**Spencer County Public Schools**

**Part Two: Expanded Details**

1. The Crusade’s mission, “To help children overcome physical, mental, emotional, and medical challenges” is much like our own district ECE mission. In Spencer County Public Schools we have a team of professionals dedicated to providing services for students who need specifically designed instruction. Our goal is to help these children overcome their limitations and challenges in the hope that they will achieve at high academic levels and become productive citizens in society.

All of the items requested are going to be used to help children overcome their limitations and challenges. These items will not only allow students with special needs an opportunity to access the curriculum in all settings, but also provide our unique classrooms with needed resources for our students. With our quickly growing student population resources can be sparse for all students, but this grant is a much needed source to help our students.

1. Spencer County Public Schools provides a wide range of educational services to students with a variety of disabilities, as defined in current eligibility guidelines set forth in the Federal (IDEA 2004) and State (KAR 7.07) Regulations. Our district provides services in the individual student’s least restrictive environment, ranging from alternative school settings, to self-contained classrooms, to resource classrooms, and to collaborative services.

Our staff challenges each student to work towards achieving individual success. Teachers support student achievement in all areas, with a focus on incorporating the use of technology to promote independence and enhance fundamental reading, writing, and math skills. In addition, related service personnel collaborate with teachers to provide services for students to further develop the skills necessary to accomplish their individual education program goals.

The technology items requested through this grant will provide students and staff the necessary resources to enhance the educational experiences of special needs students. Related service personnel (Speech Therapist, OT PT) work with many of our students and they need the necessary resources to enhance the learning of special needs students. All of the items requested are difficult to purchase with limited funding and resources that are available to a small, rural district that is growing at a rapid rate. See below for greater details on each specific item.

1. **Request #1: Passenger Van(s) Total = $30,000.00**
2. Passenger Van

Currently we have a van that was received as part of the WHAS Grant years ago (2005). While our current van still runs and serves us well, we have repaired it several times and we know that there will come a day when it may not be worth repairing. Also, with our growing population and student needs, it is hard for our special education programs and classes to not have conflicts in the scheduling of the current van.

Our Community Based Work Transition Program uses the van daily for our Junior and Senior ECE students. This program provides a supported job coach to help students gain the necessary skills in order to find and hold a job after graduation. Spencer County’s Special Olympics team is another program that also uses the current van on a weekly basis for their different events such as bowling and track.

With just the above events alone, the current van stays “booked”. We would like to purchase another passenger van in order to allow our MSD/ FMD classrooms to take more Community Based Instruction trips to better prepare these students for life after school along with providing other ECE programs to use the van as well. This new passenger van will allow us to meet the needs of our special education students in and out of the school building without scheduling conflicts.

**Request #2: Technology Total= $20,000.00**

1. Google Chromebooks (22) $7500.00

Student use desktop computers have been requested for our younger students that cannot hold a laptop in their lap. The desktop computers allow the student to sit in a chair and access educational software at their age or ability level. These younger students also need a regular size keyboard, which a mini laptop cannot provide.

1. Dell Laptops (10) $10,000.00

These laptops will enable us to set up mini labs so we can efficiently run reading and math technology programs for numerous grades. We have found the younger children & students with visual impairments work best on the full size screens and keyboards. We are currently using several laptops purchased by WHAS funds that are as many as 10 years old. As one can imagine (while they have served us well), speed and reliability are not descriptions we can use for these machines. Our school/district has purchased numerous software & online licenses for us to use: however we are experiencing a severe time loss issue while dealing with inadequate technology. Our student’s do not have time to lose. The laptops have been more effective for our students in using such programs as I-Ready, Moby Math, My Reading Coach, etc.

1. HP Color Printers (5) $2500.00

A lot of our printers are outdated and we need the ability to print wirelessly and in color from our mobile devices. We also have very few color printers, which is what we would like to purchase. These printers would be of a great help for our students in printing out research materials, reports, etc. since most of our ECE students do not have the capability of printing out items at home.

**Request #3: Literacy/ Math programs Total= $5000.00**

1. Susan Barton Reading Program Level 1, 2, and 3 $800.00

The Barton Reading & Spelling System is designed for intense intervention for students who struggle to easily and accurately decode words when reading (despite being taught phonics), who by second grade are slow and inaccurate readers (are missing the oral reading fluency benchmarks), and who have always struggled with spelling – especially when writing sentences, stories, and compositions. The Barton Reading & Spelling System is a Structured Literacy program that is Orton-Gillingham influenced. Our multi-sensory, direct, explicit, structured and sequential intense intervention program is research and evidence based. The system is a multi-sensory, direct, explicit, structured and sequential program designed for intense intervention for struggling students.

1. Connecting Math Concepts Comprehensive Edition $2000.00

The math concepts comprehensive edition introduces key concepts clearly and carefully to accelerate student progress. It teaches students to connect skills and “big idea” concepts. The program monitors each student's progress daily to differentiate instruction. Also, the program offers online activities to reinforce students' mastery. Use explicit strategies that incorporate oral and written responses. SRA Connecting Math Concepts: Comprehensive Edition is based on students understanding math skills and concepts that require making connections among related math topics and between procedures and knowledge. SRA Connecting Math Concepts: Comprehensive Edition combines facts, procedures, conceptual understanding, applications, and the development of problem solving to provide a comprehensive curriculum for students who struggle with mathematics. A coherent progression of key topics with an emphasis on proficiency ensures optimal learning and achievement.

1. LiPS Kit (Lindamood Phoneme Sequencing) $450.00

The LiPS: Lindamood Phoneme Sequencing® Program for Reading, Spelling, and Speech–Fourth Edition is a comprehensive multisensory program that uses explicit, systematic instruction to develop phonological awareness, decoding, spelling, and reading skills. The goal of LiPS is to develop fluent readers and competent spellers.

1. Boardmaker Plus! (4 kits) $1750.00

Boardmaker® Plus! offers all the same features as Boardmaker® for creating print-based materials, and it doesn't stop there. Boardmaker® Plus! transforms your paper activities – and your students' learning experience – by making your activities interactive for use on the computer with sound, animation and video. With Boardmaker® Plus!, you can create all of the same materials you do with Boardmaker® - practice quizzes, worksheets, schedules, books, writing activities, games and more in 44 languages. And, with Boardmaker® Plus!, you can make them talk, prompt and support your students as they learn.

**Request #4: Occupational Therapy Total= $1100.00**

1. Therapy brushes from Achievement Products $50.00

These are the corn brushes recommended for the Wilbarger pressure program. The therapy brushes come with a plastic handle that snaps onto the brush. (Set of 12 + brush handle)

1. Wrapper snappers from Achievement Products $20.00

Twist, bend, and stretch these brightly colored flexible tubes into an endless body of shapes and sizes to create high pitched noises. Blow into them to make a whistling sound. This item is an excellent hand activity that provides auditory visual and tactile stimulation. (Set of 12)

1. Air Walker from Achievement Products $350.00

Cocoon like design and spandex fabric provides a total body pressure and a feeling of safety. Excellent for sensory processing disorders. Hang from a built in swing ceiling bolt. This item includes a safety rotational device and heavy nylon strap for height adjustment.

1. Spin Station/ rotation board from Achievement Products $190.00

The spinning action of spin station/ rotation board that integrates vestibular and proprioceptive responses to improve muscle tone and balance.

1. One Leg Balance Stool from Achievement products  $60.00 Adjustable height equilibrium device develops balance and elicits compensatory forward, backward, and lateral positional adjustments.  Wooden seat.
2. Roller Racer from Achievement Products (4) $400.00

The perfect scooter for group activities. Low to the ground, children propel themselves by simply swinging the handlebars from side to side. Using upper body strength, children can go straight or move between obstacles. Can be used on hard surfaces indoors or out.

$100 per roller racer

1. Easy Grip Tweezers from Achievement Products $15.00

Encourages proper use of pincher grasp that guides the child to pick up and sort manipulatives, counters, and other small objects. A perfect pre-scissors and writing skill builder resource for teachers and occupational therapist. (Set of 12)

1. Eye droppers from Achievement Products $15.00

Eye droppers help develop pincher grasp. Fill the eye dropper with colored water and drop the liquid beads onto paper towels. (Set of 12)

**Request #5: Physical Therapy Total= $4200.00**

1. Rifton Large Adaptive Tricycle $2000.00

Riding a bike is part of childhood, and this bike for children with special needs aims to provide that exhilarating experience to every child. Benefits of riding the adaptive tricycle include lower extremity strengthening, reciprocal leg motion patterning, balancing skills, using visual, spatial perception for steering, and social interaction with peers and neighbors.

1. Action-based learning ladder packs from Gopher $360.00

First steps learning ladder pack has a flat rubber ladder and mat. It contains 66 content cards and instructions for grades kindergarten through third.

1. Glitter roll and music base switch from Enabling devices $140.00

This innovative switch provides hours of multi-sensory stimulation with its roller action and built in music box. The clear roller contains a potpourri of sparkling shapes. Roll it to activate the music base.

1. Achievement Rainbow Barrel from Achievement Products $740.00

Our colorful barrel is 42 inches long with a large 20 inch opening. Provides a variety of movement possibilities including rolling, rocking, and crawling. Assists with balance, coordination, spatial orientation, and perceptual training.

1. Achievement Positioning System from Achievement Prod. $430.00

This versatile wedge system provides foam comfortable positioning for children. It can be used in a variety of configurations including prone, supine, and the sideline position. It consists of two large wedges and two small wedges with hook and loop tabs.

1. Now Board from Achievement Products $490.00

A portable and affordable solution that turns any flat surface into an interactive whiteboard. Helps children to promote upright posture, reaching, standing as well as assisting in learning.

1. Ultra Fit Rubber Medicine Balls from Gopher $40.00

Pebbled solid-rubber surface offers better grip than a classic medicine ball. Firm to touch. The 4 lb. ball will bounce and has a 7” diameter.

**Request #6: Speech Therapy Total= $2200.00**

1. My Reading Coach $2000.00

My reading Coach is a research based online program that is beneficial to students within a wide range of proficiency levels, including struggling readers within the ECE program. The program begins with an assessment, identifying each student’s instructional needs. From there, the student is assigned lessons specific to his/her individual needs in the areas of phonemic awareness, phonics, comprehension, grammar, and meaning.

1. The Decider $200.00

This set of 3 CD’s allows the students to learn and practice 132 spatial, temporal, quantitative, and social-emotional concepts. The educator version includes computerized testing and data collection for an unlimited number of users.

1. **Measures of success:**

Spencer County Public Schools measures individual student success through a variety of measures, including state, district, classroom, and individual assessments. Such assessment tools provide us with valuable information on progress as related to the integrity of core instructional programs and the instructional supports in place such as: technology, reading/ writing interventions, and the other materials requested as part of this grant.

Furthermore, individual student progress in achieving IEP goals and objectives act as an effective measure for determining the success of programs and supports selected for providing intensive instructional supports based on individual student needs. These students needs include, but are not limited to the physical, educational, and therapeutically supports requested as part of this grant.

1. **Outcome from previous years grant:**

Spencer County Public Schools received a grant in the amount of $40,000 for the 2015/2016 school year. For this school year the grant was based around our districts needs for improvement in the area of literacy at the high school level and updating some of our aging technology. This grant has allowed us to use these resources to enhance the educational experiences of our special needs students in Spencer County.

These resources that were provided through the WHAS Grant also allowed our special needs population an opportunity to access the curriculum in all settings. We want to thank the WHAS Crusade for Children for providing the necessary money to fund some of the projects that we needed so desperately in our rural, but rapidly growing county.