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**Committees:**

Judiciary  
Legislative Oversight, 1st V.C.

## House of Representatives

State of South Carolina

January 25, 2023

Dear Mr. Mr. Chairman,

As you know, last year's FY 2022-2023 General Appropriations Act contained Budget Proviso Part 1B Section 118.19(81) – 'Funds appropriated for Healthcare purposes'. This Proviso was the first year's funding of a multi-year pilot demonstration regarding Addiction Education, Outreach and Family/Community Reintegration. I am respectfully asking for favorable consideration by your committee to include the second year of funding of the same amount, \$301,461, for this worthwhile endeavor.

As you also know, substance abuse and addiction are on the rise with devastating effects. I have personally been affected by this in my own family.

This funding request is intended for The Courage Center (TCC), an established Recovery Community Organization (RCO). TCC bridges substance addiction prevention, intervention, treatment and recovery – the four points along the addiction healthcare continuum of care – and collaborates with community partners such as healthcare and other service providers, government agencies, and the criminal justice system to build a network of resources to support families.

TCC utilizes a peer-oriented social model to help our program participants recover through the guidance of recovery coaches. For this project TCC will use the intended resources for addiction education and outreach in the Midlands of South Carolina including Lexington, Richland and Orangeburg counties and to fund community professionals with lived experience to replicate the successful TCC model of offering peer recovery support to youth and families who struggle with addiction.

TCC serves the public by engaging these communities and ensuring these communities understand the importance of recovery versus treatment, and to serve as support during the difficult transition back into the family and community.

We would like to use the pilot project to demonstrate the value of *recovery centers* by expanding the reach to youth *and families* in need who otherwise would not know a recovery center is available in the support and resources it provides. In addition, we will show this is a replicable method of community awareness of the value of *addiction recovery*.

Thank you for your consideration of this request and, as always, please do not hesitate to contact me if you have any questions or I may help in any way.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Chris Wooten". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a long, sweeping underline that extends to the right.

Christopher Wooten



## **FY2023-24 House Budget Request**

### **FUNDING REQUEST**

\$301,461

### **FUNDING PURPOSE**

Addiction education and outreach in Lexington, Richland and Orangeburg counties.

### **BACKGROUND**

- A recent community needs assessment of Midland counties shows a huge need for targeted substance use disorder education and outreach in very specific youth- and family-serving sectors.
- These sectors include schools, public and private treatment centers, county-level DJJ and DSS, parent groups, and faith communities.
- Many working every day in these sectors do not understand the adolescent brain or the effect of substance use on it.
- Even fewer of these individuals are familiar with community-based programs and services available to the youth and families they work with.
- If these individuals are not aware of local resources, they would not understand how youth and families could benefit from services within their own communities.
- If these individuals do not understand the value of these local resources, youth who are harmfully using drugs and/or alcohol and their family members may never get the help they need.
- The Courage Center requests funding for four (4) Recovery Outreach and Education Coordinators - one each to cover youth-serving organizations in Calhoun and Orangeburg, Richland, and Lexington counties, and one to cover parent/family/caregiver-serving organizations in all four counties.

## The Courage Center FY2021-22 Part 2 Budget Request

<b>PERSONNEL</b>			
Position	Base	Fringe	Total
Recovery Resource Outreach Coordinator - Calhoun/Orangeburg	\$43,000	\$12,900	\$55,900
Recovery Resource Outreach Coordinator - Lexington	\$43,000	\$12,900	\$55,900
Recovery Resource Outreach Coordinator - Richland	\$43,000	\$12,900	\$55,900
Recovery Resource Outreach Coordinator - Parents/Families	\$43,000	\$12,900	\$55,900
Mileage (\$.56/mile x avg 100 miles/week x 50 weeks/year x 4 Coordinators)	\$11,200		\$11,200
<b><i>SUBTOTAL PERSONNEL</i></b>			<b><i>\$234,800</i></b>

<b>MATERIALS &amp; SUPPLIES</b>		
Item(s)	Rate	Expense
Laptops	4 x \$645 Each	\$2,580
Connecticut Community for Addiction Recovery (CCAR) Online Recovery Coach Academy Training & Manuals	40-Hour Online Training (4 x \$850/person) and Training Manuals (4 x \$50/manual)	\$3,600
Collateral Materials (Business cards, leave-behind materials such as community resources cards, rack cards, door hangers, brochures)	4 coordinators x \$625	\$2,500

TCC-Executed Quarterly Local Community Events	Quarterly events hosted by TCC within each community to provide population level substance use disorder education and promote community-based resources (4 Events/Region x \$750/Event x 4 Coordinators)	\$12,000
Community Events Supplies		
<i>Folding 8' Display Tables</i>	<i>4 coordinators x \$125/table</i>	\$500
<i>Branded 8' Tablecloth</i>	<i>4 coordinators x \$100/tablecloth</i>	\$400

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**The Courage Center FY2021-22 Part 2 Budget Request**

<b>MATERIALS &amp; SUPPLIES CONT'D</b>		
<i>TCC-Executed Quarterly Local Community Events</i>	<i>4 coordinators x \$75/banner</i>	\$300
<i>Retractable Stand-Up Banner</i>	<i>4 coordinators x \$125/banner</i>	\$500
<i>Promotional Give-Aways</i>	<i>4 coordinators x 4 events x 125 items/event x \$1.15/item</i>	\$2,300

Material Display Stands/ Holders for Brochures - \$1.50 ea, Business & Resource Cards - \$5 ea, Flyers - \$3.50 ea)	4 coordinators x \$10/set	\$40
Supply Box (containing pens, tape, rubber bands, stapler, paper clips, scissors, Swiss Army knife, zip ties, thread, etc.)	4 coordinators x \$25/box	\$100
Power Strips/Extension Cords	4 coordinators x \$30	\$120
Refreshments (Candy, branded bottled water)	4 coordinators x 4 events x \$50/event	\$2,000
Local Community Event Vendor Registrations	4 coordinators x 4 events x 25/event	\$400
<b>SUBTOTAL MATERIALS &amp; SUPPLIES</b>		<b>\$27,340</b>

<b>SUBTOTAL INDIRECT - 15%</b>	Administrative oversight, bookkeeping, rent, utilities, etc.)	<b>\$39,321</b>	
<b>TOTAL ANNUAL EXPENSE BUDGET</b>		<b>301,461</b>	