



PACIFIC PRIDE
FOUNDATION

Adriana de Bruin, Business Manager
County Executive Office
105 E. Anapamu Street, Room 406
Santa Barbara, CA 93101

May 2, 2016

Dear Adriana,

I am writing to request \$40,000 for fiscal year 2016-17 for Pacific Pride Foundation's Community Wellness Education Program, which includes HIV and hepatitis C education and testing.

Need for the Program

In Santa Barbara County, gay and bisexual men make up nearly 70 percent of all new HIV infections since 1981; they continue to be the highest risk group locally. Young people (especially young gay and bisexual men) are also at higher risk, with 18-39 year olds representing 61 percent of new HIV infections. Latinos are at increasing risk, representing 51 percent of the positive HIV tests in our county since 2002, even though Latinos make up only 44 percent of the population. Pacific Pride Foundation's access to these populations makes us the best organization to be doing HIV prevention work. It is estimated that 16 percent of those who are HIV-positive are unaware of their infection and may unknowingly transmit the virus to others. The CDC confirms that HIV testing is a critical component of prevention efforts, because when people learn they are infected, they can and do take steps to protect their own health and prevent HIV transmission to others. Each year, there are 10-20 new HIV infections in Santa Barbara County. There would undoubtedly be many more without our prevention programs.

The Hepatitis C virus (HCV) can cause serious liver damage or even liver cancer in those who are infected. Transmission occurs through exposure to infected blood. Although transmission from blood products was virtually eliminated by the introduction of a more sensitive test for HCV antibodies in mid-1992, approximately 150,000 new cases of hepatitis C infection occur in the U.S. each year. The HCV infection rate locally was increasing steadily until 2008, when there were 650 new infections. The rate has been dropping since 2009, and in 2015 there were only 93 new infections countywide. This was a 60 percent decrease over 2014, showing the effectiveness of our community's HCV prevention efforts (particularly our syringe exchange program). Sustaining HCV education efforts with high-risk people is critical if we want to maintain this positive trend.

Our HIV/HCV prevention program (now called the Community Wellness Program) has experienced funding cuts over the last seven years that have impacted our ability to do our work. In 2009, we had approximately \$300,000 and 10 staff members (5.85 FTE) to run our HIV prevention program. Now, we have only \$118,000 and two staff members (1.36 FTE) for the entire program, countywide. If we are to ever reach our nation's goal of "getting to zero," it is critical that our efforts in this community not only continue, but grow.

PPF Financial Status

At the end of fiscal year 2014-15, Pacific Pride had a \$115,000 agency loss, and had to use reserves to cover this loss. Our budget issues stem from a number of factors:

- In 2008, the State Office of AIDS had a budget of \$130 million. Now it is operating at just \$13 million, with significantly less funding available to counties. In 2009 PPF had over half of our

State funding cut, and government funding continues to decrease almost annually.

- Costs to run our programs have continued to rise, including rent, utilities, and insurance.
- For over a decade we have struggled to cover the gap between what our government contracts cover versus what it actually costs to run our HIV/AIDS programs. At this point, we would need to raise almost \$1 million in donations to meet our budget, which has not proven possible.

Strategic Planning

The hardships that PPF is facing are representative of a troubling trend among HIV organizations across the country. A study released last July showed that nation-wide, HIV service organizations are experiencing severe financial issues; 75 percent closed a recent fiscal year in the red, and one of two now operates at a financial loss. It is clear that HIV organizations cannot operate like they used to, and need to change if they are going to remain relevant into the future. In order to remain relevant and sustainable, PPF has created a three-year strategic plan with the input of almost 75 people.

Restructuring

As part of the strategic planning process, we made the difficult decision to let go of our HIV case management program and food pantry. We are now focused on actively growing our HIV prevention and LGBTQ programs in the following way:

- We responsibly closed our HIV food pantry in March by arranging with several local organizations, including the Food Bank, Catholic Charities, Organic Soup Kitchen, and Unity Shoppe, to serve our HIV-positive clients and their families. PPF staff assisted clients in signing up with the organization that best fit each client. In order to provide ongoing social support, we are providing a space for a monthly social gathering of pantry clients and volunteers, many of whom have worked together for years.
- We will continue offering mental health counseling (and community support groups) for people with HIV and their families under the auspices of our Counseling Center.
- We are expanding our mobile HIV testing and education services through the use of our Health Utility Vehicle, purchased with a grant from Cottage Hospital in 2015.
- We are building an outreach program for HIV pre-exposure prophylaxis (PrEP). PrEP is medication that, if taken daily, can reduce the risk of getting HIV from sexual activity by 90 percent, and from injecting drugs by 70 percent. This is a critical emerging need in our community, and something that can make a true impact on halting the spread of HIV.
- We will further develop our LGBTQ programs, including our efforts with youth.

Even with cutting expenses and restructuring our agency, we still need to raise \$350,000 in order to survive to the end of the year. We have \$240,000 in gifts and pledges to date.

Program Description

We are requesting \$40,000 to support our Community Wellness Education Program. Funds would be used to support the following:

Anonymous HIV and Hepatitis C Testing

Anyone in the community can get a free, anonymous HIV or HCV test through PPF. They can either come to our offices or our Health Utility Vehicle, which travels around the county offering services in locations that high-risk people frequent, or that do not have other options for HIV/HCV testing. We also partner with the mobile clinics of Community Health Clinics in North County and American Indian Health and Services in South County to provide testing at health fairs. Recently, medical staff from County Public Health began joining us to provide syphilis testing through our Health Utility Vehicle. Each year we provide 1,600 HIV tests and 1,200 HCV tests.

Harm Reduction Services

- Pre-Exposure Prophylaxis (PrEP) Outreach: As mentioned, PrEP is medication that, if taken daily, can reduce the risk of getting HIV from sex by more than 90 percent, and from injecting drugs by more than 70 percent. PPF provides information about how to access this relatively new option in HIV prevention. Locally, only the Public Health Department and the Neighborhood Clinics are prescribing PrEP. PPF is conducting education and outreach to medical care providers so more doctors are willing to prescribe PrEP in our area.
- County-Approved Syringe Exchange: The County Board of Supervisors authorizes our administration of this program annually. Each year, we exchange approximately 70,000 syringes for 400 people countywide. The Public Health Department reports that there have been only three new HIV infections due to injection drug use in the last three years due to this program. Prior to our syringe exchange program approximately 27 percent of new HIV infections were from sharing needles. This program operates out of our offices and, more recently, out of our Health Utility Vehicle. Because we have access to this population, we have also been distributing information about overdose prevention, which has been a significant health concern recently. We are currently partnering with Behavioral Wellness at the County to distribute Narcan, a life-saving tool in the case of an opioid overdose.
- Free Condoms: Each year, we give away approximately 13,000 condoms. Even with the promise of PrEP, condoms are still the best defense in preventing the spread of HIV.

Community Education

We provide HIV/HCV presentations to organizations, businesses, and schools. In 2014-15 we did 68 presentations, trainings, and educational events for 3,600 people, including high-risk people in recovery programs and homeless shelters. This included HIV/HCV testing as well. We have been funded by County ADMHS for many years to conduct this work; however, this contract will be changing for 2016-17. While we will be able to continue some form of education with this money, we will no longer be able to use the funding for HIV/HCV testing starting September 1. This is another blow to our ability to conduct the most impactful program around HIV/HCV prevention.

Goals and Objectives

The goal of our Community Wellness Education Program is to reduce the number of new HIV and hepatitis C infections in Santa Barbara County by providing:

- HIV testing to 1,600 people and hepatitis C testing to 1,200 people
- Harm reduction information via testing and presentations to 4,500 people
- Sterile syringes to 400 injection drug users
- PrEP information and referrals to people at high-risk for HIV infection
- Mental health counseling to those who are HIV-positive
- Condoms and safer sex packets to 13,000 people

Thank you so much for your consideration. If you have any questions or require more information, I can be reached at (805) 963-3636, ext. 125, or colette@pacificpridefoundation.org.

Sincerely,



Colette Schabram
Executive Director



FY 2016-17 Outside Agency Funding Request Form

Deadline for Submission: Monday, May 2, 2016, 5:00 p.m.

The Board of Supervisors *may* consider funding requests from outside agencies during the **FY 2016-17** budget hearings in June 2016, if funding is available. An allocation of funding to outside agencies is not guaranteed.

Please submit the following by **5:00 p.m., Monday, May 2, 2016, NO EXCEPTIONS, via Email or Hardy Copy (postmarks will not be accepted):**

1. Provide a cover letter explaining your request; and
2. Fill out this application (no more than 2 pages); and
3. Attach the Line Item Budget spreadsheet (no more than 2 pages) for the agency's program request

Hearings are scheduled for June 13, 15, and 17, with Outside Agency Requests considered on one of these days (yet to be determined). The **requesting agency must be represented and present**; please plan accordingly.

Total Request: \$ 40,000

Name of Organization: Pacific Pride Foundation

Title of Program: HIV and Hepatitis C Prevention New or ongoing program? Ongoing

Location(s) of services delivered: 126 E. Haley St. Suite A-11, Santa Barbara, CA 93101

Name of Agency Executive Director: Colette Schabram

Phone #: 805-963-3636 ext. 125 Email: colette@pacificpridefoundation.org Website: pacificpridefoundation.org

1. Briefly summarize the purpose of the program, why the funds are needed, and the benefit to the community:

Pacific Pride Foundation's Community Wellness Education program strives to prevent the spread of HIV and hepatitis C (HCV). Through this program, PPF educates people about how to reduce their risk of HIV/HCV infection; conducts free, anonymous, and rapid HIV/HCV testing; offers free harm-reduction services such as information about pre-exposure prophylaxis (PrEP) medication, condoms, clean syringes, and overdose prevention assistance; and provides support and medical referrals for people who are found to be HIV-positive or HCV-positive. Funds are needed due to government funding cuts to our prevention program. In 2009, we had approximately \$300,000 and 10 staff members (5.85 FTE) to run our HIV prevention program. Now, we have only \$118,000 and two staff members (1.36 FTE) for the entire program, countywide. If we are going to continue to reduce the number of new cases of HIV and hepatitis C in this community, it is critical that our efforts continue. We believe we can make an especially deep impact by educating those at high risk for HIV about PrEP, including men and women.

2. Briefly summarize the service to be provided and how many people will be served:

HIV/HCV TESTING: Anyone can get a free, anonymous rapid HIV or HCV test at our offices or mobile Health Utility Vehicle. We partner with the mobile clinics of Community Health Clinics and American Indian Health and Services to provide testing at health fairs. Recently, medical staff from County Public Health began joining us to provide mobile syphilis testing in our Health Utility Vehicle.

HARM REDUCTION: This includes syringe exchange, overdose prevention information, and education to clients and medical care providers around pre-exposure prophylaxis (PrEP). PrEP is a medication that, if taken daily, can reduce the risk of getting HIV from sex by more than 90 percent, and from injecting drugs by more than 70 percent.

EDUCATION: We provide HIV/HCV presentations to organizations, businesses, and schools. In 2014-15 we did 68 presentations, trainings, and educational events for 3,600 people, including high-risk people in recovery programs and homeless shelters.

3. Detail the timeline for providing the service:

Services would be provided from 7/1/2016 - 6/30/2017.

4. Describe key outcomes to be achieved with the funding and how they will be measured:

The goal of our community wellness education program is to reduce the number of new HIV and hepatitis C infections in Santa Barbara County by providing: HIV testing to 1,600 people and hepatitis C testing to 1,200 people; sterile syringes and overdose prevention information to 400 injection drug users; PrEP information and referrals to people at high-risk for HIV infection; harm reduction information via testing sessions and presentations to 4,500 people; mental health counseling to those who are HIV-positive; and condoms and safer sex packets to 10,000 people.

5. Describe if this is a one-time or ongoing request, and if funded in prior years and amounts:

Due to the significant government funding cuts PPF has experienced for our HIV prevention program over the last seven years, we are in need of consistent and ongoing support for this program.

6. Describe the agency's expertise and capacity to deliver services including fiscal stability:

Pacific Pride Foundation (PPF) was established in 1976 as an addiction recovery program for gay men and lesbians. With the rise of the AIDS epidemic, in 1984 we started our HIV care program in collaboration with County Public Health with support from the State Office of AIDS. Since that time, PPF has been the primary provider of services in the County for people living with or at risk for HIV. We have staff expertise with HIV/HCV testing as well as prevention trainings to our diverse community.

7. Agency staff responsible for application: Colette Schabram, Executive Director

County Staff Comments Only:

Address submittals to:

Adriana de Bruin
Business Manager, County Executive Office
105 E. Anapamu Street, Room 406
Santa Barbara, CA 93101

Requests can be emailed to: outsideagency@countyofsb.org

Questions: Please contact Adriana de Bruin, Business Manager, County Executive Office, at 568-3400.

**FY 2016-17 Line Item Budget
For Program**

#36

Agency: *Pacific Pride Foundation*
 Program Name: HIV and Hepatitis C Prevention
 Amount \$\$ Requested: *\$40,000*

Program Budget	FY 2016-17		
Funding Sources/Revenues	Budget	Committed	Uncommitted
County of Santa Barbara	\$40,000		\$40,000
Contract Income	\$83,750	\$83,750	
Events	\$10,000		\$10,000
Donations	\$60,885		\$60,885
Private Foundation Grants	\$69,500		\$69,500
Total	\$264,135	\$83,750	\$180,385

Funding Uses/Expenses	Budget
Salaries and Benefits	\$192,617
Program Materials	\$17,500
Accounting & Audit	\$1,350
Equipment Maint.	\$1,682
Printing & Postage	\$1,450
Travel, Auto & Mileage	\$3,808
Depreciation	\$13,924
Property Rent	\$27,281
Telephone & Utilities	\$4,523
Total	\$264,135
Net Income	\$0