

Letter of Interest
for GKV Foundation

September 27, 2022

#45-2684239 seeks support to launch a one-of-a-kind Chorus where community members will participate in supportive rehearsals and inspiring performances that erase the stigma surrounding mental illness. This chorus will include people living with diagnoses including bipolar disorder, trauma, schizophrenia, and addiction making music side-by-side with people who support them.

We have seen a tremendous positive impact from our instrumental programs over the past decade. Now we plan to include even more people from our community. A chorus is the perfect vehicle because everyone has a voice! There will be no auditions or fees required to join the Chorus. We intend to break down the barriers to participation so all members of our community – regardless of diagnosis or socio-economic status – will benefit from the healing power of music.

We have fully realized the power of music in terms of creating an inclusive community, sharing our stories, and educating audience members about the realities of living with mental illness. With your support, this new Chorus will more than double the number of people benefiting from our Boston-based programs over the next two years.

Along with increased numbers of participants, we will gauge our success in changing people's perceptions about mental illness through audience surveys that scientifically quantify our impact.

We request a \$50,000 grant to launch a search for an exceptional choral conductor, accompanist, and program manager. This funding will allow us to hire the best possible candidates, along with purchasing music and renting rehearsal space. We fully anticipate the cost of the program will recede in year two following the search for staff. The program will then be fully supported through individual and corporate donations.

We assert that #45-2684239, the applicant, meets GKV Foundation's Minimum Requirements as stated in the GKV website.