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**RESPONSE #308132299 SUBMITTED ON 08/04/2023 03:31:28 PM**

## LMC Class of 2023 Class Project Application

Agency Name	<b>Hope's Bridge</b>
Representative First Name	<b>Brandy</b>
Representative Last Name	<b>Williams</b>
Title	<b>Volunteer Project Coordinator</b>
Business Address	<b>3095 SH-105, Suite 200</b>
City	<b>Conroe</b>
State	<b>Tx</b>
Zip Code	<b>77304</b>
Business Phone	<b>936-703-3676</b>
Email	<b>info@hopes-bridge.org</b>
Website	<b>www.hopes-bridge.org</b>
Are you a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization?	<b>Yes</b>
Year Founded	<b>2017</b>
EIN Number	<b>84-1770790</b>
Number of Paid Staff	<b>None</b>

Have you applied for a LMC Class Project in the past? If so, which year(s)? **No**

1. Please describe the mission and vision of your organization.

**Mission Statement: We will build a bridge of hope through tangible resources, a relational walk, and the gospel message of Jesus Christ.**

**Vision Statement: We will serve foster, adoptive, and kinship families within Region 6 of DFPS and all surrounding counties that are in need by providing tangible resources that we have or are able to access through our community and church partnerships. Additionally, we will serve any family within a 15-mile radius of our physical location(s) that has a need with these same resources with a community or faith based referral of verified need. We will develop and build relationships with people that are beneficial in building up the family unit and/or person so as to develop integrity and better serve all children in crisis. We will do this through a cooperative work/volunteer program, a community minded spirit, and by leveraging every available resource possible. We will share the love of Jesus and the salvation message of the cross through our personal life examples everyday as well as to anyone willing to listen and hear.**

2. Please list the major services of your organization.

**Tangible resources to fill in real world needs as a child in foster care is placed in a new home. These resources help families bridge financial gaps and help stabilize and minimize trauma. These resources include clothing, toys, back to school backpacks and supplies, furniture including dressers and beds, and Christmas presents. Hope's Bridge also provides emotional support and understanding of the legal system that these children are stuck in. And lastly, a safe place to be heard when things get tough. A place to find understanding when the world around you thinks that this is what you signed up for. We surround foster families with experienced foster and kinship families to support them even when it is difficult and much longer than most would normally do in an effort to help these kids experience a safe place and to help the system maintain some much needed long term placements.**

3. Please describe the community needs that your organization addresses.

**Hope's Bridge addresses the needs of children in the foster care system. From the basic items like clean and new underwear and socks, all the way up to the new tennis shoes and backpacks they can be proud of as they start a new school. We meet basic needs to help stabilize children so that they do not enter the next stage of life without much needed necessities. Statistics will show that the faster a child's needs are met the more you reduce long term systemic effects of trauma. We do this every single day that we serve the needs of families opening their homes to children in the foster care system. Additionally we partner with local churches and non-profits so we also are able to reach some of these children before they ever enter the system. This helps us keep so many from entering the system by meeting physical needs and relationally walking hard parts of life that occur for adults and helping them find real ways to move forward in hope and healing and by keeping their children with them.**

4. Approximately how many people does your organization service?

**Hope's Bridge serves an average of 100-250 families every single month between our Conroe and Huntsville locations. Our top item to be given away at our Conroe location**

is Children's Clothes. In July alone we gave away 539 pieces of children's clothing. Additionally during July we sent out over 20 twin beds for children being placed in kinship placements. Kinship placements are friends or family of the child being taken into CPS custody. Often times these families are not eligible for most community resources for foster families. The beds given to these families keep children from sleeping on the floor and lessen the long term effects of trauma that we mentioned above.

5. What geographic area does your organization service?

We serve mainly Montgomery County (60-75%). However since we are the largest accessible foster closet in a very large area, people come to us from far away to get resources. We strive to serve region 6 of DFPS that covers most of the Houston area.

: 6. Description of proposed project(s) (in 500 words or less):

Hope's Bridge is consistently searching for ways to serve children and teens in foster care and the families that care for them. We look for holes in the continuum of care and resources that are not easily accessible. In recent discussions with foster families served by Hope's Bridge and DFPS Caseworkers, Hopes Bridge discovered two of these "holes".

The first is that although there are a couple of resource centers in the area, none of them carry a wide selection of teen clothing. According to DFPS June 2023 report, this teen group makes up 24% of the 17,983 children in foster care in Texas. In our Region there were 2,580 children in foster care in June. That means that there was not a resource center to meet the needs of approximately 619 teens. In the Hope's Bridge Conroe location there is space to build out a teen clothing area.

The second hole is hair cuts and hair care training for the many non racial matching families in our area. We love the heart of our Montgomery County community to have beautiful diverse families but there is often a struggle for them to learn how to care for a hair type different from their own. In this teen area there will be a space for 2 salon chairs and sinks. 4 times a month Hopes Bridge will host a salon day open to foster families for hair cuts and training on hair care.

8. Proposed project budget:

**Total Cost \$21,043**

\$12,800 for build out of teen clothing area and salon. Quote Below form ECC Construction

\$400 Salon Chairs (\$200 each)

\$600 From Uline (Clothing rounds \$120 each x5)

\$795 From Uline (Shoe Shelving \$265 each X 3)

\$448 From Uline (Double rail racks \$112 each x4)

\$1,000 Salon Products

\$5,000 to stock the store with clothing and shoes using partners like Good360 where we can get 10 pair of brand new Nikes for \$56.50

**Brandy Williams**

**Hope's Bridge**

**RE: Hope's Bridge Teen Area and Salon**

**Dear Mrs. Williams,**

**ECC Construction proposes to furnish all materials, equipment, labor and mobilization to complete**

**the work scope as defined below:**

**BASIC SCOPE OF SERVICES**

**Proposed New Wall**

**Build clothing racks – two tiered for all, one double sided, the remaining are single sided.**

**The ones closest to the hair stations need to have a solid rack.**

**Clothing racks need to be tall but have space for air flow.**

**Complete build out of one salon wash sink, and one salon hair styling station. Half walls dividing**

**the space in the middle and on the edge separating the areas. (Hoping to tie into the water and**

**drain line in the existing restroom.)**

**Floor to ceiling shoe wall with tilted shelves. The floating one in the middle would be double sided.**

**2 | Page**

**EXCLUSIONS**

**COMPENSATION**

**A. COMPENSATION FOR BASIC SCOPE OF WORK - \$12,800.00**

**All of the above work to be completed in a workmanlike manner according to standard practices for the sum Twelve Thousand Eight Hundred and xx/100 (\$12,800.00)**

7. Are any city or county issued building permits required for the completion of the project? If yes, what permits will be required?

**No**

8. Are there any constraints that might prevent the project from being fully complete by April 30, 2023? If yes, please indicate what they might be.:

**No**

8. Are there opportunities for 45 class

**YES! We would love for the class to host teen clothing drives, put together shelving and**

members to be involved in various ways with the project? Please describe.

**sort and hang clothing and shoes.**

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8. What have been the obstacles to achieving this project by your organization?

**The biggest obstacle are the funds for the remodel and the man power to set up a new room.**

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8. How will this project benefit your organization and the community?

**Teens in foster care are moved on average 2-3 times per year. This project will provide a space for teens in foster care to shop for clothing and feel little more comfortable as they enter a new school and begin again to make new friends.**

**This will also provide a place for foster families to get free hair cuts and hair care education.**

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8. Will the project require approval of your board and if so, what is the timing of those approvals?

**This project is already approved by the Hope's Bridge Board of Directors.**

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8. Please list your current board members and main staff.

**Julie Davis-Executive Director  
Sharon Dieringer-Vice President/Treasurer  
Shannon Jasper-Secretary  
Cecilia Isaias-Huntsville Liason  
Nelli Pancratz-Conroe Liason  
Rockey Butler-Conroe Liason**