



The Florida Senate

Local Funding Initiative Request

Fiscal Year 2024-2025

LFIR # 1957

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

4. Project/Program Description

For more than 60 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. In Hilliard, Florida on 63 acres of land, 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 are a few of our goals at camp, accomplished through character development, teamwork activities, and an immersion in outdoor adventure and discovery. More than 3,000 young people attended camp this past summer, and more will return this year (including many local organizations beyond BGCNF). With no indoor restrooms, we bring in porta-potties for the summer. To best serve our growing camp population, this year we are putting in a water, septic system, and restrooms.

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

6. Amount of the Nonrecurring Request for Fiscal Year 2024-2025

Type of Funding	Amount
Operations	0
Fixed Capital Outlay	500,000
Total State Funds Requested	500,000

7. Total Project Cost for Fiscal Year 2024-2025 (including matching funds available for this project)

Type of Funding	Amount	Percentage
Total State Funds Requested (from question #6)	500,000	100%
Matching Funds		
Federal	0	0%
State (excluding the amount of this request)	0	0%
Local	0	0%
Other	0	0%
Total Project Costs for Fiscal Year 2024-2025	500,000	100%

8. **Has this project previously received state funding?**

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

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
 N/A

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.

Boys & Girls Clubs of Northeast Florida owns all of the land and facilities of Camp Deep Pond.

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

Spending Category	Description	Amount
Administrative Costs:		
Executive Director/Project Head Salary and Benefits		0
Other Salary and Benefits		0
Expense/Equipment/Travel/Supplies/Other		0
Consultants/Contracted Services/Study		0
Operational Costs: Other		
Salary and Benefits		0
Expense/Equipment/Travel/Supplies/Other		0
Consultants/Contracted Services/Study		0
Fixed Capital Construction/Major Renovation:		
Construction/Renovation/Land/Planning Engineering	Septic system, water system, and restrooms.	500,000
Total State Funds Requested (must equal total from question #6)		500,000

14. Program Performance

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



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The funds will be used to put in a water and septic system, and permanent restrooms. Now that we are seeing more than 3,000 young people at the camp each summer and a smaller portion in addition to that over spring break, having these facilities on site will be secure and sanitary, less impactful on the environment, and much more adequate in serving this many young people than porta-potties.

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 them to grow exponentially. From building self-esteem and confidence to providing healthy nutrition and engaging outdoor activities, we offer a range of opportunities for young people to develop healthy habits for life. This funding will help us ensure Camp Deep Pond will continually and safely give young people a camp experience that they may not otherwise get.

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

Boys & Girls Clubs of Northeast Florida 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 needed restrooms and related infrastructure to serve the young people at Camp Deep Pond. Camp programs and activities include character development, team building challenges, archery, science and technology (STEM rocket program), biking, kayaking, swimming, FFCWCC's "Project Wild" and "Project Aquatic Wild" curriculum, and BGCNF's "Ultimate Journey" curriculum. By acquiring these needed funds, we will continue to provide our life-changing activities and services safely and effectively to a continually growing population of at-risk young people living in our urban core.

As we have grown from serving 750 young people to more than 3,000, having permanent restrooms rather than porta-potties is now critical to keeping our daily operations safe and effective.

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

With the addition of Camp Deep Pond to BGCNF several years ago, we increased participation to thousands of at-risk young people living in the inner city. Direct services that we provide include transportation, healthy meals and snacks, personal character and team development lessons, 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 education and hope, and help young people reach their full potential. Our camp staff receive training provided by the American Camping Association, Florida Youth Network, and Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission.

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

The target population includes young people who are at risk, ages 6 to 18, live in the inner city, and/or live on the margins of the federal poverty line. We will serve more than 3,000 youth during summer and others during the school year. At BGCNF, we serve all young people ages 6-18; typically Club members reside in low-income households with more than 94% of them participating in the free or reduced-fee lunch program at their schools. Without BGCNF providing the summer camp experience at Camp Deep Pond, these young people would not have the opportunity to experience the joys of the great outdoors. Children and youth outside of Boys & Girls Clubs of Northeast Florida who are connected to different local, youth-serving non-profits also 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 young people who spend their time with us are achieving social, emotional and physical wellness, that they are having fun, taking part in new experiences, and building skills that will serve them for the rest of their lives. From growing self-esteem and confidence to providing healthy snacks and physical activities, we offer a range of opportunities for kids to develop healthy habits for life. 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 the contract?

Boys & Girls Clubs of Northeast Florida (BGCNF) 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.

15. Requester Contact Information



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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