



City of Lawrence

2016 Social Service Funding Application - Special Alcohol Funds

Applications for 2016 funding must be complete and submitted electronically to the City Manager's Office at ctoomay@lawrenceks.org by 5:00 pm on Friday, May 15, 2015. Applications received after the deadline or not following the attached format **will not** be reviewed by the Social Service Funding Advisory Board.

General Information: Each year, the City Commission considers requests for the allocation of dollars to a number of agencies that provide services benefiting the Lawrence community. These funds are to be used pursuant City Charter Ordinance 33, which states,

"Moneys in the special alcohol and drugs programs fund shall be expended on such programs, services, equipment, personnel, and capital expenditures as the governing body may from time to time determine is in the best interest of the public to address one or more of the following:

- (a) Prevention of alcoholism and drug abuse, including but not limited to education, counseling, public informational efforts and related activities; or
- (b) Alcohol and drug detoxification efforts and related activities; or
- (c) Intervention in alcohol and drug abuse or treatment of persons who are alcoholics or drug abusers or are in danger of becoming alcoholics or drug abusers; or
- (d) Law enforcement, prosecution, court activities and programs, or portions thereof, related to apprehending, prosecuting, adjudicating or monitoring individuals who are alcoholics or drug abusers or are in danger of becoming alcoholics or drug abusers, including individuals who are or may be charged with violating laws related to alcohol or drug use; or
- (e) Education, counseling, public information efforts, and related and associated activities related to preventing drug abuse and alcohol abuse, including but not limited to efforts to encourage healthy youth and family development and related efforts which include as a partial element drug abuse and alcohol abuse education, counseling, or public information efforts; or
- (f) Programs, activities, or efforts related to preventing or intervening in drug abuse and alcohol abuse, including programs, activities, or efforts for which drug abuse and alcohol abuse prevention or intervention comprises a partial element of the complete program, activity or effort; or
- (g) Any program, activity, or effort, or a portion thereof, that the governing body determines seeks to discourage, prevent, intervene, or address issues related to alcohol or drug abuse. The appropriation of funds by the governing body for such a program, activity, or effort shall be conclusive of compliance with provisions of this ordinance, and separate findings shall not be required."

Applications will be reviewed by the Social Service Funding Advisory Board at meetings held from 8:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. on May 27. **Applicants are asked to make a contact person available by phone in case questions arise.**

Following their review, the Advisory Board will forward recommendations for funding to the City Commission. Recommendations will be based upon the following criteria:

- availability of city funds
- the need demonstrated through the agency's application
- the stated objectives of the applicant's program
- alignment of the program with City Charter Ordinance 33
- the efforts to collaborate and avoid duplication of service demonstrated through the application
- outcomes that move program participants from total dependency toward measurable levels of independence
- ability to measure progress toward the program objectives and the City Commission Goals
- past performance by the agency in adhering to funding guidelines (as appropriate)

The final decision regarding funding will be made by the City Commission when they adopt the Annual Operating and Capital Improvement Budget in August.

Other Information. Collaboration and/or coordination between organizations is highly recommended and multi-agency proposals to address an identified community problem are encouraged. Programs should have research based effective strategies or "promising approaches." All programs must have goals with measurable outcomes.

Please note that funds will be disbursed according to the following schedule unless otherwise agreed to in writing:

- First half of funds will not be disbursed before April 1
- Second half of funds will not be disbursed before October 1

The budget picture from the Kansas Legislature creates uncertainty as to the status of the local portion of the alcohol liquor tax. If the Legislature decides to eliminate or reduce the local portion of this tax, it will impact the City's ability to fund programs. The City of Lawrence is proceeding with the Request for Proposal process and accepting applications for the alcohol tax revenues, with the understanding that funding levels, if any, are unknown and potentially subject to reductions by the State Legislature.

Questions? Contact Casey Toomay, Assistant City Manager at ctoomay@lawrenceks.org or 785.832.3409.



2016 SOCIAL SERVICE FUNDING APPLICATION – SPECIAL ALCOHOL

SECTION 1. APPLICANT INFORMATION

Legal Name of Agency: _____ Van Go, Inc. _____

Name of Program for Which Funding is Requested: _____ Job Training in the Arts _____

Primary Contact Information (must be available by phone 5/27/14 from 8 a.m. to noon.)

Contact Name and Title: _____ Lynne Green, Executive Director _____

Address: _____ 715 New Jersey, P.O. Box 153 _____

Telephone: _____ 842-3797 _____ Fax: _____ 842-4628 _____

Email: _____ lynne@van-go.org _____

SECTION 2. REQUEST INFORMATION

The criteria for each application questions are explained below.

A. Amount of funds requested from the City for calendar year 2016: \$ 32,000

B. Provide a brief description of the program. Summary of program should be clear and concise. How is program consistent with City Charter Ordinance 33? Is program based on proven effective strategies or “promising approaches?” Description should address how program is designed to have long-term effects on a person’s decisions about alcohol and other drug use. When appropriate, program design takes into account the person’s family and/or community.

C. Provide a brief description of how the need for this program was determined.

The need for the program should be clearly established and outlined. When appropriate, the context of other services available, or the lack thereof, should be provided. Statistical data that supports community need should be provided.

D. Describe the desired outcomes of this program (see Logic Model). At least one Process, one Behavioral and one Impact Outcome must be included and clearly outlined on Logic Model. Outcomes must be measured by an identified evaluation tool. Does agency show adequate progress towards achieving their targeted outcomes if previously funded.

E. Describe any coordination efforts your agency has made. Program strategy should involve a coordinated approach. Description should address how this particular program or service fits with other existing efforts to reduce fragmentation and duplication.

F. Describe how your agency is capable of implementing the proposed program. Based on agency history, management structure, and staffing pattern, does organization have capacity to implement the proposed program and achieve the desired outcomes?

G. Provide a detailed budget for the proposed program using the categories provided. The budget request for the program described should be reasonable and spelled out according to the categories below. Does the organization use funding creatively to get the most for the money, i.e. use of students, volunteers, in kind donations, leveraging of this funding to get other funding, etc.? Are long-term plans for program funding discussed – will this be an annual request for alcohol tax, is it expected to increase, decrease, etc.? Are other sources of funds used for the program? If so, are they described.

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| • Personnel(list each staff position individually and note if new or existing) | • Fringe Benefits | • Supplies: office |
| | • Travel | • Supplies: other |
| | • Office Space | • Equipment |

2B. Van Go, Inc. provides prevention strategies pursuant to City Charter Ordinance 33(f): Programs, activities, or efforts related to preventing or intervening in drug abuse and alcohol abuse, including programs, activities, or efforts for which drug abuse and alcohol abuse prevention or intervention comprises a partial element of the complete program, activity, or effort.

Van Go is an arts-based social service agency that delivers social services while providing job training and employment for at-risk teens and young adults (ages 14-24). Our innovative “earn while you learn” programs are not designed to create artists, rather they serve as the vehicle for delivering much-needed social work support, especially drug and alcohol prevention, to some of Lawrence’s neediest youth.

JAMS youth work 80 hours during the two school year sessions and 176 hours in the summer, earning minimum wage to create artwork. They are referred to JAMS by Van Go’s long-time community partners, including school counselors, social workers, court officials, and Bert Nash Community Mental Health Center. In addition to providing jobs and employment training, JAMS utilizes our staff LMSW, along with community experts, to address the physical and mental health of the youth we serve, especially addressing drug, alcohol, and tobacco prevention.

Services for older teens/young adults is delivered by The Arts Train, where at-risk young people are employed to work for up to 600 hours per year, earning minimum wage to create original works of art and receive in-depth social work support. Youth are evaluated on their job performance, including essential soft skills that employers require. TAT youth work one on one with staff social workers to create an Individual Life Plan, which outlines goals for success. ILP goals nearly always include drug, alcohol, and tobacco prevention and/or intervention strategies.

The methodology chosen by Van Go’s LMSWs uses to deliver prevention efforts is *Pathways to Self-Discovery and Change: Criminal Conduct and Substance Abuse Treatment for Adolescents*, which specifically targets our age group. *Pathways* is the **evidence-based program** used by the Kansas State Juvenile Justice Authority and is a cognitive-behavioral curriculum that includes illustrated, narrative stories of youth who struggle with multiple elements of risk (e.g., family, school, mental health, crime, substance abuse, negative peer associates). It uses modeling, role-play and practice of cognitive-behavioral skills to improve communication, deal with cravings and urges, and develop a sense of empathy. Additionally, personal responsibility to others, overcoming prejudice and negative thinking, managing feelings, and developing a sense of personal identity are covered. This curriculum was specifically designed to have long-term effects on at-risk youths’ decisions about alcohol and drug use.

The **promising approach** used at Van Go is the Communities That Care model. This model includes the risk/protective factors that are measured on the CTC survey administered to Lawrence students in grades 6,8,10, and 12. Van Go incorporates three elements described by CTC as being essential to program success:

1) Provide opportunities for involvement: Participating youth are involved in the planning and creation of original artwork as they work with professional teaching artists to create public works of art.

2) Enhance the development of cognitive and social skills: All participants learn, practice, and are evaluated on effective and respectful communication with their peers and staff (i.e., not interrupting others, expressing frustrations appropriately). They also receive tutoring and individual help to make sure academic goals are being met.

3) Recognize participants for skillful performance: All Van Go projects culminate with a public show of the work the participants have created.

2C. Kansas Communities That Care 2014 data indicated disturbing information among 10th graders (the grade with the highest response rate and the average grade level of kids at Van Go):

*When asked, "If you wanted to get marijuana, how easy would it be for you to get some?" 41.7% of Lawrence youth responded, "Very Easy" (state average: 37%).

*27% reported drinking beer, wine, or hard liquor at least once in the past 30 days.

*16.25% reported smoking marijuana in the last thirty days (state average: 12.64%).

The *Community Health Assessment Report*, through comprehensive surveys administered to 1,355 community members, found that 14% of youth and 10% of adults have engaged in binge drinking in the past 30 days. The report also states that more than 250 cases of preventable emergency room visits were due to excessive alcohol use.

In addition to drugs and alcohol, The Kansas Communities That Care student survey is asking about e-cigarette use for the first time in its current survey, which will provide statistics for Douglas County. Erica Anderson, Health Promotion Specialist at the Lawrence-Douglas County Health Department is currently evaluating an assessment of 93 convenience stores and e-cigarette businesses to get an idea of what type of messages the products are sending to local youth. Based on growing concern in Kansas, along with recent data suggesting that e-cigarette use can lead to increased tobacco usage, Van Go recently partnered with the Lawrence Public School's Prevention Specialist to present information about e-cigarette use. We intend to address this recent and dangerous trend in our prevention programs.

2D. Process Outcome: 100 at-risk teens and young adults, ages 14-24, will receive leadership development, skill-building, and employment training in 2016.

Behavioral Outcome: In 2016, 92% of the participants will show an improvement in their pre/post Workplace Evaluation scores or Individual Life Plans.

Impact Outcome: 100% of youth exiting programming at Van Go will make a successful transition into the workplace, prepared for independent living.

Outcome Evaluation: Van Go uses a pre/post Employee Work Evaluation form to measure growth in JAMS. An Individual Life Plan is created by The Arts Train

participants and social worker to set goals for successful independent living. They meet regularly to review goals and assess achievement.

Van Go has shown progress towards achieving our previously targeted outcomes. All 2015 goals are on track to be met.

2E. Van Go has developed a strong cooperative effort with agencies and authorities in Lawrence that work to meet the needs of the at-risk youth in our community. Van Go provides information and application packets to our 50+ referral agents, including school counselors, social workers, Bert Nash Community Health Center staff, juvenile justice officials, and other social service providers. Van Go also recruits youth who are parenting from Healthy Families, a division of the Douglas County Health Department. Each December, Van Go holds an open house to inform referrals of our needs and get referrals for the upcoming year. Because our referral agents have seen the impact of our programs over the past fifteen years, Van Go is able to serve youth who are most in need of our in-depth services. Specific details of some of these partnerships include:

1. Bert Nash Community Mental Health Center staff and WRAP social workers refer students to Van Go. Van Go also works closely with youth in the Therapeutic classroom. *(81% of youth working at Van Go have a mental health diagnosis)*
2. Douglas County Youth Services staff and juvenile court personnel refer youth to the JAMS program. *(20% of youth working at Van Go are court-involved).*
3. The Lawrence/Douglas County Housing Authority sponsors Summer JAMS apprentice-artists' their residents.
4. USD #497 - School counselors and social workers refer and recruit students, and relay grades, attendance and discipline problems so a coordinated effort can be made on behalf of each child. JAMS participants can earn high school credit for their participation in an 8-week session.
5. DCCCA provides onsite drug/alcohol prevention lessons five-six times each year
6. The Willow (domestic violence) and GaDuGi (sexual violence) deliver Life skills presentations that include information about how substance use and addiction can contribute to these forms of violence and the ability of victim/survivors to make reports, seek resources, leave their abuser.

In addition, our social workers often collaborate with individual probation officers at DCYS, social workers and counselors at school, and therapists and case managers at Bert Nash regarding shared clients who have a history of substance use or at risk for using substances.

2F. Van Go has a Board of Directors of highly respected community leaders who help with program development, evaluation, and fundraising. Staff members include a full-time Executive Director, Program Director, two part-time LMSWs, a contracted CPA, part-time development/marketing director and grant writer. Art staff includes part-time art instructors in painting, metal and woodworking. Van Go is a long-time recipient of Alcohol Tax Funds and has demonstrated its ability to effectively manage funds and meet objectives.

2G. Van Go requests \$32,000 from the alcohol tax fund, which is the same amount received in 2015. The organization has proven its capacity to effectively use alcohol tax funds in the past. Van Go anticipates making an annual request for Alcohol Tax funds, as the unique and effective prevention services we provide to at-risk teens are critically important to our community. Other funds for this program come from annual fundraisers, foundation support, product sales/commissions, business support, and individual contributions. Additionally, Van Go is the largest recipient in Kansas of the Department of Labor's Workforce Investment Act grant funding, which is anticipated to bring \$295,000 to Lawrence for a portion programming expenses, and staff and youth wages in 2016.

Van Go leverages this funding by using it as a portion of matching funds that are part of grant applications, specifically the NEA. Additional creative support also includes:

Social Work Interns: KU's graduate social work interns are typically assigned to Van Go each year. They work alongside our staff social workers, gaining valuable experience and providing essential support for the staff and youth.

VISTA Volunteer: Van Go will use 1 VISTA volunteer.

Community Volunteers: The programming delivered by Van Go wouldn't be possible without volunteers who, after passing a background check and attending an orientation session, provide daily assistance in the programs. This support from the community allows Van Go to maintain a 4:1 youth to adult ratio. Nearly 4,800 hours of volunteer time was provided in 2014.

Personnel: \$37,000

Executive Director (\$25,000): A portion of the salary full-time executive director, Lynne Green, who oversees operations. (Existing)

Social Worker (\$12,000): A portion of the salary of our social worker, who administers evaluations, administers the Pathways prevention curriculum, and supervises K.U. social work interns. (Existing)

Fringe Benefits \$7,000

FICA, Health Insurance: for existing personnel listed above.

Travel: 0

Office Space: 0

Supplies, Office & Other: 0

Equipment: 0

Van Go has not yet completed its 2016 budget, but the Board treasurer and Finance Director anticipate it will be similar to 2015.