

FUNDING APPLICATION

GENERAL INFORMATION

Organization Information

Legal Name: The Forever Foundation for TX Wildlife		Federal Tax ID#: 74-2605516		501(c)(3) Public Charity 509 (a)(1)	
Address: 6644 FM 1102	City: New Braunfels	State: TX	Zip Code: 78132		
Website: https://twafoundation.org		Fax: (210) 826-2904		United Way Funded: No	

Fiscal Year:
January 01 to December 31

Head Of Organization

Name: R. David Yeates	Title: Chief Executive Officer
E-Mail Address: dyeates@texas-wildlife.org	Phone: (210) 826-2904

Application Contact

Name: Meg M. Guerra	Title: Director of Development	E-Mail Address: MGuerra@texas-wildlife.org	Phone: (210) 826-2904
-------------------------------	--	--	---------------------------------

Has the organization applied to the Najim Charitable Foundation in the past and been declined?
No

Grant Amount Requested \$:	Total Project Budget \$:	Organization's Annual budget \$:
\$50,000	\$683,485	\$1,001,088

Mission Statement:
Texas Wildlife Association Foundation, Inc. increases natural resource literacy by promoting conservation and educational programs that connect Texans to the land.

PROJECT INFORMATION

Program / Project Title:
Bringing Natural Resources Education to Urban Youth in the Greater San Antonio Area

PROJECT TIMELINE

Start Date	End Date
09/01/2021	08/31/2022

Harvey E. Najim Charitable Foundation Priorities:
Education

Education Priorities:
Elementary to High School

Program / Project Description:

The program goal is to educate generations of Texans about land stewardship through engagement in the natural world from the virtual classroom to the vast outdoors, using land as the guide. The program objective is to reach as many educators and their students in Greater San Antonio area classrooms while implementing the following learning objectives:

- a. Fostering a personal connection to wildlife and the land;
- b. Facilitating agricultural and natural resource literacy by providing meaningful learning experiences within the outdoors;
- c. Educating and empowering Texans with scientific knowledge of fundamental ecological principles that apply to their life every day.

The youth programs of the Conservation Legacy education department bring natural resource education directly to Texas students at no cost through a variety of methods that enable teachers and TWAF to enhance science-based educational effectiveness through curricula integration and augmentation, regardless of the teacher's science background. Whether it is utilizing Discovery Trunks or practicing experimental design, programs are designed as an educator's toolbox - all activities and materials are interactive, aligned with the state mandated Texas Essential Knowledge and Skills (TEKS) objectives, and created with the K-8 student and teacher in mind - providing learning opportunities with key resources that develop students who are natural resource literate.

TWA's Conservation Legacy education department currently has 7 Conservation Educators deploying the following youth program components throughout the state; two each serving the Greater DFW, Greater Houston, and South Texas areas, along with one educator serving West Texas.

With funding from The Najim Charitable Foundation, a Conservation Educator dedicated to Bexar and the surrounding counties will be hired and begin to immediately deploy engaging natural resources education opportunities to area teachers and students.

Conservation Educators lead and deploy the programs components outlined below:

- o Wildlife by Design: is an opportunity for teachers to work with TWA's education staff to develop customized, hands-on, grade (K-8) and unit specific wildlife and natural resources conservation presentations for the classroom. Conservation Educators deliver presentations (3) days a week on average, armed with interactive wildlife-based lessons, activities and demonstrations covering a wide array of topics (examples: water education, predator/prey relationships, and native wildlife biology).
- o Discovery Trunks: are footlocker-sized kits filled with TEKS-aligned, hands-on materials focusing on a variety of natural resource topics relevant to Texas wildlife and conservation. Each Discovery Trunk is designed to fit within existing classroom lesson plans and contains a binder of custom lessons and materials such as topic-specific videos, books, animal skulls, and pelts. Each trunk is mailed directly to classrooms to explore and utilize for two weeks, while meeting the specific requirements of the TEKS objectives.
- o Teacher Workshops (6-hours): are for teachers to delve into hands-on, inquiry-based indoor and outdoor lessons and activities, while learning how to incorporate these lessons into their classroom teachings. Lessons focus on the importance of land stewardship, native wildlife, agriculture, and water conservation and are Science TEKS-aligned for Grades K-8.
- o Distance Learning (not part of the funding request, but utilized by San Antonio area schools): Distance Learning broadcasts educational programs directly to classrooms providing students the opportunity to interact with wildlife and natural resource professionals. All programs are TEKS-aligned and include topics such as animal adaptations, Wild Turkey ecology, predator/prey interactions and many more.
- o Prior to 2020, when Conservation Educators were able to visit schools in-person, educators were presenting to an average of 11,000 students a year, with approximately 1/3 of those students receiving more than one presentation in that school year. Within the second year of deployment, the Conservation Educator serving the Greater San Antonio area will be presenting over 100 days a year to over 10,000 students.

o Discovery Trunks have always been available statewide and in 2019, 200 Discovery Trunks were reserved in the Greater San Antonio area (Bexar and surrounding counties), with over 23,000 student uses. In 2019, the total impact of Discovery Trunks was over 167,000 student uses. In areas with Conservation Educators (DFW, Houston, and South Texas) Discovery Trunk use increases, up to 45,000 student uses annually.

o Teacher Workshops are hosted regionally by Conservation Educators - approximately half a dozen a year. Each workshop hosts between 20-40 educators who on average each report their potential student impact as more than 90 students a year.

Evaluation Plan:

Conservation Legacy programs track all participation numbers and include an evaluation component. Staff is constantly seeking ways to meet teachers' needs by improving and expanding available curricula and determining the impact of the program. Most programs include pre- and post-tests to measure natural resource and science knowledge gained. All programs include post-evaluations from the teacher to evaluate compatibility with teaching standards, assess student engagement and knowledge gained, and to discover the anticipated use of the lessons and materials by the educators in the future. Teachers who utilize programming report that their students retain and apply the knowledge and skills related to natural resources more so than when programming is not utilized.

Conservation Educators are contractors of the Texas Wildlife Association, with annual programming expectations and goals, which are reviewed and evaluated annually.

Plans to sustain project beyond the term of this request:

The Texas Wildlife Association Foundation has been deploying regional on-the-ground Conservation Educators since 2011, with the support of regional (full and partial) donors such as the Houston Livestock Show and Rodeo, the East Foundation, and the James Green Wildlife & Conservation Initiative. Continued demand for programming by teachers that have seen the positive impacts on their students has allowed the Foundation to seek and successfully receive continuous funding for the programs for over a decade.

Children Impacted:

How many unduplicated children will the TOTAL PROJECT INITIATIVE impact?

25,000

How many unduplicated children will NCF REQUESTED FUNDS impact?

25,000

Please provide the percentage of each group below that will be served by the project in which funds are being requested. Do not leave any area blank. If that specific group will not be served, include zero. The percentage should total 100%.

A. Population Served Age		B. Population Served Ethnicity	
Infants (0-5)	0%	African American	6%
Children (6-13)	100%	Asian American	2%
Young Adults (14-18)	0%	Caucasian	21%
TOTAL:	100%	Hispanic/Latino	69%
		Native American	0%
		Other and Define	2%
		TOTAL:	100%

City Council District for Which Children are Being Served:

District1, District2, District3, District4, District5, District6, District7, District8, District9, District10, Outside San Antonio

Counties applicant is in:

Atascosa, Bandera, Bexar, Comal, Guadalupe, Kendall, Medina, Wilson

Line item Budget:

Line Item Description	Total Project Funds Allocation	Najim Funds Allocation
Payroll Expenses	\$322,735	\$0
Contract Services (Educators throughout state)	\$284,900	\$45,000
Operations (CL program delivery expenses)	\$51,300	\$5,000
Business Expenses	\$11,100	\$0
Equipment	\$700	\$0
Travel and Meetings	\$1,500	\$0
Dues, Fees Expenses/Marketing	\$11,250	\$0
TOTAL:	\$683,485	\$50,000

OTHER FUNDING RESOURCES

For Project being Requested: Funding sources and amounts, pending and committed.

PROJECT - PENDING

Funder Name	Amount Requested
Hamman Foundation	\$50,000
Alice Kleberg Reynolds Foundation	\$10,000
Elma Dill Russell Spencer Foundation	\$400,000
TOTAL:	\$460,000

PROJECT - COMMITTED

Funder Name	Amount Requested
James Green Wildlife Initiative	\$150,000
A.S. Gage Foundation	\$7,500
Houston Livestock Show & Rodeo	\$50,000
Shikar International	\$25,000
East Foundation	\$70,650
North Texas Community Foundation	\$10,000
Tim and Karen Hixon Foundation	\$12,500
Texas Outdoorsman of the Year	\$150,000
TOTAL:	\$475,650

Other funding sources and amounts, pending and committed not specific to this request.

ALL OTHER ORGANIZATION REQUESTS - PENDING

Funder Name	Amount Requested
	\$0
TOTAL:	\$0

ALL OTHER ORGANIZATION REQUESTS - COMMITTED

Funder Name	Amount Requested
Carter's Country Outdoor	\$20,000
Weatherby Foundation	\$15,000

Harvey Weil Foundation	\$5,000
G.R. White Trust	\$23,000
Rocky Mountain Elk Foundation	\$9,500
Bass Pro/Cabela Outdoor Fund	\$15,000
Jacob & Therese Hershey Foundation	\$18,000
Houston Safari Club Foundation	\$10,000
San Angelo Chapter SCI	\$10,000
TOTAL:	\$125,500

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

What percentage of your board contributes financially to the organization?

100%

If Board giving is not at 100%, please explain why?

How are board members expected to participate in your organization?

TWA Foundation Board members are expected to not only support the Foundation monetarily, they are required to attend 7 meetings a year as well as participate in Foundation events that are held throughout the year. The Board is also responsible for assisting with fundraising efforts for all Texas Wildlife Association programs.

LIST OF BOARD DIRECTORS

Name & Office Held	Corporate Affiliation
Steve C. Lewis, President	Jefferson Bank
Alan Curry, Vice President/Secretary	Rancher
Charles Davidson, Treasurer	Republic Ranches, LLC
Marcus Barrett	Barrett Brothers Oil & Gas
Terry Anderson	Conservation Equity Partners
Greg Simons	Wildlife Systems, Inc.
George "Timo" Hixon	Rancher
Bryan King	Luther King Capital Management
J.B. Richter	JBR Holdings
Stan Studer	Touchstone Communities
Jimmie Thurmond III	Accountant
J. Kyle Bass	Conservation Equity Partners

Signature

Meg M. Guerra