

**Buncombe County FY2019 Strategic Partnership Grants
Application Summary Sheet**

Project	Hope for Tomorrow
Organization	Swannanoa Valley Christian Ministry

Amount Requested	\$25,000	Strategic Priority or Sustainability Goal	Affordable Housing
New or Renewal Request	New	Area Served	District 2

Organization Description	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Swannanoa Valley Christian Ministry (SVCM) is a team of committed Christian churches, staff, and volunteers who work together with the community, in response to God's call to provide vital services for our neighbors in need, both local residents and stranded travelers. In an atmosphere of compassion, love, hope, and encouragement, they seek to assist those who are experiencing hardship to meet both basic and emergency needs. Beyond their immediate relief, SVCM makes available a variety of life-enhancing opportunities for job placement, job training, and educational advancement. Ultimately, the Mission of the Ministry is to help its clients maximize their God-given potentials.
Key Steps	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Through the housing and life skills program for the children and their mothers, SVCM will address their many needs by providing a safe and supportive living environment with an aim to break the cycle of poverty and give them the tools to live independently and successfully. Under the supervision of a case manager and a house manager, the children will attend public schools while their mothers receive support and education in life skills, nutrition and healthy eating, enrollment in our GED program when appropriate, career building classes, On-Track financial management classes, the development of personalized long-term goals, and permanent housing.
People Served	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> According to Buncombe County Schools, there were 601 homeless children identified in the 2016/17 school year. This was up from 28 identified homeless children in the 2005/06 school year. This is a staggering increase of homelessness among our children. According to a Buncombe County fact sheet on homelessness and housing, the percentage of children living in poverty in our county is 24%. This is the population SVCM will be serving-the homeless and the poor.
Outcomes	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Client mothers will have a number of short term goals such as enrolling in GED classes, attending nutrition classes, enrolling in On-Track Financial classes, and counseling classes for self-esteem, parenting, career building and individual and family counseling. The child clients will be enrolled in public school, attend counseling sessions as appropriate, and receive tutoring and mentoring. The long-term success will be determined by their ability to live independently in permanent housing after being enrolled in the program for one year

Budget			
Amount Funded FY2018	n/a	Increase Request	n/a
Administrative Budget	11% (from 2016 audited financial statements)	Total Organization Budget	\$628,212 (projected FY2019)
Other Funding Sources: Church & Individual donations, Government Grants, Private foundations, General Church Support Donations, General Ministry, SVCM Annual Endowment Transfer, Designated Donations (Fuel, Hunger Walk, Food, CSN 154,500), Miscellaneous Income			

Strengths
Innovative and/or creative program design
Project serves underserved, underrepresented, minority, and/or high-need population
Strong implementation plan

Hope for Tomorrow

FY2019 Strategic Partnership Grants

Swannanoa Valley Christian Ministry

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Application Form

Question Group

Project Name*

Name of Project.

Hope for Tomorrow

Amount Requested*

\$25,000.00

PROJECT NARRATIVE

Area Served*

Which areas of the County will be served by this project? Which Commissioner District(s) will be served?

A Buncombe County Commissioner district map is available at [THIS LINK](#).

SVCM is one of the few organizations that serves Eastern Buncombe County (district #2-Eastern Buncombe Country from Swannanoa to Ridgecrest including Black Mountain and Montreat). Through the generosity of individual donors, churches, schools, businesses, and civic organizations SVCM is constructing ten small apartments to house homeless children and their mothers. In addition, SVCM will provide an intensive counseling and educational program to enable the families to achieve self-sufficiency and independence after a year of residency. The goal is for the residents to relocate to permanent housing after a one year program. The total cost of the project is \$1,000,000 and, while we have not raised all of the funds for the capital expense, we are confident that we will be close by the scheduled date of completion, May 2018. The operational cost of the program will be approximately \$100,000 and we are applying to Buncombe County to seek help in offsetting a portion of this expense.

Organization Description*

Tell us about your organization. What is your mission? Highlight two or three key facts and accomplishments that best define your organization.

The Swannanoa Valley Christian Ministry (SVCM) is a 501 (c)(3) inter-faith, non-profit organization that was organized in 1975 and has served countless clients since then in cooperation with thirty-four local churches of different denominations.

The Swannanoa Valley Christian Ministry is a team of committed Christian churches, staff, and volunteers who work together with the community, in response to God's call to provide vital services for our neighbors in need, both local residents and stranded travelers. In an atmosphere of compassion, love, hope, and encouragement we seek to assist those who are experiencing hardship to meet both basic and emergency needs. Beyond their immediate relief, we make available a variety of life-enhancing opportunities for job

placement, job training, and educational advancement. Ultimately, the Mission of the Ministry is to help its clients maximize their God-given potentials.

Strategic Priority*

Which of the following priorities best reflects the primary goal of your project?

Buncombe County Commissioners are dedicated to strengthening the quality of life for everyone by setting new fiscally, socially and environmentally responsible goals that will guide decisions and improve our community for future generations. The Board has committed to strategic priorities as a guide to shape partnerships and investments of resources to insure a healthy, safe, well-educated, thriving and sustainable community.

Details about the Strategic Priorities are available at [THIS LINK](#).

Affordable Housing

Strategic Priority - Other Sustainability Goal

If you selected "Other Sustainability Goal" from the list of Strategic Priorities, please list it here.

Details about the Sustainability Goals are available at [THIS LINK](#).

Shared Vision*

What critical community problem or challenge are you hoping to improve through this project?

A growing problem in the eastern part of Buncombe county is the increasing number of homeless children. There are a myriad of causes for their homelessness, but the end results are always the same- insecurity, lack of consistent support by social services, poor nutrition, an uncertain future, poor medical support, and interrupted educational opportunities to name a few. Hope for Tomorrow will address all of the issues facing this portion of our population through housing for the children and their mothers and a well-balanced support program designed to address their many needs. This will be an ongoing program with clients rotating into and out of the program each year. We are confident that this will address the needs of homeless children in our area long-term one step at a time.

Key Steps*

How will the project work? What are specific activities and milestones that your project entails?

Through the housing and life skills program for the children and their mothers, we will address their many needs by providing a safe and supportive living environment with an aim to break the cycle of poverty and give them the tools to live independently and successfully. Under the supervision of a case manager and a house manager, the children will attend public schools while their mothers receive support and education in life skills, nutrition and healthy eating, enrollment in our GED program when appropriate, career building classes, On-Track financial management classes, the development of personalized long-term goals, and permanent housing.

People Served*

Who are the members of our community this project will serve? How many people will be served? Include demographics, including age, area median income, race, neighborhood and/or school.

According to Buncombe County Schools, there were 601 homeless children identified in the 2016/17 school year. This was up from 28 identified homeless children in the 2005/06 school year. This is a staggering increase of homelessness among our children. According to a Buncombe County fact sheet on homelessness and housing, the percentage of children living in poverty in our county is 24%. This is the population we will be serving-the homeless and the poor. While we do not have the means to address all of the children and their mothers at one time, we will be serving a manageable portion of them on an annual basis. As mentioned above, we are constructing ten small apartments and we anticipate serving between 12-20 children each year. We will be serving children who are infants up to young adults in the Owen School District.

Partners*

Which other organizations are you working with to reach your goals? What other local organizations provide similar services or serve similar beneficiaries, and how do you work together?

This is a major endeavor and one which we will achieve in collaboration with other organizations. We will be working with the Black Mountain Counseling Center for self-esteem, parenting, career building, and individual and family counseling. We will also be working with Bounty and Soul, which will provide nutrition and cooking classes for our clients, as well as OnTrack Financial Education and Counseling which will be providing money management classes. Our own GED program will provide high school level education to mothers when appropriate. In addition, we will work closely with Buncombe County Schools to ensure educational opportunities for the children we serve. We will also use tutors and counselors to support the educational endeavors of the children.

Personnel*

Who is responsible for the project? Briefly describe project leaders and the role each will play in the project. How do these leaders reflect the population or community that you serve?

The overall responsibility for the program will be with the Executive Director of SVCM. She will be assisted by a House Manager who will reside on-site at the Hope for Tomorrow apartments. The Case Manager will be responsible for designing and executing a plan for each resident to ensure they are enrolled in the proper educational opportunities and that the mothers receive the proper program for success. Additionally, the Ministry's Homeless Outreach Coordinator will consult with all parties for the enrollment of clients. Our extensive cadre of volunteers will be called upon to assist in a host of ways including the search for permanent housing for our clients.

Success*

How will you measure results? What will success look like? How will you document the impact of your project? Include whether there is a model that serves as basis for project design.

"People to Match our Mountains" is a good motto for success for the Hope for Tomorrow. Client mothers will have a number of short term goals such as enrolling in GED classes, attending nutrition classes, enrolling in On-Track Financial classes, and counseling classes for self-esteem, parenting, career building and individual and family counseling. The child clients will be enrolled in public school, attend counseling sessions as appropriate, and receive tutoring and mentoring. The long-term success will be determined by their ability to live independently in permanent housing after being enrolled in the program for one year. We

will document the results of each family on a case by case basis. This will be the only program in Eastern Buncombe County that provides this type of living arrangement and will become the model for other programs in time. The goal is for our clients to live long and beautiful lives and our mountains provide a good metaphor for this endeavor.

Funding*

What is your plan for finding the balance of the project budget? What is your funding timeline and what are your other sources of support?

The Hope for Tomorrow capital project is being funded by donations. The source of the donations has been through the generosity of community members, businesses, local churches, local civic organizations (i.e. Kiwanis and Rotary Clubs), and other foundations. The cost of the construction of the apartments will be \$1,000,000 and to date we have receipts and pledges for \$920,000. We will begin a second capital campaign with our volunteers and individual donors in the near future and anticipate that we will be close to reaching our goal by the time the construction is finished in the spring of 2018.

Sustainability*

How will this project be maintained? Please describe funding sources and how you plan to sustain the project in future years.

The program portion of Hope for Tomorrow will have an operating cost of approximately \$100,000 per annum as detailed on the attached spreadsheet. Buncombe County's financial support will be crucial to the success of the program. We really need the county's assistance as donations to this new program have come from donations that would have normally been made to general operating expenses in the past. In addition, we will be fundraising with local civic organizations, volunteers, donors, and foundations. It is crucial that we receive good support from the county as well as other organizations and individuals as we have had an increase in the number of clients relying on SVCN for other day-to-day needs. The Hope for Tomorrow program is both a program to help with the increasing number of homeless children and their mothers and a program to invest in the future of our county. We are confident of its success with your support.

ATTACHMENTS

Project Budget*

Download the budget form at [THIS LINK](#).

Complete the budget form for this project and the overall organization.

Save it to your computer, then upload it.

Buncombe County Grant Submission 2.7.2018.xlsx

Financial Statements*

Upload a copy of the most recently completed financial statements.

All financial statements must be audited, reviewed or compiled by a certified public accountant and include a full balance sheet, income statement, and cash flow statement.

If your organization does not have financial statements, briefly state the reason.

SVCM 2016 Final Audit Report.pdf

IRS Form 990*

Upload a copy of the 990 nonprofit tax reporting form that you most recently completed.

If your organization does not have a 990, briefly state the reason.

Tax Exempt Letter.pdf

As a 501(c)(3) registered religious organization SVCM is not required to complete a form 990 filing. A copy of our 501(c)(3) confirmation letter from the IRS is attached.

Board of Directors List*

Upload a current list of your organization's Board of Directors.

If your organization does not have a board of directors, briefly state the reason.

SVCM 2017 Board of Directors .docx

Authorized Signatory

By typing in below the name of the authorized signatory and date of submittal, you acknowledge that your governing body has authorized this application, that it is true and current to your knowledge. As a condition of any grant awarded, this organization will provide all information in the manner described in the contract to be executed between the organization and Buncombe County or its designee, including program and financial reporting.

Name & Date

Ms. Cheryl Wilson, Executive Director February 7, 2018