

Budget Detail Request - Fiscal Year 2016-17

Your request will not be officially submitted unless all questions and applicable sub parts are answered.

1. Title of Project: Parents Together for their Children (PaTCH)
2. Date of Submission: 01/05/2016
3. House Member Sponsor(s): Bill Hager

4. DETAILS OF AMOUNT REQUESTED:

- a. Has funding been provided in a previous state budget for this activity? No
If answer to 4a is ?NO? skip 4b and 4c and proceed to 4d
- b. What is the most recent fiscal year the project was funded?
- c. Were the funds provided in the most recent fiscal year subsequently vetoed? No
- d. Complete the following Project Request Worksheet to develop your request (Note that Column E will be the total of Recurring funds requested and Column F will be the total Nonrecurring funds requested, the sum of which is the Total of the Funds you are requesting in Column G):

FY:	Input Prior Year Appropriation for this project for FY 2015-16 (If appropriated in FY 2015-16 enter the appropriated amount, even if vetoed.)			Develop New Funds Request for FY 2016-17 (If no new Recurring or Nonrecurring funding is requested, enter zeros.)			
	Column: A	B	C	D	E	F	G
Funds Description:	Prior Year Recurring Funds	Prior Year Nonrecurring Funds	Total Funds Appropriated (Recurring plus Nonrecurring: Column A + Column B)	Recurring Base Budget (Will equal non-vetoed amounts provided in Column A)	INCREASED or NEW Recurring Requested	TOTAL Nonrecurring Requested (Nonrecurring is one time funding & must be re-requested every year)	Total Funds Requested Over Base Funding (Recurring plus Nonrecurring: Column E + Column F)
Input Amounts:					242,018	2,900	244,918

- e. New Nonrecurring Funding Requested for FY 16-17 will be used for:
 Operating Expenses Fixed Capital Construction Other one-time costs
- f. New Recurring Funding Requested for FY 16-17 will be used for:
 Operating Expenses Fixed Capital Construction Other one-time costs

5. Requester:

- a. Name: Mark Roseman
- b. Organization: The Toby Center
- c. Email: Mark.Roseman@thetobycenter.org
- d. Phone #: (561)244-0100

6. Organization or Name of Entity Receiving Funds:

- a. Name: The Toby Center
- b. County (County where funds are to be expended) Broward, Highlands, Hillsborough, Orange, Palm Beach, Polk, Seminole
- c. Service Area (Counties being served by the service(s) provided with funding) Broward, Highlands, Hillsborough, Orange, Palm Beach, Polk, Seminole

7. Write a project description that will serve as a stand-alone summary of the project for legislative review. The description should summarize the entire project's intended purpose, the purpose of the funds requested (if request is a sub-part of the entire project), and most importantly the detail on how the funds requested will be spent - for example how much will be spent on positions and associated salaries, specifics on capital costs, and detail of operational expenses. The summary must list what local, regional or statewide interests or areas are served. It should also document the need for the funds, the community support and expected results when applicable. Be sure to include the type and amount of services as well as the number of the specific target population that will be served (such as number of home health visits to X, # of elderly, # of school aged children to receive mentoring, # of violent crime victims to receive once a week counseling etc.)

Intended purpose

Parents Together for their Children (PaTCh) will provide supervised visitation (standard and therapeutic) between parent and child. Both standard and therapeutic supervised visitations are essential family court requirements for the resolution of custodial issues; and for ensuring a child's safety.

Supervised visitation is an important component in eliminating violence and potential harm toward children at risk of abuse or neglect; for promoting appropriate interactions and healthy relationships between the child and the non-custodial parent; and/or for establishing opportunities for parents to meet the physical and emotional needs of their children who are not in their care. Through supervised visitation children are helped to build relationships and bond with non-custodial parents. It facilitates movement into safe and supportive co-parenting arrangements. The child's sense of security and normalcy is increased and children are protected from custody and visitation disputes as custodial parents learn to accept non-custodial parents into the child's life.

Because supervised visitation will be conducted by highly-trained monitors and therapeutic counselors, it has a profound effect on the success and the safety of the visitation and on long term outcomes for the child. To be most effective, PaTCh ensures that supervised visitation meets the standards developed in 2008 by the State's Supervised Visitation Standards Committee. These include supervised visitation training, domestic violence training, reporting, accountability, and safety.

The Toby Center meets these standards and is one of the few respected and recognized providers of supervised visitation in Florida. The Toby Center builds strategic partnerships with the faith-based community and non-profit organizations for efficient delivery and more accessible services for single, separated, divorced and never married parents and their children.

Purpose of the funds requested (if a sub-part of entire project)

While some families are able to pay for supervised visitation services, many families in the family court systems are unable to afford professional supervised visitation by trained staff. Requested funds will provide financial assistance to increase the numbers of low-income families able to access quality supervised visitation that meets the State's Supervised Visitation Standards. Without that assistance parents may not be able to comply with court mandates, or they may participate in inadequate supervised visitation facilitated by poorly or untrained monitors. This could have long term negative consequences on the child and on the success of long-term co-parenting.

Detail on how the funds will be spent.

RECURRING EXPENSES Requested Funding Justification

SALARIES and WAGES

CEO 39,000 .6 of \$65,000 annual salary. Ensure quality, provide training, and build collaborations.

Clinical Supervisor 18,750 Licensed (family therapist, mental health counselor, clinical psychologist, etc.) and certified in supervision by the state. 5 hours/week x 50 weeks x \$75/hr. Provide clinical supervision for therapeutic family monitors.

Program Director 40,000 \$40,000 annual salary. Oversees program and supervises family monitors. Helps recruit families, trains monitors, and is responsible for quality control of services.

Intake Coordinator 10,800 12 hours a week x \$18/hour x 50 weeks

Total salaries 111,550

BENEFITS

Total benefits 8,366 FICA @ .075

CONTRACTED EMPLOYEES

Therapeutic Supervised Visitation Monitors (TSV) 81,380 Therapeutic Supervised Visitation. 48 weeks x 2 clients x 2 hours/week x 6 TSV = 74,800; plus 5 custodial parent groups (3 in Central Florida and 2 in South Florida), meeting monthly for 10 months x 2 hours a session @ \$65= \$6,500.

Standard Monitors SVN 38,400 Therapeutic Supervised Visitation. 48 weeks x 2 clients x 2 hours/week x 10 SVN = \$74,800

Child Care for Custodial Parent Groups 1,500 Child care for supervised visitation. 1 child care worker at each session, 5 sessions/month x 10 months x \$15/hour.

Security Guard 6,720 192 hours (2/5 hours per supervised visitation) x \$35/hour to provide security for 5% of families who may exhibit more challenging behaviors.

Total contracted employees 128,000

OPERATIONAL EXPENSES

Office Space 2,520 Offices in Casselberry and Lakeland @ \$150/month x 12 x .60 = \$2,160; Office in Pompano @ \$50/month x 12 = \$600 x .60= \$360.
Telephony 1,152 Cell phone \$130 month; 800 number \$30 month x 12 months x .6= In kind contribution of phone system from administrative offices \$100 month x 12 months.
Computer software 1,800 Red Boot Hipaa compliant software for therapeutic family monitors \$150 month x 12 months.
Supplies 1,000 General office supplies.
Total Operational Expenses 6,472

PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT

Conferences 1,600 2 professional conferences a year x \$800 per conference
Staff training 3,300 Full day trainings for Training of both therapeutic and standard family monitors in substance abuse and domestic violence; and PTSD 4 trainings (2 in Central and 2 in South Florida) @ \$825/training.
Total Professional Development 4,900

TOTAL DIRECT EXPENSES 254,388

INDIRECT COST 25,439 Includes accounting \$7,000 x .6; Admin 30,000 x .6

TOTAL PROJECT 284,388

Other Revenue 42,709 Parent Co-pay @15% (Sliding fee scale will range from 10-20\$ depending on income; 15% represents an average).

TOTAL REQUEST 242, 018 Project costs minus parent co-pay

NO-RECURRING EXPENSES Requested Funding Justification

Computers 2,150 2 desk tops @ \$700 = \$1,400. One laptop @750

LCD Projector 500 For Training, Interagency and Community Presentations

Printers 250 2 printers @ \$125 each = \$250.

TOTAL REQUEST 2,900

Local, regional or statewide interests or areas are served.

State and local communities benefit from stable families. Children in safe, secure families, with both parents involved in the child's life are more likely to graduate high school and are less likely to become teen parents, abuse substances (including alcohol and tobacco), commit suicide, and/or enter the juvenile justice system. Helping families become stable, effectively engaging the non custodial father or mother safely into a child's life, encouraging co-parenting when

appropriate, and giving parents the tools to strengthen parent-child and parent-parent relationships profoundly impacts the child's emotional and physical development; and increases confidence, self-esteem, the ability to make healthy life choices, and the chances to succeed in school and in life.
Need for the funds.

The need for supervised visitation: A consistent, positive, supportive parent-child relationship is central to the child's sense of security, self-esteem, and healthy development. In the battle between parents in family court, children are often stuck in the middle. They are deeply affected when they lose contact with non-custodial parents. Without resolution children are at greater risk of teen pregnancy, substance abuse, suicide, entering the juvenile justice system, or dropping out of school (www.photius.com)

Supervised visitation has been shown to have a positive impact on the well-being of children who are in the family court systems. These children have been impacted by trauma from custody and visitation disputes, absentee parents wanting to return to their child's life, and parental separation from the child because of domestic violence, incarceration, or substance abuse. Almost two thirds of cases in family court in Central or South Florida involve domestic violence, allegations of domestic violence, or substance/alcohol abuse (Florida Clearinghouse on Supervised Visitation, 2014).

Even with these family challenges, supervised visitation can have a huge impact on a child's life. Parents who participate in a supervised visitation program report an increase in parent-child contact, lower conflict between parents, and an increase in their children's happiness and well-being (Pearson and Thomes, 2000).

From October 2013 through September 2014, there were more than 2,600 documented cases were referred by family courts in Florida for supervised visitation. These included 9,512 clients (4,360 children, 3,225 visitors who were non-custodial parents and other family members permitted by the court or the agency to have supervised visitation, 1,927 custodians/others). These numbers represents an increase of 16.8% over the last 4 years (the Clearinghouse on Supervised Visitation, 2014)

While the demand for supervised visitation is growing, there has been a loss of providers by nearly 18 percent (Florida Clearinghouse on Supervised Visitation, 2014). Currently, agencies in Central and South Florida serving families in the family court system report a wait list of three to six weeks for supervised visitation. This delay can have a significant impact on children, often creating an increased sense of alienation or feeling of abandonment. Rebuilding the child's relationship with his/her parents becomes a greater challenge.

The importance of frequency, quality, and standards for supervised visitation: The frequency of supervised visitation has a positive impact on children and on family systems. Kufeldt and Armstrong (1995) reported that children who saw their parent(s) less than once a month felt they suffered as a result of not maintaining contact with their birth parent(s).

Because of the complex issues and family dynamics for families requiring supervised visitation, not only is the frequency of supervised visitation important, but

the quality of the supervision is essential for both safety and success. In a 2014 report by the State Clearinghouse, more than half of family court cases requiring supervised visitation had domestic violence as a primary or a secondary allegation. 46% of the cases had parental substance abuse as a primary or secondary issue.

There should be a continuum of therapeutic intensity for supervised visitation. High -functioning parents would require minimal intervention; families with exceptionally challenging and deep-seated issues should receive longer-term and more systematic intervention. The intensity of the majority of cases would fall somewhere in the middle (Marshall, 2014. Similarly, Kelly & Johnson, (2008). An understanding of appropriate visitation is needed to increase the child's safety and reduce tension in high conflict families (Jaffe, Johnston, Crook & Bala, 2008).

The cost of supervised visitation and incomes of parents: As studies have shown, it is critical that supervised visitation programs have appropriate frequency and well-trained, certified staff to ensure quality and safety. Yet, a study of 47 supervised visitation programs in Florida, reported that programs were not adequately funded (Crook and Oehme, 2007). This resulted in limited hours of operation, delay or denial services to needy families, and/or under- or unpaid staff.

In the family court system, parents are often ordered to engage in supervised visitation to resolve custody issues. They are required to pay for these visits themselves. This is particularly challenging for low-income families. According to the State Clearinghouse on Supervised Visitation (2014), three quarters of all families requiring visitation services from October 2013 through September 2014 had incomes less than \$29,000; and almost half of families requiring visitation had incomes less than \$19,000.

The Toby Center reports that since 2010, 40% of the families needing supervised visitation could not afford the standard fee. It thus developed a sliding fee scale, allowing the most indigent families to pay only 60% of the standard fee. Even with that assistance, a great many families could not meet their co-pay requirements. Even though supervised visitation is critical for parents to stabilize their families, over the last two years, an average of eight families a month was turned away because of their limited financial resources. This represents 30% of the families served in Broward, Palm Beach, Hillsborough, and Highland counties; 25% of families wanting supervised visitation in Orange and Seminole Counties; 40% of families in Polk County; and 10% of families in Brevard.

References:

The Clearinghouse on Supervised Visitation Annual Report: Supervised Visitation Database Case and Client Statistical Analysis, October 2014

Child Access and Visitation Programs: Participant Outcomes; Department of Health and Human Services Administration for Children and Families; Office of Child Support Enforcement January 2006

Crook, W. P., Oehme, K. (2007). Characteristics of Supervised Visitation Programs Serving Child Maltreatment and Other Cases, Oxford Journals on Brief Treatment and Crisis Intervention, 7(4).

Kufeldt&Armstrong: Making The Most of Visitation between Children and Their Families an Excerpt from "Practice Notes" From the North Carolina Division of Social Services and the Family and Children's Resource Program, Volume 5 No. 4

Marshall, T.A. An Examination of Existing and Necessary Qualifications of Practitioners Providing Supervised Visitation / Parenting Time Services, American International Journal of Social Science, Vol. 3, No. 7; December 2014.

http://www.photius.com/feminocracy/facts_on_fatherless_kids.html

Community support

The following organizations, agencies, institutions, and businesses are supportive of this project:

- . Florida State University's Clearinghouse on Supervised Visitation (School of Social Work)
- . Children's Movement of Florida, Miami
- . Polk County Circuit Court
- . Seminole County Court
- . Children's Rights Fund, Washington, DC
- . Rabbi Barry Silver, Esq.
- . St. Gregory's Episcopal Church, Boca Raton
- . St. Nicholas Episcopal Church, Pompano Beach
- . St. Benedict's Episcopal Church, Plantation
- . Christ Church of the Redeemer, Tampa
- . Kids Need Both, Inc., Lakeland
- . Ramsgate Insurance, Lake Wales
- . 1st Quality Insurance Group, Lake Wales
- . Kids Need Both, Casselberry
- . Presbyterian Church, Orlando Park
- . Supervised Visitation Network, Jacksonville

Expected results.

It is expected that a minimum of 83 families in the family court system in Central and South Florida who could not afford supervised visitation will be able to

receive financial assistance for supervised visitation (either standard or therapeutic depending on the court order). This will allow for resolution of custody issues. 80% of the families who complete their required visitation will be able to petition the court to terminate supervised visitation and then establish successful co-parenting relationships.

Because of the number of children, parents/grandparents, and extended family members that will be impacted through the establishment of effective co-parenting relationships, PaTCh has the potential of reaching more than 400 individuals.

Type and amount of services

Based on family needs, dynamics, and court orders, a family will receive either standard or therapeutic supervised visitation. Each visitation session lasts two hours. PaTCh will provide 1,920 hours of standard visitation and 1,152 hours of therapeutic visitation for a total of 3,072 hours of supervised visitation.

Standard visitation, facilitated by a supervised visitation monitor, will primarily occur in public settings throughout the community, i.e. children's museums, restaurants, parks, shopping malls, recreation places, etc. This promotes an opportunity for more normalized parent-child interaction and relationships.

In standard visitation, the family monitor will help reframe behaviors, prompt the parents about appropriate responses to their children's conduct, help the parent promote conversations, and guide children's responses. After the child leaves, the family monitor will debrief with the parent to help them evaluate their experience and reexamine goals and procedures for their next visit together.

For higher functioning families two-hour supervised visitation will generally occur every two weeks over 24 weeks for a total of 12 sessions, and 24 hours. For with more complex, high-conflict families, where there is animosity and/or no communication between custodial and non-custodial parents, where children may be alienated, or where are children are living with relatives and need to be connected with their biological parents (often when that parent is in substance abuse treatment), supervised visitation will occur weekly over 24 weeks for a total of 48 hours.

Families with multiple challenges ? i.e. domestic violence, substance abuse, post traumatic-stress disorder (PTSD) etc. will require therapeutic supervised visitation. The therapeutic family monitors, as clinicians, are more engaged and directed with parents and children. They question, explain, and redirect behaviors, conduct, and communication in order to achieve a healthier relationship and a more positive therapeutic outcome. Therapeutic visitation averages 48 hours, 2 hours a week over 24 weeks. Most of these visits will also occur in community settings. However, it is expected that 15% of families, because of family history and/or safety concerns, may require supervised visitation in a more traditional office settings. These visits will occur in a local Toby Center office. A security guard will be available to ensure safety.

To meet the need of custodial parents and help them understand and accept co-parenting, monthly group meetings will be held at 3 locations in Central Florida, and 2 locations in South Florida. Led by a therapeutic family monitor, these group sessions will help parents prepare for more normalized co-parenting after the

completion of supervised visitation. They will teach co-parenting, conflict resolution, and age-appropriate parenting skills.

The number of the specific target population that will be served.

83 low-income families will receive supervised visitation services. This will affect 456 individuals: 166 parents, 125 children at a projected average of 1.5 children per family, plus 166 extended family members (grandparents, aunts, uncles, etc.)

It is projected that 16 will require therapeutic supervised visitation because of domestic violence, substance abuse issues, dual diagnosis or severe family dysfunction. They will receive weekly two-hour supervised visitation for 24 weeks.

29 high-conflict, low-functioning families, will receive standard supervised visitation for 24 weeks. Each session will last two hours.

Finally another 38 higher-functioning families with less hostile and less conflicted relationships will receive 12 sessions of standard supervision, meeting two hours every other week for 24 weeks.

12-15 families of the total families served will be families of current military or veterans who otherwise may not be able to access or afford services. Often active service men and women will not access therapeutic treatment on base because of the stigma associated with therapy in the military and their fear that having therapy will negatively impact their career.

It is anticipated that over 50% of parents referred for supervised visitation will be white, with more than 30% evenly divided between African American and Hispanic. More than 50% of the non-custodial parents will be low income and have a low education achievement level. Based on past experience, between 50%-60% of parents seeing their children within the family court ordered supervised framework will be mothers.

8. Provide the total cost of the project for FY 2016-17 from all sources of funding:

Federal: 0

State: 244,918 (Excluding the requested Total Amount in #4d, Column G)

Local: 0

Other: 249,782

9. Is this a multi-year project requiring funding from the state for more than one year?

Yes