Baby Showers, and Young Adult Programs serve as a valuable resource to promote healthy relationships, raise awareness for individuals who desire to **increase their healthy relationship skills and inter-personal relationship competency.** Collectively, we use our programs to serve as a platform for teens and adults to interact with individuals of various social-economic statuses, professions, and experts of multiple fields that **provide services and resources to them** – with an **emphasis on healthcare, wellness, and mental health.**

**Mission:** To provide domestic violence awareness presentations and outreach initiatives that educate youth, teens, and adults on how to break the cycle and break the silence of domestic abuse.

2. Describe your organization's history and prior experience, including a description of programs/projects similar to the one you are applying for in this application.

WE LEAP, Inc. (WL) was founded by Gwendolyn "Gwen" McLeod and obtained its 501c3 nonprofit status in 2014. WE LEAP was birthed out of Gwen's past experience as a domestic and teen dating violence survivor and her compassion for others. While working in the social services field as a probation officer, child protective service investigator, and a student support specialist, Gwen saw a disturbing pattern of toxic relationships and domestic violence. Thus, WL was born as a women's empowerment and awareness group. WL has since grown to include community awareness and education for men and teens.

3. List all previous grants awarded by the City of Fort Pierce to **YOU or any organization(s) you were previously or are currently associated with.** If None, write N/A below:

**Public Service Grant 2018, Alleghany Capacity Building Grant 2018**

**Please Note:** Organizations/Applicants that have received funding for three consecutive years **may be deferred** in order to provide funding for newer activities.

4. If you have received funding from the City of Fort Pierce for Public Service projects in the past, please explain **HOW** the program/project described in this grant application is **NEW OR EXPANDED:**

**This is a New Project initiative to bring a Free Community Dance and Drama Program for female and male students age 8-18.**

5. What is your organization's annual budget? Describe how your organization is currently funded.

Our organizational budget is \$29,100

The organization is funded through:

- Grants
- Donations
- Sponsorships
- Program/ Event Fees
- Scholarships
- State & Federal Funds

6. Does the City of Fort Pierce and/other local organizations in Fort Pierce provide services similar to your agency? Yes

If you answered Yes, how do your services compliment their offerings? If yes, explain.

There are organizations such as Boys and Girls Club, Big Brothers Big Sisters, and others that serve children and youth throughout the community. **Those organization typically are academically based**, offer group mentorship, and opportunities for youth to bond with adults and peers. Our organization **complement those services by providing individuals tangible skills** to improve their interpersonal relationship skills, increase their self-control, and become advocates for others.

How are your services different?

Unlike many programs that serve children, youth, and young adults, our program goes beyond academic tutoring and enrichment. Our program is **designed to enhance the emotional intelligence, decision-making, integrity, and resiliency of the individuals** we serve for them to fortify their ability to make positive lifestyle choices (i.e. abstinence from promiscuous activity, emotional and physical violence, crime, and gangs).

The overarching goals for the program is to:

- Decrease victimization and perpetration among youth
- **Increase healthy teen relationships**
- Create safe and healthy homes, schools and communities

7. Project Name (please keep it short):

R.A.D.D. ( Raising Awareness Through Dance & Drama)

8. U.S. Dept. of Housing & Urban Development (HUD) National Objective Activities: (check one)

- Area benefit** activity (the activity benefits/is open to everyone in a particular low income neighborhood or geography)
- Limited Clientele** activity (particular individuals or households receive a benefit, and the majority of them qualify as low income)
- Presumed Benefit** activity (the activity benefits a group of individuals presumed by HUD to qualify for a benefit: battered spouses, homeless, elderly, severely disabled adults, abused children, illiterate adults, persons with HIV/AIDS, or migrant farm workers)

9. Which National Objective(s) shown below does your project/program(s) meet?

- Benefit low to moderate-income persons;
- Help in the prevention of slums or blight; and/or

\_\_\_ Meet other community needs having a particular urgency because other financial resources are not available to meet such needs.

10. Beneficiaries from National Objective Activities (#8 Above)

A. Who are the intended beneficiaries of this program/project? Describe how the project will ensure that the intended beneficiaries are being served and the target population will be reached, including how beneficiaries are identified, and any outreach performed:

The **intended beneficiaries** are low to moderate-income children, teens and young adults ages 10 to 24 that live within the city limits of Fort Pierce and surrounding areas. The area we will recruit participants from will be from Avenue Q to Virginia Avenue (North to South) and US1 to Angle Road (East to West) **within Fort Pierce** city limits. However, the R.A.D.D program will be marketed to all individuals living in St. Lucie County, with an emphasis on our primary intended beneficiaries.

Our education and outreach team will provide information to the intended beneficiaries through social media, radio, churches, civic organizations, children and youth afterschool and summer programs, social service organizations, and local nonprofits that provide programs and services within City of Fort Pierce and St. Lucie County.

B. If the project will provide an “**Area Benefit**”, please define clearly the geographic area to be served by the proposed activity. Include a map, if necessary. **N/A Not Applicable**

C. If the project will benefit “**Limited Clientele**”, list the approximate number and percentage of total persons assisted through this project/program who will be Low to Moderate Income (LMI) and how their income level will be determined.

The program will seek to serve up to 50 **youth and teens ages 8 to 18. 100% will be low to moderate income.** Income levels **will be determined by the HUD 2017 Income Limits** based on family size.

Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) 2017 Income Limits								
Number of People Living in Household	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
<b>Extremely Low Income</b>	\$12,650	\$16,240	\$20,420	\$24,600	\$28,780	\$32,960	\$37,140	\$39,750
<b>Very Low Income</b>	\$21,100	\$24,100	\$27,100	\$30,100	\$32,550	\$34,950	\$37,350	\$39,750
<b>Low Income</b>	\$33,750	\$38,550	\$43,350	\$48,150	\$52,050	\$55,900	\$59,750	\$63,600

D. If the project will provide a “**Presumed Benefit**”, please identify the group(s):

- Abused Children
- Lower Income Senior Citizens
- Elderly
- Homeless
- Illiterate Adults
- Migrant Farm Workers
- Persons with HIV/AIDS
- Severely Disabled Adults

Lower Income Youth

Severely **Disabled Children/Youth**

Other: battered spouses, children, and youth

11. Describe the existing problems or needs to be addressed by this program/project.

According to the 2013 St. Lucie County (SLC) Health Needs Assessment, pressing issues facing SLC residents include:

- 1) Residents are food insecure / don't have enough to eat
- 2) Too many children and families are homeless
- 3) Lack of access to healthcare
- 4) Lack of access to affordable housing
- 5) Poor educational outcomes
- 6) Lack of high wages/job growth within the county

Low to moderate income individuals, especially those living in poverty, **experience high levels of stress** because, amongst other reasons, they **live in violent neighborhoods**, relocate twice as often as their counterparts, are five times more likely to be evicted than middle-income citizens, and **are more likely to be bullied in school**.

These chronic stressors experienced by low to moderate-income children and youth are **devastating on their self-esteem**, their ability to learn, and has an adverse effect on the academic outcomes, especially during early childhood **which leads to decreased chances that an individual will graduate** with his or her high school diploma. Inadequate education **contributes to the cycle of poverty** by making it more difficult for low-income children to lift themselves and future generations out of poverty. Thus, the cycle continues for many individuals, especially those living in the City of Fort Pierce where individuals are entrenched in poverty. The median income in Fort Pierce is 25,635, the county has one of the highest prevalence of homicides per capita in the state of Florida, and according to United Way of Florida's ALICE Report 60 to 71% of individuals living in Fort Pierce are classified as living in poverty or working poor.

Describe your proposed project's activities and how they will address the problems/needs you listed in #11 above.

The purpose of R.A.D.D. ( Raising Awareness Through Dance & Drama) summer camp is to provide a positive outlet for youth and teens to express themselves. This program will assist children, youth, and young adults to **build positive character**, embrace healthy lifestyles, and **obtain life/interpersonal relationship skills** that are **not provided through school system curriculum** and/or not regularly offered at traditional afterschool and summer programs.

Individuals who attend R.A.D.D. ( Raising Awareness Through Dance & Drama) are **encouraged to increase awareness through youth-led civic engagement** and concrete relatable means to their peers. Implementation of those youth-led campaigns includes but is not limited to community performances, canvassing, media, and social marketing.

R.A.D.D. participants will participate in SafeTeen group sessions geared toward:

- **Building skills for healthy teen relationships**
- Mobilizing youth leaders
- Engaging parents, school personnel and other adults in creating healthy environments
- **Increasing personal safety, social support and relationship skills**
- Supporting **youth exposed to violence**

Moreover, the R.A.D.D. participants will showcase their skills and talents in the community sharing things they have learned on a minimum of once monthly as apart of community outreach. **The purpose of the event is to increase awareness of issues related to adolescents and teens** in addition to celebrating children and youth for taking a stand against those issues.

The information and sessions in the R.A.D.D. program address

- **Educating and empowering youth**
- Developing youth leaders and influencers
- Increasing active bystander behavior
- **Supporting parents in promoting healthy teen relationships**
- Providing navigation to needed resources in emergency, transition, and other unforeseen circumstances

The activities of the R.A.D.D. program will engage youth and is highly beneficial because **youth development is best promoted through activities and experiences that help youth develop competencies in social, ethical, emotional, physical, and cognitive domains** (Roth & Brooks-Gunn, 2003). Positive experiences and skills gained through our program prepare children, youth, and young adults to be future leaders, show empathy towards others, and **empower them to make a positive impact in their community** and beyond.

(See Program Flyer for R.A.D.D.)

12. List the physical addresses where your proposed project activities (listed in #12 above) will take place, using street addresses within the City limits of Fort Pierce.

Address of RADD afterschool Program: 302 N. 23<sup>rd</sup> Street, Fort Pierce, FL 34950

Address of RADD Summer Program : Same as above

13. List this project's measurable goals and objectives. Date the goals and objectives.

Objective 1: **Increased knowledge of Healthy Relationship Skills**

*Outcome:* 80% of participants are able to identify causes of domestic and teen violence and attributes of healthy relationships.

Objective 2: **Increased social and emotional support**

*Outcome:* 80% of participants will gain a positive secondary social-emotional support system and minimize or eliminate deviant behavior.

Objective 3: **Increased Physical Fitness**

*Outcome:* 80% of participants will increase physical activity for a minimum of 2 hours twice a week.

**Objective 4: Team Building**

*Outcome:* 80% of participants will develop social skills that will teach them how to work well with others.

**Objective 5: Most of these youth and teen have never had Exposure to Theatrical Play**

*Outcome:* 100% of youth and teens participants enrolled in the program will have opportunity to see a professional live theatrical play and develop skits to perform.

**Objective 6: Most of these youth and teens have never had Exposure to Dance Production or Competition**

*Outcome:* 100% of youth and teen participants enrolled in the program will have opportunity to see a dance team competition and develop skills to compete in a dance competition

**All objectives will be completed by the end of the grant performance period September 1<sup>st</sup>, 2019**

14. How will you track the results of these goals and objectives? (This information will be required with your monthly status reports.)

The R.A.D.D. program will be tracked through registration application forms, which include demographic, household size, and income information. Weekly participation will be tracked through sign-in sheets and outcomes will be measured by pre/post tests. New and returning participants for Summer R.A.D.D. will be required to register for the summer session. Registration will include the solicitation of similar data as the afterschool registration form and each individual will complete a participant feedback form each 9 weeks. Student must maintain grades of C or above to maintain participation with the R.A.D.D. program.

15. Each of the activities listed in #12. (Examples - number of unduplicated low/moderate income youth served, number of unduplicated senior citizens served, number of unduplicated Veterans served, number of unduplicated adults served, etc.)

**Facilitate a R.A.D.D. Raising Awareness Through Dance & Drama group**

The R.A.D.D. program will enroll participants age 8 to 18 that will use theatre and the creative arts to educate the public about the dangers of teen dating violence. The groups will learn choreographed dance routines and skits that raise awareness on various issues that they will perform throughout the community. Participants will be exposed and educated in the arts through field trips that will educate them about both theatre and different types of dance.

**Host a Summer R.A.D.D. Dance and Drama Camp: will enroll youth, and teens to participate as part of the RADD spring and summer performances.**

The participants of the Spring and Summer R.A.D.D. program will provide outreach performances to an estimated 150 – 175 children, youth, and adults in Saint Lucie County.

16. Amount of Grant Funds requested in this application: \$3,500  
Amount of other funds secured for this program/project: \$2000  
Amount of other funds earmarked for the program/project: \$1500  
Total amount needed to complete this program/project: \$7,000

17. Describe your contingency plan in the event this grant request is not fully funded, or not funded at all by the City of Fort Pierce:

If the event is not fully funded, we will continue to fundraise towards meeting providing services for registered participants, seek sponsors, and apply for grant funding to subsidize costs.

If this is a multi-year project, how will you continue to implement this project if City grant funds are not available in future years?

Our organization will continue to fundraise to provide services, seek sponsors, and apply for grant funding to subsidize costs. Additionally, we will seek other organizations to collaborate with to share and/or reduce costs.

18. Select every qualifier below that best describes your project.

Improve or enhance education opportunities

Improve or enhance job training opportunities

Improve or enhance employment opportunities

Promote cultural diversity

Promote outdoor activities and a healthy lifestyle

Spur interest and participation in neighborhood improvement activities

Encourage citizen involvement and leverage resources to revitalize low and moderate-income neighborhoods

Encourage partnerships between City Hall, residents and other community organizations that will result in projects and activities that benefit a community

Instill and foster community pride

Promote neighborhood beautification and revitalization

Promote activities that protect the environment

Discourage adverse activity such as crime, drug use, and vandalism

Inspire and support the healthy development of youth

19. Write an explanation below of **how** your project will perform **each** qualifier you selected above:

**Improve or enhance education opportunities:**

Our program teaches students how to resilient and overcome personal challenges, build relationships with their peers and adults, in addition to being empathetic towards others which strengthens the school's learning community.

### **Promote cultural diversity**

Bullying is a major issue in schools throughout the nation. Our program addresses bullying and other anti-social behaviors that cause inter-personal violence and crime, which is usually due to individuals lack acceptance for one another. Thus, our program promotes understanding and acceptable of others as well as inclusion.

### **Discourage adverse activity such as crime, drug use, and vandalism:**

Our program teaches children, youth, and young adults about healthy relationships, positive lifestyle choices, and engagement in healthy relationships. We provide them the necessary tools, supports, and skills to avoid violence, especially domestic violence, in addition to not engaging in crime, drug use, and vandalism.

### **Inspire and support the healthy development of youth**

The purpose of our program is to help youth build skills for healthy relationships, encourage them to be leaders in their community, and to increase their personal safety in addition to provide social support and relationship skills. In addition to all of the before mentioned enhance and support the healthy development of youth, dance also helps youth mobility to increase physical health.

Date project to begin: March **2019**

Date project to be completed: **September 2019**

20. Describe any participant fees that will be required as part of this project/program. Please see "New for Program Year 2018-2019" on Page 4 of the Grant Guidance.

Participants **will not** have to pay any tuition fees. This grant will also eliminate any cost to participants for uniforms, travel or field trip expenses.

21. Applicants must demonstrate that the selection of participants is an objective process and Grant Recipient may not limit participation on the basis of race, gender, nationality, ethnicity, religion, creed or disability. How will your project comply with this expectation?

Our program is inclusive and encourages diversity and understanding of all individuals. We try to recruit participants who have varying backgrounds, genders, nationalities, ethnicities, religions, and varying disabilities to bring perspective, compassion, and increased understanding to others. Our selection process is open for all individuals throughout the community to participate in our program.

22. If this project is sponsored by a church or religious group, participation may not be limited to members of the church. What efforts will you make to ensure that the community at-large is aware of this project and the opportunity for participation?

N/A – We're not a church or religious group. See the previous answer about our efforts.

23. Complete a COMPLETE detailed budget below for **THIS** project. List proposed City grant funds and other *committed funds* and 'in-kind contributions', donated professional services, fees and other resources that will be used to complete the project. List a detailed breakdown of individual items. Use specific descriptions, not broad categories. Remember, committed funds and/or in-kind services **must equal at least 25% of your grant request**.

Be sure to include verification documentation of all funds listed below as 'Committed' or 'In-

Kind'. Commitments listed in the budget below that lack documentation **will not be counted as commitments.**

Program/Project Expense/Description	City Grant	Other Committed Funds \$\$ Amount or In-Kind	Source of Other Committed Funds or In-Kind Services (Please provide written verification of Every in-kind service listed here from the "Source")
<b>Supplies and Equipment Description \$1200</b> <b>Participant/Staff T-Shirts</b> <b>Dance Uniforms and Attire, duffle bags or backpacks for participants, Flag Pole Holder, Flag Poles, Flags, Streamers</b>  <b>Drama: Costumes, Stage Play, Prop Materials, Backdrops and supplies</b>  <b>Art Supplies, Paint, Paint Brushes, Canvases, Markers, workbooks, Notebooks, pens, pencils, folders, Gift cards, certificates</b> <b>Printed Materials</b>  <b>Food &amp; Snacks (May – September)</b>	  \$800  \$200  \$200	    \$500	    WE LEAP
<b>Computer Software: \$1100</b>  <b>DATA MANAGEMENT, SOFTWARE or Subscription</b>  <b>Marketing and Promo Items – Banners, brochures, flyers, (Example) lanyard, water bottles, key chains etc.</b>  <b>R.A.D.D. Program Photo/Video Shoot, radio PSA announcement, Consultant/Contracted Service</b>	 \$350 \$400 \$350		
<b>Field Trip Expenses \$1200</b> <b>( 2 Field Trips Dance or Drama Related )</b> <b>VAN/ BUS Transportation Service / Rental</b>  <b>Event Tickets</b> <b>Registration Fees</b>  <b>Food</b>	 \$300 \$700 \$200		
Drama: Laptop, Portable Screen, green screen, lights, Portable Sound System,		\$1500	WE LEAP INC
Program Space Venue		March - August \$1500 Value In-Kind	Multicultural Resource Center

TOTALS	\$3,500	\$3500	
(use more lines/pages as necessary)			

- **Please provide a quote for each item listed that you will purchase with this grant award** in the above Budget under 'Expense/Description'. Each quote should list vendor/company with contact information.

#### 24. Organization Staff and Volunteers

Please complete the information listed below for ***each person*** in your organization who will work on **THIS** project and the percentage of time they will dedicate to this project, including all volunteers.

Name: Gwendolyn McLeod

Telephone Number: 772-519-6265

Email Address: we\_leap@comcast.net

Organization Position: CEO & Founder

City of Residence: Fort Pierce

Qualifications: Work experience includes social services, probation officer, child protective service investigator, and a student support specialist

Professional Licenses: Bachelors Organizational Management & Master's degree  
Organizational Learning and Leadership

Role in Project: Program Administrator

% of Time Dedicated to Project: 100%

Name: Yvonne Coe

Telephone Number: 772-332-6484

Email Address: yvonnecoe@bellsouth.net

Organization Position: WE LEAP VOLUNTEER

City of Residence: Fort Pierce

Qualifications: AS Degree in Business, works with Big Brothers Big Sisters as a reading tutor

Professional Licenses: Notary

Role in Project: Facilitator

% of Time Dedicated to Project: 100%

Name: Stacy Peterkin

Telephone Number: 772-882-1129

Email Address: stacey.peterkin@gmail.com

Organization Position: WE LEAP VOLUNTEER

City of Residence: Fort Pierce

Qualifications: BA in Human Services, employed as a program specialist with New Horizons that works with at-risk and troubled children and youth

Professional Licenses: CPR

Role in Project: Facilitate class sessions and provide parents support as needed