



Illustrative LOI (for reference only)

(January 2020 Recipient-The Philadelphia Orchestra)

(EIN #23-1352289) seeks support to develop a new music therapy project and choir with community members experiencing homelessness. This choir for adults experiencing homelessness will harness the recognized benefits of singing, such as feelings of community, social inclusion, and a renewed sense of agency, and employ them to increase wellness benchmarks like hope, mastery, stress-reduction, and coping skills.

An outgrowth of a three-year partnership between 23-1352289 (a professional orchestra), a local charitable organization that provides social services to our city's most vulnerable, and a local university, we believe this choral program and its associated music therapy will create a meaningful space for these unsheltered adults to engage with community and find healing, positive self-expression, and affirmation through music.

Evolving out of the success of this partnership's current music therapy group that uses music improvisation, a \$50,000 grant would enable piloting a new weekly choral program facilitated by a nationally recognized vocal artist and trainer, two board-certified music therapists, and musically supported by orchestra musicians. Targeting 25 participants, the year-long (50-weeks), 75-minute sessions will involve music experiences including vocal techniques to support vocal health, selection and performance of participant-preferred repertoire, songwriting, and verbal processing of participants' experiences with the music activities.

As part of this partnership's mission to increase health, education, access, and research within our community, the university will provide the music therapists and training for the musicians, as well as oversight, monitoring, and mentoring to maintain any psychological and physical health benefits that might arise. While this will not be the first time that professional musicians have collaborated with a choir developed for the homeless, this will be the first that specifically integrates music therapy. Lessons learned from this pilot will inform future offerings and "wish list" models of this program, such as for veterans at a Veteran's Hospital.

We assert that (EIN #23-1352289), the applicant, meets GKV Foundation's Minimum Requirements as stated in the GKV website.