Town of Hanover
Request for Funding for Social Service Agencies for the FY 2020 Budget Year (July 1, 2020 – June 30, 2021)

Name of Organization Requesting Funding: Special Needs Support Center (SNSC)

Organization’s Fiscal Year (for example: Jan 1 – Dec 31 or Jul 1 – June 30): July 1 – June 30

Key Contact Person: Laura Perez

Mailing Address: 20 West Park St., #311 Lebanon, NH

Telephone Number: 603-448-4311 E-mail address: laura@snsc-uv.org

I prefer that you use the following methods to contact me: E-Mail Phone U.S. Mail

☑ Attach a prospectus of the organization outlining its mission, the specific programs provided, and who is served.

☑ Attach a copy of the most recent audited financial statements of the organization. If audited financial statements are not available, attach unaudited financial statements with an explanation of why audited statements are not available.

☑ The specific amount of funding requested from the Town of Hanover is: $2,500

☑ Describe how these funds will be used (attach statement if additional space is required):

Please see attached explanation

☑ Does the organization receive funding from other municipalities? (YES) NO

If yes, list the other Towns or Cities providing funding and the amount of funding provided:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name of Town or City</th>
<th>FY2017 Received</th>
<th>FY2018 Received</th>
<th>FY2019 Received</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Hartford, VT</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>4,530</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Norwich, VT</td>
<td></td>
<td>2,000</td>
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<tr>
<td>Enfield, NH</td>
<td></td>
<td>2,000</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>Plainfield, NH</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>1,800</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

New Request in FY20
Does the organization provide services to Hanover residents? **YES**  **NO**

If yes, please provide information in the table below on the number of Hanover residents relative to the total number of clients served. This information should be made available for each category of services or programs provided to Hanover residents. If the size of the table below is not adequate, please provide an attachment with this information.

If you are unable to provide this information, please (a) attach a statement detailing why this information is not available; and (b) provide a statement on how your organization directly benefits the citizens of the Town of Hanover.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Program #1 Description:</th>
<th>Clients Served 2 Years Ago</th>
<th>Last Year's Clients Served</th>
<th>This Year's Clients Served</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Residents of Hanover</td>
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<tr>
<td>Residents of Hartford</td>
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<tr>
<td>Residents of Norwich</td>
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<td>Residents of Enfield</td>
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<tr>
<td>Total Clients Served</td>
<td></td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>Program #2 Description:</td>
<td>Clients Served 2 Years Ago</td>
<td>Last Year's Clients Served</td>
<td>This Year's Clients Served</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Residents of Hanover</td>
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<td>Residents of</td>
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<td>Residents of</td>
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<tr>
<td>Total Clients Served</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Program #3 Description:</td>
<td>Clients Served 2 Years Ago</td>
<td>Last Year's Clients Served</td>
<td>This Year's Clients Served</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Residents of Hanover</td>
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<td>Residents of</td>
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<td>Residents of</td>
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<tr>
<td>Total Clients Served</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

For your application to be considered complete, please respond fully to the following questions:

Does the level of funding you are requesting from the Town of Hanover relate to the actual services provided to the residents of Hanover? If so, please describe how you arrive at the amount of funding you are requesting from the Town of Hanover. (Attach statement if additional space is required):

Please see attached description of our "fair share formula."
Is the level of funding relative to the level of service provided to Hanover residents commensurate with the level of funding and level of service provided to other communities? If not, why not? (Attach statement if additional space is required):

Please see attached statement.

What would be the impact to Hanover residents if the services provided by your organization were not available? (Attach statement if additional space is required):

Please see attached statement.

For your organization’s funding request to be considered, complete applications must be received no later than Wednesday, December 14, 2016. Applications should be mailed or delivered to:

Town Manager’s Office
41 South Main Street
P.O. Box 483
Hanover, NH 03755

or via e-mail to: betsy.smith@hanovernh.org

The Town Manager’s Office can be reached at 603/643-0701.
GOAL
To request funding from the Town of Hanover in support of the Special Needs Support Center (SNSC), a not-for-profit, community-based organization that supports the welfare of individuals and families with special needs in Hanover and neighboring towns.

OUR HISTORY
In 1979, residents of the Town of Hanover with a child with autism began reaching out to other parents in their community. This informal parent network that met around their dining room table quickly grew to welcome all. With boundless enthusiasm and a drive to make a difference, this group of parents started what would become SNSC.

MISSION STATEMENT
We are a group of individuals and families throughout the Upper Valley and beyond who proudly work together to co-create a community where people with special needs, across the spectrum and throughout the life span, can live their best lives.

VISION STATEMENT
All people with special needs, and their families, have opportunities and lifelong support to pursue their goals and aspirations.

THE CHALLENGES
- A lack of inclusion negatively impacts health and well-being — not only for people with a disability, but for their families too. The lack of belonging contributes to poor self-advocacy, food insecurity, chronic homelessness, and high emergency room visits.
- Nationally, adults with disabilities account for 17% of the adult population but comprise 40% of emergency department visits.
- Not only is food insecurity more common among households affected by disabilities, but it also tends to be more severe in these households.
- The challenges faced by parents in our community are heightened due to the overall shortage of affordable, safe, accessible housing for individuals with disabilities. This shortage often leads to untenable situations including using hospital emergency rooms for respite, chronic homelessness, or being placed in vulnerable living conditions where health and safety are extremely compromised.
- People with disabilities tend to participate in fewer recreational activities than their typically-developing peers. Recreation programs, however, are particularly important for people with disabilities, as they provide opportunities to form social connections, foster communication and executive function skills, and develop leisure interests and skills. Involvement in recreation can increase quality of life, psychological well-being, and physical well-being for people with disabilities and their families.
- In addition to the challenges facing any parent, parents with children with special needs have additional concerns such as impaired communication, wandering, tendency to avoid eye contact, or other behaviors that can appear suspicious without prior knowledge. Additionally, parents from our community are concerned regarding that
conservative estimates show more than 25% of people involved in fatal police shootings nationally have a disability.

- We believe that all children should be happy, healthy, and safe so that upon entering school they are prepared to flourish in the classroom and embrace educational and social opportunities provided within the school system. In our region, there is a growing trend of young children entering the school system with significant social-emotional disabilities that are connected to the high poverty rates and the opiate epidemic in our service area.

OUR SOLUTIONS

To help us achieve our goals and address these challenges, SNSC operates four complementary programs:

Art Lab is a weekly open studio art program for adults with special needs implemented in collaboration with SNSC and the AVA Gallery and Art Center. The participating artists get a chance to explore different media with an emphasis on creative self-expression while socializing.

Happenings is a monthly social activities program for adults with special needs. In addition to regular social programming our team provides case management support and advocacy for participants.

Parent Educational Support and Advocacy supports parents in all aspects of the special education and Section 504 process.

Aspire is a recreation program for children on the Autism Spectrum which is offered regularly throughout the year. Children enjoy activities that encourage development of communication and social skills through modeling and practice. Individualized skills and goals are identified and worked on through group play and exploration in the community.

As an initiative of Aspire, we have recently partnered with local law enforcement to launch a Special Needs Information Program (SNIP) and accompanying de-escalation and relationship management training program. The program helps emergency responders identify and respond to vulnerable residents with special needs. Our goal is to develop a program which is easily shared with other interested communities.

Another initiative of Aspire is Sensory Friendly UV. We are working with partners at the Dartmouth Autism Research Initiative and Keene Perspectives to implement a sustainable approach to creating sensory friendly spaces in the Upper Valley to help the community move beyond awareness and to foster an authentic appreciation of neurodiversity.

COLLABORATION

In addition to our own programs, we engage local partner organizations to collaboratively amplify the impact of our work and to ensure that services are not duplicated. Examples of these are:

- High Horses- equine activities and therapies
- Global Campuses- participant-led learning
- Spark- community center

20 West Park Street, Suite 311  Lebanon, NH 03766  603-448-6311  www.snscc-uv.org
Visions- caring housing
Zack's Place- a setting to explore culture and education

We collaborate with:

- Hanover Parks & Rec
- Dartmouth College
- Dartmouth Hitchcock Medical Center
- AVA Arts Gallery
- Regional Resource Center
- Keene Perspectives
- Pathways

Our staff and board team are committed to developing meaningful relationships with the city of Hanover, and the other towns in our service area. Our work is essential to the infrastructure of the city and we look forward to expanding our relationships and partnership with the city.

OUR IMPACT

- Bring power and voice to all parents, guardians, and adults with disabilities, especially the more than 80% we serve who live below the poverty line;
- Support teachers and educators to become more productive in the classroom as they receive new tools for implementing strategies to support children with disabilities in their classrooms;
- Increase parent and educator skill base regarding special education support and accommodations, improving a child's ability to access their education;
- Create an open forum for parents and caregivers to support each other by sharing experiences, knowledge and concerns;
- Provide adults with disabilities the opportunity to engage in productive life-long learning;
- Improve social and functional achievement of young adults and adults with disabilities while facilitating movement from school to post-school activities and preparing students to move from the world of school to the world of adulthood; and
- Improve safety and health of people with disabilities through community education initiatives, coordinated services planning, and case management support.

SERVICE TO HANOVER RESIDENTS

SNSC has years of successful work with parents and with schools in Hanover and throughout the Upper Valley. We proudly provide consultation and support to families from any geographic area across Vermont and New Hampshire.

In FY19, SNSC provided service 2,647 times including more than 40 individuals on at least 100 occasions for Hanover Residents.

FUNDING REQUEST

To support our services, SNSC has a robust development program with a wide array of revenue resources. While we have private grants which primarily fund these services we also seek the support of towns we serve to help us sustain our programs. Our requests of all towns in our service area make up less than 10% of our overall budget but also reflect an important partnership agreement.

Our Fair Share Formula

- In FY20 our total budget is $255,000;
20 West Park Street, Suite 311 Lebanon, NH 03766 603-448-6311 www.sns-uv.org
• Our goal is to raise 10% of our total budget through municipal allocations;
• SNSC takes responsibility for raising the remaining 90% from institutions, businesses, foundations, and individuals;
• Our formula distributes the 10% share fairly and equitably amongst all the municipalities in the SNSC’s service area;
• The distribution is based on the percentage of disabled population by town and level of service that SNSC provides;
• This is our second year requesting funding support from towns and we are working with all towns in our region to incrementally bring them closer to their 10% share.

In consideration of the information outlined in this narrative, we respectfully request funding of $2,500 for FY20.

IMPACT TO HANOVER RESIDENTS IF SNSC SERVICES WERE NOT AVAILABLE

If SNSC services were not available, Hanover residents with disabilities and their families would face higher rates of unsafe living conditions and homelessness, higher rates of food insecurity, higher rates of hospitalization, and lower rates of happiness, safety, and health.

Respectfully submitted,
Laura Perez
Executive Director
laura@snsn-uv.org