

Sunnyvale Cares Nonprofit Grant Program Application

Application Deadline: June 30, 2020 by 5 p.m.

Thank you for your interest in the Sunnyvale Cares Nonprofit Grant Program. Please review the grant guidelines to determine if your organization qualifies for funding. Funding will be approved by the City Council in late July 2020. Applicants will be notified of award decisions in after City Council decision.

Complete applications may be submitted in the following ways:

- Mail or Drop Off in Person: Office of the City Manager (Front Desk) Attn: Economic Development 456 W. Olive Avenue, Sunnyvale, CA 94086
- Email: svcares@sunnyvale.ca.gov

For questions, email svcares@sunnyvale.ca.gov or call 408-730-7607.

Name of Nonprofit organization: Society of St. Vincent de Paul (SVdP)

Name of Individual Submitting Application: Donna Beres

Individual's email [REDACTED] Phone [REDACTED]

Grant Amount Requesting from the City (Maximum grant amount is \$30,000): \$ 30,000

Organization Background

1. When was your organization formed? *The Society of SVdP was established in Santa Clara County in 1946. There are three SVdP Conferences located in Sunnyvale and serving its residents.*

2. What is your Mission? *In the spirit of love and justice, the Society of St. Vincent de Paul (SVdP) provides support to our neighbors in need. Assistance is given regardless of age, gender, national origin, race, religion, immigration status or disability. We provide financial help for families and individuals in our community who are living in poverty.*

3. Approximately how many Sunnyvale customers are served annually? *In 2019, SVdP served approximately 731 people in Sunnyvale with financial assistance.*

4. Describe your group's activities and the resources that support those activities.
The Society of SVdP provides financial assistance to struggling families in the form of rental assistance, utility bills, transportation, and food. There are three SVdP Conferences located in Sunnyvale serving our residents (Church of the Resurrection Conference, St. Cyprian's Conference, and St. Martin's Conference). Members of SVdP are volunteers.

Currently, there are 42 SVdP volunteers providing help to Sunnyvale residents. Volunteers from SVdP manage helplines 7 days a week. When families or individual call for assistance, SVdP volunteers conduct a home or in-person visit. During the COVID crisis, we have transitioned to conducting a phone intake for the safety of our clients and volunteers. During the intake process, we seek to understand the needs of the clients and determine our ability to assist the family or individual based on our funds and resources.

5. What is your annual budget? *The total budget for the three SVdP Conferences serving Sunnyvale is \$118,000.*
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6. How do you raise funds?

Our primary funding comes from quarterly collections conducted at the following Catholic Churches located in Sunnyvale (Church of the Resurrection, St. Martins, St. Cyprians) along with donations from individuals in our community. In previous years, we have also received a small grant from the Catholic Community Foundation and Catholic Relief Services.

7. How many employees does your organization have? *We are ALL volunteers; there are no paid employees at the three SVdP Conferences serving Sunnyvale. .*
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8. What steps has your organization taken to address budget impacts due to COVID-19?

We have sent an emergency appeal to our donors requesting contributions during this pandemic. We are anticipating a “tsunami” of requests for rental assistance from low income families and individuals clients as soon as the local eviction moratorium ends. We have already been contacted by many struggling families who have lost their jobs and need immediate help with expenses such as food, utility bills, car repair, etc. We expect the demand for rental assistance to skyrocket in the coming months and to exceed our budget. Our plan is to continue to assist families until we have depleted our funds.

9. Describe the impacts of the COVID 19 pandemic on your organization, specifically, what are the financial impacts?

Due to the COVID-19 crisis and the order to “shelter in place”, our primary funding has been greatly diminished because all Churches have been closed and we are no longer receiving quarterly collections from our three main sources of income. We estimate the loss of income will exceed \$42,000 in the first 6 months of 2020. Our income for the remainder of year will depend on Churches opening and collections being taken. Unfortunately, we need funding now more than ever as we expect the demand for rental assistance to start in late summer and the amounts of assistance will be greater than ever.

10. For what purposes would this grant be used and how would it benefit your organization and customers?

This grant will be used to provide rental assistance, utility payments, and other financial help to residents of Sunnyvale who have been impacted by job loss or are facing eviction. It will benefit our organization by providing the funding to cover the income loss resulting from Churches being temporarily closed. It will ensure that our SVdP Conferences can continue their mission of helping the poor.

11. Any other information you would like the Council Committee to consider?

Since SVdP members are all volunteers, 100% of all funds received in this grant will go directly to families in need in Sunnyvale. We pay no salaries and have minimal administrative overhead.
