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: WISE

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

Key Contact Person: Peggy O’Neil, Executive Director

Mailing Address: 38 Bank Street, Lebanon, NH 03766

Telephone Number: 603-448-5922 E-mail address: peggy.oneil@wiseuv.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: $6,500

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

WISE respectfully requests continued funding from the Town of Hanover to support the Crisis Services and Advocacy Program for victims of domestic and sexual violence and stalking. WISE supports people through the 24-hour crisis line, emergency shelter, transitional housing assistance, legal aid, safety planning, support groups, and in-person advocacy at the WISE Program Center, police stations, courts, hospitals, and at our co-locations in Windsor, White River Junction, and on Dartmouth College campus. WISE also trains medical, legal and law enforcement professionals on how to effectively respond to the complex needs of victims. All WISE’s services are free and confidential, and underlying all support is WISE’s commitment to survivor-centered advocacy; acknowledging that survivors can make the best decisions for themselves when given information, resources and support. Research shows that the provision of advocacy greatly reduces the likelihood of re-victimization for people who have experienced domestic and sexual violence. The primary goals for the Crisis Services and Advocacy Program are to increase the safety of victims of domestic and sexual violence, provide support as survivors seek to build autonomy and gain access to better options, and collaborate with others in the community to provide an effective, helpful response to victims. The WISE Safe Home, and Emergency Shelter Program is available to survivors and their children, who are fleeing violence and are in need of safe, confidential living arrangements. This Program provides victims of gender-based violence access to safe and confidential housing with support from WISE advocates. Access to safe housing provides the opportunity to explore options and resources at an often critical juncture.
✓ Does the organization receive funding from other municipalities?  **YES**

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

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Town</th>
<th>FY2017 Received</th>
<th>FY2018 Received</th>
<th>FY2019 Received</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Canaan</td>
<td>$2,100</td>
<td>$2,100</td>
<td>$2,100</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Enfield</td>
<td>$2,200</td>
<td>$2,200</td>
<td>$2,200</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hartford</td>
<td>$2,000</td>
<td>$2,000</td>
<td>$2,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hartland</td>
<td>$500</td>
<td>$1,000</td>
<td>$500</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lebanon</td>
<td>$15,000</td>
<td>$15,000</td>
<td>$15,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lyme</td>
<td>$600</td>
<td>$600</td>
<td>$600</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Norwich</td>
<td>$2,500</td>
<td>$707</td>
<td>$2,500</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pomfret</td>
<td>$400</td>
<td>$400</td>
<td>$400</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Weathersfield</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>$500</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Windsor</td>
<td>$1,500</td>
<td>$1,500</td>
<td>$1,200</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Woodstock</td>
<td>$2,000</td>
<td>$2,000</td>
<td>$2,000</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

✓ Does the organization provide services to Hanover residents?  **YES**

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: Crisis Intervention and Support Services</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>
<td>82</td>
<td>100</td>
<td>99</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Residents of Canaan</td>
<td>56</td>
<td>43</td>
<td>67</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Residents of Enfield</td>
<td>61</td>
<td>56</td>
<td>58</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Residents of Lebanon</td>
<td>234</td>
<td>173</td>
<td>200</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Residents of Lyme</td>
<td>16</td>
<td>8</td>
<td>9</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Total Clients Served**

Data provided above represents a sample of communities served and victims who self-identified as residents of each town. Many of the people served by WISE do not disclose their town of residence, primarily for safety reasons.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Program #2 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>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Residents of
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):

The level of funding that we are requesting is proportional to actual services provided to the Town of Hanover. All Hanover residents have access to crisis services and advocacy from WISE every hour, every day. All services are free, confidential, and provided through the crisis line as well as in-person at hospitals, court, police stations and other community locations.

In FY19, we provided advocacy and support to 1,427 people, 13.3% more people than the prior year, and 73.4% reached out to WISE for the first time. We received 11,271 calls on the crisis line. Each call is unique, but examples might be: survivors needing support, family members wanting to know how to support their loved ones, hospitals requesting an advocate to come and support a patient, police officers connecting us with victims on site, etc. The total crisis line number does not include the countless number of people who contact us using our business line, email, and drop by the Program Center and co-locations, including Dartmouth College. We provided 795 accompaniments to local hospitals, courts, police departments, child advocacy centers, and other service locations. This might mean providing support to a survivor in the Emergency Department during evidence collection, going to court with a survivor during a divorce hearing, helping a survivor request a Relief from Abuse order at a police station, and accompanying a survivor to any number of locations as they navigate various social service systems. In our Safe Home, we hosted 43 shelter guests, provided emergency shelter to 140 people, and made 657 referrals for other emergency housing options.

Hanover remains the third highest of twenty-one communities within our service area receiving WISE support. In FY19, we provided 1,999 services to Hanover residents, including 80 accompaniments to hospitals, courts, police stations, and other social service agencies. Services included crisis counseling, safety planning, parental support, and housing services. We also helped Hanover residents obtain a total of 15 protective orders.
✓ 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):

Yes, the level of funding is commensurate with the level of service provided to other communities. Last year, we provide advocacy and support to 1,427 people. It is difficult to accurately break down services by town because many of victims who access WISE services do not disclose their town of residence for safety reasons. Nevertheless, of the people who self-identified their residency, 13.1% were Hanover residents.

✓ 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):

WISE is the sole provider of 24/7 crisis intervention, advocacy, and supportive services for victims of domestic and sexual violence within 21 towns in New Hampshire and Vermont, including the town of Hanover. If WISE did not exist in the community, victims of domestic and sexual violence and their children would not have access to crisis intervention or domestic and sexual violence expertise. Local law enforcement, medical personnel, teachers, and community partners would not have access to WISE training and support regarding issues of gender-based violence. Students would most likely not receive comprehensive education around violence prevention, consent, by-stander intervention, and healthy relationships.

For your organization’s funding request to be considered, complete applications must be received no later than Noon on Friday, December 14, 2018. Applications should be mailed or delivered to:

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

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

The Town Manager’s Office can be reached at 603/643-0701.
WISE provided advocacy and support to 1,427 people. This was 13.3% more people than the prior year. 73.4% people reached out to WISE for the first time, which is reflective of our outreach efforts and increase in WISE co-locations. We received 11,271 calls on the crisis line, averaging 940 calls a month, more than 30 calls a day and provided 795 accompaniments to local hospitals, courts, police departments, child advocacy centers, and other service locations. We hosted 43 shelter guests in the Safe Home, provided emergency shelter to 140 people, and made 657 referrals for other emergency housing options.

WISE opened the WISE Office in Windsor, VT and three new co-locations. One of our main strategies was to increase accessibility to WISE advocacy by offering physical locations throughout the Upper Valley. We now have co-locations at Good Neighbor Health Clinic, Upper Valley Haven, and The Junction Youth Center. These new WISE spaces join existing co-locations on Dartmouth College campus and at the NH Department of Children, Youth, and Families (DCFY).

WISE unveiled the 2019-2024 Strategic Vision for WISE. We identified five leading focus areas: Survivor-Centered Advocacy, Innovative Leadership to End Gender-based Violence, Community Engagement for Social Change, Buildings and Program Space, and Organizational Sustainability and Growth. Each area has strategic priorities and is interdependent on the others for success. The vision document provides a path for us to ensure that we are more fully supporting survivors and achieving our mission to end gender-based violence.

WISE successfully concluded its $2,000,000 campaign for growth and sustainability. We were so pleased by the overwhelming support of our community to support our efforts. Our first steps were to hire a new prevention educator and to pay off the mortgages on the Program Center and Safe Home.

Welcoming All Nationalities Network (WANN) was fully integrated into WISE. Because WISE assumed all financial and fundraising responsibilities for WANN, Kate Semple Barta, WANN Director and Attorney, was able to completely focus on providing legal services and community education. Legal services were provided to 151 people (versus 62 in FY18). We provided outreach and education to 342 people at 9 events.

WISE’s Youth Violence Prevention Program increased reach by 21.8%. Our WISE educators delivered 709 lessons, in 34 public and private schools, throughout 9 districts, and reached 5500 students. The biggest growth area was in elementary schools at 42.7% increase. New schools added were: Lyme Elementary, Barnard Academy, Samuel Morey, Westshire Elementary, and Reading Elementary.
Program Descriptions

For almost 50 years, WISE has been the sole provider of crisis advocacy and support for victims of gender-based violence within 21 communities of the Upper Connecticut River Valley of New Hampshire and Vermont. WISE is a non-profit organization dedicated to supporting people and communities impacted by domestic violence, sexual violence and stalking. WISE offers a confidential and free 24-hour crisis line, peer support groups and workshops, emergency shelter, safety planning and in-person advocacy at hospitals, police stations, court houses and other social service agencies. WISE works with youth, professionals, and the community to develop relevant and comprehensive prevention strategies. WISE is committed to engaging everyone in learning to recognize and eliminate the root causes of violence.

Mission: WISE leads the Upper Valley to end gender-based violence through survivor-centered advocacy, prevention, education and mobilization for social change.

Vision: A world of freedom, justice, equality and dignity where all thrive.

Crisis Services and Advocacy Program

The Crisis Services and Advocacy Program provides advocacy and support to victims and survivors of gender-based violence within 21 communities of the Upper Valley region of New Hampshire and Vermont. WISE supports people through the 24-hour crisis line, emergency shelter, transitional housing assistance, legal aid, safety planning, support groups, and in-person advocacy at the WISE Program Center, police stations, courts, hospitals, and at our co-locations in Windsor and White River Junction, Vermont and on Dartmouth College campus. WISE also trains medical, legal and law enforcement professionals on how to effectively respond to the complex needs of victims. All of WISE’s services are free and confidential, and underlying all support is WISE’s commitment to survivor-centered advocacy; acknowledging that survivors can make the best decisions for themselves when given information, resources and support. Research shows that the provision of advocacy greatly reduces the likelihood of re-victimization for people who have experienced domestic and sexual violence. The primary goals for the Crisis Services and
Advocacy Program are to increase the safety of victims of domestic and sexual violence, provide support as survivors seek to build autonomy and gain access to better options, and collaborate with others in the community to provide an effective, helpful response to victims. All WISE volunteer and staff advocates complete the 30-hour training required by the States of New Hampshire and Vermont. WISE also offers many opportunities for survivors to gather and support each other.

Safe Home and Emergency Shelter Program

The WISE Safe Home, and Emergency Shelter Program is available to survivors and their children in the Upper Valley who are fleeing violence and are in need of safe, confidential living arrangements. This Program provides victims of domestic and sexual violence access to safe and confidential housing with support from WISE advocates. Access to safe housing provides the opportunity to explore options and resources at an often critical juncture. Residents who are eligible for emergency shelter suffer an immediate risk to their safety because of their experience of violence. The need for shelter is immediate and victims often arrive with few personal items and may have special needs, e.g., children who have witnessed the violence or limited transportation. In 2013, WISE purchased a Safe Home realizing the dream to have its own warm, nurturing and holistic space where victims can be safe while they gather what they need for the life that they want next. WISE supports survivors with short-term shelter or with advocacy for safe housing.

Youth Violence Prevention and Community Education Program

Domestic violence, sexual assault, and stalking exist because of cultural values, customs, and traditions that promote and sustain inequality rooted in gender. By understanding, acknowledging, and changing these conditions, we can eliminate gender-based violence. For more than 25 years, WISE has worked with students, schools, and communities, building skills for students, educators, and communities to create healthy, safe, and fulfilling lives. WISE programming is consistent with federal and state health education guidelines, based on research and best practices to end gender-based violence. Research shows that violence prevention is most effective when done in collaboration, delivered in multiple settings and sessions by well-trained facilitators, over time, and reinforced by the greater community. WISE's youth violence prevention work is developed over a student's educational career, in multi-sessions each year. Classroom-based workshops for elementary, middle, and high school aged youth in all nine area school districts target five key objectives: to raise awareness of gender stereotypes and their connection to dating and sexual violence;
deconstruct common myths regarding dating and sexual violence; build empathy for survivors of dating and/or sexual violence; increase bystander awareness and response for culture change; and cultivate healthy relationship skills. The strategies of the Prevention and Education Program reflect the Center for Disease Control's Social-Ecologic Model connecting the individual, relational, community and societal factors that influence real and lasting change. WISE also offers complementary educator and parent workshops. WISE provides professional development and consultation for education professionals in accordance with state standards. All WISE educators are trained crisis advocates are able to provide on-site support. The Community Education Program seeks to educate community members while creating a positive space for collaboration and partnership. WISE partners with community agencies, businesses, and other professional spaces and focuses on warning signs and impacts of gender-based violence and how to safely respond and refer victims to needed services. WISE develops customized and workshops and trainings within a range of issues upon request.

**Welcoming All Nationalities Network (WANN)**
Since 2011, WANN has worked to meet the needs of an increasingly diverse population through workshops for entities that have contact with immigrants, such as medical centers and health clinics, public school English Language Learning educators, law enforcement, and social service providers. Trainings include cultural effectiveness for local service providers, orientation to public schools for families new to the U.S., humanitarian immigration options, Know Your Rights for immigrants. WANN also provides legal assistance and free consultations to assess an individual's eligibility for humanitarian immigration status or for other benefits under U.S. immigration law which protects migrants who are victims of crimes, such as domestic violence, or who have suffered persecution before fleeing their home country. WANN’s Legal Services include VAWA Petitions for victims of domestic violence, asylum and refugee Issues, T Visas for victims of human trafficking, U Visas for victims of crimes, naturalization, and humanitarian petitions. Through collaborative networking, we provide direct advice and referrals to individuals and organizations.