

Elmer G Biddick

CHARITABLE FOUNDATION

11623 State Road 80 Livingston, WI 53554
Phone (608) 943-6363 Fax (608) 943-6365
www.biddickfoundation.com

Brian D. Nodolf - President
Rachel L. Jordan - Vice-President
Bradley D. Biddick - Secretary/Treasurer

Peggy J. Biddick
Robin M. Masters
James W. Neuendorf
Rebecca Stevicks

GRANT APPLICATION

***Must be received in our office on or before the due dates below**

Due Dates April 15th and October 15th

Date: October 6, 2017

Name of Organization (must match IRS 501(c)(3) designation) Suicide Prevention & Resource Center
BENS HOPE is under umbrella of this Center in Appleton

Address 660 7th Avenue

City, State, Zip Platteville, WI 53818

Phone 608-732-4728 (Patti Cullen)

Person Responsible for the Grant Requested Grant - Patti & Terry Cullen of BENS HOPE

Position in the Organization Joint owners of BENS HOPE and parents to BEN

Organization's Purpose Partnered with Suicide Prevention & Resource in effort to
reduce the stigma of suicide; raise awareness, offer support and hope;

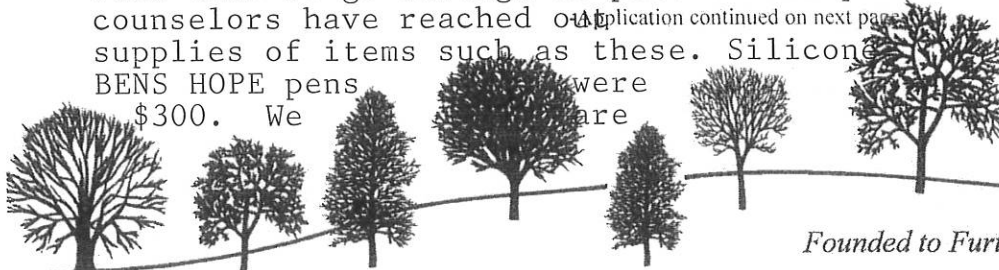
provide tools to others to aid in suicide prevention.

This application must include your organization's latest IRS Letter of Determination showing exemption and public support status. (Not required for units of Government & public schools).

Grant Request \$ \$2,500.00

Describe the reason for this grant request in the space below:

To offset expenses incurred from 3rd annual BENS HOPE Suicide Awareness-Prevention event; to establish our own 501C3 for BENS HOPE; to purchase supplies and materials used to host SOS meetings and provided during presentations, also for brochures placed in establishments around the community; to provide materials requested from schools after we initially visit and share material with them such as the BENS HOPE Safety and Crisis Plan that we go through as part of our presentation. UWP RA's and school counselors have reached out requesting additional supplies of items such as these. Silicone bracelets cost \$1,000; BENS HOPE pens were \$600. In day of event we are seeking monies from you and CESA 3 at this time, outside donations from walk.



Founded to Further the Growth Of Our Community.

INTERNAL REVENUE SERVICE
P. O. BOX 2508
CINCINNATI, OH 45201

DEPARTMENT OF THE TREASURY

Date: MAR 30 2014

SUICIDE PREVENTION & RESOURCE
CENTER INC
1127 EAST ROELAND AVENUE
APPLETON, WI 54915-2624

Employer Identification Number:
46-1223558
DLN:
17053335344022
Contact Person:
STEPHANIE L JONES TAYLOR ID# 31395
Contact Telephone Number:
(877) 829-5500
Accounting Period Ending:
December 31
Public Charity Status:
170(b)(1)(A)(vi)
Form 990 Required:
Yes
Effective Date of Exemption:
August 13, 2012
Contribution Deductibility:
Yes
Addendum Applies:
No

Dear Applicant:

We are pleased to inform you that upon review of your application for tax exempt status we have determined that you are exempt from Federal income tax under section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code. Contributions to you are deductible under section 170 of the Code. You are also qualified to receive tax deductible bequests, devises, transfers or gifts under section 2055, 2106 or 2522 of the Code. Because this letter could help resolve any questions regarding your exempt status, you should keep it in your permanent records.

Organizations exempt under section 501(c)(3) of the Code are further classified as either public charities or private foundations. We determined that you are a public charity under the Code section(s) listed in the heading of this letter.

Please see enclosed Publication 4221-PC, Compliance Guide for 501(c)(3) Public Charities, for some helpful information about your responsibilities as an exempt organization.

Sincerely,

Tamera Ripporda

Director, Exempt Organizations

Enclosure: Publication 4221-PC

Attachments to this grant that we find useful in considering your grant request.

- A. Supporting information.
 - 1. Specific use of grant.
 - 2. Time schedule.
 - 3. Other sources of funding.
 - 4. Describe the effect of postponing your request to another time.
 - 5. Describe who, when, how and where will the effects of this grant be felt.

- B. Your organization's history, activities, services, and composition. (Videos are of limited use.)

Please see attached which details BENS HOPE outreach efforts.

Applications are considered in June and December of each year. The corresponding deadlines are April 15th and October 15th. Concise grants that address the needed information are appreciated.

PLEASE SEND THIS APPLICATION TO ELMER G BIDDICK CHARITABLE FOUNDATION:

Biddick, Inc.
11623 State Road 80
Livingston, WI 53554
Phone (608) 943-6363
Fax (608) 943-6365

October 6, 2017

To Whom It May Concern,

On July 31, 2017, we sent an email to Jason Biddick and Brian Nodolf requesting a donation to aid in the 3rd annual BENS HOPE Suicide Prevention/Awareness event taking place September 23, 2017. Per Jason's email reply July 31, 2017, we are submitting this as application through the Elmer G Biddick Foundation, as he advised, to aid in our donation request.

A refresher of our history:

On November 11, 2014, our family was blindsided by suicide when our son Benjamin took his life. God spoke to us immediately reassuring us, we would find goodness in our tragedy. Our mission since has been to reduce the stigma of suicide, raise awareness and offer preventative tools as well as offer support, love and hope to others.

The first BENS HOPE Suicide Awareness/Prevention 5K/2Mile event was held in 2015 and has been an annual event since with numbers in attendance growing each year. This year we had 300 pre-registered attendees and over 100 more registered participants the day of this event. We were well over 400 in numbers with additional volunteers and spectators in attendance.

Biddick's graciously donated the meat which made our vision of the first 2015 BENS HOPE event possible. We are still grateful for this! Last year we received a \$1,000 check towards expenses, which we also appreciate! This year we are seeking donations to help us proceed on our mission.

The transformation of BENS HOPE continues to change and grow. While our initial intention was to find support that we needed to survive our son Ben's suicide, we realized quickly that support was needed for others struggling. Learning this, we purchased materials through the American Foundation of Suicide Prevention (AFSP) and attained training to become Peer Facilitators through BENS HOPE. We started a Community "Survivors of Suicide" (SOS) support group in March 2015 and continue to host this monthly support in Platteville. Anyone is welcome; there is no charge to attend.

In March 2017, we were asked by Jason Artz from UWP Counseling to co-facilitate an SOS support group on campus, which we agreed to. These meetings are typically held bi-monthly and interestingly enough some of the students who attend SOS on campus, also join us for the Community SOS.

While the first attendees sought were truly survivors of suicide, we have since learned of people seeking support after they themselves attempted suicide or have a family member who tried, some attending have suicidal ideation and others are there for support because they are just at a point in life where they are struggling. SOS groups offer support, love and hope in a trusted environment without judgement. Our family has grown tremendously by the relationships developed since this all began. This has been a blessing in disguise and amazing to witness.

We would like to share these items below to validate our desire of BENS HOPE outreach efforts in addition to the BENS HOPE 5K/2Mile Suicide Awareness/Prevention event.

June 15, 2016 - Terry and I spoke at WI Funeral Directors 135 Convention in WI Dells. We were graciously approached by many attendees afterwards who paid their condolences, offered support or gave us accolades on our efforts.

August 2, 2016 – Speaking engagement at 6:15 with EMS crew at SWHC. Invited three attendees from Community SOS to join us, to share their stories as well.

August 16, 2016 – SOS Group spoke to Platteville Police Department in training effort to share our stories on experiences good or bad with officials involved in respective suicides.

August 18, 2016 - SOS Group spoke to Platteville Police Department in training effort to share our stories on experiences good or bad with officials involved in respective suicides.

September 6, 2016 – Terry and I met with Daryl Fischer at Queen B Radio to promote BENS HOPE event September 24, 2016.

September 15, 2016 – UWP speaking engagement as panel with others from SOS group per invite from Jason Artz in Nohr Gallery/Ullsvik Center 5 – 6:30.

September 19, 2016 – Speaking engagement at Dickeyville with EMS group per invite from Dorothy Carey 7 PM.

2nd Annual BENS HOPE Event – Sat September 24, 2016

September 27, 2016 – Presentation at Betty Smith's Home per invite from Beverly Holler (Holler@centurylink.net - 6083488831) with a Women's Group.

September 29, 2016 - Accepted invite from Kathy Hottenstein from Tri County Response Team and made presentation at City Hall as part of Night of Enlightenment.

October 4, 2016 – Meeting with Director Karen Bradley of Clarity Clinic 4 PM

October 12, 2016 – Accepted invitation for lunch and presentation made at CESA 3 to counselors from SW WI area.

October 26, 2016 – Meeting with Jason Artz to discuss starting SOS on campus at UWP.

December 9, 2016 – lunch meeting with Katie Banik (and another person from Eye Bank) @ Gina's to discuss being an Ambassador for Lions Eye Bank.

January 5, 2017 – Meeting with Karen at Clarity 4 – 6 PM. Provided brochures and bracelets for tissue donation.

January 10, 2017 – Community SOS

January 12, 2017 – Meeting with Jason Artz at UWP regarding SOS efforts at 3:30 PM. Meeting following at Clarity Clinic at 5 PM.

January 23, 2017 – Meeting with Vicki Feldman at Platteville Middle School regarding suicide prevention awareness presentations with five – 8th grade classrooms.

February 6, 2017 – Meeting with Jason Artz at UWP regarding SOS efforts.

February 8, 2017 – Meeting at Clarity with Karen and educator on staff – Mary Ellen to discuss suicide awareness – prevention presentations in schools.

February 9, 2017 – Meeting with Jason Artz at UWP to go over format before first UWP Campus SOS.

February 14, 2017 – Community SOS

February 21, 2017 – Accepted invite from Darlington Lafayette Country Rural Safety Coalition to attend meeting and discuss their efforts of reviewing deaths in kids 21 and under. They realize suicide is creeping into statistics and inquired on how BENS HOPE can contribute. Became our mission through prayers and faith to prepare tools to aid in suicide prevention. Purchased BENS

HOPE “tent cards” that contain Safety & Crisis Plan and resource information. We complete these with students during onsite presentations. Also purchased silicone bracelets that contain Suicide Hopeline Text # to utilize when in crisis or struggling. We provide bracelets at presentations at the BENS HOPE Suicide Awareness/Prevention event.

February 23, 2017 – UWP Campus SOS from 5 – 6:30 PM

February 28, 2017 – Meeting at Clarity with Mary Ellen and Karen to discuss in-school presentation content.

March 2, 2017 – Interview at UWP with Sara from Exponent.

March 13, 2017 – Meeting with Bob Lenz from Life Promotions at noon in Appleton, WI at SAP. Prayed together and discussed our efforts to date and offered our services to help promote suicide awareness/prevention and offer support to those he may encounter.

March 14, 2017 – Community SOS

March 23, 2017 – Campus SOS meeting held at UWP

April 6, 2017 – Campus SOS meeting held at UWP – this session Royce Hall

April 11, 2017 – Community SOS

April 19, 2017 – Three 8th grade presentations at Platteville Middle School 8:10 – 11:05 AM to educate on suicide awareness/prevention. Also spoke at Parents group meeting in evening from 6 – 7:30 PM at Platteville High School.

April 20, 2017 – Two 8th grade presentations at Platteville Middle School 12:00 – 1:40 PM.

April 20, 2017 – Terry and I had interview with United Way after applying for monies from them to aid in suicide awareness/prevention efforts.

April 25, 2017 – To Clarity Clinic – delivered new BENS HOPE bracelets for them to handout.

April 27, 2017 – Campus SOS meeting held at UWP

May 2, 2017 – Meeting with Barb Daus to discuss BENS HOPE and managing funds/grants/applied for.

May 3, 2017 – Listened to “Screening for Mental Health” Webinar 1 – 2 PM.

May 4, 2017 – Last Campus SOS at UWP for this school year

May 9, 2017 – Community SOS

May 18, 2017 – Attended Mental Health in the Workplace presentation at WI Bank & Trust from 8 – 10 PM. Speaker was Greg Chism from Madison who also promoted his and other Employee Assistance Program (EAPs). Mostly attendees represented Human Resources. Shared my personal experience when opportunity presented itself to offer perspective they hadn’t considered. Feel EAPs would have been beneficial after Ben’s suicide.

June 13, Community SOS

June 19, 2017 – Spoke with Executive Team regarding EPA and presented materials.

June 29, 2017- Meeting with Reporter Allie Hinga from the Telegraph Herald – she’s meeting with different families who have endured a tragic loss and are finding goodness through their tragedy. Our story was one of the stories featured with others. After article ran, we received call from Mary Potter Kenyon who asked us to partake in a Healing Grief Conference at Shalom Center in Dubuque this fall.

July 11, 2017 – Community SOS

August 14, 2017 – Meeting with Daryl Fischer from radio station to promote BENS HOPE event

August 28, 2017 – Presentation at UWP to 150 RA students as requested from Robin Gore at UWP; These RAs will be in position to interact with hundreds of other students. We shared story of Ben’s suicide, our journey since; went through Safety & Crisis Plan, handed out bracelets and explained resources and informed them of Campus SOS.

August 29, 2017 – Two presentations at UWP as requested by Crystal who oversees students; 120 students in Dining Services who will interact with additional 550 students in dining services, but did presentation in two back to back sessions. Shared story of Ben's suicide, our journey since; went through Safety & Crisis Plan, handed out bracelets and explained resources and informed them of Campus SOS.

September 4, 2017 – I decided to join an online class hosted by Elaine, a woman from Georgia mentioned by AFSP. This group is exclusive to mom's who have lost their child to suicide. I've felt for the past months the desire to seek other mothers who can identify and know the pain and anguish of losing a child to suicide. Praying, hopeful and excited to learn tools and techniques to move forward in life and find true joy again. Also to manage the guilt, shame and feelings associated with the stigma that come from "mind chatter" as our instructor calls it. Keeping the faith that as I move forward on my journey, I can share what I've learned with others through workshops and events to bring them hope and out of darkness and sadness that can spiral at any given moment. (Total of 4 classes) Also spoke on phone to instructor about having her mentor me for this purpose once the class sessions wrap up.

September 12, 2017 – Community SOS

September 14, 2017 – Terry and I accepted invite to speak at Open Forum at UWP Campus after counseling department provided introductions and shared Beyond the Silence Video. Q&A followed.

September 23, 2017 – BENS HOPE 3rd Annual 5K/2M event with over 400 registered attendees!!

October 5, 2017 – UWP Campus SOS 5 – 6:30

October 6 & 7, 2017 – Terry and I accepted invite to partake in Healing Grief Conference at Shalom Center in Dubuque Iowa and will be presenters during afternoon workshop.

Words cannot express how much we miss Ben. While we never anticipated that suicide would be part of our lives, it is, but we know we must go on. By the Grace of God, we're doing just that. God continues giving us the faith, strength, guidance and words to speak and raise awareness, offer support and develop tools to provide to students as a means of suicide prevention. As we witness these blessings, we know without a doubt, these are gifts from God.

As the Ripple effect of BENS HOPE continues to move into schools, homes, across town, outside the community and into the hearts of many, our ideas and expenses continue to grow. We appreciate your consideration to make a donation allowing us to continue our mission work.

We wish to sincerely thank you for considering our request.

Sincerely in Faith,

Patti & Terry Cullen