

Foundation For Voice Restoration

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Director of Grants Management
The California Wellness Foundation
6320 Canoga Avenue, Suite 1700
Woodland Hills, CA 91367

Dear Director,

Thank you for this opportunity to introduce you to the Foundation for Voice Restoration. We hope upon review of this letter of inquiry, the California Wellness Foundation will invite our organization to submit a full grant proposal for funding consideration.

The Foundation for Voice Restoration is a non-profit 501(c) 3 organization dedicated to supporting persons with cancers of the neck and head, especially those who face the life-altering challenges of learning to speak again after having ones larynx surgically removed. In addition to the direct instructional, informative, and emotionally supportive offerings of our program to patients and survivors of this type of cancer, we also focus heavily on arming the medical community with up-to-date information regarding the various treatment options available today, as well as helping the clinician understand the mental health components to fighting this illness AND facing the daunting tasks involved in rehabilitation. Without our efforts, resources in this specific cancer field are virtually non-existent in the United States.

Although our organization has been in existence since 2003 and has, since that time, provided invaluable services within California and throughout the nation, we are now implementing comprehensive fundraising and program development plans to move our endeavors to the next level. We are optimistic that upon reading our materials you will clearly see how your foundation can help us make a dramatic difference in the field of cancer treatment options, in addition to educating children regarding the dangers of tobacco and alcohol use, leading causes of cancers of the neck and head.

Mission Statement

The Foundation for Voice Restoration is a 501(c) 3 non-profit organization dedicated to the development of improved communication options, resources, and services for individuals afflicted by cancer of the larynx. The program provides educational information directed to the head & neck surgery and speech-language pathology communities to promote the most effective methods of speech rehabilitation, collaborative research initiatives and contributions to prosthetic advancements, extensive outreach services for the Laryngectomee community, and preventative programs for school-aged children and the general public aimed at minimizing the prevalence of cancer of the larynx by reducing or eliminating the use of tobacco products and alcohol.

Activities

1. Establish central office headquarters.
2. Hire a full-time Director of Outreach Services and part-time Office Manager/Bookkeeper.
3. Pre and Post Op hospital consultations with persons newly diagnosed with cancer of the larynx.
4. Outreach, education, and instruction for the Laryngectomee community and healthcare clinicians through Voice Clubs, Voice Clinics, trade shows, and manuals/instructional DVDs.

5. Creation and maintenance of a website offering the most up-to-date information and resources for persons with cancers of the neck and head, Laryngectomees, families, and healthcare providers, nationwide.
6. Preventative programming at area elementary and high schools regarding the risks of tobacco and alcohol usage as relates to cancers of the neck and head, provided by Laryngectomees.
7. Development of a standardized curriculum for anti-tobacco/alcohol programs, geared towards national duplication of presentations.
8. Ongoing grant submissions for funding support with the assistance of a consultant.

Region & Population Served

The Foundation for Voice Restoration is a California-based organization that operates primarily in Santa Clara, San Mateo, Alameda, Monterey, San Francisco, Marin, Contra Costa, Solano, and Sonoma counties, however a number of our projects include national presence and reach. The Outreach Program serves cancer patients and survivors, Laryngectomees, families, healthcare practitioners, school-aged children, and the general public.

How The Funds Will Be Used

Personal donations by Foundation for Voice Restoration Board members have been, until now, our sole source of funding support. In order to move our Outreach Program to the next level, increasing our effectiveness and extending our impact, we now need to move away from volunteerism and seek funding from foundations and other resources.

A grant award for core operating support from the California Wellness Foundation will enable us to engage in extensive program development activities such as expanding our networks with hospitals and schools throughout the region and country, as well as developing a standardized preventative program curriculum, establishing a central office headquarters in Santa Clara, creating our marketing and instructional tools, increasing our pool of Laryngectomee Trainers for hospital consults and school presentations, and meeting our fundraising costs, specifically those anticipated for grantwriting fees based on our new fiscal development plan.

Total Amount Requested

We request a 3-year grant award in the amount of \$100,000 per year. During this time, we expect to build our funding base through additional grant awards and other fundraising activities, as well as experience a modest level of fiscal sustainability through the sale of publications and DVDs slotted for release this year. These media products will be available free of charge to Laryngectomees and at a nominal fee for practitioners.

In closing, we look forward to hearing from you and hope our initial information will result in an invitation to apply for financial support. We are eager to provide any additional materials that may aid in your decision. You may contact me at 408-761-1100, or our Director of Outreach Services, John Ready, at 415-810-1109.

Thank you for the consideration of our organization's materials. The Foundation for Voice Restoration hopes to add you to a soon-to-be long list of partners, as we together address the currently unmet healthcare needs of our friends and neighbors.

Sincerely,

Robert F. Kelley
Managing Director
Treasurer, Board of Directors