

# 2026 HFI FUNDING REQUEST

## REQUESTING ORGANIZATION

IRIS FAMILY SUPPORT CENTER

Address: 500 W Main Street, Fort Wayne, IN 46802

Phone: 260-421-5000

## SIGNATORY

Dee Szyndrowski

## MISSION STATEMENT

Iris Family Support Center protects children, prepares parents, strengthens families, and educates our community to Stop Child Abuse and Neglect.

## PROJECT:

We seek to provide three primary services to support DeKalb County. Within the area of Access and Linkage/Referrals to Clinical Care, we will provide counseling and groups to individuals recovering from substance misuse. Additionally, we will provide services through the Child Maltreatment Clinic, connecting victims to clinicians and services needed to heal. In Trauma and Injury Prevention and Education, we will provide the Monique Burr training, an evidence-based curriculum that covers both substance misuse, gun safety, and body safety in a way that children and adults can retain.

## TARGET POPULATION:

We intend to serve 2,125 individuals in DeKalb County. Through Family Connections, we will serve families healing from substance misuse with a goal of 25 participants attending at least 4 sessions. Through Prevention Education, we will serve children in local schools and adult teachers and volunteers, providing essential evidence-based education on these health topics with a goal of reaching 2,000 participants. Through the Child Maltreatment Clinic, we will serve approximately 100 individuals who are actively experiencing abuse or neglect in their homes.

## OUTCOMES:

We will measure Substance Misuse services by 85% of individuals participating in substance misuse clinical therapy or groups achieving a goal. We will measure Prevention Education by 95% of individuals participating in a pre-/post-test indicating increased knowledge. We will measure Child Maltreatment Work by 100% of individuals being matched to appropriate referrals and services with follow-up tracking provided upon referral.

## HEALTH EQUITY STATEMENT:

Iris Family Support Center works to provide health services within DeKalb County regardless of financial, language or access barriers. We achieve this through seeking funding support to underwrite therapeutic solutions and billing insurance or Medicaid when possible to extend funding to those who need it most. We market and provide services in multiple locations with bus access and an array of languages to equalize access and reduce barriers of transportation, language, or culture.

#### **BUDGET REQUEST:**

\$30,000.00

#### **BUDGET JUSTIFICATION:**

\$30,000 \$10,000 – Salary for therapists providing substance misuse services \$10,000 – Salary for Prevention Coordinator providing education \$10,000 – Salary for Child Maltreatment Coordinator providing referrals and follow-up services.

#### **SUSTAINABILITY PLAN:**

This program will be sustained through continued outreach to foundations and granting programs. By seeking to create proactive partnership with health-related funders and programs, we will continue to sustain these vital partnerships to support the long-term health and functioning of the DeKalb community. In practice, this will look like continuing to partner with and seek support from local hospital systems such as Parkview and IU Health, as well as deepening relationships with family foundations and donors in the DeKalb County area.

#### **DIGITAL SIGNATURE:**

*Whitney Craig*