



Storyteller

CHILDREN'S CENTER

Caring for our community's children

April 13, 2022

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Dear Grants Committee,

We are pleased to be invited by Stacey Lydon to apply for a grant from the Santa Barbara Rotary Charitable Foundation. We are requesting \$10,000 in support of our Food Program for our 2022/2023 fiscal year.

Storyteller Children's Center

Founded in 1988, Storyteller Children's Center is a therapeutic preschool that provides high-quality early childhood education for homeless and at-risk children in Santa Barbara County, as well as comprehensive support services for their families.

Funding Request

Storyteller is respectfully requesting \$10,000 to support our Food Program that provides a healthy breakfast, lunch, and snack free of charge for an estimated 80 children 246 days out of the year. A nutritious diet is a critical part of achieving educational and behavioral goals. A well-fed child is more focused and ready to learn, making our food program an extremely important component of our general operations. Over the past two years, the Santa Barbara Unified School District, with whom we contract with for meals, has raised their meal costs creating an unanticipated budget increase for Storyteller from \$6.75/child per day to \$10.50/child per day, an increase of 56% in the span of two years. We anticipate that this cost will most likely go up again. Though government aid will reimburse at a 40% rate, we will need to address a 60% funding gap (or \$80,590) for our 22-23 fiscal year.

We are fortunate to receive support from dedicated foundations within the Santa Barbara community. For our 22-23 food program, we are seeking funding from the following donors/sources: Ann Jackson Family Foundation (pending), Child and Adult Care Food Program (received), Montecito Bank & Trust Community Dividends (pending), Vitamin Angels (pending). We also receive individual donations as well as funds through events, annual appeals and contract revenue.

If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact me at (805) 730-0155 or via email at adrienne@storytellercenter.org.

Thank you for your consideration in supporting our mission.

In gratitude,

Adrienne De Guevara
Director of Development

2115 State Street,
Santa Barbara, CA 93105
Ph 805.682.9585
Fx 805.687.0780

storytellercenter.org