



Savannah Promise Neighborhood PLANNING GRANT APPLICATION Executive Summary

Within the inner-city area of Savannah, Georgia there are neighborhoods where over 50% of the population is living in poverty, a considerable number of the residents have no medical home, there are low-performing public schools, and the youth are in need of academic supports and other services to keep them on track and performing at the levels required to successfully graduate from high school and from post-secondary education or vocational/training. The Savannah Promise Neighborhood (SPN) is concentrated within the inner-city and is comprised of 8 census tracts. For the purposes of this planning grant, we will concentrate on Phase 1 of the SPN which is a smaller section comprised of two census tracts. Phase 1 consists of 148 city blocks (0.82 square miles) and contains five neighborhoods: Eastside, Blackshear, Dixon Park, Midtown, and Benjamin Van Clark and three public schools (two elementary and one middle). Phase 1 has a total population of 4,200 people (87% African-American), with 1,704 people (41%) between 0-24 years of age. The median household income is \$16,947 and 41% of the residents have less than a high school education. Phase 1 will serve as the starting point within the SPN and we will “scale up” over the next 2 years to incorporate the entire 8 census tract target area. Within the SPN target area, there are two elementary schools and one middle school. A high school that receives many of the target area middle school is located on the outskirts of the target area.

The Chatham-Savannah Youth Futures Authority (YFA) is committed to creating a SPN that will achieve the vision that **“Every child will be born healthy, grow up healthy and safe, become educated, productive, self-sufficient, contributing citizens to society.”** This vision will be accomplished through creating and sustaining a nurturing community for all children that provides a comprehensive system of support and builds on the strengths of family and community to achieve the goal of a promised neighborhood. We will develop a continuum of solutions that will carry the target area youth from conception through college graduation by focusing on six stages: conception, birth-4 years of age, 5-10 years, 11-13 years, 14-18 years, and 19-24 years. A logic model format of inputs, outputs, outcomes/impacts, and long-term results and solutions will be developed across these six stages factoring in academic indicators

and family/community supports. Using the expertise of a local university, a comprehensive needs assessment will be conducted throughout the SPN to locate the youth and families with the highest needs, describe their needs, and ensure that they receive the appropriate interventions from the identified continuum of solutions. There is also a significant level of commitment from the public school system and the other key stakeholders involved in Phase 1 of the SPN for data access, sharing, and integration using the Social Solutions Efforts To Outcomes (ETO) database and information system. The ETO database will be expanded to include the necessary indicators we will be tracking. We have entered into a Memorandum of Agreement with twelve (12) agencies that are committed to supporting the principles and practices of the SPN, as well as committed to necessary data collection and tracking.

YFA is requesting \$275,000 for planning efforts devoted to establishing the SPN, and we have already received a \$275,000 local cash match as demonstration of the local commitment to this initiative. The \$275,000 that we are requesting will be directed towards: hiring the positions of a Project Director and a Neighborhood Coordinator; completing the needs assessment and segmentation analysis work that will help us develop a continuum of solutions; and planning, coordinating, and implementing a data sharing, management, and tracking system using the Social Solutions' Efforts To Outcomes (ETO) database and information system.

At the end of the planning year we would have completed a comprehensive needs assessment of the residents in the SPN to identify the youth and families with the highest needs, the development of a continuum of solutions for each of the six stages (age groups), and a segmentation analysis to ensure that the youth with the highest needs receive the appropriate continuum of solutions. We will also have a completed feasibility and sustainability plan to assist us as we move forward with implementation after the planning year.