

RESPONSE #143620270 SUBMITTED ON 08/23/2019 11:29:02 AM

Florida Financial Literacy Initiative - Grant Application 2019

Organization Name	Families of the Treasure Coast
Program Name	People Empowering People
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Organization Type (select one)	Nonprofit Community-based Organization

Program Details

Organization's total operating budget (school districts and community colleges may use the adult education program budget.)	407,260
Does your organization charge a fee for instructional services?	No
Number of adult ESOL and/or family literacy students provided instruction during fiscal year 2018	414
Number of volunteers (if none, enter "0")	<i>No answer given</i>
Number of paid instructors (if none, enter "0")	<i>No answer given</i>
Number of students to be provided with instructional services under this grant	80
Are you a 2018 recipient of this grant?	No
County or counties served by this grant	Indian River, St. Lucie





Florida Financial Literacy Initiative
A statewide Initiative managed by the Florida Literacy Coalition and supported by
Wells Fargo

2019 APPLICATION

Part I: Narrative

1) Project Abstract/Summary

People Empowering People (PEP) is a personal and community advocacy program focused on decreasing childhood abuse and maltreatment through the improvement of personal life skills, parental and family relationships, and community engagement amongst adult participants aged 18 and up. PEP is designed to build on the unique strengths and life experiences of participants and emphasizes the connection between individual and community action.

The PEP program recognizes promoting social supports and protective factors to help families overcome negative conditions or experiences combined with community-based efforts to help improve social environments for children and families can have significant impact on positive outcomes for children. The Center for the Study of Social Policy (CSSP) identifies a list of five protective factors it deemed necessary to help families offset parenting stress and make children and families safer: Parental resilience, Social connections, concrete support in times of need, knowledge of parenting and child development, and development of social and emotional competence. The PEP program is an opportunity for parents and caregivers to develop/ increase and utilize these protective factors for themselves, their children and the community at large.

2) History and Accomplishments

Families of the Treasure Coast exists to enrich the lives of children and families by bridging the gap between home, school, and community through valuable resources, quality education, and family strengthening programs. Formerly the Parent Academy of St. Lucie County, we saw and continue to see steady growth and attendance, serving nearly 10,000 individuals and families since opening in February of 2012. Primary services are: (a) Evidence based programs for parents to increase engagement, and communication with their children, (b) Social/emotional and behavioral workshops to increase adult's knowledge of strength-based parenting, c) Healthy decision making programming for youth and their parents inclusive of comprehensive health literacy, and d) Community leadership programming targeted at stopping child abuse.

FOTC has been a previous grantee of the Wells Fargo financial literacy grant (2017) and is a current grantee of the Florida Health Literacy Grant (2015-). Several of our ESL student's essays have been published in the annual Florida Literacy Coalition Adult Learner Essay book. In addition to this, our students have been recipients of the Coalition's annual awards including the "Flight for Freedom" award in 2017, Our student's video projects have also been showcased at the Annual Florida Literacy

Coalition Conference and our educators have been panel participants sharing our successes with conference attendees.

3) Needs Statement

The primary focus of the PEP program facilitated through FOTC is to combat childhood neglect and maltreatment through community advocacy and leadership training. In 2016/2017 St. Lucie County had 508 substantiated child maltreatment cases, of those cases 279 were cases of neglect and 289 children were removed from the home.(fosteringcourtimprovement.org/florida charts/district 19/st. lucie) 64 of those cases were due to the caregiver's inability to cope, and 157 were drug and alcohol abuse related. Research on promoting resiliency in children has found that abuse's negative effects can be buffered when children can form trusting relationships with adults, have structure and rules at home, are encouraged to be autonomous, and have access to health, education, welfare, and social services. (U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (2008)). The PEP program is an effective example of programming that can impact both the parents/caregivers and their families with increased protective factors, but also empower parent leadership and civic engagement.

In addition to identifiable educational need relating to childhood maltreatment and neglect, poverty alleviation and financial literacy education is a consistent need throughout St. Lucie and Indian River Counties. According to the United Way ALICE report for St. Lucie County (SLC), 35% of households are living above the federal poverty line but continue to struggle for basic needs. 16% of SLC households exist in poverty, compared to the state average of 14% and national average of 12.3% (2017). In Indian River County (IRC), 40% of families live above the federal poverty line, but continue to struggle for basic needs while 11% of families live in poverty (United Way, ALICE). Financial security and well-being are a concern for any individual or family and remains an integral component in escaping poverty or negatively impactful situations. Through PEP, financial literacy will be addressed during specific workshop sessions in order for participants to (1) self-reflect on their current financial literacy skills, (2) assess current personal needs relating to financial literacy and well-being, (3) identify community resources and services available in the area of poverty alleviation, and (4) increase personal ability to cope with negative and stressful situations relating to financial well-being. By addressing these four key areas, PEP participants will be better equipped to create positive and sustainable change for themselves and their families.

4) Objectives

Objective	Outcome	Population Served	Instruction
#1: Of the 80 individuals, parents, and caregivers served through PEP, 80% will demonstrate an increase in knowledge of community services and resources available that relate to the promotion of financial literacy and	Participants will understand the importance of personal, family, and community financial wellbeing and the ways in which the personal knowledge of resources empower individuals to create change in their	A total of 80 adults (age 18+) will be served per annum through the PEP program in combined or group settings; All participants will be residents of St. Lucie or Indian	PEP operates on a revolving schedule throughout the year, with approximately 2 workshops facilitated per quarter; Instruction run

wellness of families and individuals.	households and communities.	River County; A total of 80 individual adults, parents, or caregivers will be served per annum through the PEP program.	time is approximately 2 hours per session, per week, totaling 8-16 total hours of instruction plus time spent on community-based project(s).
#2:. A total 80 individuals served in groups through PEP, 75% will demonstrate an increase in knowledge in skills related to positive financial health and wellness.	Participants will have an increased understanding of the ways in which financial literacy creates positive family and household atmospheres through the completion of session topics such as preparation for life events, understanding of basic banking skills, and creating sustainable goals for personal financial health.		

5) Project Description

People Empowering People runs throughout the year, with approximately 2 workshop series taking place per quarter, totaling 8 workshops per year. Each workshop includes a minimum of 4 sessions of core education, including topics such as values, diversity, communication, self-advocacy, parenting styles and childhood development, understanding our community, and understanding community advocacy and leadership. One, 2-hour session is held per week, per scheduled location, and is facilitated by a trained educator. The educator guides participants through the PEP curriculum, following which, participants work to identify a community need and build a community-based learning project that seeks to empower other individuals and families to understand the importance of community connection. Community based learning projects are designed by participants with the assistance of educators but are chosen based off of group interests.

A total of 80 individual adults age 18 and up will be served annually through PEP programming. Workshops will be held throughout St. Lucie and Indian River County at various locations, including the Port St. Lucie Community Center, the Fort Pierce PALs location, community centers in Ft. Pierce and Vero Beach, Graceway Village, and additional locations secured through partnerships.

The PEP curriculum, originally created by the University of Connecticut (UConn), is designed to empower participants to build upon their leadership skills and empower others to advocate for the needs of their families, neighborhoods, and communities through education and project-based learning. An integrated component to this will be the introduction of financial literacy, in which all participants will receive education on topics such as, but not limited to, basic banking skills, personal financial wellness, and community resources as they relate to financial wellness and sustainability. As participants work together to identify community need for projects, sessions may facilitate additional topics discussing poverty, social perceptions of financial health, and current community initiatives surrounding financial literacy and poverty alleviation.

6) Collaboration and Partnerships

Families of the Treasure Coast collaborates with agencies across the Treasure Coast such as, but not limited to, the Children's Services Council of St. Lucie County, Boys and Girls Club, St. Lucie County Parks & Recreation, Henderson Behavioral Health, Indian River State College, Restoring the Village Initiative, and Sequel Care Mental Health Services. When partnership is established, all agencies involved conduct program promotion for recruitment via social media platforms, in-agency referrals, shared flyers on websites, etc. Families of the Treasure Coast works with community partners to consider the unique needs of families and individuals through pre-workshop planning meetings in order to ensure PEP programming facilitated at partner agencies continues to remain culturally relevant.

7) Recognition

Wells Fargo will be recognized for their generous support of PEP programming and any financial literacy workshops with a "thank you for your support" message printed on all corresponding marketing materials, the Families of the Treasure Coast website, in social media postings, press releases, and other related media materials. Wells Fargo and the Florida Literacy Coalition logos will also be apparent in all workshop locations with a clearly defined "thank you for your support" message.

8) Timeline

PEP operates on a revolving schedule throughout the year, hosting a total of four to eight sessions per workshop series. PEP workshops will be hosted approximately 2 times per quarter, averaging approximately 8 total workshop series per year, in various locations across St. Lucie and Indian River County. Each individual session is 2 hours in length, taking place once per week. Additional financial literacy workshops can be scheduled throughout the year as part of PEP leadership community projects, which can be used as "teach back" opportunities for PEP leadership participants in order to promote financial sustainability for previous, current, and future program participants.

9) Evaluation

Objectives	Evaluation
Objective #1 (See outline in section 4)	Pre and post-tests administered at onset and culmination of all PEP programming; Additional questions/questionnaires regarding financial literacy will be included in all evaluation tools <i>or</i> administered separately during related sessions.
Objective #2 (See outline in section 4)	
Additional evaluation methods	Observation and self-reporting are also utilized as supplementary evaluation methods; Educator evaluation survey administered at the culmination of each workshop series; pre and post-financial literacy assessments as defined/created by Wells Fargo may be utilized.

Part II: Budget**2019-2020 BUDGET**

REVENUE	Amount
Florida Financial Literacy Initiative Grant	\$5,000
TOTAL REVENUE	

PROJECT EXPENSES	Grant Amount
Salaries and Benefits	
Total Salaries and Benefits	
Other Expenses	
Food/Nutrition (2,100/80=\$6.56/pp/per workshop session)	2,100.00
Photocopies/Printing (copy paper, ink for 3 staff \$51.99 (twin pack) X 3=\$155.97, supplies)	300.00
Program marketing (Facebook/online marketing)	200.00
Occupancy for workshops	800.00
Community/Group projects including poster boards, markers, flash drives; construction paper; crayons; misc. presentation materials.	500.00
Program supplies (pens, paper, binders, notebooks, etc.)	500.00
Florida Literacy Conference (1 person) to be used for per diem and towards hotel	400.00
Training and development	200.00
Total Non-Staff Expenses	\$5,000
TOTAL EXPENSES	\$5,000

IN-KIND RESOURCES (Optional)	
Description	Amount
Occupancy (St. Lucie Community Center, \$11.90/hr)	\$800
TOTAL IN-KIND RESOURCES	