

At 13-2890779, we believe that *all* children can dance, including those with disabilities. 13-2890779 respectfully requests \$30,000 from the GKV Foundation to support the DREAM (**D**ancers **R**ealize **E**xcellence through **A**rts and **M**ovement) Project. Launched in 2014, the DREAM Project is an innovative inclusion program in which children with disabilities are paired with their typically developing peers.

DREAM classes and workshops, offered free of charge to all participants, give children the opportunity to experience the joy of dance, movement, and live music in an encouraging and safe environment. Participants are 5 to 15 years old and have a wide range of cognitive and physical disabilities including Autism Spectrum Disorder, Down Syndrome, and Cerebral Palsy.

In response to COVID-19, 13-2890779 created a remote version of the DREAM Project in April 2020. Online programming included weekly dance and music classes and a two-week camp. Virtual classes revealed several benefits. Gathering weekly via Zoom created a profound sense of community among the DREAM dancers, their families, and 13-2890779 teaching artists. Online classes also eliminated the challenges of transportation, making it easier for everyone to join. Following this success, we plan to expand virtual DREAM program offerings in the coming year and beyond.

Funding from the GKV Foundation will support:

- Weekly DREAM classes after school beginning in October 2020 and continuing through July 2021. Approximately 35 dancers (with and without disabilities) will participate in each class.
- Five-day immersive DREAM workshops in February and July 2021. Approximately 55 dancers will participate.
- Implementation of 13-2890779's unique peer partnership model, which teaches children to respect and value one another's differences, builds empathic relationships based on trust, and supports learners of diverse abilities in achieving authentic success.

Surveys will be distributed to participants at the end of each DREAM program in order to evaluate the success of virtual programming.

We assert that 13-2890779, the applicant, meets GKV Foundation's Minimum Requirements as stated in the GKV website.