

# Sam's Fans

## Request For Proposal

---



## **About Sam's Fans**

Samantha Jane McCarthy was born March 15, 1998.

When Sam was in the first grade she was diagnosed with Fanconi Anemia. The McCarthy family knew that one day Sam would have to receive a (hopefully) life saving bone marrow transplant. That day came in August 2008. Sam spent the next 14 months in and out of the hospital and though she fought to the very end, she passed away on October 15, 2009.

Sam loved to make people happy and to share her happiness with others. One of the things Sam loved most was music. During the long and arduous days in the hospital, music brought Sam a lot of joy and peace. Music therapy was large part of Sam's life in the hospital. When Sam was listening to and creating music, she was happy and could escape her illness, if only temporarily. And when Sam was happy, her family was happy, too.

To honor Sam's life, legacy, and love of music, Nikki McCarthy founded Sam's Fans, a 501 (c) 3 non-profit organization. Through Sam's Fans, Nikki McCarthy has found a purpose in her grief and has continued to work and live a life that reflects Samantha.

**Sam's Fans supports and enhances music and art therapy to seriously ill children and their families.**

## **What is Music Therapy?**

According to the American Music Therapy Association, Music Therapy is the clinical and evidence-based use of music interventions to accomplish individualized goals within a therapeutic relationship by a credentialed professional who has completed an approved music therapy program.

Research in music therapy supports its effectiveness in many areas such as: overall physical rehabilitation and facilitating movement, increasing people's motivation to

---

become engaged in their treatment, providing emotional support for clients and their families, and providing an outlet for expression of feelings ([www.musictherapy.org](http://www.musictherapy.org)).

### **What is Art Therapy?**

According to the American Art Therapy Association, art therapy is a mental health profession in which clients, facilitated by the art therapist, use art media, the creative process, and the resulting artwork to explore their feelings, reconcile emotional conflicts, foster self-awareness, manage behavior and addictions, develop social skills, improve reality orientation, reduce anxiety, and increase self-esteem. A goal in art therapy is to improve or restore a client's functioning and his or her sense of personal well-being. During individual and/or group sessions art therapists elicit their clients' inherent capacity for art making to enhance their physical, mental, and emotional well-being. Research supports the use of art therapy within a professional relationship for the therapeutic benefits gained through artistic self-expression and reflection for individuals who experience illness, trauma, and mental health problems and those seeking personal growth ([www.arttherapy.org](http://www.arttherapy.org)).

### **Eligible Applicants**

Sam's Fans values the integration of music and art therapy programs in organizations where seriously children are engaged. Priority will be given to proposals that incorporate music and/or art therapy into programs where seriously ill children and their families are being treated.

### **Organizational Capacity**

Tell us about your organization. In two pages or less, please tell us the following:

- Organization Mission and Vision
  - Brief Organizational History (3 paragraphs)
  - Number of Staff or Total Budget
-

## **Project Information**

Tell us about the project you would like us to consider for funding. In five pages or less, please tell us the following:

1. Contact Information: Please indicate who will be the primary contact for this proposal.
  2. Project Title
  3. Project Overview: Tell us about the project you plan to implement. Include a detailed description of all positions and responsibilities involved with this project.
  4. Who is the Target Audience?
  5. Project Overview: What exactly will the project do or accomplish?
  6. Project Location or Service Area
  7. Project Timeline
  8. How will the project be implemented?
  9. How does the project align with the mission of Sam's Fans?
  10. Why should your project be funded?
  11. Outline the duties that will be fulfilled by this project and the expected outcomes.
  12. Budget: Tell us how much support you are requesting and how those funds will be used to implement the project.
-

## **Additional Information**

Along with your application, please include the following documents:

- Budget and Budget Narrative
- 501 (c) 3 documentation (if applicable)

## **Submission**

Proposals are accepted on a rolling basis. Proposals can be emailed to [nikki@samsfans.org](mailto:nikki@samsfans.org) .

## **Awards**

Proposals are eligible for renewal each year. Sam's Fans will notify you within 90 days of submission of this proposal.

## **Reports**

Sam's Fans requires quarterly reports delivered by email on March 1, June 1, September 1, and December 1 of each year. Reports should include the following:

- Number of visits or sessions completed using Sam's Fans funding
- Number of patients and families served
- Goals addressed
- Interventions used
- Case examples (minimum of three)

## **Questions?**

If you have questions regarding this proposal, please contact Nikki McCarthy at [nikki@samsfans.org](mailto:nikki@samsfans.org) .

---