

Grant Amount Requested: \$5000



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2019-2020 PUBLIC SERVICE GRANT APPLICATION

Organization Legal Name: Healthy Start Coalition of St. Lucie County, Inc.

Mailing Address: 117 Atlantic Ave., Fort Pierce, FL, 34950

Physical Address: 117 Atlantic Ave., Fort Pierce, FL 34950

Contact Person: Lisa von Seelen Title: Executive Director

BEST CONTACT Phone Number: 772-467-2016 Email Address: Lvonseelen@kcbd.org

Website Address: www.kidsconnectedbydesign.org

LEGAL STATUS OF ORGANIZATION:

(X) Incorporated, Not-for-Profit - Month and Year of incorporation/creation: June 28, 1993  
[X] INCLUDE COPY OF CURRENT 501(c)(3) DOCUMENTATION FROM INTERNAL REVENUE SERVICE.

Person Authorized to Sign on Behalf of this Organization. Signature Must Be Notarized.

Lisa von Seelen Signature Today's Date: 2/7/2020

Print Name: Lisa von Seelen Title: Executive Director

Telephone Number: 772-467-2016 Email Address: Lvonseelen@kcbd.org

NOTARY STATE OF FLORIDA, COUNTY OF ST. LUCIE

BEFORE ME, an officer duly authorized by law to administer oaths and take acknowledgements, personally appeared LISA VON SEELEN, who is personally known to me or produced \_\_\_\_\_, as identification, and acknowledged he/she executed the forgoing Agreement for the use and purposes mentioned in it and that the instrument is his/her act and deed.

IN WITNESS OF THE FORGOING, I have set my hand and official seal in the State and County aforesaid in this 7th day of FEBRUARY, 2020.

NOTARY PUBLIC GIGI MACATANGAY  
My Commission Expires: 10/01/2022



PLEASE SUBMIT AN ORIGINAL APPLICATION AND 7 COPIES  
Attach additional pages, as necessary.



**2019-2020 PUBLIC SERVICE GRANT APPLICATION**

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

1. Describe your organization and list your Mission Statement.

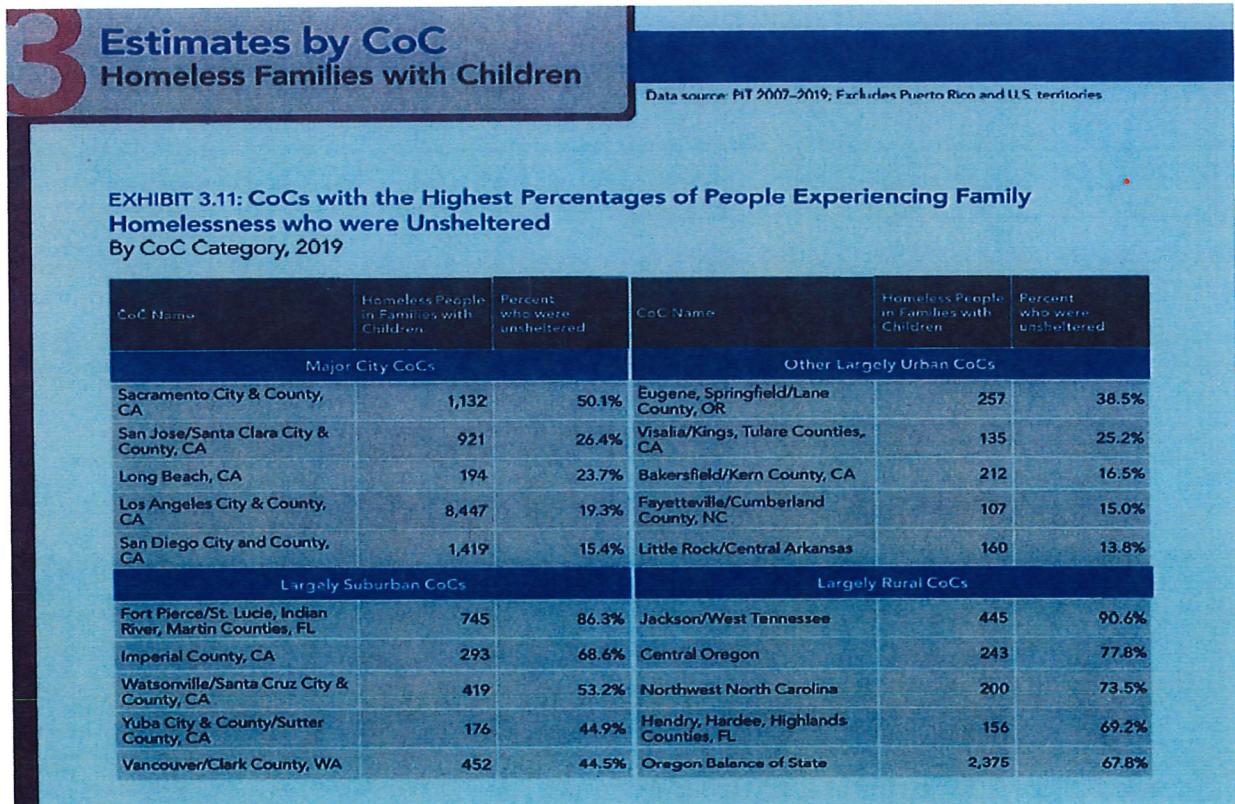
The Healthy Start Coalition of St. Lucie County provides case management to high risk prenatal and postnatal women; currently there are four home visiting programs and one Coordinated Intake & Referral program: Healthy Start, Healthy Families, Nurse-Family Partnership, Newborn Home Visitation and CONNECT; serving over 3000 women in St. Lucie County.

The Healthy Start Coalition of St. Lucie County, Inc. is dedicated to ensuring that all services needed to maintain a state of well-being are available and accessible to pregnant women and infants.

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.

The Healthy Start Coalition of St. Lucie County was established in 1994 to address the high infant mortality rates and poor birth outcomes throughout St. Lucie County. The Coalition is required “to maintain a comprehensive healthcare system and support services for women and their infants.” The Coalition strives to accomplish this mission through strong community partnerships with private and public sectors, maternal and child health providers, and consumers of services. Like most communities, the Coalition service area does not have the resources to meet all identified needs; therefore, a system of triage and prioritization in service delivery is necessary in order to provide more intensive services to those with the highest priority needs. The Coalition is charged with “...ensuring that all services needed to maintain of well being are available and accessible to pregnant women and infants” which includes basic needs of water, food and shelter, sleep, clothing and access to prenatal and interconception reproductive health care to all women in St. Lucie County.

St. Lucie County is ranked #1 for Family Homelessness in its category.



At any given time, for assisted moms, Healthy Start has had 10-15 homeless moms or moms living in unsafe/unstable housing. Unstable housing conditions causes toxic stress to mothers and their unborn babies, as well as their children. Toxic Stress contributes to premature births, low birth weight babies and other poor outcomes. St. Lucie county and especially families in Fort Pierce rank in the danger zone for the rate of premature and low birth weight babies and lack of prenatal care in the first trimester. The impact of toxic stress on a baby in the womb creates lifelong poor health and wellness outcomes including infant mortality, heart disease, diabetes and other adverse health conditions. Adverse Childhood Experiences [ACES] create long term, multi-generational adverse health outcomes. Infant Mortality is an important indicator of the overall health of a community. Babies are our most vulnerable citizens and the future of our community.

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:

Program Year	Amount	Purpose
2018-19	N/A	
2017-18	N/A	
2016-17	N/A	

**Please Note:** Organizations/Applicants who 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:**

No previous funding, this is a NEW Project.

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

Our Total Healthy Start budget for 2019-2020 is \$1,213,886. This is funded by local, state and federal.

6. Do the City of Fort Pierce and/other local organizations in Fort Pierce provide services similar to your agency? If you answered Yes, how do your services compliment their offerings? If yes, explain. How are your services different?

Yes, there is a Fort Pierce Housing Authority to assist with low-income housing and we encourage all our eligible clients to apply, however there is no priority given to pregnant or parenting women. The waiting list for housing is several months to a year or more and fathers are often excluded. There are no emergency housing or shelter care available to women and their children in St. Lucie County. Our project will provide funds to assist these families with housing assistance to improve their current unsafe/unstable housing situation, whether it be transportation to a shelter outside of our County, cost of pest control, small home repairs, utility and/or financial assistance to maintain current housing and prevent homelessness.

We currently have 15 Healthy Start clients needing housing assistance: 8 families that are homeless; 1 prenatal teen that is homeless, moving from family member to family member/friend to friend; 3 families that need mortgage or rent assistance about to lose housing; 2 families with poor living conditions (termites/rats); 1 prenatal woman living in a one-bedroom efficiency with her boyfriend and her 13 yr. old who has her own 8 month old infant; 1 homeless, dual diagnosis mother who has had her two children removed due to her homelessness and unstable housing. In addition, there are moms that we know about but are unable to reach that have Substance Use Disorder and are homeless, not receiving prenatal or other health care putting them at the highest risk for a poor birth outcome. We also know about women who come into the Emergency Departments at the hospitals as an overdose, are pregnant and get discharged without being linked to services. We have been working through the Opioid Task Force to establish a Peer Program that would include a warm hand-off to a peer counselor who would facilitate entry into prenatal care, substance use treatment and mental health counseling as well as housing assistance if needed.



7. Project Name (please keep it short): Housing Options for Mothers Expecting [HOME]

Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) 2019 Income Limits								
Number of People Living in Household	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
Extremely Low Income	13,550	16,910	21,330	25,750	30,170	34,590	39,010	42,550
Very Low Income	22,550	25,800	29,000	32,200	34,800	37,400	39,950	42,550
Low Income	36,050	41,200	46,350	51,500	55,650	59,750	63,900	68,000

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:

Low-income Healthy Start Ft. Pierce clients that are homeless or in unsafe/inadequate housing or in need of transportation to shelters out of St. Lucie County or need assistance with rent/mortgage, utilities, pest control services or home repair to prevent loss of housing.

Healthy Start case managers will identify their low-income Ft. Pierce clients that are homeless, living in inadequate housing or are at risk of losing their housing. Once identified, the Director of Programs will prioritize the needs with the amount of funds available. Community referrals will be made to resources already available in the community and collaboration with the Fort Pierce Housing Authority of the status of waiting list. This project will augment a bigger HOME Program the Coalition is seeking to fund through other resources which would include the purchase of Tiny Houses scheduled to begin in July 2020.

Due to the limited amount of funding, this HOME project will serve 10-15 Ft. Pierce moms who are homeless/inadequately housed/in danger of losing housing pregnant or parenting women in Fort Pierce.



- B. If the project will provide an **“Area Benefit”**, please clearly define the geographic area to be served by the proposed activity. Include a map, if necessary.

The Project will provide services to low-income homeless/inadequately housed/in danger of losing home Healthy Start clients in Fort Pierce.

- 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.

N/A

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

- |   |   |
|---|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Abused Children  | <input type="checkbox"/> Illiterate Adults                |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Lower Income Senior Citizens   | <input type="checkbox"/> Migrant Farm Workers             |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Elderly  | <input type="checkbox"/> Persons with HIV/AIDS            |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Homeless  | <input type="checkbox"/> Severely Disabled Adults         |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Lower Income Youth   | <input type="checkbox"/> Severely Disabled Children/Youth |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Other pregnant and postpartum women and children at risk of homelessness/inadequate housing |   |

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

The Healthy Start Coalition of St. Lucie County's goal is to improve the overall health and wellbeing of all women of childbearing age. Preconception health or the health of the mother prior to becoming pregnant can have the biggest impact on over maternal and child health. Infant Mortality is an indicator of the health of the community as a whole. Humans are more likely to die in their first year of life that at any other time in their lives. Healthy babies are more likely to survive and thrive. Healthy babies start with healthy moms. Our goal is to affect the physical, intellectual, mental, spiritual and financial health of women of childbearing age. To affect the overall health and wellbeing of any mom begins with meeting basic needs of food, clothing and shelter. Shelter is one of our primary areas of need in terms of safe, stable living environments.

We will provide our highest risk homeless/inadequately housed/in danger of losing home clients with the needed assistance and develop a sustainability plan to ensure an ongoing stable housing is secured for the future. Scenarios include assistance with Mortgage payment, Utilities assistance, Food Vouchers, Diapers; Gift Cards, Boxes and storage bags. All moms will attend financial literacy classes provide by PNC, be referred to Bridges Out of Poverty, Getting Ahead in a Just Getting by World; have a plan to complete high school, obtain a GED, enroll in college or a certificate program in a vocational plan, to include, but not limited to, Work Readiness accreditation. All moms will receive Interconception Care education and have a reproductive life plan that includes access to care. The mom will have secured long-term housing; have a feasible sustainability plan in place to include an annual household budget with emergency fund account; have a vocational/employment plan and lastly will have a reproductive life plan.

12. Describe your proposed project's activities and how they will address the problems/needs, you listed in #11 above.
- The HOME Project will assist 10-15 pregnant or parenting women with resources to eliminate their homelessness or unsafe/inadequate housing situation reducing their stress and risk to their pregnancy; therefore, improving the lifelong poor health and wellness outcomes for both mother and infant. The project will include assessments through Career Source and individualized vocational plans for moms to complete or further their education, obtain training for employment or advancement to include adequate soft skills, specialized training and job placement and job coaching assistance as needed. An entrepreneurial aspect will also be made available to address both basic needs, such as home gardening/community gardens that can potentially become a business.



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

The Healthy Start Coalition of St. Lucie County is housed at 117 Atlantic Ave., Fort Pierce, FL 34950. The project will assist clients residing in the City of Fort Pierce.

14. List this project's measurable goals and objectives, as well as the date(s) when each will be met.

We plan to reduce the number of identified housing insecure pregnant and parenting women by 25% by September 1, 2020.

Healthy Start, in partnership with our providers, has been wildly successful in reducing disparities in infant mortality beyond what we thought was possible in just three years. Our disparity rate went from a high of Black babies dying at nearly four times the rate of White babies to rate only 1 point higher. We believe we can become the healthiest county to have a baby in Florida and thereby become the healthiest county in Florida.

This project's goal will be to create positive birth outcomes to 10-15 pregnant or postnatal women by enabling these moms to be healthy, self-sufficient, productive members of society. We expect to provide housing assistance to these women by September 1, 2020 and will track their birth outcomes.

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

List of identified women in insecure/unsafe housing will be created upon receiving grant award. Administration and Home Visitor will assess each client referred to the HOME Project within 10 days. Home Visitor will work with client and other community resources to resolve housing issue and agreement to type of assistance needed; referral to existing community resources, transportation to out of county shelters, assistance with rent/mortgage, utilities, home repair, etc. Monthly tracking of client's served, their birth and wellness outcomes and assessment of whether their housing situation was improved or eliminated.

16. Briefly describe measurements of outcomes for 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.)

10-15 unduplicated pregnant or parenting moms and their children will be served.

17. Amount of Grant Funds requested in this application: \$5000  
Amount of other funds secured for this program/project: \$2500  
Amount of other funds earmarked for the program/project: \$100,000 [HOME: Tiny Houses Program if awarded 7/1/2020)  
Total amount needed to complete this program/project: \$5000

18. 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:

Unfortunately, without funding, this project will be unavailable to augment the proposed HOME Program. If the larger HOME Program is funded in July 2020, we can serve not only our 10-15 moms but also a much larger number of homeless women and children. If the HOME Project and the HOME Program are not funded, the only resources available to our clients are what is currently available within our community, which means these 10-15 women will continue to reside in unstable/unsafe housing and their unborn babies will remain victims of toxic stress and possible poor birth outcome.

19. 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?

The Healthy Start Coalition of St. Lucie County will continue to work with area partners and funders to bring light to the number of pregnant and parenting women in need of housing assistance. We plan to provide this service until the need is no longer. All avenues of funding will be explored to provide this service ongoing. An Impact 100 grant has already been submitted to address a larger HOME Program to serve these women ongoing with a sustainability plan with other community partners.

20. 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



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

St. Lucie County is ranked #1 for homelessness in its category. This need is going to require partnerships between City Hall, residents and other community organizations to solve. At any given time, Healthy Start has had 10- 15 homeless moms or moms living in unsafe/unstable housing. Unstable living conditions causes toxic stress to mothers and their unborn babies, as well as their children. Toxic Stress contributes to premature births, low birth weight babies and other poor outcomes. St. Lucie County ranks in the danger zone for the rate of premature and low birth weight babies and lack of prenatal care in the first trimester. The impact of toxic stress on a baby in the womb creates lifelong poor health and wellness outcomes including infant mortality, heart disease, diabetes and other adverse health conditions. Adverse Childhood Experiences (ACES) create long term, multi-generational adverse health outcomes. Infant Mortality is an important indicator of the overall health of a community. Babies are our most vulnerable citizens and the future of our community, this project will support the healthy development of the babies of Fort Pierce.

22. Date project to begin: March 1, 2020  
Date project to be completed: September 1, 2020

23. Describe any participant fees that will be required as part of this project/program. Please see "New for Program Year 2019-2020" on Page 4 of the Grant Guidance.

No fees to our Healthy Start clients.

24. 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?

Healthy Start clients identified as needing housing assistance through the HOME Project will be low-income, residing in Fort Pierce, with no limit based on race, gender, nationality, ethnicity, religion, creed, or disability.

25. 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



2019-2020 PUBLIC SERVICE GRANT APPLICATION

26. Provide a COMPLETE, detailed budget for **THIS** project in the budget chart below. 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**.

**NOTE: Volunteer Hours may be calculated at \$12/hour.**

- o Please provide at least one (1) 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.

Program/Project Expense/Description	City Grant	Other Committed Funds and/or \$\$ Amount or In-Kind	Source of Other Committed Funds or In-Kind Services (Please provide written verification of <u>Every</u> in-kind service listed here from the "Source")
Direct Client Assistance (Utilities, Rent, Mortgage, pest Control, Home Repairs, transport to Shelter, etc.)	\$5000	\$2500	Earned Medicaid Revenue for Healthy Start Services
TOTALS	\$ 5000	\$ 2500	
(use more lines/pages as necessary)			

2019-2020 PUBLIC SERVICE GRANT APPLICATION

27. 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 the project, including all volunteers.

Name #1	Angela Bell, LCSW
Telephone Number	(772) 467-2016
Email Address	abell@kcbd.org
Organization Position	Director of Programs
City of Residence	Vero Beach
Qualifications	30 years' Non-Profit experience
Professional Licenses	Licensed Clinical Social Worker
Role in Project	Administrator/Supervisor for Healthy Start Case Managers, Assessment of Need for Identified Clients
% of Time Dedicated to Project	5%

Name #2	Gigi Macatangay
Telephone Number	(772)467-2016
Email Address	gmacatangay@kcbd.org
Organization Position	Fiscal Coordinator
City of Residence	Port Saint Lucie
Qualifications	25 years' financial management
Role in Project	Contract Management/Fiscal oversight
% of Time Dedicated to Project	5%

28. Please attach **ALL** of the documents listed below to your application. Include a written explanation for EACH document not included:

- ✓ Articles of Incorporation and By-Laws
- ✓ State and Federal Tax-Exempt determination letter
- ✓ Employee Identification Number
- ✓ List of Board of Directors with contact information
- ✓ Organizational Chart for your Organization
- ✓ Board of Director's authorization to apply for this grant
- ✓ Last three month's bank statements
- ✓ Annual budgets for 2019-2020
- ✓ Most recent audit report (if this is not available, provide written explanation)
- ✓ Matching funds and In-Kind Services commitment documentation (Budget, #26)
- ✓ Three (3) Letters of Support for this project
- ✓ Newspaper articles, and Thank-You letters, etc., as available, for your organization's work within the City of Fort Pierce.

END OF 2019-2020 PUBLIC SERVICE GRANT APPLICATION