

FUNDING APPLICATION

| GENERAL INFORMATION | | | |
|--|--|---|---------------------------------|
| Organization Information | | | |
| Legal Name: Friends of the Cibolo Wilderness (dba Cibolo Nature Center) | Federal Tax ID#: 74-2564700 | 501(c)(3) Public Charity 509 (a)(1) | |
| Address: 140 City Park Rd | City: Boerne | State: TX | Zip Code: 78006 |
| Website: http://www.cibolo.org/ | Fax: (830) 249-4616 | United Way Funded: No | |
| Head Of Organization | | | |
| Name: Carolyn Chipman Evans | | Title: Chief Executive Officer | |
| E-Mail Address: carolyn@cibolo.org | | Phone: (830) 331-8982 | |
| Application Contact | | | |
| Name: Leigh Owen | Title: Director of Development | E-Mail Address: leigh@cibolo.org | Phone: (830) 331-8982 |
| Previous Najim Funding | | | |
| Year | Funding \$ | | |
| 2017 | \$10,000 | | |
| 2018 | \$10,000 | | |
| Total | \$20,000 | | |
| Has the organization applied to the Najim Family Foundation in the past and been declined? | | | |
| Yes 2007, 2008, 2016 | | | |
| Grant Amount Requested \$: | Total Project Budget \$: | Organization's Annual budget \$: | |
| \$20,000 | \$419,497 | \$1,457,936 | |
| Mission Statement: | | | |
| The Cibolo Nature Center & Farm's mission is to promote the conservation of natural resources through education and stewardship. | | | |
| PROJECT INFORMATION | | | |
| Program / Project Title: | | | |
| To support Children's Nature & Farm Education Scholarships and transportation assistance for Title 1 Schools and underserved Students. | | | |
| PROJECT TIMELINE | | | |
| Start Date | | End Date | |
| 09/04/2019 | | 08/02/2020 | |
| Harvey E. Najim Family Foundation Priorities: | | | |

Education

Education Priorities:

Elementary to High School

Program / Project Description:

The Cibolo Nature Center & Farm's (CNC&F) vision is to be the model source for age-appropriate nature-based and agricultural education in the greater San Antonio region. We offer a combination of on-site and outreach experiential children's programs for over 15,000 San Antonio area Pre-K through 12th grade school children annually that teach nature-based science and social studies lessons aligned with Texas Essential Knowledge and Skills (TEKS) guidelines. These hands-on learning programs foster exploration in nature to develop lifelong academic, social and intellectual skills not gained within the four-walls of a traditional classroom. Programs include field trips, camps and a high-quality nature preschool.

With a new Education Director and Chief Strategy Officer we have high-quality leadership staff to help us accomplish the following objectives over the next year including:

oExpand children's programming opportunities with renovated facilities at our Herff Farm campus.

oRedesigning the K-5 curriculum to integrate the traditional environmental education with the opportunities at Herff Farm for innovative sustainability and agricultural education.

oBuild partnerships with other institutions where we can foster a deeper, more frequent repeat engagement of urban & rural youth. In partnership with institutions like Latino Outdoors, Black Outside and the City of San Antonio Cities Connecting Children to Nature initiative.

Our region of Texas is experiencing explosive population growth, so opportunities and space for outdoor experiential learning has become increasingly rare and more valuable at our nature campuses. The Children's Programs at the CNC&F fill up quickly with a waiting list each year and with the demand only increasing, so does our mission to serve greater numbers of children. With the support and partnership from the Najim Charitable Foundation we can provide access scholarships and transportation assistance to over 3,500 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. In 2018, we served students from 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.

The goal of these programs is to provide a whole-child educational experience that contributes to the emotional, behavioral, cognitive and academic intelligence of the children we serve. Additionally, they demonstrate human's interaction and impact on our environment and our responsibility to care for and nurture it. With the increased access to technology and the time young children spend in front of a screen, the Cibolo Nature Center & Farm education programs are addressing the increase in "nature deficit disorder" by providing an immersive and enriching learning experience for children who have little to no access to these spaces and opportunities.

"Outdoor & Farm Classroom" are our most popular and in-demand field trip programs that takes place on our 100-acre Nature Center and the 60-acre historic Herff Farm with a curriculum that meets Texas Education of Knowledge & Skills (TEKS) standards in science and social studies. Outdoor Classroom focuses primarily on science and experiential learning in four ecosystems including the native grassland prairie, a marshy wetland, woodland forest, and the riparian stream habitat. Learning topics include ecosystem interactions, biodiversity and life cycles, photosynthesis and water quality. Farm Classroom takes place on the restored historic Herff Farm. Lessons include understanding cultural and agricultural heritage, sustainable and healthy living demonstrations through gardens and a chicken school yard.

Additional programming for underserved youth formed last year is the Deep Roots program in partnership with the Meadowlands Charter District that serves students from the Roy Maas Youth Alternatives (RMYA) residential facility in Boerne. The program's primary purpose is to provide hands-on learning experiences in gardening, agriculture and environmental science that will build social, emotional, leadership and entrepreneurship skills to help ensure a successful transition for at-risk youth (most in the foster care system) once they move or age-out of the program. Because of the severity of stress, trauma and mental health issues experienced by these children, a need was identified to provide students with non-traditional learning opportunities that addressed the needs of the whole child. Currently youth receive scholarships to attend weekly education sessions at the Herff Farm. The students learn marketable skills and will grow fruits and vegetables from seed to harvest with a potential to sell at our weekly Farmers Market.

In 2016, we started the Cibolo Nature School (an early childhood nature preschool) that provides a child-centered learning environment for children ages 3 to 5 years old. The Nature School is built on a research and place-based curriculum model that incorporates play, care theory and nature-based learning. Each student can immerse themselves in natural experiences guided by experienced teachers in a mixed aged class. It is important for this high quality preschool to be accessible and scholarships are provided to 16%-20% of the students. Over the next 18 months we will be expanding the school to create a Learning Village at the Herff Farm to expand access and meet the demand for this preschool program.

With over 30 years of success and demand for these programs, the CNC&F also provides summer and Spring Break Camps as an additional and follow-up program. The camps foster teamwork and mutual respect for others with traditional camp activities.

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 are able to 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.

Plans to sustain project beyond the term of this request:

The Cibolo Nature Center & Farm receives dedicated funding from corporations, foundations and individuals to support Children's Education programs. We charge a greatly subsidized \$6 per student for field trip programs, a monthly tuition for the Cibolo Nature School, and camp tuition fees. We also assign a portion of earned income from special events, workshops, program and rental fees to support the Children's Programs budget.

Children Impacted:

| | |
|---|--|
| How many unduplicated children will the TOTAL PROJECT INITIATIVE impact? | How many unduplicated children will NFF REQUESTED FUNDS impact? |
| 15,580 | 3,587 |

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) | 20% | African American | 5% |
| Children (6-13) | 65% | Asian American | 5% |
| Young Adults (14-18) | 15% | Caucasian | 20% |

| | | | |
|---------------|-------------|------------------|-------------|
| TOTAL: | 100% | Hispanic/Latino | 70% |
| | | Native American | 0% |
| | | Other and Define | 0% |
| | | TOTAL: | 100% |

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:

| Line Item Description | Total Project Funds Allocation | Najim Funds Allocation |
|---|---------------------------------------|-------------------------------|
| Program Expense (Scholarships & Transport Assist) | \$40,950 | \$20,000 |
| Salary and Wages | \$216,145 | \$0 |
| Payroll Expense | \$16,520 | \$0 |
| Benefits | \$13,551 | \$0 |
| Supplies | \$15,100 | \$0 |
| Advertising & Promotion | \$18,630 | \$0 |
| Professional Fees | \$0 | \$0 |
| Finance Charges | \$3,599 | \$0 |
| Conference, Conventions, Mtgs | \$3,400 | \$0 |
| Travel | \$1,550 | \$0 |
| Insurance | \$1,300 | \$0 |
| Building, Repairs & Maintenance | \$78,992 | \$0 |
| Volunteer Allocation Expense | \$9,760 | \$0 |
| TOTAL: | \$419,497 | \$20,000 |

OTHER FUNDING RESOURCES

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

PROJECT - PENDING

| Funder Name | Amount Requested |
|---------------------------|-------------------------|
| Najim Family Foundation | \$20,000 |
| Greehey Family Foundation | \$20,000 |
| San Antonio Junior Forum | \$2,500 |
| Brown Foundation | \$50,000 |
| TOTAL: | \$92,500 |

PROJECT - COMMITTED

| Funder Name | Amount Requested |
|------------------------------|-------------------------|
| H-E-B | \$36,000 |
| Valero Energy Foundation | \$30,000 |
| Elma Dill Russell Foundation | \$50,000 |

| | |
|--------------------|------------------|
| Koehler Foundation | \$15,000 |
| Cowden Foundation | \$7,500 |
| Gorman Foundation | \$5,000 |
| TOTAL: | \$143,500 |

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

ALL OTHER ORGANIZATION REQUESTS - PENDING

| Funder Name | Amount Requested |
|------------------------------|-------------------------|
| Dale & Edna Walsh Foundation | \$20,000 |
| Lisa Armstrong | \$50,000 |
| Kleberg Foundation | \$25,000 |
| CLA Foundation | \$20,000 |
| TOTAL: | \$115,000 |

ALL OTHER ORGANIZATION REQUESTS - COMMITTED

| Funder Name | Amount Requested |
|---|-------------------------|
| Harland Clarke Holdings | \$100,000 |
| Culligan | \$6,000 |
| Frost Bank | \$12,000 |
| Mary Griffith Hobbs Foundation | \$20,000 |
| Kronkosky Charitable Foundation | \$75,000 |
| Individuals (Memberships, etc.) | \$181,688 |
| Esperanza Builder/Developer Partnership | \$8,600 |
| TOTAL: | \$403,288 |

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?

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

| Name & Office Held | Corporate Affiliation |
|-------------------------------|---|
| John Schilhab, Past President | Critical Path Solutions |
| Joanne Williams, President | Retired, Certified Fund Raising Executive |
| Ty Young, Treasurer | Clifton Larsen Allen |
| Jonathan Piper | NuStar |
| Brent Evans, Secretary | Cibolo Conservancy |
| John Freud | Retired, Executive Recruiter |

| | |
|-----------------------|---|
| Kelly Walker Harlow | Retired Teacher, Small Business Owner |
| Mark McCurley | Retired, Haliburton |
| Christy Muse | Director, Shield Ayres Ranch |
| Darryl Seillier | Valero |
| Blake Stribling | Chasnoff Mungia Pepping & Stribling, PLLC |
| Marilyn Tremper | Retired Nurse |
| DeVan Watts | Plains Capital Bank |
| Carolyn Chipman Evans | Chief Executive Officer, Cibolo Nature Center and Farm |
| Perri Rosheger | Executive Director Constituent Relations, The H.E. Butt Family Foundation |
| Jeanne Buchanan | Owner, Folio Communications |
| Tom Kartrude | Retired, Executive Director, Armand Bayou Nature Center |
| Signature | |
| Leigh Owen | |