



Allegheny County Department of Human Services

RFP Response Form

RFP for Community-Led and Community-Operated Informal Mental Health Supports

PROPOSER INFORMATION

Proposer Name: Proud Haven

Authorized Representative Name & Title: Lyndsey Sickler, Executive Director

Address: [REDACTED]

Telephone: [REDACTED]

Email: lyndsey.sickler@proudhaven.org

Website: www.proudhaven.org

Legal Status: For-Profit Corp. Nonprofit Corp. Sole Proprietor Partnership

Date Incorporated: April 2013

Partners included in this Proposal:

Formal Partnerships: Trans YOUniting, TransPride Pittsburgh

Additional Partnerships: Central Outreach, Hugh Lane Wellness, Trans YOUniting, True T Pgh, and AHN’s Homeless Outreach and Co-Response Program

Informal/Deepening Partnerships: bars and/or venues like 5801, Blue Moon, Lucky’s, Brewer’s, Club Pittsburgh, and more; as well as sports and recreational organizations like Stonewall Sports, Steel City Sports, TLGBQIA+ singles groups, and more

How did you hear about this RFP? *It was sent to me via referral from Lynne Williams, Executive Director, Southwest PA AHEC*

Does your organization have a telecommunications device to accommodate individuals who are deaf or hard of hearing? Yes No

REQUIRED CONTACTS

	Name	Phone	Email
Chief Executive Officer	Jo Rodriguez	[REDACTED]	Jordan.Rodriguez@proudhaven.org

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Contract Processing Contact	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]	josie.albrect@proudhaven.org
Chief Information Officer	N/A, Board	N/A, Board	N/A, Board
Chief Financial Officer	Deborah Scotto	[REDACTED]	deborah.scotto@proudhaven.org
MPER Contact*	Deborah Scotto	[REDACTED]	deborah.scotto@proudhaven.org

* MPER is DHS's provider and contract management system. Please list an administrative contact to update and manage this system for your agency.

BOARD INFORMATION

Provide a list of your board members as an attachment or in the space below.

Jordan Rodriguez, Debbie Scotto, Josie Albrect, Dena Stanley, Jordan Botta, Micheala Waltz, Skye Toor, [Carolyn Pandolfo](#)

Board Chairperson Name & Title: Jordan Rodriguez, Board Chair

Board Chairperson Address: [REDACTED]

Board Chairperson Telephone: [REDACTED]

Board Chairperson Email: Jordan.rodriguez@proudhaven.org

REFERENCES

Provide the name, affiliation and contact information [include email address and telephone number] for three references who are able to address relevant experience with your organization.

Please do not use employees of the Allegheny County Department of Human Services as references.

Alexander Smithson, Residence Director Haven House, alexander.Smithson@proudhaven.org
[REDACTED]

Coley Alston, Community Partner from Hugh Lane, coley@hughane.org

Michael Caligiuri, Community Partner, TransPride Pittsburgh, [REDACTED]

PROPOSAL INFORMATION

Date Submitted 6/22/2022

Amount Requested: \$489,700.00

CERTIFICATION

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Please check the following before submitting your Proposal, as applicable:

I have read the standard County terms and conditions for County contracts and the requirements for DHS Cyber Security, EEOC/Non-Discrimination, HIPAA and Pennsylvania's Right-to-Know Law.

By submitting this Proposal, I certify and represent to the County that all submitted materials are true and accurate, and that I have not offered, conferred or agreed to confer any pecuniary benefit or other thing of value for the receipt of special treatment, advantaged information, recipient's decision, opinion, recommendation, vote or any other exercise of discretion concerning this RFP.

Choose one:

My Proposal contains information that is either a trade secret or confidential proprietary information and I have included a written statement signed by an authorized representative identifying those portions or parts of my Proposal and providing contact information.

OR

My Proposal does not contain information that is either a trade secret or confidential proprietary information.

ATTACHMENTS

Please submit the following attachments with your Response Form. These can be found at <http://www.alleghenycounty.us/dhs/solicitations>.

- Partner commitment letters, if applicable
- MWDBE and VOSB documents
- Allegheny County Vendor Creation Form
- Audited financial reports or other financial documentation for the last three years
- W-9
- At least one letter of support from a community-based organization or community member (coming from Micheal tonight)

REQUIREMENT

Please respond to the following. The maximum score a Proposal can receive is 125 points. Your response to this section should not exceed 12 pages. (Pages 1-3 are not included in the page count).

Experience and Leadership (25 points possible)

1. Describe your organization's experience providing services to/in communities that have been marginalized by mainstream systems.

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Proud Haven works in a close collaboration with Trans YOUning and TransPride Pittsburgh. All three organizations focus on the needs of marginalized Trans , gender non conforming and queer youth, and community.

Proud Haven was established in April 2013 with a mission to create a supportive network and sustainable resources for TLGBQIA+ youth and young adults who are experiencing unstable housing and homelessness. When the pandemic hit, a need arose to have a safer gathering space for TLGBQIA youth 21 and under, which was addressed through the creation of the Youth Drop In, with access to the Proud Pantry, that includes shelf stable goods, gently used clothing and the hygiene closet.

In addition, Proud Haven serves all TLGBQIA people 18+ with emergency 3 day hotel housing and mutual aid, and TLGBQIA+ young adults 18-30 with short term housing through Haven House Shelter, run collaboratively with Trans YOUning.

Trans YOUning was established in the fall of 2014 and is a black trans woman led organization that focuses on the needs of the black trans and gender non conforming community through mutual aid distribution, homeless support, educational workshops, job skills training and HIV prevention work. Trans YOUning helps people of all ages in the Trans and non binary community.

TransPride Pittsburgh was established in October 2010 as a grass roots, community based trans and non binary led organization that utilized direct feedback from the community to create opportunities for networking, support, advocacy, education and celebration. Pre-covid we averaged 52 trans and non binary ran and focused community gatherings a year. TransPride Pittsburgh hosted a yearly Trans artist showcase, which developed over time into an annual Trans regional conference that includes area hospital systems, mental health and medical health agencies in the planning and participation every year. The conference has grown from an informal educational gathering following performances at a local bar into a large regional conference certified to provide CEUs and attended by hundreds of service providers, educators, and community members.

2. Describe your organization's experience building trust with the communities within which you work and provide at least one specific example to illustrate that experience. Attach at least one letter of support from a community-based organization or community member.

Because of the high rates of trauma in LGBTQ+ communities, the populations Proud Haven serves and works within are high-conflict communities - including the service-providing organization landscape. Trust after trauma, and trust in high-conflict communities, is a slow-building and ever-renewing process.

The key components of trust, we have found, include:

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See and hear the needs of the communities we serve, and be willing to listen to critical feedback. Proud Haven seeks and responds to feedback from our clients regarding their needs, concerns, and criticisms.

Maintain support of clients when they act out, lash out, disappear for a time, or otherwise struggle to engage with services. Proud Haven meets clients where they are, and provides steadfast support through client distress, disengagement, and challenges.

Prioritize the needs of the communities we serve. Proud Haven puts the needs of the communities we serve above competition for funds/support and above community politics and/or conflict. Proud Haven supports the local landscape of service providers and strives to stay above the fray, and to respond to conflict directly as it arises.

Take the example of P.

P is a Black gender non conforming young adult who was brought to Pittsburgh from Virginia by her boyfriend. P has endured many difficulties including being moved multiple times from foster home to foster home, surviving violence, struggling with drug abuse, and experiencing violence from romantic partners.

When P first entered Haven House, she had little capacity to trust generally, and a specific reluctance to trust service providers to help her meet her needs. Her interpersonal communications included outbursts of emotion and lashing out at providers.

The staff and board liaison for the Haven House shelter have worked with her to get her connected to support to obtain her social security card and medical card, and are working on getting her birth certificate and her ID. Providers have encouraged her to seek mental health support as well as social support with other young adults her age. Providers ensure she and other residents engage in Proud Haven internal support workshops that deal specifically with interpersonal life skills.

From there, providers encourage Trans YOUning's Resource Navigation workshops, with representatives from the local community who help attendees gain basic knowledge on how to manage day to day life, to increase coping mechanisms, and to navigate seeking and utilizing available supports, like Proud Haven partners and collaborators Central Outreach, Hugh Lane Wellness, Trans YOUning, True T Pgh, and AHN's Homeless Outreach and Co-Response Program.

Connecting her to these additional services has helped her feel a sense of belonging in Pittsburgh and to feel more at home in Haven House as a whole. In her time here, P has grown tremendously, she is more confident, mindful, and responsive to redirection. She is also much more open about her feelings and reactions, even when they are difficult.

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3. Provide a concise statement of your organizational philosophy.

Proud Haven is a whole-person service provider where residents set their own goals and staff support them in meeting those goals. Goals range from self-care to saving for a stable living environment; from sobriety to basic hygiene; from professional support to food and transportation insecurity. Proud Haven meets clients and residents where they are and helps them build toward a safe and productive future - via their goals and needs.

4. List demographic information about your organization's leadership and staff, as well as the population they serve.

Board

- Jordan Rodriguez, President, latinex, cis , queer woman
- Dena Stanley, Co-President, Black trans heterosexual woman
- Debbie Scotto, Treasurer, non binary asexual
- Josie Albrect, Secretary, Latina, white, bisexual, cisgender woman
- Sky Toore, White, non binary, queer
- Jordan Botta, White , Cis, gay male
- Micheala Waltz, White, trans woman, lesbian

Staff:

- Lyndsey Sickler, White, trans, non binary femme, queer
- Alexander Smithson, Black, Trans male, queer

Project Details (50 points possible)

5. Describe what Informal Mental Health Support services your proposed Project will provide, and the intended outcomes you hope to achieve. Include how the Project will meet one or more of the goals listed in RFP Section 2.1.

Building on the “no door is the wrong door” philosophy, Proud Haven will equip staff, board, and a team of stipended high-influence community members we call “Haven Keyholders” to provide mental health first aid and mental health referral triage within Proud Haven and out and about in the community, bringing the “door” to folks wherever they are.

Crises in high-trauma communities struggling with trust, interpersonal connection, and conflict can happen anywhere - at bars, events, outside restaurants, homes, in the streets in communities. When active community members are trained and equipped to respond to crises, ProudHaven can bring the responder to the crises, instead of bringing the person/people in crisis to the responder.

Modeled after evidence-based and tested practices like Mental Health First Aid, Green Dot , the Mpowerment Project, and Popular Opinion leaders, in-house and out-in-the-community representatives of Proud Haven will provide informed support to community members in many contexts.

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Mental Health First Aid is a skills-based training course that teaches participants about mental health and substance-use issues. It is designed to give providers the skills to respond to a person having a worsening of their mental health or a mental health crisis.

Originally developed to stop sexualized violence on high school and college campuses, Green Dot has progressed, through research and testing, to expand to more contexts. A “Green Dot” is a positive behavioral act that acts to reduce violence, conflict, isolation, and crisis. Examples of Green Dots include: speaking into a conflict or situation where it seems conflict or violence is imminent; providing resources for support or intervention; inviting a usually excluded person to participate in an activity; checking in on community members, acquaintances, and friends when they show signs of isolation.

The Empowerment project and Popular Opinion Leaders are CDC-utilized intervention programs that help reduce the spread of HIV through the actions of key known community members. Actions can include casual one-on-one conversations in bar contexts about healthier sexual choices; distribution of safer-sex tools and resource lists in community contexts like bars, events, and activities; invitation to gatherings at a drop-in space; meetings of the involved key members to discuss what they’re seeing in the field and develop responses.

The Haven Keyholder Program will combine elements of Mental Health First Aid, the Green Dot, Empowerment and Popular Opinion Leaders intervention programs to help address mental health crises, relationship conflict/violence the escalation of a crisis or conflict to require law enforcement or medical intervention, and other crises as needed. In addition, the Haven Keyholder Program will use the prevention elements of these programs to work to reduce crisis, conflict, and violence before it occurs.

In addition, the Haven Keyholder Program will provide a warm hand-off from the initial contact to Proud Haven activities run by two in-house Key Coordinators. Key Coordinators will function as care coordinators, connecting clients to interpersonal skills programming, resource navigation, and helping to refer to medical, financial and health care supports, and social supports; as well as helping clients keep track of appointments, paperwork, and services. Similar to case managers, with an added social engagement and interpersonal skills support, Key Coordinators will provide longer-term services after initial outreach and intervention in immediate crises.

The Haven Keyholder Program will result in 15 - 20 board, staff, and community Keyholders trained to engage in mental health triage, mental health first aid, intervention, outreach, and prevention to community members - wherever they are. In the first year of implementation, Keyholders will provide first aid, interventions, outreach, referrals, and follow-up to 100 community members.

As requested in section 2.1 of the RFP, the Keyholder Program will grow access to a community of informal helpers via the Keyholders. It will increase availability of trained, culturally competent, proactive supports for people in crisis. With invitations to Proud Haven or partner

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activities and to the Drop-In Center (when age-appropriate), it will provide follow-up support via Key Coordinators and connection to our community of partner providers. In addition, by using trusted and known community members, the Keyholders will smooth connection to resources and reduce stigma.

6. Describe where and to whom you will provide your Project, and why that community needs the proposed Project.

Proud Haven will provide Haven Keyholder support to clients who seek our services, and to TLGBQIA+ community members experiencing crises, partner violence, mental health issues, and/or conflict out in the community at places like events, bars, coffee shops, and informal gatherings.

TLGBQIA+ people experience mental health issues at higher rates than cisgender and/or straight populations. While attempting to access mental and behavioral health care in settings without a focus on LGBTQIA+ care, TLGBQIA+ people experience discrimination, stigma, shame, and fear. In settings that do specialize in TLGBQIA+ care, waitlists can still be a significant barrier to services.

According to the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administrations (SAMHSA), the last pre-COVID data showed that in 2019 7.6 million LGB adults had a mental illness and/or substance use disorder, an increase of 20.5% from 2018. Additionally, SAMHSA found huge treatment gaps for LGB people. In 2019, a majority of LGB people with a substance use disorder and/or mental illness received no treatment at all. 86.4% of those with substance use disorders received no treatment at all, 86.8% among those with co-occurring substance use disorder and mental illness received no treatment, 45.7% among those with any mental illness received no treatment, and 31.8% among those with serious mental illness received no treatment.

Another factor is that rates of individual trauma in TLGBQIA+ communities are very high, with some studies demonstrating rates as high as 42-47% of community members who have experienced individual trauma. In addition to individual trauma, TLGBQIA+ communities often contend with adverse community environments that include discriminatory laws and acts, public acts of violence against TLGBQIA+ folks, increased rates of poverty and housing insecurity, decreased social mobility. Some of the impacts of these layers of trauma can include difficulty regulating emotion, difficulty with interpersonal relating and communication, feelings of alienation and shame.. With the high rates of trauma and the potential individual relational impacts, there can be significant disruption to the fabric of TLGBQIA+ communities and the ability among community members to respond to conflict, navigate difficulty, and work together for healthier ways of relating.

7. Describe any formal or informal partnerships your Project will require and your plan to develop those. Include a description of how you envision DHS supporting you. (Consider

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describing how you prefer to communicate with DHS about any system or other barriers your Project encounters, and about any opportunities for system improvements you may identify.)

Proud Haven is well connected already with many service providers, including our close partners Trans YOUning and TransPride PGH, and Central Outreach, Hugh Lane Wellness, Trans YOUning, True T Pgh, and AHN's Homeless Outreach and Co-Response Program.

In addition, Proud Haven has informal relationships with local TLGBQIA+ businesses and organizations, and with QBurgh, a TLGBQIA+ media and networking organization. Proud Haven plans to deepen its relationship with local TLGBQIA+ businesses and organizations like bars and/or venues 5801, Blue Moon, Lucky's, Brewer's, Club Pittsburgh, and more; as well as organizations like Stonewall Sports, Steel City Sports, TLGBQIA+ singles groups, and more.

Proud Haven would be happy for AHN to help introduce the Haven Keyholder Program to law enforcement and first responders like EMTs, so that if we encounter community members interacting with the police, and seek to show support, they may be aware of our program and not feel threatened by our TLGBQIA+-community-member-supportive presence.

8. Provide a concise project timeline listing when certain activities (e.g., planning, hiring, implementation) and milestones will begin and end.

In the first 3 months, Proud Haven will recruit Haven Keyholders, plan the needed trainings, and begin outreach to bars, venues, and organizations to educate about and obtain support for Haven Keyholder presence in the community. Proud Haven will create a tracking system to log Haven Keyholder outreach interventions.

In months 3-6, Proud Haven will train the Haven Keyholders, purchase needed materials, convene the Haven Keyholders for their first of what will become regular 3-hour troubleshooting and sharing sessions, and hold orientation for the parameters of the program and the warm handoffs to Key Coordinators. The Haven Keyholders will share the venues, organizations, and events that they frequent or would be willing to frequent, to ensure best coverage.

In months 6-9, Proud Haven will send out the Haven Keyholders in the implementation phase, with scheduled outreach and intervention, initially in pairs. Proud Haven will check in after each scheduled outreach and intervention session with the Haven Keyholders to review how the initial efforts are going and consider any needed changes. Haven Keyholders will have monthly 3-hour troubleshooting and sharing sessions, with Key Coordinators attending and making recommendations regarding warm handoffs.

In months 9-12, as comfortable, Haven Keyholders will begin doing intervention and outreach individually, and be authorized to do individual outreach and intervention whenever they're out. Key Coordinators will be supporting clients referred by Keyholders longer-term.

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In year two, the Haven Keyholders will continue outreach and intervention. If feasible, Proud Haven will recruit and train additional Keyholders for outreach and intervention. The Haven Keyholders will hold monthly 3-hour troubleshooting and sharing sessions. Key Coordinators will be providing feedback to Keyholders, and providing longer-term care coordination to clients. Proud Haven will continue to measure outreach and intervention.

9. Describe your proposed staffing plan, role descriptions and any training requirements. Include whether or not staff will have or obtain certification as peer specialists, and why.

Proud Haven will hire a program manager to manage the Haven Keyholders, and will provide stipends for the Haven Keyholders for their training, 3-hour sessions, and scheduled intervention times. The board will participate in the Haven Keyholder program on a voluntary basis. Board co-president Debbie Scotto will donate her time to provide Mental Health First Aid Training to the Haven Keyholders.

Haven Keyholders will be provided with limited stipends for their training, scheduled coordination and Keyholder meetings.

Two Key Coordinators will be hired to provide longer-term care coordination to clients referred by Keyholders.

Haven Keyholders may go through PA Peer Specialist certification. When the full first cohort of Haven Keyholders has been recruited from well-known community members, Proud Haven will assess whether the requirement that peer specialists have either 12 months of work and/or volunteer history or 24 credit hours of education is too onerous, considering both TLGBQIA+ workplace discrimination and the COVID-19 pandemic. Proud Haven is not opposed to Peer Specialist Certification, however, it is essential the TLGBQIA+ community members are not eliminated from participation because of discrimination or the COVID-19 pandemic's impacts on employment and finances.

Keyholders will be required to obtain clearances in order to participate in work with Proud Haven.

Community Involvement and Trust (30 points possible)

10. Describe how you included community members in planning and designing your Project.

Proud Haven currently engages youth, residents, and other participants in regular monthly organizational feedback sessions to help adjust and inform current programming. This program arose from expressed needs and programming gaps.

In addition, staff and board of Proud Haven are community members, and many have experienced mental health issues, crises, and conflicts in the TLGBQIA+ community. In

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addition, recruitment requirements for the Haven Keyholders will include experience with mental health issues, crises, and community conflict.

Proud Haven will continue the planning phases of this program in response to additional expressed needs of community members. Clients always have direct feedback access to program leadership so that adjustments can be made in real time.

11. Describe how you will include community members in the implementation/staffing/assessment of your Project.

As stated above, recruitment requirements for the Haven Keyholders will include experience with mental health issues, crises, and community conflict.

Hybrid volunteer/stipended Haven Keyholders will meet monthly in 3-hour-sessions to troubleshoot and share, and Key Coordinators will give input to warm hand-off methods. All of these program staff and providers will be community members with experience in mental health, crises, and conflict.

From top-to-bottom, staff, board, hybrid volunteer/stipended Haven Keyholders are community members with similar experience to clients, and actively build and shape this program.

12. Explain why you are the appropriate provider of this Project, specifically addressing why your community will trust you to provide this Project. (Consider describing the length of time in the community and years in operation, prior successful programs, the community's involvement in current programs, other examples of leadership in your community or other information you think would be helpful.)

Proud Haven's co-founder Deb and collective board members have shown consistent long-standing commitment to improving and supporting the TLGBQIA+ community at large. Proud Haven's Executive Director has over 25 years of youth and young adult work under their belt working specifically with the most disadvantaged and disconnected among TLGBQIA+ youth and young adults. Proud Haven has a history of working with the most complex cases of need for homeless, at risk and high risk young people in our region.

Proud Haven has working partnerships with nearly every TLGBQIA+ service provider, and with many providers who serve TLGBQIA+ communities, while not specializing in their needs. Proud Haven is known and trusted as an organization where TLGBQIA+ people can ask for what they need and receive no judgment, shame, or closed doors. Proud Haven provides services, referrals, assistance making contact with those referrals, and assistance attending appointments.

Data Collection and Reporting (10 points possible)

13. Describe what data you currently collect on your programs.

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Proud Haven collects the number of clients served, services received, and client demographics such as age, race, gender, and sexuality. Proud Haven tracks requests received including transportation support, laundry, food security support, counseling, medical care, hygiene supplies, clothing, and more.

14. Describe how you will know if your Project is effective in achieving its goals and what data you will collect to track its effectiveness.

Proud Haven will measure:

- Number of trained Haven Keyholders, Keyholder demographic, Keyholder geographic areas and venues to be served.
- Haven Keyholders' skills and abilities pre- and post-trainings.
- Number of outreach events and points of contact via interventions and outreach.
- Post-contact assessment of the intervention or outreach from perspective of Keyholder, and the party who experienced the intervention as possible, via a quick mobile phone survey.
- Number of outreach/intervention referrals to Key Coordinators.
- Services received by Keyholder-referred clients.
- Client satisfaction of Keyholder-referred clients.

In addition Proud Haven will survey formal and informal partners at 3 months, 6 months, and 1 year of Haven Keyholder presence to assess whether there has been a decrease in conflict and/or crises, a decrease in conflict and or crises that results in interventions such as removal or calling first responders, and any other changes they've experienced as a result of Haven Keyholders.

Program success will be measured by positive satisfaction responses and interpersonal and resource navigation skill increases from clients; Haven Keyholders' increased knowledge and their feeling of the effectiveness of the interventions; formal and informal partners' feedback and positive experiences of change because of Haven Keyholder presence.

Budget (10 points possible)

15. Provide a detailed line-item budget that reflects a realistic estimate of the costs associated with planning, implementing, and sustaining the Project. Please remember that Project staff must earn no less than \$15/hour and you may include language assistance services costs in the budget.

Year One Budget			
Item	Number	Cost	Total
Executive Director	1/3	\$90,000.00	\$30,000.00

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Program Manager	1	\$60,000.00	\$60,000.00
Key Coordinators	2	\$40,000.00	\$80,000.00
Green Dot Training	1 for 15-20 people	\$30,000.00	\$30,000.00
Haven Keyholder Stipends	20	\$1,200.00	\$24,000.00
Outreach Packet: ziplock bags, resource Cards, fidgets, kleenex packet, lavender tea	300-500	\$5.00	\$2,500.00
Publication/Outreach/Training Materials	2000	\$0.30	\$600.00
Potential Peer Certification Training	15 - 20	\$1,400.00	\$28,000.00
Total			\$255,100.00
Year Two Budget			
Item	Number	Cost	Total
Executive Director	1/3	\$90,000.00	\$30,000.00
Program Manager	1	\$60,000.00	\$60,000.00
Key Coordinators	2	\$40,000.00	\$80,000.00
Green Dot (or other additional) Training	1 for 10 people	\$15,000.00	\$15,000.00
Haven Keyholder Stipends	25	\$1,200.00	\$30,000.00
Outreach Packet: ziplock bags, resource Cards, fidgets, kleenex packet, lavender tea	1000	\$5.00	\$5,000.00
Publication/Outreach/Training Materials	2000	\$0.30	\$600.00
Potential Peer Certification Training	10	\$1,400.00	\$14,000.00
Total			\$234,600.00
Two-Year Total			\$489,700.00

16. Provide a budget narrative that clearly explains and justifies all line items in the proposed budget.

We anticipate planning, supervision, hiring, creating infrastructure for, and overseeing a new Program Manager and their staff will take 1/3 of Proud Haven's Executive Director time, at

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\$30,000 annually. The Program Manager will be overseeing the Program at \$60,000 annually. The Key Coordinators will be coordinating with the Haven Keyholders, collecting their reports, scheduling their sessions, and providing care coordination for clients referred by Haven Keyholders. All staff, board, and Keyholders will receive Green Dot training, at approximately \$1500 per person, and will be officially authorized to implement Green Dot programming. Haven Keyholders will receive \$1200 in stipends, split over their monthly sessions and scheduled intervention times. Haven Keyholders will be equipped with outreach packets in small ziplocks that include resource cards, kleenex, lavender tea, fidgets and infographics. Proud Haven will print training and outreach materials for events, tabling, potential social media advertisements, flyers, and additional needed publications, at .30/per piece to account for color printing. If PA Peer Certification were chosen, it would cost approximately \$1400 per person for the training.

In the second year, there would be a smaller group of new additions to the Haven Keyholders. They could also receive Green Dot Training, or alternatively, RI International, one of the organizations who provide PA Peer Certification training, has a 10-month learning community program called Crisis Now Academy. Proud Haven could make inquiries to Crisis Now to find out whether they're available at that point for training. To this end, Proud Haven requests another \$15,000 for additional either Green Dot or Crisis Now and \$14,000 for either PA Peer Certification or the Crisis Now program training. Proud Haven also seeks increased funding for the outreach packets to meet the increased level of outreach Keyholders will do in year two.

Michael Caligiuri
121 Penn View Dr
Monroeville, PA 15146

To whom it may concern,

I am proudly writing to voice my strong support for Proud Haven and the amazing work they do. These grant funds will help them expand their good work in the area of mental health.

As a member of the LGBTQIA+ community, I grew up without the resources that Proud Haven brings to the youth of our community. Training them to assess the risk of mental health issues fills a critical role sorely missing in their current support network. In general, most people don't know the warning signs until it is too late, and providing a safety net for the most at-risk youth in the greater Pittsburgh area will have a huge impact on the quality of their lives.

Proud Haven serves as a beacon of hope for those who are rejected by society as a whole, and in many cases, their families as well. Awarding them this grant will help them reach out in ways they previously could not and will strengthen those at risk and, ultimately, our entire region.

Thank you for taking the time to read my words of support for this worthy organization.

Sincerely,

Michael Caligiuri



Trans YOUniting has been working with Proud Haven for the last two years and is a direct partner for their Haven House Program and YOUth Drop In. Proud Haven has been a responsible and responsive partner and we look forward to continuing our work with their organization. We support Proud Haven's application for this grant and are looking forward to continuing our work together to improve mental health supports for the communities we serve.

Dena Stanley

Founder, Trans YOUniting

dstanley@transyouniting.org

412-953-1818



To Whom It May Concern,

We are excited to continue our partnership with Proud Haven to work on this mental supports grant. We have been working with Proud Haven to provide tertiary support for the YOUth Drop In Program for TLGBQIA+ youth that started in April 2020 and has operated 5 days a week since. Proud Haven is more than capable of providing adequate programming and oversight to fulfill this grant. We are excited to continue our work with them both through support of YOUth Drop In and with this Mental Health Supports grant.

TransPride Pgh Executive Steering Committee
transpridepgh@gmail.com