

May 1, 2020

Homeless Services Advisory Committee (HSAC)  
c/o City of Long Beach, Dept. of Health and Human Services  
2525 Grand Ave. Room 235  
Long Beach, CA.

Dear HSAC Representatives:

This is an application for grant funding from the Mayor's Fund for the Homeless submitted by Wrap The Kids.

Wrap The Kids is a 501 c3 non profit organization located in Long Beach, CA. Wrap The Kids was established in 2014 and has been dedicated to serving the homeless and unsheltered in Long Beach. W.T.K. was founded by me, Susanna Twaite. I am honored to serve as its CEO.

**A. History and Background:**

1. Founded in 2014, Wrap The Kids was created to help the homeless learn a skill, thereby increasing the likelihood that this skill development would lead to future employment and closer to economic self - sufficiency. As a former homeless individual, I know firsthand the many challenges and obstacles our homeless face on a daily basis.
2. Wrap The Kids began by teaching a small group of homeless basic sewing skills. We began hand crafting quilts, blankets and comforters which were then distributed to the homeless within our community. Over the past 6 years, Wrap The Kids has expanded its services to included food and clothing distribution, coordination and referral to social service agencies for all types of assistance, transportation services for the homeless for doctor's appointments, court appointments.

**B. Statement of Need:**

1. Beginning in early March, 2020 as the Covid – 19 crisis was emerging and expanding, Wrap The Kids quickly transitioned from sewing blankets and quilts to hand crafting cloth face masks. The masks, along with bottles of hand sanitizers and latex/nitrile gloves were assembled in to care packages. To date, Wrap The Kids has made and distributed more than 200 cloth face masks and related health and safety supplies to the homeless and unsheltered in our community.
3. Our all - volunteer staff of community outreach workers can testify that the need for these

masks remain strong as the local health and safety precautionary guidelines have expanded to now make it a requirement that all individuals wear a face mask when out in public.

The homeless frequent essential businesses such as grocery stores, banks, post office. They need face mask just as much as the rest of us.

4. Wrap The Kids is requesting a grant in the amount of \$6,000. To enable us to produce a minimum of 500 additional cloth face masks. Grant funds will also be used to purchase additional hand sanitizer bottles and gloves which will also be distributed free of charge to the homeless. A detailed budget is attached for the committee's review.
5. Wrap The Kids has firsthand, intimate knowledge of the homeless encampments and temporary shelters established along the 710 freeway and the adjoining L.A. riverbed in N. Long Beach. Our volunteer community outreach workers know where the homeless are living.

**C. Summary statement:**

1. Wrap The Kids has demonstrated the ability to hand craft these desperately needed and required cloth face masks.
2. We believe we have earned the trust and the respect from the local homeless and unsheltered community to be able to reach out and effectively serve the homeless.

We believe our grant application meets the guidelines established for the Mayor's Fund for the Homeless.

We would be happy to answer any questions you may have and we invite you to visit us at our headquarters on Artesia Blvd in N. Long Beach. As long as you are wearing your masks.

Thank you in advance for your time and serious consideration of our request.

Sincerely,

Susanna Twaite, CEO  
Wrap The Kids  
297 E. Artesia Blvd.  
Long Beach, CA. 90805 -1213  
Tax I.D. 47-2234272

cc. Mayor Robert Garcia