

# FUNDING APPLICATION

## GENERAL INFORMATION

### Organization Information

<b>Legal Name:</b> Friends of the Cibolo Wilderness (dba Cibolo Nature Center)		<b>Federal Tax ID#:</b> 74-2564700		<b>501(c)(3) Public Charity</b> 509 (a)(1)	
<b>Address:</b> 140 City Park Rd	<b>City:</b> Boerne	<b>State:</b> TX	<b>Zip Code:</b> 78006		
<b>Website:</b> <a href="http://www.cibolo.org/">http://www.cibolo.org/</a>		<b>Fax:</b> (830) 249-4616		<b>United Way Funded:</b> No	

### Fiscal Year:

January 01 to December 31

### Head Of Organization

<b>Name:</b> Carolyn Chipman Evans		<b>Title:</b> Chief Executive Officer	
<b>E-Mail Address:</b> carolyn@cibolo.org		<b>Phone:</b> (830) 331-8982	

### Application Contact

<b>Name:</b> Leigh Owen	<b>Title:</b> VP of Development	<b>E-Mail Address:</b> leigh@cibolo.org	<b>Phone:</b> (830) 331-8982
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### Previous Najim Funding

Year	Funding \$
2017	\$10,000
2018	\$10,000
2019	\$10,000
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$30,000</b>

### Has the organization applied to the Najim Charitable Foundation in the past and been declined?

Yes  
2007, 2008, 2016

<b>Grant Amount Requested \$:</b>	<b>Total Project Budget \$:</b>	<b>Organization's Annual budget \$:</b>
\$20,000	\$590,381	\$1,830,289

### Mission Statement:

The mission of the Cibolo Center for Conservation is to promote the conservation of natural resources through education and stewardship.

## PROJECT INFORMATION

### Program / Project Title:

To support Children's Education Scholarships and transportation assistance for Title 1 Schools and underserved Students.

### PROJECT TIMELINE

Start Date	End Date
08/01/2021	07/30/2022
<b>Harvey E. Najim Charitable Foundation Priorities:</b> Education	
<b>Education Priorities:</b> Elementary to High School	
<b>Program / Project Description:</b> <p>The vision of the Cibolo Center for Conservation (formerly Cibolo Nature Center &amp; Farm) is to be the model source for age-appropriate nature-based and agricultural education in the greater San Antonio region. The Cibolo offers a combination of on-site and outreach experiential children's programs for over 15,000 (pre-COVID) San Antonio area school children annually (grades Pre-K--12th) that teach nature-based science and social studies lessons aligned with Texas Essential Knowledge and Skills (TEKS) guidelines. We are dedicated to helping our teachers, parents and students move outside the four walls of a classroom and into nature using proven research-based approaches to help children become happier, healthier and smarter while learning outdoors.</p> <p>Demand for the Cibolo's outdoor campuses and educational programming is at an all-time high as parents and teachers recognize the importance of our research based environmental programs and their positive effect on children's education, collaboration, critical thinking, creativity, and resilience. With our region of Texas experiencing explosive population growth, opportunities and space for outdoor experiential learning have become rarer and more valuable. Furthermore, children are spending disproportionate amounts of time connected to electronic devices, and the already prevalent "nature deficit disorder" has become exacerbated in the COVID era. Also, in response to the COVID pandemic, the Texas Education Agency released a public health planning guide that stated it is "preferable for students to be outdoors whenever possible" to provide a safer environment for students. These recommendations presented a prime opportunity for the Cibolo to build upon three decades of outdoor education experience to equip teachers, parents, and students to learn safely outdoors.</p> <p>With demand increasing, so does our mission to serve greater numbers of children. Support from the Najim Family Foundation would provide access scholarships and transportation assistance to over 3,560 under-served and qualified students from San Antonio area Title I schools to be able to participate in the following enriching programs throughout the year. We work with school districts across the region including Boerne, Bandera, Harlandale, Judson, Medina, Northeast, Northside, Medina, and San Antonio Independent School Districts (in addition to private and charter schools) - with 58% of all students served receiving scholarship or transportation assistance. It is our goal to continue providing high-quality, enriching educational programs and to increase access to underserved students throughout the year. Our objectives are to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>o Expand children's programming opportunities with renovated facilities at our Herff Farm campus.</li> <li>o Redesigning the K-5 curriculum to integrate the traditional environmental education with the opportunities at Herff Farm for innovative sustainability and agricultural education.</li> <li>o Build partnerships with other institutions where we can foster a deeper, more frequent repeat engagement of urban &amp; rural youth. In partnership with institutions like Latino Outdoors, Black Outside and the City of San Antonio Cities Connecting Children to Nature initiative.</li> </ul>	

Prior to the new academic year, the Cibolo's education team met with school administrators across the San Antonio region to collaboratively re-imagine outdoor education programs. Goals outlined include: 1.) Expand reach and impact of evidence-based programming; 2.) Exemplify innovative and safe programming; and 3.) Extend TEKS-aligned programs to reach and target audiences for those unable to travel due to cost-constraints and COVID restrictions. Seeking to improve academic learning/retention, personal development, and environmental literacy for youth in the following programs, we aim to provide a whole-child educational experience that contributes to the emotional, behavioral, cognitive and academic intelligence of the children we serve.

Traditional Outdoor Classroom field trips are provided for grades K-12 in partnership with area school systems. Through TEKS-aligned lessons immersed in the Cibolo's natural beauty, students experience deep connection to nature while applying interactive classroom learning in the Cibolo's four distinct ecosystems or in the Teaching Garden, Chicken Schoolyard, Monarch Meadow and historic barn and homestead at the Herff Farm.

A field trip alternative for the COVID-era, Outdoor Learning to Go delivers customized TEKS-aligned virtual field trips in a highly interactive format. Students participate in hands-on activities at school or in their own backyard accompanied by live virtual instruction with Cibolo staff. Outdoor Learning Boxes including five TEKS-aligned nature-based science activities that are also available for teachers to reserve and complete with students independently.

The Deep Roots program uses nature and gardening to develop leadership, employment and entrepreneurial skills in San Antonio foster care youth from the Roy Maas Youth Alternative. The children are severely traumatized and have suffered abuse, neglect and have been deemed "un-fosterable" and most have experienced food insecurity leading them to hoard food, a common behavior of children who do not trust their needs will be met. Through hands-on learning in gardening, agriculture and business management, this farm-to-market program empowers children to meet their own basic needs by growing and harvesting their own food while contributing to the greater environmental good while nurturing a successful livelihood by the sale of their products at our Farmers Market.

The Nest Nature School is a high-quality and research-based preschool program for children ages 3-5 years old. Students spend half their day in nature engaged in experiential learning, including outdoor play and group exploration.

Children especially need nature now more than ever, and we seek to build deeper connection for academic, spiritual and physical growth and wellbeing in this COVID-era. We respectfully request your support to build capacity in our children's programs listed above to create the impact and fill the need for our children to be happier, healthier and smarter for a new world.

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**Evaluation Plan:**

To make sure we are on track and continually improving program content, educators are sent printed and email surveys to evaluate program structure and activities most and least liked, as well as whether they met Texas Education Knowledge and Skills (TEKS) criteria in science and social studies. Each teacher is consulted regarding their specific curriculum instructions at the time of the field trip to take a deeper delve into relevant topics. This level of customization allows for an in-depth comprehension of the subjects outside of textbooks and worksheets. Teachers can see and report on subject mastery and retention. Volunteer and parent participants are also asked for written and anecdotal feedback at the conclusion of programs. Other metrics gathered include attendance tracking with the goal of increased number of students. Additionally, we anticipate participation to increase as we build capacity in staffing and volunteer support.

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**Plans to sustain project beyond the term of this request:**

Youth education programs are priority programs for the Cibolo and lie at the heart of our education mission. These programs have been executed and sustained for over 33 years because of the support of our staff and loyal volunteer base. All programming at the Cibolo is sustained through fundraising such as grants, individual, corporate giving and special events. Additionally, there is a greatly subsidized, \$10/child fee for students that are not in classified as Title 1. The Cibolo staff and board are dedicated to providing scholarship and transportation assistance to Title 1 schools to participate in our programs. With public school budget cuts, we anticipate an increased need to provide more scholarship assistance in the coming year. Support from the Najim Family Foundation can help us provide greater access to these important programs for the San Antonio area schools and children who need it most.

**Children Impacted:**

<b>How many unduplicated children will the TOTAL PROJECT INITIATIVE impact?</b>	<b>How many unduplicated children will NCF REQUESTED FUNDS impact?</b>
10,000	2,500

**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%.**

<b>A. Population Served Age</b>		<b>B. Population Served Ethnicity</b>	
Infants (0-5)	20%	African American	5%
Children (6-13)	65%	Asian American	5%
Young Adults (14-18)	15%	Caucasian	20%
<b>TOTAL:</b>	<b>100%</b>	Hispanic/Latino	70%
		Native American	0%
		Other and Define	0%
		<b>TOTAL:</b>	<b>100%</b>

**City Council District for Which Children are Being Served:**

District1, District2, District8, District9, District10, Outside San Antonio

**Counties applicant is in:**

Bandera, Bexar, Kendall, Medina

**Line item Budget:**

<b>Line Item Description</b>	<b>Total Project Funds Allocation</b>	<b>Najim Funds Allocation</b>
Program Expense (Scholarships & Transport Assist)	\$50,130	\$15,000
Salary and Wages	\$414,647	\$0
Payroll Expense	\$35,394	\$0
Benefits	\$20,430	\$0
Supplies	\$21,650	\$5,000
Advertising & Promotion	\$30,300	\$0
Professional Fees	\$0	\$0
Finance Charges	\$2,700	\$0
Conference, Conventions, Mtgs	\$3,130	\$0
Travel	\$1,500	\$0
Insurance	\$1,500	\$0

Building, Repairs & Maintenance	\$9,000	\$0
<b>TOTAL:</b>	<b>\$590,381</b>	<b>\$20,000</b>

**OTHER FUNDING RESOURCES**

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

**PROJECT - PENDING**

<b>Funder Name</b>	<b>Amount Requested</b>
Najim Family Foundation	\$20,000
H-E-B	\$30,000
Valero Energy Foundation	\$10,000
Koehler Foundation	\$20,000
Gorman Foundation	\$5,000
Kelleher Foundation	\$50,000
Dalkowitz Foundation	\$10,000
Cliff Bar	\$5,000
Elizabeth Huth Coates Foundation	\$10,000
Cowden Foundation	\$7,500
Swantz Foundation	\$5,000
CLA Foundation	\$25,000
Dale and Edna Walsh Foundation	\$10,000
<b>TOTAL:</b>	<b>\$207,500</b>

**PROJECT - COMMITTED**

<b>Funder Name</b>	<b>Amount Requested</b>
Greehey Family Foundation	\$10,000
Jacob and Terese Hershey Foundation	\$50,000
Elma Dill Russell Spencer Foundation	\$50,000
Peterson Foundation	\$15,000
H-E-Butt Foundation	\$11,000
Graham Weston	\$25,000
Lisa Armstrong	\$75,000
City of Boerne	\$15,000
Admission/Tuition	\$141,500
<b>TOTAL:</b>	<b>\$392,500</b>

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

**ALL OTHER ORGANIZATION REQUESTS - PENDING**

<b>Funder Name</b>	<b>Amount Requested</b>
Kronkosky Charitable Foundation	\$75,000
Program Revenue	\$236,180
Still Water Foundation	\$75,000
Gala/Special Events	\$212,000

Cynthia and George Mitchell Foundaiton	\$15,000
Karen and Tim Hixon Foundation	\$10,000
C.B and Anita Branch Trust	\$20,000
John Drought	\$10,000
Buddy and Siri Schuchardt	\$5,000
Photo Fee Donations	\$18,000
Builder/Developer Memberships	\$15,000
Hardee Family Fund of the Dallas Foundation	\$5,000
Meadows Foundation	\$75,000
Individuals (Memberships, annual fund, etc.)	\$180,000
Tom & Patsy Inglet	\$10,000
<b>TOTAL:</b>	<b>\$961,180</b>

**ALL OTHER ORGANIZATION REQUESTS - COMMITTED**

<b>Funder Name</b>	<b>Amount Requested</b>
Michael Goldstein	\$100,000
Frost Bank	\$12,000
Mary Griffith Hobbs Foundation	\$20,000
Individuals (Memberships, annual fund, etc.)	\$20,000
Builder/Developer Memberships	\$1,000
Brandon Gallagher Manning Fund	\$4,500
Program Revenue	\$52,000
Theresa and Ken Butler	\$50,000
Virginia and John Freud	\$10,000
Cheryl Remmert	\$20,000
<b>TOTAL:</b>	<b>\$289,500</b>

**BOARD OF DIRECTORS**

**What percentage of your board contributes financially to the organization?**  
100%

**If Board giving is not at 100%, please explain why?**  
Not applicable.

**How are board members expected to participate in your organization?**  
Board members are encouraged to pledge financial support and in addition to attending regular board meetings, also contribute to special committees. Additionally, they attend fundraising events and access their professional and personal networks to garner additional professional expertise as well as financial and in-kind support. Board members also support strategic planning and organizational initiatives.

**LIST OF BOARD DIRECTORS**

<b>Name &amp; Office Held</b>	<b>Corporate Affiliation</b>
Perri Rosheger, President	H.E. Butt Family Foundation
Joanne Williams, Past President	Retired, Certified Fund Raising Executive

Tom Kartrude, Vice President	Retired, Executive Director, Armand Bayou Nature Center
Jeanne Buchanan, Secretary	Owner, Folio Communications
Ty Young, Treasurer	Clifton Larsen Allen (CLA)
John Freud	Retired, Executive Recruiter
Mark McCurley	Retired, Haliburton
Darryl Seillier	Valero
Marilyn Tremper	Retired Nurse
Brent Evans	Cibolo Conservancy Land Trust
Cindy Fowler	Founder, Geneva School of Boerne
Jonathan Piper	Nustar
Lindsey Berwick	Partner, Jackson Walker, LLP
Esse Moreno	Retired, Zachry Holdings
Michelle Ernst	Dienger Trading, Co.
Nancye Drukker	Albert & Bessie Kronkosky State Natural Area
<b>Signature</b>	
Carolyn Chipman Evans	