

**RESOLUTION NO. 2023-039**

RESOLUTION OF THE MAYOR AND THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF HIALEAH, FLORIDA, AUTHORIZING THE USE OF LAW ENFORCEMENT TRUST FUND LETF-STATE MONIES TO MAKE A \$15,000 CONTRIBUTION TO KRISTI HOUSE, INC.; PROVIDING FOR IMPLEMENTATION; PROVIDING FOR AN EFFECTIVE DATE.

**WHEREAS**, the City of Hialeah Police Department (HPD) desires to make a \$15,000 contribution to Kristi House, Inc. to continue providing treatment, advocacy and coordination of services for child sexual abuse victims in Miami-Dade County; and

**WHEREAS**, Kristi House is a non-profit organization in the State of Florida; and

**WHEREAS**, the Law Enforcement Trust Account (LETF)-State account includes assets forfeited to the City of Hialeah by authority of the Florida Contraband Forfeiture Act (Chapter 932 of Florida State Statutes); and

**WHEREAS**, Florida State Statute 932.7055 requires that any local law enforcement agency acquiring at least \$15,000 pursuant to the Florida Contraband Forfeiture Act within a fiscal year must expend or donate no less than 25 percent of such proceeds for support or operation of any drug treatment, drug abuse education, drug prevention, crime prevention, safe neighborhood, or school resource officer program(s) and;

**WHEREAS**, the Hialeah Police Department (HPD) desires to donate LETF-State funds to pay for this contribution; and

**WHEREAS**, the monies contained in the LETF-State account are the result of seized assets from investigations by Hialeah Police Department (HPD) and not from tax revenue; and

**WHEREAS**, the Chief of Police has recommended that the \$15,000 be taken from LETF-State account for the donation to Kristi House, Inc.; and

**WHEREAS**, the Chief of Police certifies that this expenditure complies with §932.7055, Florida Statutes; and

**WHEREAS**, the City of Hialeah finds that it is in the best interest of the City to proceed as indicated in this Resolution;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE MAYOR AND THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF HIALEAH, FLORIDA, THAT:

**RESOLUTION NO.: 2023-039**  
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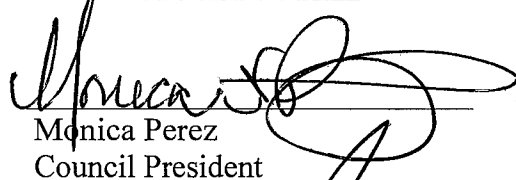
**Section 1: Recitals Adopted.** That each of the above-stated recitals is hereby adopted and confirmed.

**Section 2: \$15,000 Contribution to Kristi House is Authorized.** That the contribution of \$15,000 to Kristi House, Inc. and the use of the LETF-State funds to make the contribution are hereby authorized and approved.

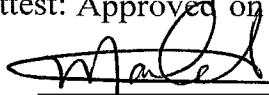
**Section 3: Implementation.** The City of Hialeah, Florida hereby approves the contribution of \$15,000.00 to Kristi House, Inc. "Exhibit 1" (attached hereto) application from Kristi House, Inc., from the Law Enforcement Trust Fund-State upon such contribution having been approved by the Chief of Police of the Hialeah Police Department.

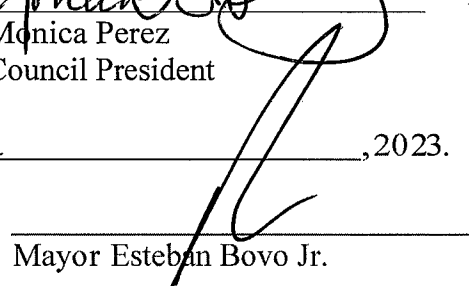
**Section 3:** This resolution shall become effective when passed by the City Council and signed by the Mayor.

PASSED AND ADOPTED this 25 day of April, 2023.

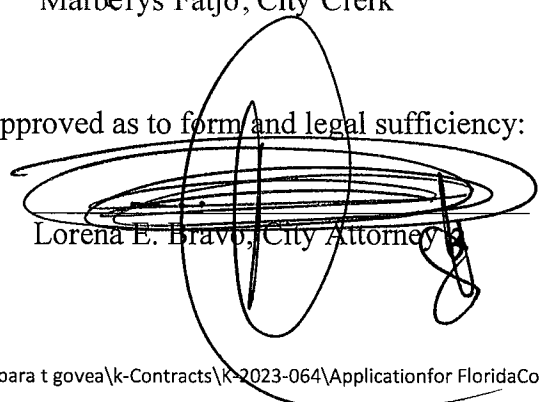
  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Monica Perez  
Council President

Attest: Approved on this 8 day of May, 2023.

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Marbelys Fatjo, City Clerk

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Mayor Esteban Bovo Jr.

Approved as to form and legal sufficiency:

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Lorena E. Bravo, City Attorney



# HIALEAH POLICE DEPARTMENT

5555 E 8<sup>th</sup> Avenue  
Hialeah, FL 33013

## Application for Funding

*The Hialeah Police Department is committed to the reduction of crime, as well as the implementation of crime and drug prevention initiatives throughout the City of Hialeah. Pursuant to the Florida Contraband Forfeiture Act (FCFA), which rules are set forth in Florida Statutes 932.701-707, the Hialeah Police Department is pleased that we are able to benefit our community with the use of asset forfeiture funds by providing financial assistance to local nonprofit organizations that make a difference in our community. The provisions of the FCFA allows the Hialeah Police Department to support projects and programs that strive to improve neighborhood safety, prevent crime, and provide drug abuse education and drug prevention within our community. Funding requests are subject to approval by the Chief of the Hialeah Police Department and the City Council, as well as funding availability.*

### ORGANIZATION

Date of Request:	<u>August 25, 2022</u>	Amount Requested	<u>\$15,000</u>
Applicant Name:	<u>Kristi House, Inc.</u>	Contact Person:	<u>Amanda G. Altman, Esq./CEO</u> <small>First and Last Name</small>
Street Address	<u>1265 NW 12 Avenue</u>	Phone/Extension	<u>305-547-6800</u>
City:	<u>Miami</u>	State:	<u>FL</u>
		Zip:	<u>33136</u>
Email Address:	<u>aaltman@kristihouse.org</u>	Website URL:	<u>www.kristihouse.org</u>

Is your organization a non-profit or public tax-exempt organization as defined under Section 501(c)3 of the Internal Revenue Code?  Yes  No

Attached is a completed and signed W-9  Yes  No

Attached is a completed, signed, and notarized vendor application  Yes  No

Please provide a concise description of the organization, including its history, years of operation, general mission statement, and primary services provided.

Founded in 1995, Kristi House provides treatment, advocacy and coordination of services for child sexual abuse victims. We also operate a nationally recognized program for child sex trafficking and provide evidence-based treatment for other abuse-related trauma, including physical abuse and family violence. A team of education specialists present prevention education and training programs for children, adults and professionals, reaching thousands every year.

Kristi House is also the state-designated and nationally accredited Children's Advocacy Center responsible for serving all of Miami-Dade County. Eight Multi-Disciplinary Team partners make up the Center, working together for more than two decades to meet the legal, medical and emotional needs of child-victims of abuse and trafficking, and hold the perpetrators responsible.

In addition to its main facility located in the heart of the Health District of Miami, Kristi House operates five additional neighborhood locations that provide a full continuum of services and care for child-victims and their families.

All Kristi House services are provided 100% free of charge to victims and their families.



**PROGRAM DETAILS (ATTACH ADDITIONAL PAGES IF NECESSARY)**

When will the funding be needed? October 2022

Which of the following goals will the described project/program support?

Crime Prevention       Drug Prevention  
 Neighborhood Safety       Housing/Job Skills Programs  
 Drug Abuse Education       Other \_\_\_\_\_

Is funding sought for a new or ongoing project? ongoing

1. Give a brief description of the project/program.
<b>Please see attached</b>
2. Describe exactly how the project/program will impact crime prevention, neighborhood safety, drug abuse education, drug prevention or a law enforcement purpose.
3. How will the project/program be evaluated for success?
4. Describe anticipated recurring costs for subsequent fiscal years.

**BUDGET INFORMATION**

LETF Funds guidelines: Any awarded funds shall not be utilized for any of the following categories: salaries or stipends, food or beverages, travel or transportation expenses, video surveillance systems, newsletters, advertising, flyers, pamphlets, blogs, social media or any other type of communication media.

Budget Category	Total Cost
Client Support	\$7,200
Jobs Training and Career Support	\$7,800
<b>Total</b>	

**Budget Narrative**

Client Support - Estimated at an average of \$600 monthly (\$600 x 12), this line item assists 20 to 40 girls each monthly with emergency and stabilization support so that they remain engaged in the program and do not revert to lives of exploitation for their monetary needs.

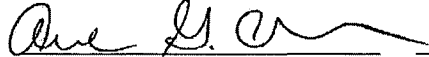
Jobs Training and Career Support, calculated at \$650 x 12 months, provides supporting funds to advance girls' in their educational and jobs readiness path, such as fees needed for applications, enrollment in classes at vocational schools or in certificate programs, uniforms for employment and other costs associated with getting and maintaining a diploma or job that might otherwise be a barrier for girls to meet their goals and forever stay out of trafficking.

CERTIFICATION

I possess the authority to certify that the funds being applied for will be used for the purposes described in this application. I understand that the Hialeah Police Department may require additional information, including but not limited to receipts, program data, lesson plans, staff salary information, or any other supporting documentation to meet their obligation that the funds are being spent appropriately.

Amanda G. Altman

CEO



8/25/2022

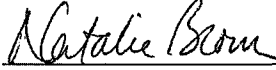
Printed Name

Title

Signature

Date

Natalie Brown



Printed Name of Witness

Signature of Witness

KRISTI



HOUSE

CHILDREN'S  
ADVOCACY  
CENTER

# KRISTI HOUSE, Inc.

## Children's Advocacy Center

### Application for Funding to Hialeah Police Department

1. Give a brief description of the project/program.

It was 2007 when Kristi House began its child sex trafficking program, Project GOLD, to address the varied and complex needs of female victims of commercial sexual exploitation, aka child sex trafficking. Project GOLD is the first and longest-running such program in South Florida. The Project GOLD Drop-In Center provides a welcoming setting for engagement and delivery of services for girls who have been trafficked and those at risk. Girls receive case coordination, therapy, group programs, educational support and jobs training through the Project GOLD program.

While awareness of child sex trafficking has grown tremendously in the past several years, Kristi House remains one of only a couple of agencies providing specialized, trauma-informed services to address underage trafficking in Miami-Dade.

Project GOLD members are adolescent girls, ages 11-22, who are predominantly Hispanic and African-American. Many have emotional or learning disabilities, and nearly all are from economically disadvantaged households. Most are attempting to escape from some traumatic or abusive situation and many are involved with child welfare, abandoned by parents and/or an overburdened dependency system of care. Many have not had the benefit of supportive parents, caregivers or other positive adults. *All have experienced abuse and trauma.*

Project GOLD's team of 18 specialists, working closely with community agencies, schools and other partners, help youth heal emotionally, restore their lives, and forge healthy and fulfilling futures, forever leaving trafficking and abuse. Evidence-based awareness and training programs serve to divert additional at-risk youth from trafficking.

Over the past three years Project GOLD has provided ongoing services to 125 female child trafficking survivors and those at risk with an average of 45-55 clients receiving services at any given time.

In 2019 with major support from the U.S. Department of Justice, Project GOLD added a jobs training and career prep program to its array of services. "Bridges to the Future" provides educational support, job skills development and training to help divert girls to productive, healthy career paths.



NATIONAL  
CHILDREN'S  
ALLIANCE  
ACCREDITED  
MEMBER

A PARTNER IN  
NCTSN

The National Child  
Traumatic Stress Network



Florida Network  
OF CHILDREN'S ADVOCACY CENTERS

MIAMI-DADE  
COUNTY



Main: 1265 NW 12th Ave. • Miami, FL 33136 • Tel 305-547-6800 • Fax 305-547-6816 • [www.kristihouse.org](http://www.kristihouse.org)  
Satellite Offices: Miami Gardens, Palmetto Bay, Naranja, Homestead

2. Describe exactly how the project/program will impact crime prevention, neighborhood safety, drug abuse education, drug prevention or a law enforcement purpose.

Project GOLD is all about helping girls and young women overcome sex trafficking and build better lives. It takes girls out of dangerous, illegal situations and provides support, enrichment, prevention education and mental health services to build better lives. Project GOLD links participants to specialized medical services, substance abuse treatment, housing support, employers and other vital community assistance.

We have found since our trafficking work began in 2007 that outreach to engage girls who are involved in trafficking is the first hurdle, requiring patience, persistence and a door that remains open. Often commercially sexually exploited youth do not disclose their involvement, or they believe they are in control and not victims. However, once girls learn about exploitation, become enmeshed in services at a Project GOLD Drop-In Center, and develop trust in Project GOLD staff, they usually become members and often stay involved for several months, sometimes years. Our program takes a strengths-based approach and is grounded in a positive youth development framework.

Project GOLD is part of a community team of law enforcement, juvenile justice and service providers convened twice monthly by the Florida Department of Children and Families (DCF) to address HT. After an abuse report is called in to the Florida Abuse Hotline for Miami-Dade, it is investigated and a staffing is scheduled by the HT Multidisciplinary Team. At the staffings, Project GOLD makes service planning recommendations for new cases, receives referrals and provides status updates on current participants.

Additionally, Project GOLD assists trafficked youth weekly in GRACE Court in the Human Trafficking Division of the Miami Children's Courthouse, providing input to the judiciary and outreach to HT victims in need of services.

### **Completing the Path Out of Trafficking**

Project GOLD's *Bridges to the Future* program provides the final component on the continuum to help girls forever leave trafficking. It was developed after recognizing that in addition to wraparound support, mental health services, positive adults and a non-judgmental, trauma-informed, survivor-focused approach, girls need major support to help them find employment for futures not involving trafficking.

Many survivors have learning challenges, some have dropped out and others are woefully behind due to academic, behavioral, or truancy issues. Similarly, many are not prepared for jobs or careers for a source of income to support themselves or their families if not involved in trafficking or other high-risk activities. As a result, without assistance through wraparound services including academic/educational assistance and vocational/job/career coaching, they are at a high risk of recidivism.

Project GOLD developed and launched *Bridges to the Future* in 2019 to provide girls with one-to-one counseling, educational and vocational support, job skills, career planning and employment connections in the community to identify strengths, forge linkages and routes out of trafficking. It answers the fundamental question for survivors: "*If not trafficking, what?*" It offers participants critical skills and programming geared to set them on a career path.

Despite the program's relative newness and the pandemic altering services as originally envisioned, *Bridges* has seen a number of successes in its three years. These include 103 participating in employment and academ-

ic services, 117 job placements, 16 enrollments in post-secondary education and vocational programs, 15 high school diplomas earned, eight internships, and three completed certification programs.

3. How will the project/program be evaluated for success?

Detailed member files and tracking of services and goals are maintained by Project GOLD staff for all participants. Self-report, along with law enforcement and/or DCF reports, verify staying out of a life of exploitation, which is naturally the biggest goal.

The Outcomes for Human Trafficking Survivors instrument developed by the U.S. DOJ is administered quarterly to track Project GOLD members participating in *Bridges* by assessing progress in the Education and Employment domains. Aggregate data is tracked on:

- # of jobs obtained
- # of vocational/certificate program enrollments and graduations
- # of high school graduations/GEDs achieved
- # of internships obtained and successfully completed
- # of higher education enrollments

4. Describe anticipated recurring costs for subsequent fiscal years.

The Project GOLD program is funded by a combination of public and private support which must be raised and maintained on an ongoing basis. Kristi House's Victims of Crime Act (VOCA) grant covers some direct service staff, and The Children's Trust recently awarded the program a grant covering several key staff positions. Funds are also raised from private foundations and individuals who recognize the importance of this work, particularly in the areas requested here that provide direct help to clients, bridging the gap between goals set and attainment.