



The Florida Senate

Local Funding Initiative Request

Fiscal Year 2019-2020

LFIR#: 1869

1. Title of Project: Camp Deep Pond

2. Senate Sponsor: Aaron Bean

3. Date of Submission: 02/07/2019

4. Project/Program Description:

For over 50 years, Boys & Girls Clubs of Northeast Florida (BGCNF) has provided safe, positive places for youth to reach their full potential as productive, caring, responsible citizens. Recently, BGCNF was gifted 63 acres of land zoned for camping in Hilliard, Florida where we have created Camp Deep Pond, a camp designed specifically to change the lives of thousands of inner-city youth by taking them out of the violent neighborhoods of Jacksonville's Urban Core and into the woods. Reducing violence and increasing opportunities for education and self-worth is accomplished at camp through character development, teamwork activities and an immersion in outdoor adventure and discovery. Over 750 youth attended camp last July, and thousands will return this year. In 2018, we rented tents. In 2019 we need permanent camp buildings and structures, including a challenge course and accommodations for youth with varying exceptionalities, to best serve our growing camp population.

5. State Agency to receive requested funds : Department of Juvenile Justice

State Agency Contacted? Yes

6. Amount of the Nonrecurring Request for Fiscal Year 2019-2020

Type of Funding	Amount
Operations	
Fixed Capital Outlay	1,000,000
Total State Funds Requested	1,000,000

7. Total Project Cost for Fiscal Year 2019-2020 (including matching funds available for this project)

Type of Funding	Amount	Percent
Total State Funds Requested (from question #6)	1,000,000	100.00%
Federal	0	0.00%
State (excluding the amount of this request)	0	0.00%
Local	0	0.00%
Other	0	0.00%
Total Project Costs for Fiscal Year 2019-2020	1,000,000	100.0%

8. Has this project previously received state funding? No

Fiscal Year (yyyy-yy)	Amount		Specific Appropriation #	Vetoed
	Recurring	NonRecurring		

9. Is future-year funding likely to be requested? No



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10. Details on how the requested state funds will be expended

Spending Category	Description	Amount
Administrative Costs:		
Executive Director/Project Head Salary and Benefits		
Other Salary and Benefits		
Expense/Equipment/Travel/Supplies/Other		
Consultants/Contracted Services/Study		
Operational Costs:		
Salary and Benefits		
Expense/Equipment/Travel/Supplies/Other		
Consultants/Contracted Services/Study		
Fixed Capital Construction/Major Renovation:		
Construction/Renovation/Land/Planning Engineering	Multi-purpose Activity Center: \$305,000 Hydration Stations (4): \$100,000 Restrooms (3): \$180,000 Nature Museum: \$ 45,000 Pole Barn: \$110,000 Storage Shed (2): \$110,000 High/Low Ropes Course: \$150,000	1,000,000
Total State Funds Requested (must equal total from question #6)		1,000,000

11. Program Performance:

a. What is the specific purpose or goal that will be achieved by the funds requested?

The purpose of receiving funds is to build permanent camp structures so we may facilitate activities that will develop character, produce hope and provide opportunities for at-risk inner-city youth. At Camp Deep Pond we are developing character in youth, helping them achieve social, emotional and physical wellness. We strive to reduce the tendencies of youth to be involved in violence, and provide ample opportunities for youth to grow exponentially. From building self-esteem and confidence to providing healthy nutrition and amazing outdoor activities, we offer a range of opportunities for kids to develop healthy habits for life. Ultimately, our goal of this funding request is to be able to build permanent camp facilities so we may comfortably and safely provide the programs and services necessary to help young people, especially those who need us most, reach their full potential as productive, caring, responsible citizens.

b. What are the activities and services that will be provided to meet the intended purpose of these funds?

BGCNF will provide a true summer camp experience in an outdoor setting to thousands of at-risk inner-city youth each year. Upon receiving funds, Boys & Girls Clubs of Northeast Florida will build a multi-purpose activity center, hydration stations, a pole barn, restrooms, a nature/conservation education center, ropes course, storage facilities, and accommodations for youth with varying exceptionalities. Camp services and activities will include character development, team-building challenges, archery, science and technology (STEM rocket program), biking, kayaking, swimming, and FFCWCC's "Project Wild" and "Project Aquatic Wild" curriculum, and BGCNF's "Ultimate Journey" curriculum. By acquiring needed funds to build Camp Deep Pond's



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permanent structures, we will continue to provide our excellent, life-changing activities and services safely and effectively to a larger population of at-risk, inner city youth.

c. What are the direct services to be provided to citizens by the appropriations project?

With the recent addition of Camp Deep Pond to BGCNF, we have increased Club participation to thousands of at-risk inner-city youth. Direct services include transportation to and from camp, healthy meals and snacks, personal character and team development lessons, outdoor adventure and education, opportunities for personal growth and discovery, and a true camp setting that many youth have never experienced before. Our goal is to reduce violence, increase education and hope, and help young people reach their full potential as productive, caring, responsible citizens. Our camp staff is currently pursuing training provided by the American Camping Association, Florida Youth Network, and Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission. New, permanent structures are essential to maximizing the impact our services have on our camp population.

d. Who is the target population served by this project? How many individuals are expected to be served?

The target population that the project seeks to serve are at-risk youth ages 6 to 18 who currently live in the inner-city. We seek to serve over 2,000 youth during summer and many more during the school year. These youth typically reside in low-income households with over 90% of them participating in the free or reduced-fee lunch program at their school. Without BGCNF providing the summer camp experience at Camp Deep Pond, these youth would never have the opportunity to experience the joys of the great outdoors. Children and youth outside of BGCNF as well as additional Florida agencies or organizations are always welcomed and encouraged to enjoy our services at Camp Deep Pond. We strive to accommodate and provide services for all young people with or without varying exceptionalities.

e. What is the expected benefit or outcome of this project? What is the methodology by which this outcome will be measured?

Our goal is to ensure that the youth who spend their time with us are achieving social, emotional and physical wellness. From building self-esteem and confidence to providing healthy snacks and activities, we offer a range of opportunities for kids to develop healthy habits for life. Additionally, BGCNF will build permanent structures at Camp Deep Pond to include a multi-purpose activity center, restrooms, hydration stations, ropes course, restrooms, pole barn, nature/conservation education center, storage buildings and accommodations for young people with varying exceptionalities. We strive to reduce neighborhood violence, increase educational opportunities and provide hope to all young people.

f. What are the suggested penalties that the contracting agency may consider in addition to its standard penalties for failing to meet deliverables or performance measures provided for in the contract?

BGCNF fully expects to successfully implement the deliverables of this project. Should BGCNF fail to meet any aspect of the deliverables, an appropriate portion of funding could be returned.

12. The owner(s) of the facility to receive, directly or indirectly, any fixed capital outlay funding. Include the relationship between the owner(s) of the facility and the entity.

Boys & Girls Clubs of Northeast Florida is the current owner of the land known as Camp Deep Pond. The land was deeded to Boys & Girls Clubs of Northeast Florida on December 7, 2018.

13. Requestor Contact Information:

a. **Name:** Paul Martinez



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- b. Organization:** Boys & Girls Clubs of Northeast Florida
- c. E-mail Address:** paulm@bgcnf.org
- d. Phone Number:** (904)396-4435 Ext. 101

14. Recipient Contact Information:

- a. Organization:** Boys & Girls Clubs of Northeast Florida
- b. County:** Duval
- c. Organization Type:**
 - For Profit
 - Non Profit 501(c) (3)
 - Non Profit 501(c) (4)
 - Local Entity
 - University or College
 - Other (Please specify)
- d. Contact Name:** Paul Martinez
- e. E-mail Address:** paulm@bgcnf.org
- f. Phone Number:** (904)396-4435 Ext. 101

15. Lobbyist Contact Information

- a. Name:** None
- b. Firm Name:** None
- c. E-mail Address:**
- d. Phone Number:**