



1061 Loveless Lane, Chapin, SC 29036

palmettofoundationpr.org

August 27, 2020

Dear Distinguished Representatives:

Thank you, foremost, for your steadfast commitment in serving and supporting the people of South Carolina.

As the 2020-21 academic year begins, the COVID-19 pandemic has presented our state and its residents with unprecedented challenges on numerous fronts. Inevitably, one of those fronts is the compromised social and emotional health of our state's youth, resulting in increased substance use and the rise of co-occurring mental and behavioral disorders among those as young as 12 years old.

Last year, Palmetto Foundation opened the door for us becoming an official partner with South Carolina's Department of Education (SCDE) and the designated substance abuse prevention partner of the department's Project AWARE initiative funded by The Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA).

The mission of Palmetto Foundation for Prevention and Recovery (PFPR) is to save youth from the devastating effects of substance abuse and addiction by inspiring and empowering them to make resilient choices that will benefit them throughout their lives. Our mission is more important today than ever before. We are humbly seeking your partnership to care for the social and emotional health of SC's youth and to support their success this school year.

Since 2017, we have raised and invested \$320,652 to provide our *Choose Free. Live Free.* program to schools across the state. Our program pursues these goals outlined by SAMSHA:

- (1) increase awareness of substance abuse disorders their link to social and emotional health among school-aged youth;
- (2) provide training for school personnel and other adults who interact with school-aged youth to detect and respond to substance abuse disorders; and
- (3) responsively connect school-aged youth, who may have mental health issues and substance abuse disorders and their families to needed intervention services.

On March 16, 2020, public and private K-12 schools moved to remote learning. Our response has been swift and proactive. PFPR has partnered with Recovery Platform to conceptualize an innovative digital smart phone application to continue meeting the aforementioned three goals. We would appreciate your financial support to fully develop that outreach technology, in addition to launching a new and vital counselor outreach and assessment protocol in collaboration with SCDE.

Using our proven collaborative outreach model, signature program methodology, and technology, we can help save SC youth from the devastating effects of substance abuse disorders and mental health issues, while countering the consequences of COVID-19!

Warm regards,

Martine Helou
Executive Director

Prevention: The Key to Saving Lives

Prevention Focused • Community Driven • Recovery Oriented



CHOOSE FREE. LIVE FREE.

In these times of unparalleled anxiety and stress, Palmetto Foundation seeks to support the emotional health of your student body with our powerful prevention program, now featuring a proven digital engagement tool.

How do we do it?

Palmetto Foundation has created a multi-tiered virtual platform to engage students where they spend most of their time, especially while social distancing:

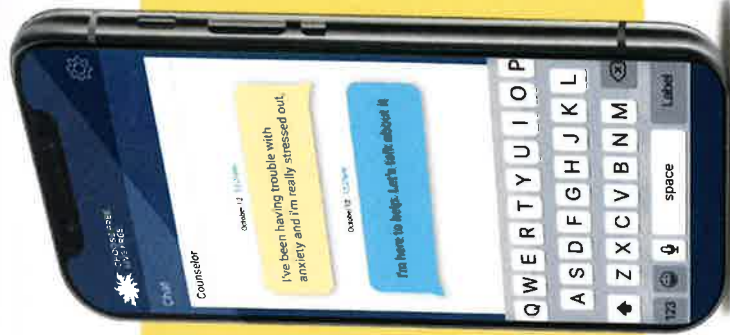
Our Live Free Mobile Application features:

For Students

- Anonymous communication with peers and/or school counselors
- Allows students to serve both as peers and have access to peers for support
- Moderated peer chat rooms
- Discussions, following parental consent, with behavioral health professionals via telemedicine
- SAMHSA approved self-assessments to better identify and understand a problem
- Regularly delivered content focused on encouragements, videos, and music
- Links to websites and hotlines for access to additional support resources

For School Staff

- Monitor students engagement with the platform
- Deploy additional focused content to those with specific issues
- Assist students in connecting with behavioral health experts
- Produce reports to provide perspective on the health of the student body as a whole



Prevention: The Key to Saving Lives

Let Palmetto Foundation help your school identify, engage, intervene, and manage the mental and emotional health of your students.

palmettofoundationpr.org





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**Agreement between
Palmetto Foundation for Prevention and Recovery, Inc.
and
The Recovery Platform, LLC**

Customer: Palmetto Foundation
Address: 105 Snapdragon Ct
Address: Unit B
Address: Chapin, SC 29036

Contact Name: Martine Helou
Email: director@palmettofoundationpr.org
Phone: (864)-991-6343
Effective Date: Date of execution

The Recovery Platform, LLC (TRP) is a North Carolina based LLC created to design, sell, and support software platforms for healthcare. Palmetto Foundation for Prevention and Recovery (Palmetto) is a non-profit organization focused on saving youth from the devastating effects of substance abuse and addiction by inspiring and empowering them to make resilient choices that will benefit them throughout their lives.

Whereas, Palmetto has determined that the TRP software platform will offer a Peer Support platform, and integrated mobile application, which will facilitate their efforts in delivering interventions to students by peers and school counselors. Capabilities enable peers and school staff to virtually engage students anonymously to "listen" and when necessary direct them to more focused support and care.

Whereas, Palmetto will assist in the innovation of the required functionality workflow to streamline and simplify the process of delivering critical support services to those students suffering Substance Use Disorders (SUD) and other disorders which are self-reported, observed, and/or diagnosed with evidence based assessments delivered through the mobile application. The Palmetto Workflow document attached as Exhibit A.

Responsibilities of TRP

Create application specifications

Create user interface based upon current UI/UX principles

Develop, train, and support a custom mobile app supported by TRP's backend SaaS service that includes:

1. Version for both iOS and Android

c. 3rd Party Behavioral Health professionals (requires parental consent)

9. Student profile, assessment referral protocol and M3 Checklist

10. Reporting - The ability for Palmetto and School staff to run reports related to their specific organization. Sample capabilities will be:

a. Dashboard showing all users that can be

filtered by:

- i. School
- ii. Grade
- iii. Gender
- iv. Issues they are struggling with

sorted by:

- i. Last interaction
- ii. M3 score
- iii. Grade

b. Tracking of which individual have engaged with either a counselor or behavioral health professional and indication of whether the engagement is currently active (interaction within the last 30 days)

c. Engagement dashboard

- i. Active students over the past week / past month
- ii. Number of engagements / opens of specific content
- iii. Percentage of students that have engaged in chat
- iv. Percentage of students that have completed the M3 checklist
- v. Percentage of students struggling with specific issues
 - 1. Drugs
 - 2. Alcohol
 - 3. Bullying
 - 4. Physical Abuse
 - 5. Sexual Abuse

Exhibit A

How the Virtual Peer Counseling Program Works

Technical Setup:

- TRP web portal is provided to Palmetto and schools
- Roles and privileges are configured for all staff and students
- App stores will be provided with downloadable instances of the mobile application
- Content provided by Palmetto will be loaded in TRP with associated “rules” for deployment

Student Experience:

- Students are initially engaged by virtual presentation by Palmetto, school updates to parents and students, and word of mouth among students.
- Students choose to download the mobile application when compelled (may remain anonymous)
- Students are provided with a mechanism to interact with peers and counselors through the app by chat or video conferencing.
- Engaged students are provided content through the app including:
 - Evidence based assessments
 - Surveys
 - Stories
 - Music
 - Encouragements
- Engaged students that wish to accept additional professional care can seamlessly initiate such referrals through the app

School Counselor (SC) Experience:

- SC accesses TRP thru either a smart device, PC, or Laptop
- SC is provided personal login credential to perform the following on TRP
 - View client dashboard to access current student information or recall past discussions
 - Assessment results
- Request additional treatment and parent engagement can be initiated from the app



**Palmetto
Foundation**

For Prevention & Recovery



#SAVINGOURYOUTH

**A grassroots-and-growing nonprofit foundation
dedicated to prevention and early intervention in the
fight against adolescent substance abuse and addiction.**

CHOOSE FREE. LIVE FREE. PROGRAM

is quickly becoming the youth-focused prevention program of choice for schools and their communities throughout South Carolina. It originated as a law enforcement program in partnership with the FBI and DEA. Today, it's a unique program being studied and verified as an evidence-based model for prevention.

ABOUT THE PROGRAM

- Supported by the South Carolina Department of Education and the Palmetto State School Counselors Association
- Engages youth with a “break through, follow through” method
- Recognizes the influence of emotional and mental health on teen substance abuse and high-risk behaviors
- Creates a community of support and solutions with the school
- Provides a launch pad and framework to help youth transform feelings of isolation and unmet needs into empowerment and resiliency
- Project Choose Hope offers the Choose Free. Live Free. program with faith-centric messaging, in partnership with houses of worship

CONTACT US ABOUT A PRESENTATION OR PARTNERSHIP OPPORTUNITIES

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