

## Executive Summary

A community is only as strong as its weakest member. By empowering more people to be responsible and accountable for their own actions and ensuring access to care for those who are unable to care for themselves we strengthen every member of our community. The Community Connections program was born out of a need expressed by the community through the Study Circles on Poverty and various community needs assessments. We provide a single access point into social service resources for individuals and families experiencing challenging circumstances. Assisting community members as they navigate through challenging life circumstances helps to prevent potential long term health and safety concerns.

When we assist our clients we are considering both their expressed needs and any potentially unexpressed or underlying needs. We assess the situation each client lives in and make referrals for appropriate services. We have no eligibility requirements for our assistance. We are available to anyone in need of basic human services assistance. There are a variety of eligibility requirements for the agencies and institutions we refer to and we try to ensure each person we refer is an appropriate referral for that agency.

When the Community Connections Pilot program launched in September 2017 we expected it to be a year of challenges and learning opportunities. The idea that we could be of service to the community and try to support both those in need and the many wonderful agencies who do so many great things in Sheridan seemed an ideal fit for the Sheridan County Public Health mission. Little did we know that we would be facing one of our biggest challenges so quickly. Since the homeless shelter closed at the end of October we have encountered a large number of Sheridan community members who have been homeless or are at risk for homelessness. We have been in close partnership with many different agencies in an ongoing effort to help protect this vulnerable population.

Some of the wonderful things that have already come out of the Community Connections program has been financial classes with budgeting assistance provided through a financial educator, closer relationships between community agencies to help support the needs of the community, and a deeper knowledge of available resources and understanding of needs within the community. We hope to be able to share this knowledge with everyone who desires it. The past four months has been a great experience and we hope to be able to carry on our mission with the assistance and support of the community in which we live and serve.

Sincerely,

Debra Haar

County Nurse Manager

Sheridan County Public Health

**SECTION I: Cover Sheet**

**Application for City of Sheridan One Cent Funds**

**Fiscal Years 2020-2023**

**(July 1, 2019 to June 30, 2023)**

**General Information**

Name of Organization: Sheridan County Phone Number: 307-672-5169  
Public Health –  
Community  
Connections  
Contact Person: Debra Haar Address: 297 S. Main St. Sheridan,  
WY 82801  
Amount of Funds Requested: \$35,995.04  
Email: debra.haar@wyo.gov

Describe the principal purpose of your organization:

The Community Connections program provides a secure one stop center with caring people who help, at no charge, anyone seeking assistance from social service agencies and other resources in Sheridan County. We pledge to share resources without prejudice toward persons in need and to respect the dignity and privacy to those whom we serve.

List the names of Board Members and Officers:

Sheridan County Public Health Nurse Manager *Debra Haar*  
Sheridan County Public Health Nurse *Brooke Kaszas*  
Contract Employee for Community Connections: *Kristine McPherson* and *Brooke Kaszas*  
Sheridan County Community Resource Center Ad Hoc Committee Members including *Cathi Kindt, Keith Wilson, Cel Hope, Jamie Hoeft, Cal Furnish, David Paullson, Pam Riendau, Lanette Pinkerton, Nancy Etchingham*, and many more.  
Center for a Vital Community Director *Amy Albrecht*

**Declaration:** I hereby certify that the information give in this application for One Cent funding is true and correct to the best of my knowledge.

**Agency Director**

Signature

Print Name

DEBRA HAAR

Date

1/12/18

**Board President**

Signature

Print Name

Date

**SECTION II: *Fact Sheet* –**  
***Please keep responses to questions below to a single page***

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**Organizational History and Mission**

In September of 2012 the Center for a Vital Community (CVC) kicked off the study circles on poverty based on the national model from Everyday Democracy. One hundred fifty community members from all socioeconomic standings were recruited to engage in 12 study circles for discussions about cultural realities and causes of poverty. At the end of the five week sessions, all of the Circles agreed that coordinating existing resources was a very high priority. The study circles provided the initiative for the creation of the Sheridan Community Connections pilot project. Additional support for this program was identified in the 2012 and 2015 Community Needs Assessment for the Tripartite Board, through surveys of persons and families with needs and listening sessions with community stakeholders. Through the combined efforts of many Sheridan citizens a plan to partner with Sheridan County Public Health in a Pilot Program called Community Connections was born. The Community Connections Resource Center at Sheridan County Public Health opened for business September 1, 2017.

Services provided to area residents include a compassionate assessment of each individual’s situation and a connection to appropriate community resources that may be able to help them with meeting their basic needs of water, food, sleep, clothing, shelter, personal security, financial security, and health and well-being.

Services provided to the community, city, county, and state include a real time community needs assessment, community resource assessment, and community engagement tool.

The Wyoming Public Health Nursing Mission states:

Through our commitment to excellence in public health nursing, we strive to promote, protect, and improve health and prevent disease and injury in Wyoming’s communities.

We do this by:

- assuring access to care and essential services
- engaging the public and community partners through outreach and collaboration
- ongoing assessment of communities to ensure health needs are planned for and met,
- informing policy through public education and provision of health information.

As a means of fulfilling the Wyoming Public Health mission our partnership with the Community Connections program creates and supports a community resource center that provides a single access point into appropriate social service resources for persons and families experiencing challenging circumstances. The knowledge gained of both the needs and the available resources from this program helps to inform the community and state of areas in which the community excels and areas where the community is facing challenges in terms of provision of resources or acuity of needs.

**Funding Requested**

The funding being requested is one half of a full time salary position to ensure continuing support and coordination for the Community Connections program. We will be requesting equivalent resources to support the other half of a full time position from the county when the application period opens. We have calculated anticipated wages and benefits based upon a \$22.00 hourly wage and a family benefit package using Sheridan County information for a total annually of:

|                       |             |
|-----------------------|-------------|
| Salary                | \$45,936    |
| Benefits              | \$26,054.08 |
| Total                 | \$71,990.08 |
| County Portion        | \$35,995.04 |
| City One Cent Portion | \$35,995.04 |

**SECTION III. Financial Information -**  
**Please keep responses to a single page. (Responses must utilize this form)**

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Balance Sheet as of December 31, 2017:

| <i>Assets (Current)</i>  | <i>Total</i> | <i>Liabilities</i>       | <i>Total</i> | <i>Other Financial Information You Wish to Include:</i> |
|--------------------------|--------------|--------------------------|--------------|---|
| <i>Cash:</i>             | \$21,161.12  | <i>Payables:</i>         | \$13588.88   |   |
| <i>CDs, etc.:</i>        | \$           | <i>Withholding:</i>      | \$           |   |
| <i>Receivables:</i>      | \$           | <i>Long Term:</i>        | \$           |   |
| <i>Fixed</i>             | \$           | <i>Promissory Notes:</i> | \$           |   |
| <i>Equipment</i>         | \$           | <i>Mortgage:</i>         | \$           |   |
| <i>Building</i>          | \$           | <i>Owner's Equity:</i>   | \$           |   |
| <i>Less Depreciation</i> | \$           |                          |              |   |
|                          |              |                          |              |   |
|                          |              |                          |              |   |
|                          |              |                          |              |   |
|                          |              |                          |              |   |

State and county facility resources available through Sheridan County Public Health are being utilized to fulfill program requirements. For the duration of the pilot year funding was secured through community grants and donations to assist with program execution.

**SECTION IV. Budget Information -**

*Please keep responses to a single page. (Responses must utilize this form)*

**Revenue**

|   | <b>Amount</b>   | <b>Secured or pending?</b> |
|---|-----------------|----------------------------|
| City of Sheridan One Cent   | <b>\$4,500</b>  | <b>Secured</b>             |
| Sheridan County One Cent  |                 |                            |
| Donors  | <b>\$34,750</b> | <b>Secured</b>             |
| Fundraisers   |                 |                            |
| Interest  |                 |                            |
| Office space, equipment, and staff time provided by Public Health |                 |                            |
| Office Space app. 575 sq ft at \$1.25/sf                          | <b>\$8,625</b>  | <b>Secured</b>             |
| Equipment - laptops, phones, desks                                | <b>\$5,000</b>  | <b>Secured</b>             |
| Staff Time  | <b>\$45,000</b> | <b>Secured</b>             |
| Other   |                 |                            |
| <b>Total Estimated Revenue</b>                                    | <b>\$97,875</b> |                            |

**Expense**

|   | <b>Amount</b>      | <b>Comments</b>  |
|---|--------------------|--|
| Salary, Director                              |                    |  |
| Salary, Other(s) <b>Community Connections</b> | <b>\$28,800/yr</b> | 20 hours per week  |
| Salary, Other(s) <b>Public Health</b>         | <b>\$45,000/yr</b> | 40 hours per week  |
| Salary, Other(s) <b>Experience Works</b>      | <b>\$6,600/yr</b>  | 18 hours per week  |
| Benefits                                      |                    |  |
| Rent – donated for pilot year                 | <b>\$8,625</b>     | Office Space provided by Public Health 575 sf at \$1.25/sf                   |
| Utilities                                     |                    |  |
| Client Service                                |                    |  |
| Client Aid                                    |                    |  |
| Equipment – donated for pilot year            | <b>\$8121.5</b>    | Laptops, desktops, telephones, desks, chairs etc...provided by Public Health |
| Meeting room furniture                        | <b>\$728.50</b>    | <b>Purchased by Community Connections</b>                                    |
| Other   |                    |  |
| <b>Total</b>                                  | <b>\$97,875</b>    | <i>This figure should match Estimate Revenue line above.</i>                 |

**SECTION V: Report for Prior Awardees Only-**  
*Please keep responses to questions below on a single page*

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**Complete this section if your agency has previously been awarded One Cent Funding for July 1st 2016 to June 30<sup>th</sup> 2017:**

**Amount Awarded?** \$4500.00

**Have you used all of the funds awarded?**  Yes  
 No

As of December 31, 2017 the Community Connections program has served 188 people with a total of 699 expressed needs and 386 referrals made. Approximately 700 hours being provided by Sheridan County Public Health staff using state and county funding, 400 hours being provided by contract labor using donated pilot program funding, and 288 hours being provided by contract labor using Experience Works funding. This averages out to approximately 7 hours per individual assisted through the Community Connections program. Sheridan County Public Health also provides support for 7 other programs for Sheridan County and the Wyoming Department of Health. A sum of \$1,111 has been provided to Sheridan County Public Health for the execution of its programming including the Community Connections program since July of 2017 from the One Cent Fund. We intend to use the remaining allocated funding provided by the One Cent fund to further support the health and wellness of Sheridan County citizens. As part of the pilot year for Community Connections the Center for a Vital Community has been functioning as the fiscal agent and the Community Resource Committee which created the Community Connections Program has obtained donations and grants from community groups and individuals. The bulk of this funding has gone to support contract staff salary and provide materials for area agencies to refer candidates to the program.