

LiGHT Grant Application 2023

2023 LiGHT Grant Cover Form and Guidelines



Name of individual, group or organization: Adams Wells Crisis Center
Contact name(s): Megan Jinnings
Address: PO Box 253 Decetur IN 46733
Phone number: 200 728 - 9300 Email Address Owcc. executive director agmail. Com
Name of the program as it would appear on the grant award: Adams Wells
Crisis Conter-Client Emergency Funding
Describe who the grant award will serve and approximate number affected: Woman and
Children in Wells County
Dollar amount requested: \$3,0000
Would the program be offered if only a partial grant from LiGHT is made?
Summary paragraph of the grant award requested: The AWC IS requesting grant May be utilized for part of the presentation.
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tunding. These tunds would be available tor wimon
and children who reside in Wells County whose little
Complete all requested items below:

- 1) This Cover Form
- 2) Project Narrative, 1-5 pages typed, including:
 - What need in the Community will this program address? Give evidence to substantiate your request. (i.e., data, letters of recommendation, etc.)
 - What do you want to do?
 - · What is your timeline?
 - What results do you expect?
 - If partnering with other organizations, please list.
 - Describe the program and tell how the funds from the grant will be used based on your budget
 - Signature page: To include endorsement of the project or program by the requesting agency's Board of Directors. This page must include a signature of the Board president.
- 3) Detailed budget



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The Adams Wells Crisis Center is a free service to primary and secondary victims of domestic, sexual, and teen dating violence. The AWCC focuses on advocacy, case management, short-term emergent housing, education, prevention, and community outreach. The AWCC achieves confidential trauma informed care from case managers at the AWCC. The list of services we provide are safety planning, legal assistance, assistance filing protective orders, transportation to legal obligations, job and financial training, continuous emotional support, awareness of other local supports, access to community resources, help with housing applications and transitional housing, parenting skills, and specialized support.

According to recent reports, Indiana is currently ranked 5th in the United States for Domestic Violence. During 2022, the AWCC served 94 survivors of domestic or sexual violence; the most clients the AWCC has served in a given year since reopening in 2019. On average, clients indicated they were facing more than 3 types of abuse in their lifetime. Most commonly, 67 clients indicated experiencing emotional and mental abuse, 49 indicated experiencing physical abuse, and 60 clients indicated experiencing verbal abuse in their lifetime. The AWCC also provided services to 87 children of clients. Of these 87 children, 34 were witnesses to violence and 6 were victims of violence. Abusers were most commonly spouses, ex-spouses, or intimate partners. Clients were also seen who had been victimized by family members, friends, and acquaintances. For clients in a relationship with their abuser or who had recently left an abuser indicated that on average, they had tried to leave their abuser more than 5 times. Twenty clients were still in relationships with an abuser at the time of their intake. According to The National Coalition Against Domestic Violence, it takes victims, on average, 7 times to leave before they leave an abuser for good. The AWCC continues to see victims who are still in IPV relationships so that when or if they do decide to leave, they know they have an advocate on their side. Adams County and Wells County are considered rural communities, promotion and awareness is more difficult in rural areas than in urban areas. Many survivors are isolated and cut off from the events or areas that would allow them to hear about the AWCC, their services, and education about IPV. According to the Bureau of Labor Statistics there are 10,436 people employed in Wells County. While seven in ten corporate executives do not believe domestic violence is a major issue in their workplace; almost all domestic violence survivors that are employed experience work issues because of abuse. Nationally, 44% of full- time employed American adults reported personally experiencing domestic violence 's effects in their place of work. While 21% reported that they were survivors of intimate partner violence. It is important that the AWCC provides outreach and education to as many community members as possible. Education and awareness of Domestic and Sexual Violence can reshape how people think about these taboo topics. By reaching out to the most vulnerable populations in our community the AWCC can connect to potential clients. By meeting with employers and HR representatives, the AWCC can help end stigma and allow employers and HR representatives to support their employees who may be victims of IPV or other forms of abuse.

The Adams Wells Crisis Center would like to use funding to promote safety and security in the lives of women and children in Wells County. The AWCC assists clients no matter where they are in their journey



of living a life away from violence, which makes each survivors needs different from the last client. This funding would be able to be used to purchase or assist with emergency items. Emergency items at the AWCC include but are not limited to medication refills (often medically needed medications are held by the abuser as a way for the victim to return), housing deposit, rental assistance, utility assistance, changing locks, and other emergency items they were not able to leave with.

The AWCC's timeline would depend on the clients' needs. The timeline would not be expected to last more than 12 months, as the AWCC has seen a significant increase in clients. Emergent situations are not able to be predicted, therefore we do our best to screen needs and see if that need can be filled by other agencies in the community. For example, if a client's primary need is food, the AWCC will provide transportation to food banks. The AWCC also has policies in place on the amount our agency can spend per client, to ensure we can assist several families each year.

The AWCC focuses on promoting safety for all clients. Receiving funding from LiGHT would increase the number of clients the AWCC is able to help financially in emergency situations, which lessens the chance of that client and children returning to a life where violence is endured. The AWCC provides case management ongoingly to all clients if they are open to participating in our program. With the ongoing support, survivors being to feel empowered, and their self-worth and confidence increases over time. Self-worth and confidence are then modeled on to their children and that is where generational change begins.

Due to COVID-19, Victims of Crime Act (VOCA) funding was decreased for all domestic violence facilities in our last grant application. VOCA is a two-year grant, which we are still in our first fiscal year at this time. VOCA receives its funding when perpetrators who are convicted of domestic violence crime are sentenced to pay a fee. When COVID-19 hit, courts delayed and postponed sentencing which resulted in a significant decrease in the amount of funds VOCA collected. As a result, the AWCC lost its emergency funding for victims. Being awarded funding from LiGHT would ensure victims who are facing emergencies would still be able to be supported in the event of an emergency.

Thank you for your time and consideration.



11/10/10/10
Signature of Executive Director: Well Comments
Signature of Board President:



Budget for Proposal

The AWCC is funded by federal grants, state grants, private grants, fundraisers, and donations. Client emergency funding is not something that is listed in any current grants the AWCC receives. Funding from LiGHT would allow the AWCC to help women and children with emergency needs when they are beginning to live a life away from violence.