

**Title:** In 15 words or less, give a title that describes the project's main beneficial result.

Helping our residents transition out of addiction and homelessness

**Narrative:** 500 words or less, all on this page. Label paragraphs - A: Group. B: Project. C: Benefits. D: Leverage.

### A. Group

Neighbors' Consejo is a social service agency that provides street outreach, comprehensive substance abuse, mental health, case management and other social services, and educational programs such as ESL and computer literacy. We specialize in homelessness and its prevention among "at-risk" populations of Ward 1. We especially seek to ensure adequate access to mental health and substance abuse services for Spanish-speakers with Limited English Proficiency (LEP). Neighbors' is the only such agency in the DC Metropolitan area to have an inpatient substance abuse program for Spanish-speaking males.

### B. Project

Neighbors' has begun renovating its facilities to better serve our mission. Our residential program has two components, Casa Paz in which clients spend three months in intensive treatment, and Casa Libertad in which clients begin transitioning back into the world. It has been discovered that there are bed bugs, that may have accompanied some of our residents into Casas Paz y Libertad. It is our goal to ensure that this problem - ever more common - gets taken care of in such a way as to reduce the possibility of return. We have, therefore been replacing the wooden beds with metallic ones. So far we have replaced 3, with 6 more to go. This grant will assist us in this effort.

### C. Benefits

All of the clients in the Transitional house are homeless, some having been so for many years. The appearance of bed bugs is a reminder of the life they are fighting to leave behind. Sleeping on a metallic bed is a way to reduce the triggers that may lead these survivors to believe they will "never escape the shelters or the streets." These residents need and deserve to know that they are worth a new bed. It is the mission of Neighbors' substance abuse program to help these guys feel valued - that they matter - so that they will take this feeling with them when they leave the program.

### D. Leverage

We have already acquired 3 beds & have established a relationship with Sam's Club that has agreed to provide us discounts when we buy a few at a time.