



# The Florida Senate

## Local Funding Initiative Request

### Fiscal Year 2023-2024

LFIR # 1828

1. Project Title
2. Senate Sponsor
3. Date of Request

**4. Project/Program Description**

For 60 years, Boys & Girls Clubs of Northeast Florida (BGCNF) has provided safe, positive places for young people to reach their full potential as productive, responsible, caring citizens. Several years ago, we created Camp Deep Pond from 63 acres of land that was gifted to us in Hilliard, FL, where we take thousands of inner-city youth out of their violent neighborhoods in Jacksonville's Urban Core and into the woods to experience the outdoors in a way that most never have before. Through character development, teamwork, and immersion in outdoor adventure and discovery, BGCNF reduces violence and expands opportunity for our at-risk young people. We served 2,200 in 2022 and will serve more than 3,000 this year at camp. To date, we have rented tents and port-a-potties to provide restrooms and a place to stay during thunderstorms and rain. These funds will be used to build a permanent, multi-purpose activity center to provide a safe, indoor space for use during inclement weather.

5. State Agency to receive requested funds
- State Agency contacted?

**6. Amount of the Nonrecurring Request for Fiscal Year 2023-2024**

Type of Funding	Amount
Operations	0
Fixed Capital Outlay	400,000
<b>Total State Funds Requested</b>	<b>400,000</b>

**7. Total Project Cost for Fiscal Year 2023-2024 (including matching funds available for this project)**

Type of Funding	Amount	Percentage
Total State Funds Requested (from question #6)	400,000	29%
<b>Matching Funds</b>		
Federal	0	0%
State (excluding the amount of this request)	300,000	21%
Local	0	0%
Other	700,000	50%
<b>Total Project Costs for Fiscal Year 2023-2024</b>	<b>1,400,000</b>	<b>100%</b>

8. Has this project previously received state funding?

Fiscal Year (yyyy-yy)	Amount		Specific Appropriation #	Vetoed
	Recurring	Nonrecurring		
2021-22	0	300,000		No

9. Is future funding likely to be requested?
- a. If yes, indicate nonrecurring amount per year.
- b. Describe the source of funding that can be used in lieu of state funding.



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10. Has the entity requesting this project received any federal assistance related to the COVID-19 pandemic?

If yes, indicate the amount of funds received and what the funds were used for.

In April 2020, BGCNF received a PPP loan of \$1,274,100. Based on qualifying expenses through 7/31/2020, and compliance with other aspects of the PPP, it was determined that 100% of the loan was forgivable. Through the US Dept. of Treasury, passed through City of Jacksonville, BGCNF also received COVID 19 Business Grant Funds in the amount of \$471,439.

## Complete questions 11 and 12 for Fixed Capital Outlay Projects

11. Status of Construction

a. What is the current phase of the project?

Planning     Design     Construction

b. Is the project "shovel ready" (i.e permitted)?

c. What is the estimated start date of construction?

d. What is the estimated completion date of construction?

12. List the owners of the facility to receive, directly or indirectly, any fixed capital outlay funding. Include the relationship between the owners of the facility and the entity.

BGCNF is the owner of Camp Deep Pond and the multi-purpose structure to be built with the capital funding. Paul Martinez is the President and CEO of BGCNF who will handle the funds with BGCNF Chief Finance Officer, Bob Tedeschi.

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

Spending Category	Description	Amount
<b>Administrative Costs:</b>		
Executive Director/Project Head Salary and Benefits		0
Other Salary and Benefits		0
Expense/Equipment/Travel/Supplies/Other		0
Consultants/Contracted Services/Study		0
<b>Operational Costs: Other</b>		
Salary and Benefits		0
Expense/Equipment/Travel/Supplies/Other		0
Consultants/Contracted Services/Study		0
<b>Fixed Capital Construction/Major Renovation:</b>		



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Construction/Renovation/Land/ Planning Engineering	Rather than multiple structures with different uses, it will be more cost-effective to build this multi-purpose activity center including restrooms, kitchen, stage, storage closets and airconditioning. With the current cost of goods and labor, the cost for the building has increased substantially, resulting in our need for additional funds. We have raised the other necessary funds to meet this increased budget need.	400,000
<b>Total State Funds Requested (must equal total from question #6)</b>		<b>400,000</b>

#### 14. Program Performance

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

The funds will be used to build a permanent, multi-purpose activity center so we may facilitate activities that will develop character and provide new experiences for at-risk inner-city youth. We served more than 2,200 in 2022 and expect to serve more than 3,000 this year. This structure will provide a safe, indoor space for use during inclement weather. Through building self-esteem and confidence, we strive to reduce the tendencies of youth to be involved in violence, while providing new experiences that they would otherwise not have the opportunity for in their urban neighborhoods.

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

BGCNF provides a true summer camp experience in an outdoor setting to thousands of at-risk inner-city youth each year. Camp activities include character development, team-building challenges, archery, science and technology (STEM rocket program), biking, kayaking, swimming, fishing, and FFCWCC's "Project Wild" and "Project Aquatic Wild" curriculum, and BGCNF's "Ultimate Journey" curriculum. For many of our young people, getting this far out of their neighborhood and into nature will have a life changing effect on them.

##### c. What direct services will be provided to citizens by the appropriation project?

Services include transportation to and from camp, healthy meals and snacks, team development, outdoor adventure and educational opportunities for personal growth and discovery, in a true camp setting that many youth have never experienced before. Our goal is to reduce violence, increase hope and opportunity for our young people. This permanent structure is needed for safety and sustainability over the long run for these camp experiences.

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

The target population is at-risk youth ages 6 to 18 who currently live in the inner-city. A majority of the young people we serve live at or below the poverty level, in low-income, high crime neighborhoods, in single parent or non-parent households, with more than 90% 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. We will serve 3,000 youth during the summer and more during Easter break.

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

Improve physical health - At-risk youth participating in Camp Deep Pond will experience outdoor exercise on a daily basis. Participating youth will have a minimum of an hour of daily physical activity.

Improve quality of education - At-risk youth participating will engage in STEM activities and close the opportunity gap in science, technology, engineering and math. All youth will build and launch a rocket as they explore the physics of flight including elements of gravity, drag, thrust and fun.

Divert from Criminal/Juvenile Justice System - At-risk youth participating will engage in character development and team building challenges that will keep them on track to become productive and responsible adults. At-risk youth participating will not become involved in the juvenile system.

##### 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 the contract?

Boys & Girls Clubs of Northeast Florida will follow all rules and regulations associated with administering the funding contract. Furthermore, we intend to fully utilize all of the appropriated funds. Should any portion of the project not be completed, we will return the associated project funding.



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#### 15. Requester Contact Information

a. First Name  Last Name

b. Organization

c. E-mail Address

d. Phone Number  Ext.

#### 16. Recipient Contact Information

a. Organization

b. Municipality and County

#### c. Organization Type

- For Profit Entity
- Non Profit 501(c)(3)
- Non Profit 501(c)(4)
- Local Entity
- University or College
- Other (please specify)

d. First Name  Last Name

e. E-mail Address

f. Phone Number

#### 17. Lobbyist Contact Information

a. Name

b. Firm Name

c. E-mail Address

d. Phone Number