CITY OF RANCHO CORDOVA

CITY COUNCIL MEETING
Tuesday, April 28, 2026

5:30 PM – Special Meeting/Work Session
David B. Roberts Council Chambers

City Hall
2729 Prospect Park Drive, Rancho Cordova

How to Observe or Listen to the Meeting:

- Online via Zoom: **https://cityofranchocordova.zoom.us/j/81630466928**
- Webinar ID: 816 3046 6928
- By phone: +1 669 900 6833 or +1 253 215 8782
- Webinar ID: 816 3046 6928

Public Comment

Members of the public who wish to address the City Council may do so in person during the meeting by completing and submitting a Speaker Card to the City Clerk.

Members of the public who wish to provide public comment via email will need to submit comments to CityClerk@cityofranchocordova.org no later than 2:00 p.m. on Tuesday, April 28, 2026. Written comments received no later than 2:00 p.m. will be distributed to the Council, filed in the record, and will not be read aloud. All comments submitted later than 2:00 p.m. will be distributed to the Council.

If you have questions related to the City Council Meeting, please contact the City Clerk's Office at (916) 851-8720 before Tuesday, April 28, 2026, at 2:00 p.m.

AGENDA

1. SPECIAL MEETING - CALL TO ORDER/ROLL CALL

Council Members Linda Budge, Joe Little, Siri Pulipati, David Sander, and Mayor Garrett Gatewood

2. PUBLIC COMMENT

At a special meeting, members of the public wishing to address the Council for any matter on the agenda may do so at the time the matter is discussed. Under the provisions of the California Government Code, the City Council is prohibited from discussing or taking action on any item not on the agenda.

3. SPECIAL MEETING

3.1. **Subject:** Fiscal Year 2026-2027 Community Enhancement & Investment Fund Grant Applications.
Recommendation: Receive recommendations on the Fiscal Year 2026-2027 Community Enhancement & Investment Fund grant applications and provide direction.

4. ADJOURNMENT

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

Special Meetings listed below are subject to change/cancellation without further notice.

Public documents related to items on the open session portion of this agenda, which are distributed to the City Council less than 24 hours prior to the meeting, shall be available for public inspection at the time the documents are distributed to the Council. Documents are available for inspection at the City Clerk's office located in Rancho Cordova City Hall.

The agenda items are accessible on the City's website at www.cityofranchocordova.org on Thursdays or Fridays prior to the Special City Council Meeting.

UPCOMING MEETINGS

May 4, 2026	4:00 PM Special Meeting/5:30 PM Regular Meeting
May 18, 2026	5:30 PM Regular Meeting
May 26, 2026	5:30 PM Special Meeting/Work Session
June 1, 2026	4:00 PM Special Meeting/5:30 PM Regular Meeting
June 15, 2026	5:30 PM Regular Meeting
June 23, 2026	5:30 PM Special Meeting/Work Session
July 6, 2026	4:00 PM Special Meeting/5:30 PM Regular Meeting
July 28, 2026	5:30 PM Special Meeting/Work Session

If you have any technical questions related to the agenda items, please contact City Hall at (916) 851-8700.

In compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act, if you need a disability-related modification or accommodation, including auxiliary aids or services, to participate in this meeting, please contact the City Clerk's Office at (916) 851-8720 at least 48 hours prior to the meeting.

CERTIFICATION OF POSTING OF AGENDA

I, Stacy Leitner, City Clerk for the City of Rancho Cordova, declare that the foregoing agenda for the April 28, 2026, Special Meeting of the Rancho Cordova City Council was posted and available for review on April 23, 2026, at City Hall of the City of Rancho Cordova, 2729 Prospect Park Drive, Rancho Cordova, California, 95670. The agenda is also available on the city website at www.cityofranchocordova.org.

Signed April 23, 2026, at Rancho Cordova, California.

Stacy Leitner, CMC
City Clerk

MEMORANDUM

ITEM 3.1.

DATE: April 28, 2026

TO: Honorable Mayor and Council Members

FROM: Kim Juran, Administrative Services Director
Randi Kay Stephens, Senior Management Analyst
Lindsay Samples, Management Analyst I

SUBJECT: **FISCAL YEAR 2026-2027 COMMUNITY ENHANCEMENT & INVESTMENT FUND GRANT APPLICATIONS**

RECOMMENDATION

Receive recommendations on the Fiscal Year 2026-2027 Community Enhancement & Investment Fund (CEIF) grant applications and provide direction.

RESULT OF RECOMMENDED ACTION

The direction provided by Council at the work session will inform the final grant amounts for the Fiscal Year 2026-27 CEIF grant program.

BACKGROUND

The application period for the Fiscal Year 2026-27 Community Enhancement & Investment Fund opened on February 9, 2026, and closed on March 13, 2026. During this time, the city received 78 applications for consideration (7 have since been withdrawn). A packet of all submissions is provided, including the original applications and, where available, any endorsements provided by stakeholders related to proposed partnerships or facility use with local park and school districts. As staff has seen in years past, the number of applications received reflects continued high demand for CEIF funding across community programs and capital projects. Staff reviewed all applications using the advertised evaluation criteria, eligibility, and prioritization methodology outlined in the Fiscal Year 2026-27 Grant Application Process and Criteria document, which is also available on the Community Enhancement & Investment Fund's website: https://www.cityofranchocordova.org/residents/community-enhancement-investment-fund/grant-applications.

A total of $4.2 million in Community Enhancement & Investment Fund community grant application requests were submitted for consideration in Fiscal Year 2026-27, which are summarized by grant category as follows:

- Arts, Culture, History, & Entertainment: $380,417
- Youth Services & Programs: $1,803,357
- Community Assistance Programs: $347,711

- Three items will be discussed under a recusal process. Those items total $1,727,497

Staff has recommended $780,500 in funding for the 71 grant requests, leaving an unallocated amount of $117,962. The Council has previously allocated funding for Fiscal Year 2026-27 grant programs in the amount of $2,472,138. The total grant budget for Fiscal Year 2026-27 is $3,370,600. Staff's recommendations are provided in an attached summary and a separate summary of the previously allocated funding and designated items is included in the packet.

FISCAL IMPACT AND FUNDING SOURCE

The projected Fiscal Year 2026-27 revenues for the Community Enhancement & Investment Fund, focusing on Measure H, are estimated to be $11.8 million. $3.37 million is dedicated to community grants. Council is anticipated to approve the community grants resolution in June 2026.

ATTACHMENT(S)

1. Presentation
2. CEIF FY2026-27 Community Grant Requests and Staff Recommendation Summary List
3. CEIF FY2026-27 Previous Allocations and Designated Items Summary List
4. CEIF FY2026-27 Applications (with 7 withdrawals)

Community Enhancement & Investment Fund

April 28, 2026

RANCHO CORDOVA CALIFORNIA

Agenda

- Policy Considerations
- CEIF Criteria, Prioritization & Restrictions
- Measure H Budget & Community Grant Commitments
- Staff's recommendations on FY2026-27 Applications
- Next Steps for Council & Applicants

Policy Considerations

Resources Available Annually

Transitioning All One-Day Events to Microgrants

Existing Program Support and New Projects

Selection Criteria

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Prioritization Method

LEVERAGE: Other funding, resources, in-kind support, and partnerships

RETURN ON INVESTMENT: Number of people served, benefit to the community, etc.

CAPACITY: Ability to carry out the project/ program and meet the required contracting process including obtaining insurance

TIMELINE: Ability to ensure project is accomplished in a finite period of time

PROJECT GOALS & METRICS: Progress in reaching goals can be measured and the project team's efforts can be focused

Budget, Commitments & Staff Recommendations

$3,370,600 Community Grant Budget

- FY2026-27 community grant budget

~$2.4 Million Commitments

- Previously approved multiyear grants, designated funding buckets and line items (Microgrants, Field Trips, Youth Sports, Performing Arts, etc.).
  - Arts Culture History Entertainment & Sports: $460,000
  - Youth Programs & Services: $1,237,138
  - Community Assistance Programs: $475,000
  - Microgrants: $300,000

~$1 Million Recommendations

- 78 Applications Received
- 7 withdrawn applications
- $4,258,982 Requested from 71 applicants
- 3 applications to be reviewed under recusal process
- Current staff recommendations stand at $780,500

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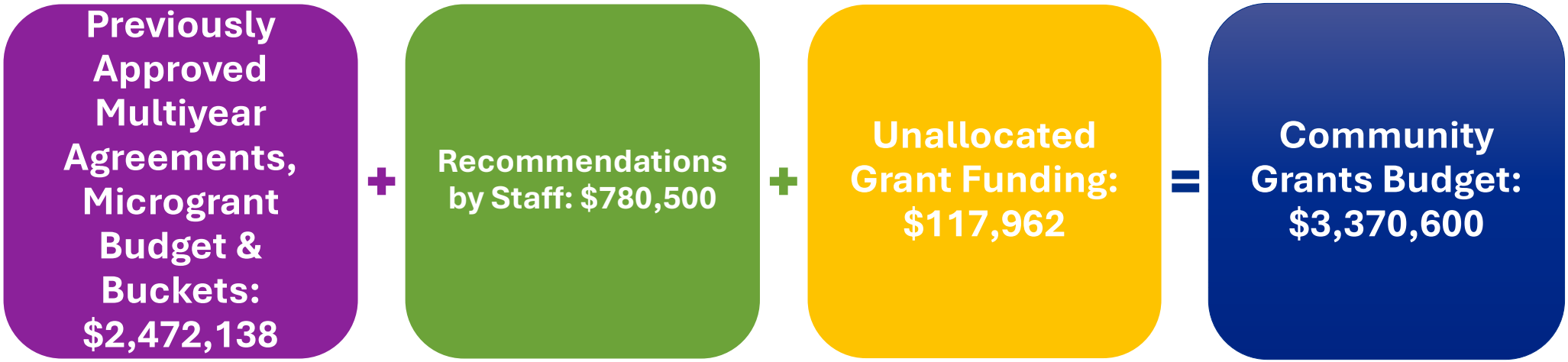
Budget, Commitments & Staff Recommendations



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Community Grant Categories

Arts, Culture, History, Entertainment, & Sports:

- Funding ideas that promote arts, culture, history, and entertainment of the benefit of the Rancho Cordova Community

Community Assistance Programs:

- Homeless Support Services and Food Insecurity
- Capital Improvements of community non-profits

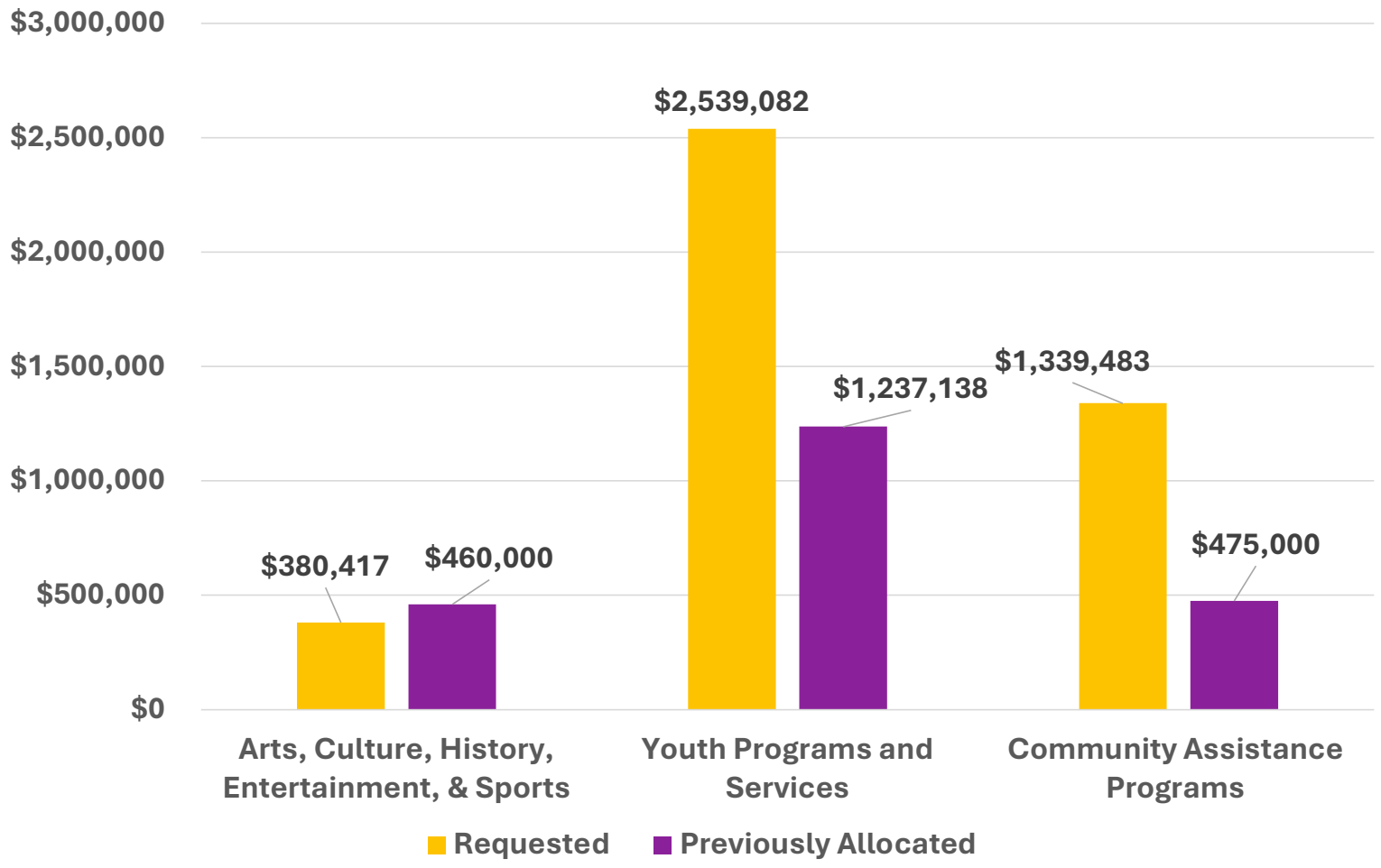
Youth Programs & Services:

- Funding for youth enrichment, extracurricular activities, and mentoring programs
- Funding requests from School Districts for education augmentation opportunities
- Youth sports recreational programs

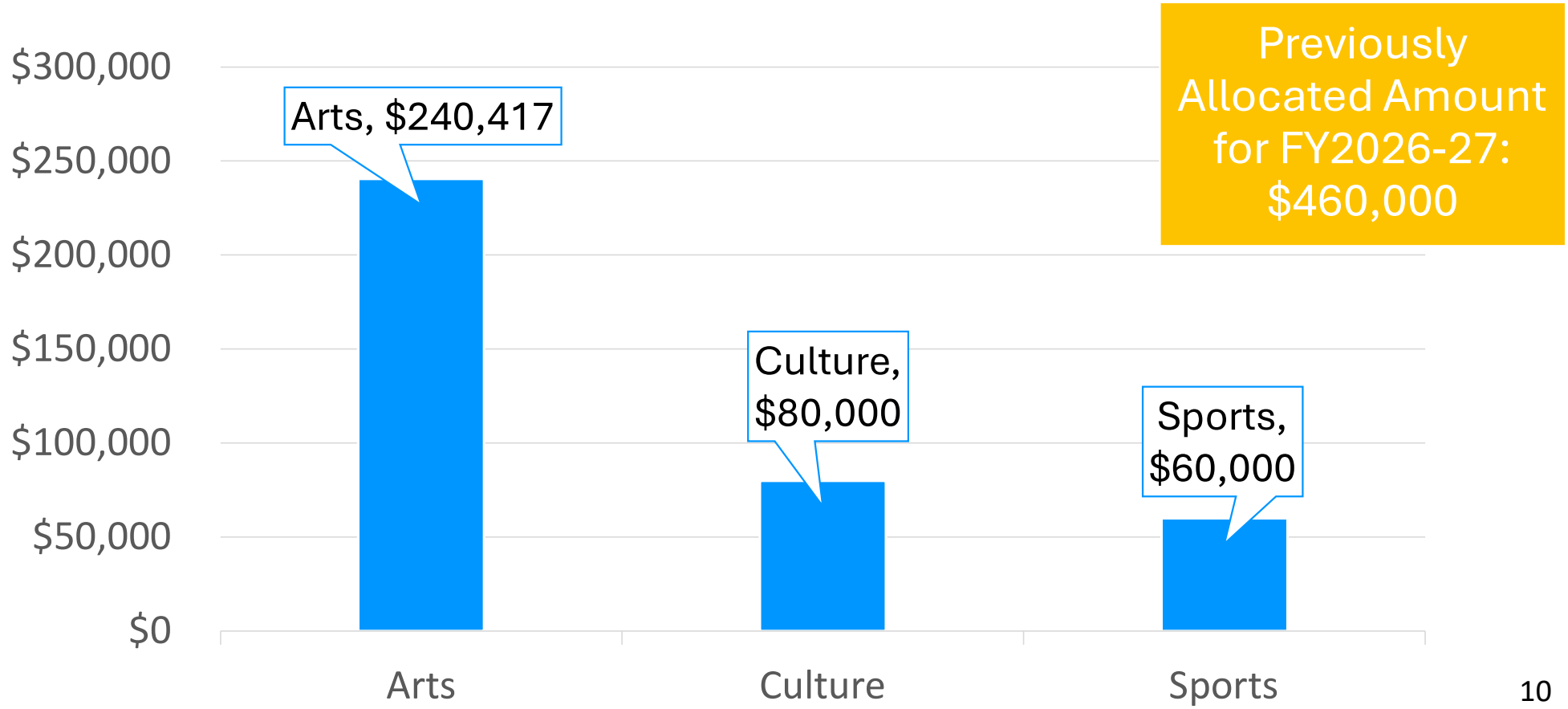
*Buckets & Designated Items:

- Microgrants
- Field Trips for Schools
- Arts in Public Places
- Performing Arts
- Youth Sports Growth
- Multiyear Commitments (Ongoing Community Programs)
- Idea Incubator

FY2026-27 Community Grants



Arts, Culture, History, Entertainment, & Sports: $380,417



Arts, Culture, History, Entertainment, & Sports

Key: Yellow indicates a multiyear request.

No.	Applicant (A-Z ORDER)	Requested	Recommended by Staff	Notes
1	AM WINN: School Public Art Enhancement Project	$15,000	*Refer to Arts Strategic Plan*	
13	American River Parkway Half Marathon	$20,000	*Refer to Microgrant*	
14	College Esports: Rancho Cordova's Annual Expo	$40,000	*Refer to Microgrant*	
3	Hummingbird Theatre Company's 2026-27 Season	$130,192	$25,000	*Performing Arts Bucket*
4	My Musical Village: Community Music Initiative	$15,400	*Refer to Microgrant*	
6	Ri-Nu Imagination, Inc.: Creative Wellness Series	$50,000	$15,000	*Existing Program*
8	Sacramento Children's Museum Exhibit (Aim High-Tuskegee Airmen) (multiyear request for 2 years)	$25,000	$25,000	*Existing Program. Fund for 2 years.*
10	Sacramento Telangana Association: Festival of Flowers	$20,000	*Refer to Microgrant*	
7	TE4TN: Theatrical Stage Lighting 2026	$29,825	$0	
11	Teatro Espejo: Season 51	$35,000	*Refer to Microgrant*	
	Grand Total	**$380,417**	**$65,000**	

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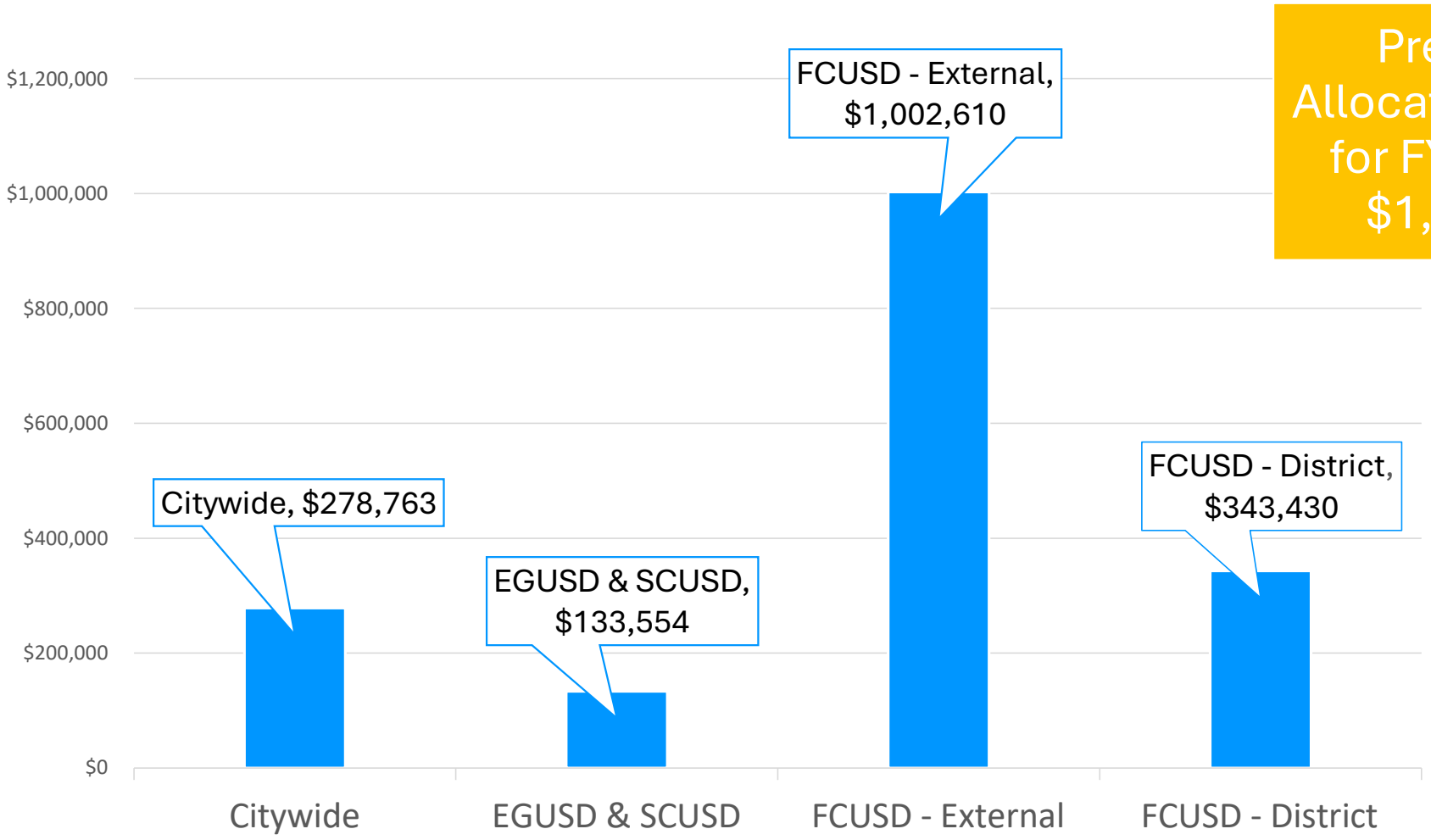
Youth Programs & Services Total: $1,758,357



Previously Allocated Amount for FY2026-27: $1,237,138

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Youth Programs & Services: Citywide

Key: Yellow indicates a multiyear request.

App No.	Applications for Citywide Youth Programs (A-Z ORDER)	Requested	Staff Rec.	Notes
63	All In Together	$7,500	$0	
76	Big Brothers-Big Sisters of the Greater Sacramento Area Inc	$25,000	$10,000	*Sponsorship*
61	Capital Airshow Group: Fueling Futures Through Aviation-Based Educational Programming	$75,000	$0	
64	Mandarins Performing Arts: Mandarins Parade Corps of Rancho Cordova (multiyear request for 3 years)	$25,000	$0	
71	Mayes Freeman Youth Sports League	$10,250	$0	*Refer to RCYC Open Call*
72	Metal Maniacs Robotics: The Cordova Spark (STEM) (multiyear request for 3 years)	$16,500	$0	
73	Rancho Cordova Jiu-jitsu for the city.	$7,500	$0	
62	Rancho Cordova Little League Enhancement: Facility & Equipment	$45,000	$0*	**Funding $45,000 from Legacy*
66	ReCreate: Creative Reuse STEAM Lab at Sacramento Children's Museum	$25,000	$0	
74	SAC CONNECT LLC: NextGen Summer Workforce Exploration (multiyear request for 2 years)	$19,329	$0	
67	Sacramento Performing Arts Conservatory: Cordova Youth Spotlight Orchestra	$23,434	$23,000	
68	Suvidha International Foundation: RanchoBot Challenge 2027	$16,750	$15,000	*One grant for both programs at $20,000*
69	Suvidha International Foundation: Speech & Debate Programs	$7,500	$5,000	
70	Tahoe Tallac Fastpitch Softball Tournament Participation Support (multiyear request for 3 years)	$15,000	$0	
75	Utsav 2026 Rancho Cordova Youth Career Expo	$5,000	$0	*Refer to Microgrant*
	Grand Total	**$323,763**	**$53,000**	

Youth Programs & Services: EGUSD & SCUSD

App No.	Applications for EGUSD and SCUSD (A-Z ORDER)	Requested	Recommended by Staff	Notes
78	AM Winn Public Waldorf Ek-8 Community Guild: K-8 Handwork Instruction Support	$25,000	*Refer to Field Trip & Experiential Learning Bucket*	
60	Culturally Relevant Book Give Away	$35,563	$12,500	*SCUSD only*
31	Cypress Grove Elementary VEX IQ Robotics Program	$11,550	*Refer to RCYC Open Call*	
32	Cypress Grove Elementary, Afterschool Enrichment Program	$41,441	*Refer to RCYC Open Call*	
33	EGUSD: Sunrise Elementary Sly Park Transportation	$20,000	$20,000	
	Grand Total	**$133,554**	**$32,500**	

Youth Programs & Services: FCUSD (External)

Key: Rankings from FCUSD provided in parentheses. Yellow indicates a multiyear request.

App No.	Applications Impacting FCUSD (A-Z ORDER)	Requested	Staff Rec.	Notes
34	American River Bike Patrol Velo Lancer Program at Cordova High School (12)	$35,000	$25,000	*Existing program*
35	Architects of Hope, Inc.: Fellowship Program 2026-2027 (facility use only) (multiyear request for 2 years)	$90,000	$0	
36	Book Vending Machine Positive Incentives Program (27)	$10,000	$0	
37	Cordova High School Music Ambassadors (23)	$27,694	$10,000	*Fund Youth Participants only*
48	Girls on the Run: Title I Access & Empowerment Initiative (facility use only)	$7,050	$0	
49	Harris Center for the Arts ClassACTS School Matinee Program (11) (multiyear request for 3 years)	$17,000	$0	
50	NorCal Arts (Nu Art) Theatre Classes Williamson, Cordova Gardens & Cordova Villa (13)	$75,000	$50,000	*Existing program*
61	PILLARS: Peers Inspiring Learning, Leadership and Responsible Service (22)	$141,500	$35,000	
59	POMS: Project Optimism Mentoring Sessions (9) (multiyear request for 3 years)	$150,400	$0	
52	Rancho Cordova Student Athlete Coalition- Athletic Improvement Plan (21)	$265,000	$265,000	*Existing program*
53	Rancho Cordova Track Club Throwing Cage Safety & Enhancement Project (16)	$69,495	$0	*Discuss at 4/28*
54	River View STEM, Afterschool Enrichment Program (20)	$41,441	$0	
55	Riverview STEM Academy Competitive VEX IQ Robotics Program (26)	$12,020	$0	
56	Suvidha International Foundation: Industrial AI Agent Development Program (17)	$50,000	$35,000	*Match leverage of another sponsor*
58	W. E. Mitchell Middle VEX IQ Robotics Program (19)	$11,010	$10,000	*Existing program*
	Grand Total	**$1,002,610**	**$430,000**	

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Youth Services Grant Requests: FCUSD (District)

Key: Rankings from FCUSD provided in parentheses. Yellow indicates a multiyear request.

App No.	Applications from FCUSD (A-Z ORDER)	Requested	Recommended by Staff	Notes
38	FCUSD: Athletic Support for Mills, Mitchell & Kinney (4)	$85,000	$75,000	*Existing program*
39	FCUSD: CalSOAP AVID tutors for Mills Middle School and Cordova High School (6)	$11,630	$0	
40	FCUSD: Homeless Students Success and Wellness Initiative (1)	$20,000	$20,000	*Existing program*
41	FCUSD: Middle School Library Start-Up Initiative (10)	$15,000	$0	
42	FCUSD: Mills Middle School Positive Behavior Intervention Supports (PBIS) (7)	$30,000	$20,000	*Existing program*
43	FCUSD: Mitchell Positive Behavior Intervention Supports (PBIS) Incentives (8)	$20,000	$20,000	*Existing program*
44	FCUSD: Outdoor STEAM Discovery Initiative for Rancho Cordova Elementary Schools (TK–5) (3)	$50,000	$0	*Program in Field Trip & Experiential Learning Bucket*
45	FCUSD: Rancho Cordova Pathways to Invention and Innovation (P2I2) Initiative (5)	$24,800	$0	
46	FCUSD: Rancho Cordova Spanish Language & High School Pathway Club (14)	$22,000	$0	
47	FCUSD: The "Power of 20" Literacy Initiative: Expanding Library Access (2) (multiyear request for 3 years)	$65,000	$20,000	*Existing program. Fund 1 year only.*
	Grand Total	**$343,430**	**$155,000**	

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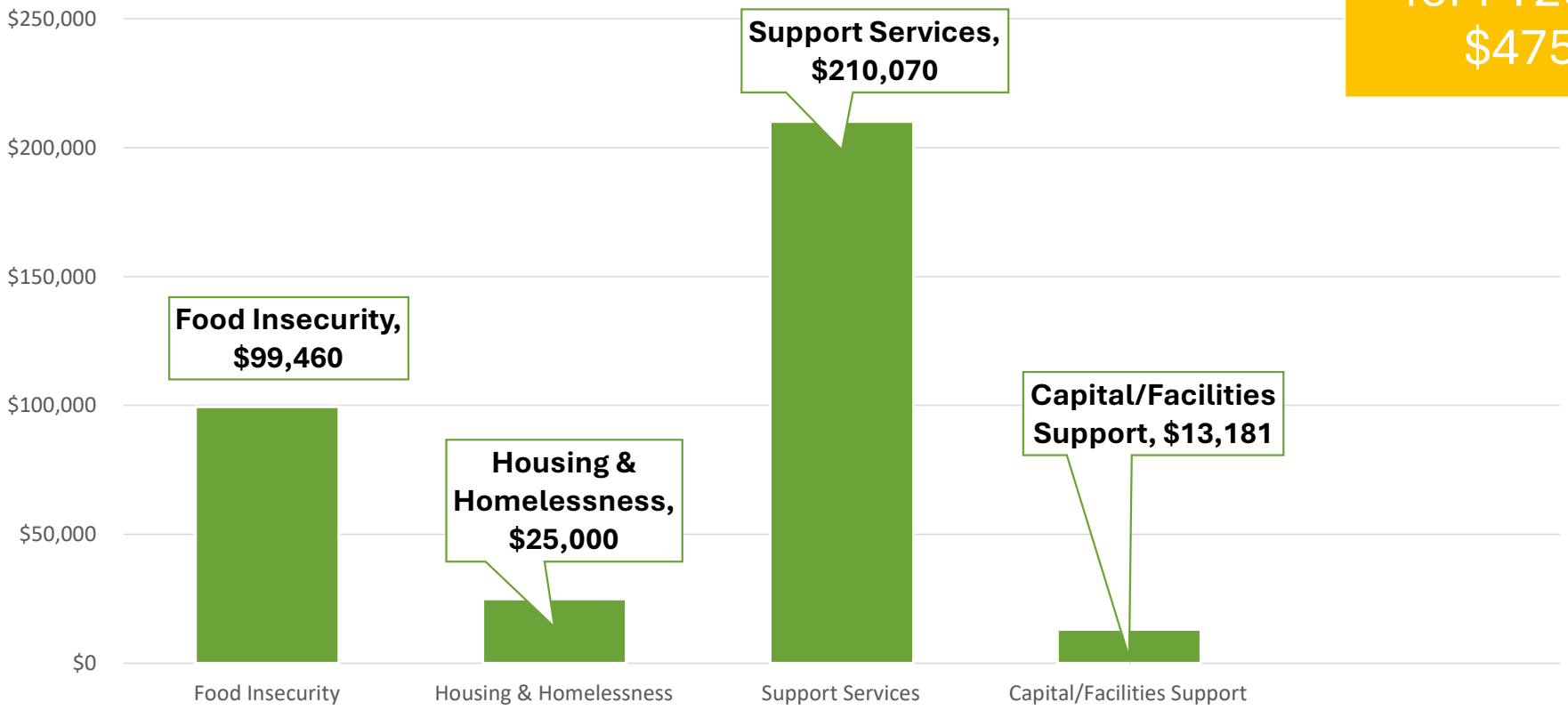
Track & Field Enhancements at Cordova High School

App. 53: Rancho Cordova Track Club Throwing Cage Safety & Enhancement Project (16)

- CEIF grant funds have been used for previously completed and ongoing enhancements to Cordova High Schools Track & Field program including Discus, Steeplechase, and the Hammer Cage.
- This application from Rancho Cordova Track Club focuses on the Hammer Cage which CEIF has supported through initial development and repairs over the years:
  - FY2020-21: Equipment was donated as-is by CSUS to the City and then to FCUSD
  - FY2021-22: Necessary equipment repairs for athletic use
  - FY2023-24: Urgent equipment repairs after 100-year storm
  - FY2025-26: Essential safety enhancements are on hold pending this application
  - CEIF has provided grants of $115,000 to support this project.
- The current grant request budget does not identify Prevailing Wage for the labor costs of installation of the Hammer Cage. Staff anticipates project budget is $100,000 for successful completion.

Community Assistance Programs Total: $347,711

Previously Allocated Amount for FY2026-27: $475,000



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Community Assistance Programs

App. No.	Applicant (A-Z ORDER)	Requested	Staff Recommendation	Notes
23	"4 Paws 2 Freedom" Service and Facility/Peer Support Canine Programs	$10,000	$0	
16	Alchemist CDC: Healthy Food Access for Low-Income Families at the Rancho Cordova Certified Farmers' Market	$26,302	$0	
21	AnchorLine: Senior Scam AI Defense Program	$25,000	$0	
17	Capital Compassion: Food Recovery Innovation Hub	$38,158	$0	
27	COMMUNi T Construction & Design Workforce Initiative: HANDY Workforce Initiative	$50,000	$0	
28	Creative Pathways: Arts, Wellness & Workforce Development for Rancho Cordova	$10,000	$0	
22	Family Relief Project: Prepared Communities Rancho Cordova (PCRC) Initiative	$25,000	$0	
30	Logo Legacy: L.I.T. (mulityear request for 2 years)	$14,120	$0	*Applicant referred to RCYC Open Call*
18	Meals On Wheels By ACC: Senior Nutrition Services (multiyear request for 2 years)	$35,000	$35,000	*Existing program. Fund for 2 years.*
15	Rancho Cordova Elks 2484 seating and table improvement project	$13,181	$10,000	*Sponsorship*
24	UCP's Odyssey Day Program's Accessible Man Cave!	$6,950	$0	
26	Village Rising: Professional Education Series Event Program (multiyear request for 2 years)	$69,000	$0	
19	Volunteers of America: Creating Safe and Stable Living Spaces for Families and Children Impacted by Homelessness	$25,000	$0	
	Grand Total	**$347,711**	**$45,000**	

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Recusal Process Applications

App No.	Project	Amount	Staff Rec.
20	United Way California Capital Region Keep People Housed Rancho Cordova (Community Assistance Programs	$991,772	$0
25	United Way California Capital Region Rancho Cordova SparkPoint (Youth Programs & Services) (multiyear request for 2 years)	$553,325	$0
57	United Way California Capital Region KinderCamp (Youth Programs & Services)	$182,400	$0
	Subtotal	$1,727,497	$0

FY 2026/27 Grant Cycle & Council Meeting Timeline

February 9 at Noon

Application period launches.

March 6 at Noon

Grant deadline for projects and programs requiring a school or park district endorsement.

March 13 at Noon

Grant deadline for all projects and programs to be considered in FY 2026/27.

April 2026

City Council receives all applications in April and will review grants as needed into May 2026.

June 2026

Council adopts the FY 2026/27 resolution for CEIF.

Staff notifies applicants of funding decisions made by the City Council.

App No.	Category	Title	Synopsis (Generated with support from AI)	Requested	Staff Recommendation	Notes (Generated with support from AI)
1	Arts, Culture, History, Entertainment, and Sports	AM WINN: School Public Art Enhancement Project	A public art project expanding an existing school mural to create a larger, cohesive installation visible from the street. The project enhances neighborhood aesthetics, supports local artists, and promotes community pride accessible to students and residents.	$15,000	$0	Staff recommends that art infrastructure projects be referred for consideration as part of the forthcoming Arts Strategic Plan, which is currently in its early stages.
13	Arts, Culture, History, Entertainment, and Sports	American River Parkway Half Marathon	A regional running event promoting health, fitness, and tourism while positioning Rancho Cordova as an active lifestyle destination. The program includes a half marathon, 5K, and free youth race, and generates economic activity while supporting ongoing improvements along the American River Parkway.	$20,000	Consistent with staff evaluation of similar one-day event programs, this proposal is more appropriately supported through the City's microgrant program.	
14	Arts, Culture, History, Entertainment, and Sports	College Esports: Rancho Cordova's Annual Video Game Expo	A free, family-friendly gaming expo featuring tournaments, workshops, and interactive exhibits. The event promotes youth engagement and creative expression while supporting local vendors and fostering community connection through accessible technology-focused programming.	$40,000	Consistent with staff evaluation of similar one-day event programs, this proposal is more appropriately supported through the City's microgrant program.	
3	Arts, Culture, History, Entertainment, and Sports	Hummingbird Theatre Company's 2026-2027 Season	A community theatre season featuring three productions that provide live performances, educational opportunities, and community engagement. The program supports local artists, attracts regional audiences, and enhances Rancho Cordova's cultural offerings while fostering community pride and expanding access to performing arts.	$130,192	$25,000	Staff recommends funding the applicant for one theatrical production in Fiscal Year 2026–27 as part of the Performing Arts funding category. **FY 2026-27: $25,000**
4	Arts, Culture, History, Entertainment, and Sports	My Musical Village: Rancho Cordova Community Music Initiative	A community music program offering early childhood classes, family-friendly concerts, and workshops for caregivers and educators. The initiative supports child development, strengthens family connections, and increases access to arts programming while partnering with local businesses and musicians in Rancho Cordova.	$15,400	Staff recommends applicant consider a microgrant to assess community interest and demonstrate impact through a one-day event.	
6	Arts, Culture, History, Entertainment, and Sports	Ri-Nu Imagination, Inc.: Creative Wellness Series - Healing Through Art, Music and Mindfulness Meditation	A year-long series of free weekly creative wellness workshops combining visual arts, music, and mindfulness. The program supports emotional wellbeing and strengthens community connection by providing accessible, trauma-informed programming for Rancho Cordova residents, particularly adults and seniors.	$50,000	$15,000	The program demonstrates continued alignment with CEIF priorities and consistent delivery of services; staff recommends maintaining funding at the prior year level. **FY 2026-27: $ 15,000**

App No.	Category	Title	Synopsis (Generated with support from AI)	Requested	Staff Recommendation	Notes (Generated with support from AI)
8	Arts, Culture, History, Entertainment, and Sports	Sacramento Children's Museum: Aim High, Soaring with the Tuskegee Airmen Exhibit & Programming	An interactive museum exhibit and community programming focused on aviation history and STEM learning. The project highlights the Tuskegee Airmen, provides hands-on educational experiences, and offers free community events to inspire youth and engage families in Rancho Cordova.	$25,000	$25,000	MULTIYEAR REQUEST The project demonstrates strong alignment with CEIF priorities and anticipated community benefit; multi-year funding supports stability and effective delivery. **FY2026-27: $25,000** **FY 2027-28: $25,000**
10	Arts, Culture, History, Entertainment, and Sports	Sacramento Telangana Association: Festival of Flowers	A large-scale cultural festival celebrating Telangana traditions through dance, music, art, food, and educational workshops. The free event promotes cultural exchange, community pride, and civic engagement while supporting Rancho Cordova's identity as a diverse and vibrant cultural hub.	$20,000	Consistent with staff evaluation of similar one-day event programs, this proposal is more appropriately supported through the City's microgrant program.	
7	Arts, Culture, History, Entertainment, and Sports	TE4TN: Theatrical Stage Lighting 2026	A technical theater project to purchase professional lighting equipment and provide training workshops for youth and community members. The program expands educational opportunities in stage production while improving the quality of local performances and supporting Rancho Cordova's growing performing arts community.	$29,825	$0	Staff recommends that art infrastructure projects be referred for consideration as part of the forthcoming Arts Strategic Plan, which is currently in its early stages.
11	Arts, Culture, History, Entertainment, and Sports	Teatro Espejo: Season 51	A community-centered theatre season featuring an original play, a one-man show, and an intercultural arts festival. The program supports local artists, expands access to culturally diverse programming, and promotes community connection through performances, partnerships, and a free public arts celebration.	$35,000	Staff recommends the applicant consider a microgrant opportunity to pilot the festival concept, assess community interest, and demonstrate measurable impact for future funding consideration.	
			Total of Arts, Culture, History, Entertainment & Sports Applications and Recommendations:	***$380,417***	***$65,000***	
63	Youth Programs & Services	All In Together	Provides a supportive program for at-risk youth focused on arts, life skills, and vocational development. Participants engage in creative expression, conflict resolution, and personal growth activities in a safe environment designed to build confidence, strengthen community connections, and support positive youth outcomes.	$7,500	$0	While the application proposes youth support programming, it does not provide sufficient detail regarding program structure, location, and implementation to evaluate community impact.

App No.	Category	Title	Synopsis (Generated with support from AI)	Requested	Staff Recommendation	Notes (Generated with support from AI)
76	Youth Programs & Services	Big Brothers-Big Sisters of the Greater Sacramento Area Inc: Pathways to Potential Mentoring Program	Expands evidence-based one-to-one mentoring for youth facing social, academic, and emotional barriers. Participants are matched with trained adult mentors for long-term support, improving academic engagement, mental health, and life outcomes. The program provides structured mentoring, case management, and access to wraparound services for vulnerable youth.	$25,000	$10,000	The program provides mentoring support for Rancho Cordova youth; staff recommends continued funding at a limited level. **FY2026-27: $10,000**
61	Youth Programs & Services	Capital Airshow Group: Fueling Futures Through Aviation-Based Educational Programming	Delivers large-scale aviation STEM programming reaching Rancho Cordova youth through camps, expos, and hands-on experiences. Students engage with industry professionals, explore career pathways, and build workforce readiness skills, strengthening confidence, and connecting classroom learning to real opportunities within our region's growing aerospace economy.	$75,000	$0	The application does not clearly demonstrate direct benefit to Rancho Cordova residents relative to the requested funding and program scope.
64	Youth Programs & Services	Mandarins Performing Arts: Mandarins Parade Corps of Rancho Cordova	Establishes a weekend parade corps program serving youth ages 10–16 with instruction in music, marching, and performance. Participants gain technical skills, confidence, and teamwork experience while performing at community events. The program expands equitable access to arts education and strengthens community pride through public performances.	$25,000	$0	MULTIYEAR REQUEST The application does not clearly demonstrate direct benefit to Rancho Cordova residents relative to the requested funding and program scope.
71	Youth Programs & Services	Mayes Freeman Youth Sports League	Delivers year-round flag football and character development programming for underserved youth, emphasizing mentorship, leadership, and mental wellness. Serving up to 200 participants, the program builds teamwork, confidence, and community engagement while providing accessible recreational opportunities that support positive youth development and healthy lifestyles.	$10,250	$0	While the application supports youth sports and mentorship, it does not provide sufficient detail regarding program structure and organizational capacity to evaluate community impact. The applicant was referred to the Rancho Cordova Youth Center sports programming opportunity.
72	Youth Programs & Services	Metal Maniacs Robotics: The Cordova Spark -A Civic STEM Forward Summer Leadership Intensive	Delivers a one-week STEM summer program where middle school students design AI and robotics solutions to real Rancho Cordova challenges. Led by student mentors, participants develop technical, leadership, and civic engagement skills, culminating in presentations to City leaders and fostering future innovators and community problem-solvers.	$16,500	$0	MULTIYEAR REQUEST The application proposes a short-term program serving a limited number of participants and does not demonstrate sufficient community-wide impact relative to the requested funding.

App No.	Category	Title	Synopsis (Generated with support from AI)	Requested	Staff Recommendation	Notes (Generated with support from AI)
73	Youth Programs & Services	Rancho Cordova Jiu-jitsu for the city.	Offers martial arts training focused on self-defense, discipline, and personal development for local youth. The program builds confidence, physical fitness, and anti-bullying skills in a structured and supportive environment, fostering teamwork, respect, and resilience while providing accessible community-based recreation opportunities.	$7,500	$0	While the application supports youth development, it does not demonstrate sufficient Rancho Cordova impact relative to the requested funding. The applicant was referred to the Rancho Cordova Youth Center sports programming opportunity.
62	Youth Programs & Services	Rancho Cordova Little League Enhancement: Facility & Equipment	Improves safety and quality across shared-use baseball fields serving over 500 youth annually. Funding supports field maintenance, equipment replacement, and facility upgrades, preserving accessible recreational spaces, strengthening community engagement, and promoting youth health, teamwork, and positive development through organized sports.	$45,000	$0	The application focuses on facility and equipment improvements that are better aligned with other City funding sources; staff will work with the applicant to pursue funding through existing Legacy project resources.
66	Youth Programs & Services	ReCreate: Creative Reuse STEAM Lab at Sacramento Children's Museum	Provides free STEAM workshops and camps for Rancho Cordova youth using recycled materials to create art and engineering projects. The program promotes creativity, environmental awareness, and hands-on learning while activating museum space and expanding access to educational enrichment opportunities for local families.	$25,000	$0	The application proposes programming at a facility that already receives City support; staff recommends prioritizing funding toward expanding services across additional community locations.
74	Youth Programs & Services	SAC CONNECT LLC: NextGen Summer Workforce Exploration	Provides a 10-week workforce readiness and career exploration program for underserved youth ages 13–17. Participants receive training in resume writing, financial literacy, and professional skills, alongside college tours and industry exposure. The program builds confidence, career awareness, and pathways to employment through structured, culturally responsive instruction.	$19,329	$0	MULTIYEAR REQUEST The application proposes a workforce development program that serves a limited number of participants relative to the requested funding.
67	Youth Programs & Services	Sacramento Performing Arts Conservatory: Cordova Youth Spotlight Orchestra	Provides a tuition-free orchestra program serving Rancho Cordova youth with twice-weekly instruction, public performances, and digital showcases. Students develop musical skills, confidence, and teamwork while gaining performance experience. The program expands arts access, builds community engagement through concerts, and supports youth development through structured music education.	$23,434	$23,000	The program provides arts instruction for Rancho Cordova youth; funding is recommended at a level similar to previous year. **FY2026-27: $23,000**

App No.	Category	Title	Synopsis (Generated with support from AI)	Requested	Staff Recommendation	Notes (Generated with support from AI)
68	Youth Programs & Services	Suvidha International Foundation: RanchoBot Challenge 2027	Delivers hands-on robotics training and competition for elementary and middle school students, teaching coding, engineering, and problem-solving skills. Participants design and program robots for real-world challenges, culminating in a community competition that builds teamwork, confidence, and pathways into STEM education and careers.	$16,750	$15,000	Staff recommends $20,000 for both items in applications 68 (RanchoBot) and 69 (Speech & Debate) for the applicant to use as needed.
69	Youth Programs & Services	Suvidha International Foundation: Speech & Debate Programs	Provides speech and debate training for students in grades 4–10, building communication, critical thinking, and leadership skills. Through lessons and competitions, participants gain confidence, teamwork abilities, and academic readiness while preparing for future careers and civic engagement as effective communicators and community leaders.	$7,500	$5,000	Staff recommends $20,000 for both items in applications 68 (RanchoBot) and 69 (Speech & Debate) for the applicant to use as needed.
70	Youth Programs & Services	Tahoe Tallac Fastpitch Softball Tournament Participation Support	Reduces financial barriers for youth softball players by covering tournament participation costs, enabling girls from underserved families to compete and develop skills. The program promotes inclusion, teamwork, and leadership while supporting access to competitive sports opportunities that foster personal growth and community engagement.	$15,000	$0	MULTIYEAR REQUEST The application requests funding for individual participation costs and does not demonstrate sufficient impact to Rancho Cordova residents relative to the requested funding and program scope.
75	Youth Programs & Services	Utsav 2026 Rancho Cordova Youth Career Expo	Hosts a free community career expo connecting youth with professionals across diverse industries. Through interactive booths, mentorship opportunities, and educational resources, the event expands career awareness, supports academic pathways, and provides equitable access to guidance for students, particularly those from underserved backgrounds.	$5,000	The application proposes a one-time workforce-focused event. Staff recommends referral to the City's microgrant program for one day events.	
			Subtotal of Citywide Youth Programs & Services Requests and Recommendations	**$323,763**	**$53,000**	
78	Youth Programs & Services	AM Winn Public Waldorf Ek-8 Community Guild: K-8 Handwork Instruction Support	Supports continuation of a Waldorf-inspired handwork program providing arts and craft instruction to 400+ students. Funding covers instructor and materials, preserving hands-on learning that builds fine motor skills, focus, and creativity while maintaining a core component of the school's educational model.	$25,000	$0	The application requests funding for ongoing program staffing and operations within a school setting; staff recommends these types of enrichment activities be supported through the City's field trip and experiential learning funding allocation.

App No.	Category	Title	Synopsis (Generated with support from AI)	Requested	Staff Recommendation	Notes (Generated with support from AI)
60	Youth Programs & Services	Culturally Relevant Book Give Away	Provides five culturally relevant books to under resourced TK–2 students in Rancho Cordova, increasing access to home libraries and supporting early literacy. The program strengthens reading outcomes, promotes family engagement, and ensures students see themselves reflected in literature, improving confidence and long-term academic success.	$35,563	$12,500	The program provides direct access to literacy resources for Rancho Cordova students; funding is recommended to support the request for SCUSD. **FY2026-27: $12,500**
31	Youth Programs & Services	Cypress Grove Elementary VEX IQ Robotics Program	A school-based robotics program providing hands-on STEM learning through robot building, coding, and team challenges. The program expands access to engineering education, strengthens problem-solving and teamwork skills, and creates pathways for Rancho Cordova students to engage in robotics and future STEM opportunities.	$11,550	$0	While the program supports STEM learning opportunities, staff is prioritizing continued support for an existing VEX IQ robotics program at this time.
32	Youth Programs & Services	Cypress Grove Elementary, Afterschool Enrichment Program	A comprehensive after-school enrichment program integrating STEM, academic support, strategic thinking, and sports serving 30 students, PreK–Grade 6. Serving elementary students, the program builds confidence, teamwork, and academic skills through robotics, engineering activities, and structured enrichment in a safe, engaging environment.	$41,441	$0	While the program provides afterschool enrichment opportunities, the application does not demonstrate sufficient impact relative to the requested funding.
33	Youth Programs & Services	EGUSD: Sunrise Elementary Sly Park Transportation	Funding supports transportation for sixth-grade students to attend Sly Park Environmental Science Camp. The overnight program provides hands-on STEM learning, environmental education, and social-emotional development while reducing financial barriers to participation for low-income students in Rancho Cordova.	$20,000	$20,000	The program supports student access to an educational outdoor experience and provides direct benefit to Rancho Cordova students. **FY 2026-27: $20,000**
			Subtotal of EGUSD & SCUSD Youth Programs & Services Requests and Recommendations	**$133,554**	**$32,500**	
34	Youth Programs & Services	American River Bike Patrol Velo Lancer Program at Cordova High School	A ten-week youth cycling program teaching safe riding, bike maintenance, teamwork, and first aid. Students build endurance through progressive rides culminating in a 32-mile challenge, earning a bicycle upon completion while developing confidence, leadership skills, and connection to the American River Parkway.	$35,000	$25,000	Staff recommends funding at the prior year level based on continued program delivery and direct benefit to Rancho Cordova students. **FY2026-27: $25,000**

App No.	Category	Title	Synopsis (Generated with support from AI)	Requested	Staff Recommendation	Notes (Generated with support from AI)
35	Youth Programs & Services	Architects of Hope, Inc.: Fellowship Program 2026-2027	A structured after-school mentorship and athletics program engaging youth through sports, leadership training, and academic support. Serving hard-to-reach students, the program builds confidence, life skills, and school engagement while providing consistent mentorship and a safe environment that promotes positive decision-making and long-term success.	$90,000	$0	MULTIYEAR REQUEST Staff prioritized youth programs that demonstrate clear, direct impact to Rancho Cordova residents, with defined outcomes and alignment with current funding priorities. While many applications provide valuable services, staff focused on programs that offer measurable community benefit relative to the requested funding.
36	Youth Programs & Services	Book Vending Machine Positive Incentives Program	A literacy and behavior incentive program using a book vending machine where students earn tokens for positive actions. The program promotes reading, reinforces positive behavior, and increases equitable access to books by allowing students to build personal home libraries.	$10,000	$0	While the project supports student access to literacy resources, staff is not recommending funding for similar infrastructure-based literacy initiatives at this time.
37	Youth Programs & Services	Cordova High School Music Ambassadors	A student travel program enabling music students to participate in the Disney Imagination Campus. The experience includes workshops and performances that build musicianship, teamwork, and leadership while representing Rancho Cordova and reducing financial barriers to participation.	$27,694	$10,000	The program supports experiential learning opportunities and promotes Rancho Cordova student achievement; partial funding is recommended to help reduce financial barriers to participation. Recommended to fund from Performing Arts Bucket at $10,000 level. **FY2026-27: $ 10,000**
48	Youth Programs & Services	Girls on the Run: Title I Access & Empowerment Initiative – Rancho Cordova	An after-school program for girls combining physical activity with social-emotional learning. Serving Title I schools, the program builds confidence, leadership, and healthy habits while ensuring equitable access through scholarships, mentorship, and participation in a culminating community 5K event.	$7,050	$0	The application is not eligible for funding as proposed due to limitations on participant eligibility that are not aligned with program requirements.
49	Youth Programs & Services	Harris Center for the Arts ClassACTS School Matinee Program	A performing arts access program providing free theatre experiences and transportation for elementary students from low-income schools. The program enhances learning, creativity, and cultural exposure while supporting curriculum through educational materials and increasing equitable access to the arts.	$17,000	$0	MULTIYEAR REQUEST The application supports experiential learning opportunities; funding for these programs is being allocated directly to the school district for prioritization.

App No.	Category	Title	Synopsis (Generated with support from AI)	Requested	Staff Recommendation	Notes (Generated with support from AI)
50	Youth Programs & Services	NorCal Arts (Nu Art) Theatre classes and After School Theatre production at Williamson, Cordova Gardens and Cordova Villa Elementary schools	Provides classroom theatre arts and social-emotional learning instruction to over 1,100 elementary students, along with after-school productions. The program builds confidence, communication, and collaboration skills while increasing access to arts education and strengthening school and community engagement.	$75,000	$50,000	The program provides direct arts education and social-emotional learning services; staff recommends maintaining prior-year funding levels without expansion at this time. **FY2026-27: $50,000**
51	Youth Programs & Services	Peers Inspiring Learning, Leadership and Responsible Service (PILLARS): Mentoring Rancho Cordova's Youth	A mentoring and leadership development program serving approximately 150 middle and high school students in FCUSD. The program promotes academic improvement, community service, and personal growth through mentorship, structured activities, and incentives, strengthening youth engagement and community connections.	$141,500	$35,000	The program presents a promising mentorship model; however, organizational readiness and program structure are still developing. Limited startup funding is recommended to support further development and evaluate sustainability. **FY2026-27: $35,000**
59	Youth Programs & Services	Project Optimism Mentoring Sessions (POMS)	Provides school-based mentoring and social-emotional learning for 60 students across two Rancho Cordova elementary schools. Through culturally responsive programming, cohort-based sessions, and leadership development, the program strengthens belonging, emotional skills, and academic engagement while supporting school climate and youth success.	$150,400	$0	MULTIYEAR REQUEST The application represents a new program with a high funding request; staff recommends prioritizing existing programs and projects serving youth at FCUSD sites.
52	Youth Programs & Services	Rancho Cordova Student Athlete Coalition- Athletic Improvement Plan	Supports over 500 student-athletes through training, equipment, academic support, and expanded athletic opportunities. The program strengthens school athletics, promotes leadership and academic success, and builds community partnerships while increasing equitable access to sports participation.	$265,000	$265,000	The program supports student-athlete development and provides direct benefit to Rancho Cordova youth; staff recommends maintaining prior-year funding levels. **FY2026-27: $265,000**
53	Youth Programs & Services	Rancho Cordova Track Club Throwing Cage Safety & Enhancement Project	Funds a new throwing cage system to improve safety, durability, and usability for track and field athletes. The project addresses operational hazards, supports quality practice conditions, and strengthens access to safe athletic facilities for students and community users in Rancho Cordova.	$69,495	$0	Further discussion to occur at workshop on April 28.

App No.	Category	Title	Synopsis (Generated with support from AI)	Requested	Staff Recommendation	Notes (Generated with support from AI)
54	Youth Programs & Services	River View STEM, Afterschool Enrichment Program	A comprehensive after-school program integrating robotics, drone engineering, academic support, strategic thinking, and multi-sport development. Serving PreK–6 students, the program promotes engagement, confidence, collaboration, and whole-child growth through structured enrichment in a safe, supportive environment.	$41,441	$0	While the program provides enrichment opportunities, staff is prioritizing a diversity of providers and recommends focusing on existing programming at Mitchell Middle School where implementation is already established.
55	Youth Programs & Services	Riverview STEM Academy Competitive VEX IQ Robotics Program	Revives a competitive robotics program for 25 elementary and middle school students, providing hands-on engineering, coding, and team-based competition experiences. Students build and compete in VEX IQ tournaments, developing STEM, problem-solving, and collaboration skills while increasing Rancho Cordova's participation in regional robotics competitions.	$12,020	$0	While the program provides enrichment opportunities, staff is prioritizing a diversity of providers and recommends focusing on existing programming at Mitchell Middle School where implementation is already established.
56	Youth Programs & Services	Suvidha International Foundation: Industrial AI Agent Development Program	A workforce development program training 50 high school and community college students in artificial intelligence and coding. Students build real-world AI applications, strengthening technical, problem-solving, and collaboration skills while preparing for future STEM careers and supporting innovation within the Rancho Cordova community.	$50,000	$35,000	The program provides advanced STEM learning opportunities for Rancho Cordova students; funding is recommended to support program delivery while leveraging external funding. **FY2026-27: $35,000**
58	Youth Programs & Services	W. E. Mitchell Middle VEX IQ Robotics Program	Provides year-round robotics programming for up to 50 students through beginner instruction and a recreational robotics league. Students gain hands-on STEM experience, build and program robots, and participate in competitions while developing teamwork, confidence, and sustained interest in technology and engineering careers.	$11,010	$10,000	The program provides established STEM enrichment opportunities at Mitchell Middle School; staff recommends continued funding to support ongoing program delivery at an existing site. **FY2026-27: $10,000**
			Subtotal of External to FCUSD Youth Programs & Services Requests and Recommendations	**$1,002,610**	**$430,000**	
38	Youth Programs & Services	FCUSD: Athletic Support for Mills, Mitchell & Kinney	A district-wide initiative supporting after-school athletics through equipment, transportation, and program funding. The project promotes student engagement, physical wellness, and school connectedness while reducing financial barriers and expanding equitable access to sports opportunities across three Rancho Cordova schools.	$85,000	$75,000	The program expands access to youth athletics and enhances existing programming; funding is recommended to support participation and reduce barriers for Rancho Cordova students. **FY2026-27: $75,000**

App No.	Category	Title	Synopsis (Generated with support from AI)	Requested	Staff Recommendation	Notes (Generated with support from AI)
39	Youth Programs & Services	FCUSD: CalSOAP AVID tutors for Mills Middle School and Cordova High School	A tutoring program providing CalSOAP-trained tutors to support AVID students at Mills Middle School and Cordova High School. The program strengthens academic performance, critical thinking, and college readiness through structured peer tutorials and targeted academic support.	$11,630	$0	The application does not demonstrate sufficient impact relative to the requested funding, and the proposed staffing model is not sustainable with one-time funding.
40	Youth Programs & Services	FCUSD: Homeless Students Success and Wellness Initiative	Provides essential resources for homeless students including food, clothing, hygiene items, school supplies, and transportation support. Serving over 450 Rancho Cordova students, the program reduces barriers to attendance and academic success while improving stability, well-being, and long-term educational outcomes for vulnerable youth.	$20,000	$20,000	The program provides direct support to homeless students, addressing critical barriers to participation and well-being; multi-year funding is recommended to support consistent service delivery. **FY2026-27: $20,000** **FY2027-28: $20,000**
41	Youth Programs & Services	FCUSD: Middle School Library Start-Up Initiative	Establishes a dedicated middle school library at Riverview STEM Academy with 500–700 books, including STEM, culturally responsive, and SEL materials. The project expands literacy access, supports academic achievement, and creates a permanent educational resource benefiting current and future Rancho Cordova students.	$15,000	$0	While the project supports student access to literacy resources, staff is not recommending funding for similar infrastructure-based literacy initiatives at this time.
42	Youth Programs & Services	FCUSD: Mills Middle School Positive Behavior Intervention Supports (PBIS)	A comprehensive Positive Behavioral Interventions and Supports (PBIS) program serving nearly 900 students. The initiative provides incentives, mentoring, attendance programs, and school-wide engagement activities to improve behavior, academic outcomes, and school climate while promoting student success and reducing absenteeism.	$30,000	$20,000	The program supports student engagement and school climate in a high-need student population; partial funding is recommended to support youth engagement efforts. **FY 2026-27: $20,000**
43	Youth Programs & Services	FCUSD: Mitchell Positive Behavior Intervention Supports (PBIS) Incentives	A school-wide Positive Behavioral Interventions and Supports (PBIS) program providing incentives, events, and engagement activities. The initiative promotes positive behavior, improves school climate, and supports student wellness through rewards, social-emotional learning, and community-building experiences.	$20,000	$20,000	The program supports student engagement and school climate in a high-need student population; partial funding is recommended to support youth engagement efforts. **FY 2026-27: $20,000**
44	Youth Programs & Services	FCUSD: Outdoor STEAM Discovery Initiative for Rancho Cordova Elementary Schools (TK–5)	Expands access to hands-on STEAM learning through field trips and in-school programs for approximately 3,500 elementary students. The initiative removes financial barriers, increases engagement in science and technology, and strengthens connections between schools and community-based educational organizations.	$50,000	$0	Staff recommends this application to be fully funded from the FCUSD Field Trip and Experiential Learning Bucket.

App No.	Category	Title	Synopsis (Generated with support from AI)	Requested	Staff Recommendation	Notes (Generated with support from AI)
45	Youth Programs & Services	FCUSD: Rancho Cordova Pathways to Invention and Innovation (P2I 2) Initiative	A project-based learning initiative engaging students across three schools in invention and innovation. Students identify community challenges and develop solutions while building technical and problem-solving skills, culminating in participation in the California Invention Convention and community showcase.	$24,800	$0	Staff recommends that experiential learning requests be considered through the district's allocated Field Trip and Experiential Learning Bucket funding.
46	Youth Programs & Services	FCUSD: Rancho Cordova Spanish Language & High School Pathway Club	The middle school initiative strengthens Spanish language instruction, cultural learning, and high school pathway preparation, increases enrollment in advanced coursework, and builds a clear transition pathway to Cordova High School.	$22,000	$0	Staff recommends that experiential learning requests be considered through the district's allocated Field Trip and Experiential Learning Bucket funding.
47	Youth Programs & Services	FCUSD: The "Power of 20" Literacy Initiative: Expanding Library Access	A multi-year initiative to expand and modernize library collections across 11 Rancho Cordova schools, aiming for a 20:1 book-to-student ratio. By increasing access to diverse, high-quality books, the program improves literacy outcomes, reduces achievement gaps, and supports long-term academic success for over 3,000 students.	$65,000	$20,000	The program expands access to literacy resources across multiple Rancho Cordova schools; while staff is not recommending funding for site-specific literacy infrastructure, partial funding is recommended for this districtwide effort at $20,000 for one year. **FY2026-27: $20,000**
			Subtotal of FCUSD District Youth Programs & Services Requests and Recommendations	**$343,430**	**$155,000**	
			Total of ALL Youth Programs and Services Requests and Recommendations	**$1,803,357**	**$670,500**	
23	Community Assistance Programs	"4 Paws 2 Freedom" Service and Facility/Peer Support Canine Programs	A training program providing service dogs for veterans and first responders with mental health needs, alongside peer support canines for public safety agencies. The program improves mental wellness, builds independence, and strengthens community engagement through accessible, no-cost training and support services.	$10,000	$0	While the program provides valuable services, the application does not clearly demonstrate direct impact to Rancho Cordova residents.
16	Community Assistance Programs	Alchemist CDC: Healthy Food Access for Low-Income Families at the Rancho Cordova Certified Farmers' Market	A farmers' market nutrition incentive program that doubles CalFresh benefits to increase access to fresh, locally grown food. The program improves food security, supports healthy eating, and strengthens the local economy by directing spending to regional farmers while fostering community connection at the market.	$26,302	$0	The application does not clearly demonstrate a distinct or expanded benefit to Rancho Cordova residents relative to the requested funding.

App No.	Category	Title	Synopsis (Generated with support from AI)	Requested	Staff Recommendation	Notes (Generated with support from AI)
21	Community Assistance Programs	AnchorLine: Senior Scam AI Defense Program	A digital literacy and fraud prevention program teaching seniors how to identify and avoid scams using practical strategies and AI tools. The program improves financial safety, builds confidence with technology, and reduces vulnerability to fraud through hands-on workshops and accessible learning resources.	$25,000	Staff recommends the applicant consider a one-day workshop or microgrant opportunity to pilot the program, assess community interest, and demonstrate measurable impact.	
17	Community Assistance Programs	Capital Compassion: Food Recovery Innovation Hub	A food recovery and distribution program that rescues surplus food, repurposes it into meal portions, and delivers it directly to Rancho Cordova seniors. The program reduces food waste, improves food security, and supports vulnerable residents through home delivery and inclusive workforce participation.	$38,158	$0	The City currently supports food recovery initiatives, and additional CEIF funding in this area is not recommended at this time.
27	Community Assistance Programs	COMMUNi T Construction and Design Workforce Initiative: HANDY Workforce Initiative	A hands-on workforce training program teaching construction and home improvement skills such as drywall, tiling, and flooring. The program prepares residents for employment, apprenticeships, or entrepreneurship while supporting economic mobility and contributing to neighborhood improvement projects.	$50,000	$0	The application does not clearly demonstrate sufficient impact relative to the requested funding or alignment with current City priorities.
28	Community Assistance Programs	Creative Pathways: Arts, Wellness & Workforce Development for Rancho Cordova	A 12-week arts and workforce program combining storytelling, digital media, and leadership development. The program builds confidence, supports emotional wellness, and develops career skills for youth and families, culminating in a community showcase that highlights creative expression and strengthens local engagement.	$10,000	$0	The application does not clearly demonstrate sufficient impact relative to the requested funding or alignment with current City priorities.
22	Community Assistance Programs	Family Relief Project: Prepared Communities Rancho Cordova (PCRC) Initiative	A community preparedness program delivering multilingual workshops, outreach events, and emergency starter kits. The initiative strengthens disaster readiness, public safety, and community resilience, with a focus on reaching refugee and immigrant populations through culturally responsive education.	$25,000	$0	While the program supports community preparedness and resilience, the application does not clearly demonstrate measurable impact, defined outcomes, or differentiation from existing efforts relative to the requested funding.

App No.	Category	Title	Synopsis (Generated with support from AI)	Requested	Staff Recommendation	Notes (Generated with support from AI)
30	Community Assistance Programs	Logo Legacy: L.I.T.	Provides a workforce development program for Rancho Cordova teens, offering hands-on job training as coaches, referees, and food handlers within a youth sports league. Participants gain employment experience, professional skills, and leadership development through structured training, interviews, and mentorship, preparing youth for future careers and community leadership.	$14,120	$0	MULTIYEAR REQUEST Applicant referred to Rancho Cordova Youth Center opportunities.
18	Community Assistance Programs	Meals On Wheels By ACC: Senior Nutrition Services	A home-delivered meal program providing nutritious meals and wellness checks to homebound seniors. The program supports aging in place, reduces isolation, and promotes health through regular meal delivery, nutrition education, and social interaction for vulnerable older adults in Rancho Cordova.	$35,000	$35,000	MULTIYEAR REQUEST Recommend funding to augment existing CDBG support and expand senior nutrition services. **FY 2026-27: $35,000**
15	Community Assistance Programs	Rancho Cordova Elks 2484 seating and table improvement project	A facility improvement project replacing aging tables and chairs used for community events. The upgrades address safety concerns and support ongoing programming, including youth activities, veteran services, and community gatherings hosted at the Elks Lodge.	$13,181	$10,000	The project provides facility improvements with indirect community benefit; partial funding is recommended to support the request while prioritizing programs with more direct impact to Rancho Cordova residents. **FY 2026-27: $10,000**
24	Community Assistance Programs	UCP's Odyssey Day Program's Accessible Man Cave!	A facility enhancement project creating an accessible recreation space for adults with developmental disabilities at UCP's Odyssey Day Program. The "Man Cave" will provide adaptive technology, seating, and social space that support independence, reduce isolation, and strengthen community connection, self-advocacy, and daily living skills.	$6,950	$0	The application is not eligible for funding as proposed due to limitations on participant eligibility that are not aligned with program requirements.
26	Community Assistance Programs	Village Rising: Professional Education Series Event Program	A financial education workshop series providing budgeting, credit, and homeownership guidance to underserved and working families. The program supports financial stability, economic mobility, and access to resources through culturally responsive workshops and one-on-one coaching.	$69,000	MULTIYEAR REQUEST Staff recommends the applicant consider a microgrant opportunity to pilot a one-day event program, assess community interest, and demonstrate measurable impact.	
19	Community Assistance Programs	Volunteers of America: Creating Safe and Stable Living Spaces for Families and Children Impacted by Homelessness	A transitional housing enhancement project providing essential furniture and household items for families experiencing homelessness. The program creates safe, stable living environments that support recovery, improve well-being, and help families build routines and readiness for long-term independent housing.	$25,000	$0	While the program supports families experiencing homelessness, the request is focused on furnishing a non-city owned facility; staff recommends prioritizing direct service programs for Rancho Cordova residents.

App No.	Category	Title	Synopsis (Generated with support from AI)	Requested	Staff Recommendation	Notes (Generated with support from AI)
			Total of Community Assistance Programs	**$347,711**	**$45,000**	
20	Community Assistance Programs	Recusal Process | United Way California Capital Region Keep People Housed Rancho Cordova	A homelessness prevention program providing financial assistance, case management, and supportive services to residents at risk of eviction. The program stabilizes households, prevents displacement, and connects participants to employment and resources to support long-term housing security and community stability.	$991,772	$0	While the program addresses housing stability for vulnerable residents, the application represents a large-scale funding request and does not clearly demonstrate proportional, measurable impact specific to Rancho Cordova residents.
25	Community Assistance Programs	Recusal Process | United Way California Capital Region Rancho Cordova SparkPoint	A campus-based financial coaching and workforce support program helping parents of Rancho Cordova students stabilize finances, increase income, reduce debt, and build savings. By connecting families to coaching and resources, the program strengthens household stability, supports student success, and promotes long-term economic mobility for residents.	$553,325	$0	The proposal outlines a comprehensive service model; however, the request is substantial and relies on significant startup and operational costs.
57	Youth Programs & Services	Recusal Process | United Way California Capital Region KinderCamp	A four-week summer readiness program serving 160 incoming kindergarteners without preschool experience. The program builds early literacy, math, and social-emotional skills through structured classroom activities, daily reading, and family engagement, helping children enter school confident, prepared, and positioned for long-term academic success.	$182,400	$0	The program supports youth and educational readiness; however, the application does not clearly demonstrate sufficient measurable impact or prioritization relative to other higher-ranked proposals.
			Total of Recusal Items	**$1,727,497**	**$0**	
			Total of Staff Recommended Grants for Arts, Culture, History, Entertainment, and Sports; Youth Programs & Services, Community Assistance Programs, and Recusals	**$4,258,982**	**$780,500**	

Category	Type	Project Description	Requested	Approved	Notes
Arts, Culture, History, Entertainment, & Sports	Pilot Projects	Rancho Cordova River City Concert Band		$40,000	Previously Approved
Arts, Culture, History, Entertainment, & Sports	Pilot Projects	Sacramento Area Bicycle Advocates		$20,000	Previously Approved
Arts, Culture, History, Entertainment, & Sports	Pilot Projects	Symphony d'Oro		$40,000	Previously Approved
Arts, Culture, History, Entertainment, & Sports	Multiyear Agreement	Cordova Community Council Foundation (Arts Programming)		$280,000	Previously Approved
Arts, Culture, History, Entertainment, & Sports	Arts in Public Places	Funding for Arts in Public Places		$50,000	Council Designation
Arts, Culture, History, Entertainment, & Sports	Performing Arts Bucket	Funding for perfuming arts programs		$30,000	Council Designation
		Subtotal of Previously Approved Items and Buckets for Arts, Culture, History, Entertainment & Sports		**$460,000**	
Youth Programs & Services	Pilot Projects	916 Ink		$55,000	Previously Approved
Youth Programs & Services	Pilot Projects	Blessings in a Backpack		$25,000	Previously Approved

Category	Type	Project Description	Requested	Approved	Notes
Youth Programs & Services	Pilot Projects	Boys & Girls Club		$75,000	Previously Approved
Youth Programs & Services	Pilot Projects	FCCP JobEx		$75,000	Previously Approved
Youth Programs & Services	Pilot Projects	Pro Youth		$88,000	Previously Approved
Youth Programs & Services	Pilot Projects	Sacramento Splash		$35,000	Previously Approved
Youth Programs & Services	Pilot Projects	Sierra Service Project		$75,000	Previously Approved
Youth Programs & Services	Pilot Projects	Soil Born Farms - Garden Education		$55,000	Previously Approved
Youth Programs & Services	Pilot Projects	Kiwanis		$15,000	Previously Approved
Youth Programs & Services	Pilot Projects	Sacramento Children Museum Gen Ops.		$150,000	Previously Approved
Youth Programs & Services	Pilot Projects	Center for Landbased Learning - Student and Landowner Education and Watershed Stewardship Program		$83,538	Previously Approved
Youth Programs & Services	Multiyear Agreement	Cordova Community Council Foundation (Sports Programming)		$300,000	Previously Approved
Youth Programs & Services	Multiyear Agreement	Police Activities League - Vans		$27,600	Previously Approved
Youth Programs & Services	Multiyear Agreement	Police Activities League - Outdoor Adventure Club		$18,000	Previously Approved
Youth Programs & Services	Field Trip Bucket - EGUSD	Funding for Field Trips at EGUSD Schools for Academic Year 2026-2027		$30,000	Previously Approved
Youth Programs & Services	Field Trip Bucket - FCUSD	Funding for Field Trips at FCUSD schools for Academic Year 2026-2027		$80,000	Previously Approved
Youth Programs & Services	Field Trip Bucket SCUSD	Funding for Field Trips at SCUSD Schools for Academic Year 2026-2027		$20,000	Previously Approved

Category	Type	Project Description	Requested	Approved	Notes
Youth Programs & Services	Youth Sports Growth Bucket	Youth Sports Growth Bucket		$30,000	Council Designation
		Subtotal of Previously Approved Items and Buckets for Youth Programs & Services		**$1,237,138**	
Community Assistance	Pilot Projects	Whisker Warriors		$50,000	Previously Approved
Community Assistance	Multiyear Agreement	Chamber of Commerce EXPLORE		$75,000	Previously Approved
Community Assistance	Multiyear Agreement	Soil Born Farms - Capacity Building		$150,000	Previously Approved
Community Assistance	Multiyear Agreement	Folsom Lake College Promise Program		$200,000	Previously Approved
		Subtotal of Previously Approved Items and Buckets for Community Assistance Programs		**$475,000**	
Microgrant Program	Microgrant Program	Support for one-day events and activities in Rancho Cordova		$300,000	Council Designation
		Subtotal of Microgrant Program		$300,000	
		Total of all Previously Approved Items and Buckets for Arts, Culture, History, Entertainment & Sports; Youth Programs & Services; Community Assistance Programs; and Microgrant Program.		**$2,472,138**	

Title

School Public Art Enhancement Project

03/06/2026

id. 53405569

by **Aaron Smith** in **Fiscal Year 2026-2027 Community Enhancement & Investment Fund Grant Application**

3351 Explorer Dr.
Sacramento, California
95827
United States
[redacted]

Original Submission

03/06/2026

Score n/a

	Thank you for your interest in applying to the City of Rancho Cordova's Community Enhancement & Investment Fund. Applications are open from February 9, 2026, to March 13, 2026, Noon (12:00 p.m.) with a specific deadline of March 6th Noon (12:00 p.m.) for certain applications**. Before you begin, please read the notes about deadlines and certain types of grant applications/grants below. **School/Park Application Deadline **Note that projects or programs involving a park or school district have a deadline of March 6 Noon (12:00 p.m.) to allow for the third-party endorsement process by the grant deadline.** A Note about Religious Schools and the Application/Grant Process **Note for grant applications from religious schools. The United States Supreme Court has recently ruled in part that: “denying a generally available benefit [from government] solely on account of religious identity imposes a penalty on the free exercise of religion that can be justified only by a state interest of the highest order.” The City is of the opinion that not all grants to religious schools are prohibited under this and other similar rulings. However, these United States Supreme Court decisions remain in conflict with a section of the California State Constitution that says: “[n]either the Legislature, nor any county, city and county, township, school district, or other municipal corporation, shall ever make an appropriation, or pay from any public fund whatever, or grant anything to or in aid of any religious sect, church, creed, or sectarian purpose, or help to support or sustain any school, college, university, hospital, or other institution controlled by any religious creed, church, or sectarian denomination whatever; nor shall any grant or donation of personal property or real estate ever be made by the state, or any city, city and county, town, or other municipal corporation for any religious creed, church, or sectarian purpose whatever”. The City will accept applications for grants of these City public funds from religious schools, but will have language in the grant agreements to address the possibility and consequences of legal challenges and new court decisions on this and related topics. ** Future Grant Opportunities If you are interested in remaining up-to-date on available grants from the City of Rancho Cordova, click here to sign up for the Grants Interest List. A separate call for programming opportunities with the Rancho Cordova Youth Center is anticipated later in 2026. The list is also used to advertise separate art programs when funds are available. Ongoing Grant Opportunity The City of Rancho Cordova offers a microgrant opportunity. Learn more about those grants online.
Is this your first time applying for grant funding from the City of Rancho Cordova? As a first-time applicant, Community Enhancement & Investment Fund (CEIF) staff will contact you to discuss your project and grant application process.	No: Not a First Time Applicant

	1 - Project/Program Information Note: You can add a collaborator to this form to assist you in completing this application! A collaborator can help you complete this form by filling in fields for you, although only you can submit this form. You can add a collaborator by navigating to the top of the form and clicking on the 'Manage Collaborators' button. Simply enter their email address and click 'invite' to invite them as a collaborator. If you need further assistance, you may consult this Help article for more information.
Project/Program Name. Assign a project name to your project/program.	School Public Art Enhancement Project
Which category does your Project/Program align with?	Arts, Culture, History, & Entertainment
Provide a Project/Program Synopsis	This project will extend the existing school mural along an adjoining wall visible from the street, creating a larger and more cohesive public artwork. The project will enhance the neighborhood's visual landscape and support the city's goal of promoting arts and culture in public spaces.
Provide a Project/Program Description	This project will extend an existing mural located on the front-facing exterior wall of the school, which is highly visible to the surrounding neighborhood and to individuals traveling along the adjacent street. The current mural, originally funded through the City Community Enhancement grant, runs along a portion of the building that faces parallel to the street and has become a positive and recognizable visual feature for the community. This proposal will expand the mural onto an adjoining wall that turns perpendicular to the street, creating a more complete and cohesive public artwork that enhances the overall visual impact of the installation. To maintain artistic continuity and preserve the visual integrity of the original design, the project will hire the same local artist who designed and painted the original mural. This approach ensures that the extension will blend seamlessly with the existing artwork while expanding the mural's reach and storytelling potential. The extended mural will build upon the themes and aesthetic established in the original work, creating a unified piece that is more visible from multiple directions along the street. Hiring the original artist also supports local arts and cultural professionals while ensuring the highest quality outcome for the project. Maintaining the same artistic voice allows the expanded mural to remain cohesive in style, color palette, and thematic elements. This continuity preserves the integrity of the original artwork while allowing it to grow into a more impactful and meaningful installation. Because the school is located within a residential neighborhood, the mural serves as a highly accessible form of public art for community members who pass by daily. The extension of the mural will transform an otherwise blank exterior wall into a vibrant and engaging visual landmark. Public art installations such as murals contribute to a stronger sense of place, making neighborhoods feel more welcoming, culturally rich, and visually interesting. By extending the mural, this project will further enhance the aesthetic

	quality of the surrounding area and reinforce the school as a positive community presence. In addition to beautifying the area, the mural contributes to community pride and connection. Schools often serve as central gathering points within neighborhoods, and the presence of public art helps reinforce the school as a welcoming and creative environment. The mural extension will further strengthen the relationship between the school and the broader community by providing a shared visual asset that reflects the value placed on creativity, culture, and community identity. The extended mural will remain a long-term community asset. Unlike temporary programming, a mural provides lasting benefits for years to come by continuously enhancing the visual environment and promoting appreciation for public art. The location of the mural along a highly visible exterior wall ensures that it will continue to serve residents, students, and visitors as a source of inspiration and neighborhood pride. Overall, this project represents a thoughtful and cost-effective way to expand an already successful public art initiative. By extending the existing mural with the same artist, the project will enhance the neighborhood's visual character, support local arts and culture, and contribute to the City's broader goals of community enrichment and cultural vibrancy.
Tell us about your Project/Program Team	The A.M. Winn Community Guild is a volunteer parent organization dedicated to enhancing educational opportunities and enriching experiences for students at A.M. Winn EK-8 Waldorf Inspired Public School, a Title I school in Rancho Cordova.

Provide your Project/Program Goals	The primary goal of this project is to expand the existing school mural to create a larger, cohesive public art installation that enhances the visual landscape of the neighborhood and increases access to public art for the community. By extending the mural onto an adjoining exterior wall visible from the street, the project will transform an additional blank space into a vibrant cultural asset that can be enjoyed by students, families, neighbors, and visitors. A second goal is to strengthen the school's role as a welcoming community landmark. Because the mural faces a public street in a residential neighborhood, the expanded artwork will contribute to neighborhood pride and reinforce the presence of arts and culture within the community. Progress toward these goals will be measured through several clear metrics. • The first metric is **successful project completion**, defined as the design, preparation, and painting of the mural extension within the proposed project timeline and budget. • A second metric is **increased public art visibility**, demonstrated by the completion of the mural extension along the additional wall surface, increasing the overall scale and street visibility of the artwork. • A third metric is **community engagement and awareness**, which will be supported through communication with the school community and neighborhood about the mural project and its completion. To ensure the project remains focused and efficiently managed, the project team will work closely with the original mural artist to establish a clear timeline for design, preparation, and installation. The team will monitor progress through key milestones, including finalization of the mural extension design, site preparation, painting, and project completion. Regular communication between the project team and the artist will help ensure the work remains aligned with the original mural's artistic vision and with the goals of enhancing the community through public art. By maintaining clear goals, defined milestones, and regular coordination with the artist, the project team will ensure that the mural extension is completed successfully and continues to serve as a lasting artistic and cultural asset for the community.
Optional File Upload: Provide any additional records to supplement your program/project application. Note: Combine multiple files in one pdf before uploading.	
	2 - Funding & Costs

Funding Request - Complete this section with total dollar amounts for your project/program's costs	Funds are generally not intended to be used for deferred maintenance and ongoing operational needs. The funds are intended for enhancing and investing in the City of Rancho Cordova. If your project/program is awarded, the costs identified below would be reviewed and potentially open to modification during a contracting phase (if a grant is awarded by the City Council). If awarded, grant funds are not available until a contract is executed during Fiscal Year 2026-2027.
Total project/program cost*	15000
What is the amount of Community Enhancement & Investment Fund grant monies requested?	15000
Does your project/program involve construction of any facilities or improvements upon any property?	No
What is the total cost of personnel for your project/program?	9000
What is the total cost of supplies for your project/program?	3000
What is the total cost of transportation for your project/program?	0
What is the total cost of equipment for your project/program?	1500
What is the total cost of any miscellaneous expenses for your project/program?	1500

Upload your project/program's budget as a .pdf file. Include the categories and their dollar amounts along with information about any other funding sources to demonstrate your project/program's total budget. Note, the sum of all categories must match the total project or program cost, or the amount requested of CEIF if there is no other funding source. Please clearly illustrate any matching funds or funding from other sources in your project/program budget, including in-kind sources. Note: Combine multiple files in one pdf before uploading.

Estimated_Project_Budget-_Mural_Extension_Project.pdf

Has your organization sought or will seek other funding for this project/program?	No, not seeking any other funding support.
Please explain why you are not seeking any other funding support for your project/program.	The scope of this project was intentionally designed to align with the funding available through the City's Community Enhancement & Investment Fund. Because the mural extension is a focused expansion of an existing public artwork, the requested funding amount is sufficient to complete the project. Seeking additional funding sources is not necessary and could delay implementation of a project that directly benefits the community
Please describe any ongoing operations and maintenance costs beyond Fiscal Year 2026/2027, if applicable.	
Do you have volunteer or in-kind support for your project? This could include volunteers for an activity/event that is ongoing or a one-time experience.	Yes
Please share the total dollar amount for volunteer/in-kind support using $34.79 as the national rate for a volunteer hour. Source: Value of Volunteer Time	1042.5

Please provide a worksheet explaining your volunteer/in-kind contribution. You may upload a file in the following formats: CSV, DOC, DOCX, or PDF.

Volunteer_Hours.pdf

Is this a single year request or a request for funding for multiple years?	Single Year

Has your project/program received funding from the Community Enhancement & Investment Fund previously?	No
	3 - Project/Program Details Grant applications are typically approved to occur between July 2026 through June 2027. What is your plan to complete this project/program within this time frame?
Anticipated Start Date (July 1 is the soonest available start date)	7/1/2026
Anticipated End Date (typically projects/programs end by June 30)	9/16/2026
Please describe your project/program schedule	Weeks 1-2 • Confirm grant award, finalize agreement with mural artist, and review project scope Week 3-4 • Artist develops and finalizes mural extension design to ensure continuity with the existing mural Week 5 • Site preparation planning, materials ordering, and scheduling of equipment Week 6 • Wall preparation including cleaning, priming, and minor surface repairs Weeks 7-9 • Painting and installation of the mural extension Week 10 • Final detailing, protective coating application, and project completion Week 11 • Project review and documentation (photos, communication to community

What challenges do you anticipate in your project/program's implementation? What is your plan to complete your project/program should those or other challenges arise?	A potential challenge would come with coordinating with the Sacramento City Unified School's facilities department. We have established a relationship with them with the last mural project and have learned to successfully navigate their process. We believe we will be able to streamline this process for this project.
How many individuals does your project/program serve?	400 students plus neighborhood community.
How many Rancho Cordova residents does your project/program serve?	400 students plus neighborhood community.
	4 - Project/Program Location
Address Verification	If you need to check if your project is in Rancho Cordova, type in your program/project's location in the Assessor Parcel Viewer: https://assessorparcelviewer.saccounty.gov/jsviewer/assessor.html

School and park related applications are due before Noon (12:00 p.m.) on March 6, 2026, to allow for the endorsement process.	Please note that projects or programs that are proposed on property owned or operated by outside agencies or a private party will require coordination with and potentially approvals from outside agencies, organizations, and/or the private party. Include whether you have received a letter of support for the project/program from the property owner. Upload any letters of support with your application. City staff will verify third-party permits have been discussed. In your planning discussions, be sure to discuss any necessary insurance or volunteer requirements that may increase budget costs. School Sites If your project/program is intended to operate at a public K-12 school site, your application is due by March 6 at Noon (12:00 p.m.). City staff will work with the school districts to confirm an endorsement for your project/program. It's the applicant's responsibility to communicate with school site and district representatives before applying so there is clarity during the endorsement process. Districts will only consider endorsement for applications submitted to the Community Enhancement & Investment Fund by the March 6 at Noon (12:00 p.m.). deadline. Each participating school superintendent reserves the right to withhold their endorsement of a project/program. Parks If your project/program is intended to operate at a park or community center site, your application is due by the March 6 at Noon (12:00 p.m.). deadline. City staff will work with the Cordova Recreation & Park District to confirm an endorsement for your project/program. It's the applicant's responsibility to communicate with district representatives before applying so there is clarity during the endorsement process. A special use permit application is required for any program or event planned at a CRPD facility. The special use application can be found at the CRPD website: https://www.cordovarpd.gov/. CRPD will only consider endorsement for applications submitted to the Community Enhancement & Investment Fund by the March 6 at Noon (12:00 p.m.). deadline. The Cordova Recreation & Park District reserves the right to withhold their endorsement of a project/program. Below is the list of staff to communicate with at school and park organizations: Folsom Cordova Unified School District: mwest@fcusd.org Cordova Recreation & Park District: cmichelotti@cordovarpd.gov Elk Grove Unified School District: mgulden@egusd.net Sacramento City Unified School District: Tuan-Duong@scusd.edu for Winn and Carver and Enrique-Flores@scusd.edu for Lincoln.
Primary street address of project/program	3351 Explorer Dr. Sacramento, CA 95827
List the city location of the project/program.	A.M. Winn EK-8 Public Waldorf School
Select State	CA
Provide the zip code for your project/program's primary location.	95827

If your project/program takes place at multiple locations, please list other or secondary locations.	
Third Party Letters of Support (Note: Combine multiple files in one pdf before uploading)	
Does your project/program involve one of Rancho Cordova's school districts?	Yes
Is the project/program requesting facility use only or is this a request to partner with the school district?	Facility Use Only. Visit the school district website for facility use information.
Please select all the school districts which your project/program intends to involve:	Sacramento City USD
Please select one or more of the Sacramento City Unified School District school facilities which your project/program will involve:	A.M. Winn EK-8 School
Have you reached out to a contact at the school(s) you indicated above?	Yes
Please provide the names of your contacts at the school(s) or district(s) who are familiar with your project/program.	Nisha Turturici, Principal

Does your project/program involve the Cordova Recreation & Park District?	No
	5 - Applicant Information
Name	Katie Smith
Is this project/program on behalf of an organization?	Yes
What is the name of your organization?	A.M. Winn Community Guild
What is your title and/or role at your organization?	Vice Chair
Provide contact phone number:	[redacted]
Provide contact email:	[redacted]
Are you the primary point of contact on this project/program?	Yes
If your project/program was awarded the requested funds, are you authorized to sign the contract for your organization?	No, someone else would sign the contract
If selected by the City Council to receive an award, what is the name of the person at your organization who would sign the contract?	Kris Adams
What is the title of this individual?	Treasurer

What is the best phone number where we could contact the signatory?	[redacted]
What is the best email address to contact the signatory?	[redacted]
By checking here, I confirm that I am aware that my application materials will become public record.	checked
	Thank you for applying to the Community Enhancement & Investment Fund Fiscal Year 2026-2027 Grant Cycle. Applicants will receive an automated response through the grant portal. Community Enhancement & Investment Fund (CEIF) Staff will follow up with any questions regarding your Fiscal Year 2026-2027 application. For information about the next steps in the CEIF grant process, visit our website for more information. It is anticipated that applications will be reviewed by the City Council starting in April 2026 with adoption in June 2026. Should applicants be awarded by the City Council, funding would not be available to grantees until the start of Fiscal Year 2026-2027 and the completion of a contract. Please send an email to CEIFGrants@cityofranchocordova.org with any questions or comments.

Internal Form

Score	n/a

Estimated Project Budget- Mural Extension Project

Category	Description	Amount
Artist Fee (Labor/Salaries)	Design work, planning, surface layout, and painting of the mural extension	$9,000
Materials & Supplies	Exterior mural paints, sealant/anti-graffiti coating, brushes, rollers, drop cloths, prep supplies	$3,000
Equipment	Lift/scaffolding rental, ladders, safety equipment	$1,500
Surface Preparation	Wall cleaning, priming, repair materials	$1,500
Volunteer Parent Hours	Volunteer support for project coordination and site assistance	$0
Project Total		$15,000

Volunteer Hours	Hourly Rate	Total In-Kind Value
15 hours	$34.75	$521.25
16 hours	$34.75	$556.00
17 hours	$34.75	$590.75
18 hours	$34.75	$625.50
19 hours	$34.75	$660.25
20 hours	$34.75	$695.00
21 hours	$34.75	$729.75
22 hours	$34.75	$764.50
23 hours	$34.75	$799.25
24 hours	$34.75	$834.00
25 hours	$34.75	$868.75
26 hours	$34.75	$903.50
27 hours	$34.75	$938.25
28 hours	$34.75	$973.00
29 hours	$34.75	$1,007.75
30 hours	$34.75	$1,042.50

2. Application Withdrawn

Title

Hummingbird Theatre Company's 2026-2027 Season

03/12/2026

id. 53474322

by **Danielle Mercado** in **Fiscal Year 2026-2027 Community Enhancement & Investment Fund Grant Application**

[redacted]
Rancho Cordova, California
95742
United States
[redacted]

Original Submission

03/12/2026

Score n/a

	Thank you for your interest in applying to the City of Rancho Cordova's Community Enhancement & Investment Fund. Applications are open from February 9, 2026, to March 13, 2026, Noon (12:00 p.m.) with a specific deadline of March 6th Noon (12:00 p.m.) for certain applications**. Before you begin, please read the notes about deadlines and certain types of grant applications/grants below. **School/Park Application Deadline **Note that projects or programs involving a park or school district have a deadline of March 6 Noon (12:00 p.m.) to allow for the third-party endorsement process by the grant deadline.** A Note about Religious Schools and the Application/Grant Process **Note for grant applications from religious schools. The United States Supreme Court has recently ruled in part that: “denying a generally available benefit [from government] solely on account of religious identity imposes a penalty on the free exercise of religion that can be justified only by a state interest of the highest order.” The City is of the opinion that not all grants to religious schools are prohibited under this and other similar rulings. However, these United States Supreme Court decisions remain in conflict with a section of the California State Constitution that says: “[n]either the Legislature, nor any county, city and county, township, school district, or other municipal corporation, shall ever make an appropriation, or pay from any public fund whatever, or grant anything to or in aid of any religious sect, church, creed, or sectarian purpose, or help to support or sustain any school, college, university, hospital, or other institution controlled by any religious creed, church, or sectarian denomination whatever; nor shall any grant or donation of personal property or real estate ever be made by the state, or any city, city and county, town, or other municipal corporation for any religious creed, church, or sectarian purpose whatever”. The City will accept applications for grants of these City public funds from religious schools, but will have language in the grant agreements to address the possibility and consequences of legal challenges and new court decisions on this and related topics. ** Future Grant Opportunities If you are interested in remaining up-to-date on available grants from the City of Rancho Cordova, click here to sign up for the Grants Interest List. A separate call for programming opportunities with the Rancho Cordova Youth Center is anticipated later in 2026. The list is also used to advertise separate art programs when funds are available. Ongoing Grant Opportunity The City of Rancho Cordova offers a microgrant opportunity. Learn more about those grants online.
Is this your first time applying for grant funding from the City of Rancho Cordova? As a first-time applicant, Community Enhancement & Investment Fund (CEIF) staff will contact you to discuss your project and grant application process.	No: Not a First Time Applicant

	1 - Project/Program Information Note: You can add a collaborator to this form to assist you in completing this application! A collaborator can help you complete this form by filling in fields for you, although only you can submit this form. You can add a collaborator by navigating to the top of the form and clicking on the 'Manage Collaborators' button. Simply enter their email address and click 'invite' to invite them as a collaborator. If you need further assistance, you may consult this Help article for more information.
Project/Program Name. Assign a project name to your project/program.	Hummingbird Theatre Company's 2026-2027 Season
Which category does your Project/Program align with?	Arts, Culture, History, & Entertainment
Provide a Project/Program Synopsis	As Rancho Cordova's resident community theatre, we want to make storytelling available for all. Our motto is "Theatre for the People". We believe in engaging audiences with performances that not only make them reflect thoughtfully, laugh longer, and feel more, but also inspire pride in their hometown of Rancho Cordova.
Provide a Project/Program Description	For our proposed 2026-2027 Season, we put forth three incredible shows. First in the Fall we have Oscar Wide's "The Importance of Being Earnest", in Spring we have the romantic "Shakespeare In Love", and in Summer we have a revival of "Rock of Ages". The Importance of Being Earnest is a classic stage comedy that was penned by the famous Oscar Wilde. Filled with witty banter and ridiculous scenarios, this is a delightful stage play about strict Victorian morality, romance, and mistaken identities. "Shakespeare In Love" explores William Shakespeare as a young man. Cursed with writers block, he desperately searches for inspiration when he meets a young man named Thomas... Or is it really a woman named Viola just trying to get stage time? Anyway, they begin a love affair and Will writes his best seller- "Romeo & Juliet". It received the 2015 Olivier Award for Best New Comedy. "Rock of Ages" is an 80's Rock Jukebox musical- which means everyone knows all the songs. Featuring classics like, "I Wanna Rock", "Sister Christian", "Pour Some Sugar On Me", and "We Built This City on Rock & Roll"- we played this 2 years ago to completely sold out crowds. We even sold out of tickets before the show began. We'd like to come back, with most of our original cast, to once again melt your face off with live music and the power of Rock & Roll.

Tell us about your Project/Program Team	Our project will continue to put Rancho Cordova on the map as a city who invests in its artists. Because of this funding, Hummingbird Theatre Co has become a high-value company that produces excellent quality work. Actors from the Sacramento region are driving from Davis and Woodland to be a part of our company, even when there are other theatre companies in their local area. Our project team includes: Danielle Mercado, Diane Standring, Jarod Wiggins, Sarah Feuerbach,Tom Colburn, Rick Kirlin, Kat Folsom, Joe Sauvageau, Jennifer Reeves, Doug Wilcox & Shannon Benn.
Provide your Project/Program Goals	Our goals are to provide arts and educational entertainment in the form of performance arts. We want to create incredible art and share this very collaborative and inspirational art form with local performers, technicians, musicians, as well as the community. We want to invite students to educational theatre and do talk backs with students and teachers. We want to provide excitement about culture and nightlife in Rancho Cordova and give the people here somewhere to go on a Friday night to have fun. We also want to reinvigorate our City's reputation to providing beautiful, enriching experiences and build community pride. We can measure metrics through audience attendance (tickets sold, seat occupancy rate, # of sold out performances, growth in audience attendance) audience engagement (social media engagement, audience talk backs, number of repeat attendees across the season, & post show surveys), Community outreach (discounted student tickets, creating partnerships) and artistic impact (surveys, reviews- Local and personal, news outlets, etc) As a company, we maintain excellent focus. Years of working together (funded and not) have built great relationships and processes of doing things. We have a breakdown of each category and work to check our tick boxes so that we are always on time and deliver and incredible project. We also have company post show reviews where we discuss what we can do better the next show, and then implement it.

Optional File Upload: Provide any additional records to supplement your program/project application. Note: Combine multiple files in one pdf before uploading.

Grant_Cycle_2026.pdf

	2 - Funding & Costs
Funding Request - Complete this section with total dollar amounts for your project/program's costs	Funds are generally not intended to be used for deferred maintenance and ongoing operational needs. The funds are intended for enhancing and investing in the City of Rancho Cordova. If your project/program is awarded, the costs identified below would be reviewed and potentially open to modification during a contracting phase (if a grant is awarded by the City Council). If awarded, grant funds are not available until a contract is executed during Fiscal Year 2026-2027.
Total project/program cost*	130192

What is the amount of Community Enhancement & Investment Fund grant monies requested?	130192
Does your project/program involve construction of any facilities or improvements upon any property?	No
What is the total cost of personnel for your project/program?	51800
What is the total cost of supplies for your project/program?	53313
What is the total cost of transportation for your project/program?	0
What is the total cost of equipment for your project/program?	6000
What is the total cost of any miscellaneous expenses for your project/program?	13076

Upload your project/program's budget as a .pdf file. Include the categories and their dollar amounts along with information about any other funding sources to demonstrate your project/program's total budget. Note, the sum of all categories must match the total project or program cost, or the amount requested of CEIF if there is no other funding source. Please clearly illustrate any matching funds or funding from other sources in your project/program budget, including in-kind sources. Note: Combine multiple files in one pdf before uploading.

Grant_Cycle_2026.pdf

Has your organization sought or will seek other funding for this project/program?	Yes, actively seeking funding support or have secured additional funding support for this project/program.

Describe any funding secured or being sought for this project/program.	We are seeking space to be donated or provided at a lower cost to help with expenses for rehearsal/ performance space. We are seeking donors/providers for print materials as well.
Please describe any ongoing operations and maintenance costs beyond Fiscal Year 2026/2027, if applicable.	NA
Do you have volunteer or in-kind support for your project? This could include volunteers for an activity/event that is ongoing or a one-time experience.	Yes
Please share the total dollar amount for volunteer/in-kind support using $34.79 as the national rate for a volunteer hour. Source: Value of Volunteer Time	102421.76

Please provide a worksheet explaining your volunteer/in-kind contribution. You may upload a file in the following formats: CSV, DOC, DOCX, or PDF.

Grant_Cycle_2026.pdf

Is this a single year request or a request for funding for multiple years?	Single Year
Has your project/program received funding from the Community Enhancement & Investment Fund previously?	Yes

How many years has your project/program received funding from the Community Enhancement & Investment Fund?	3
How much funding has your organization received from the Community Enhancement & Investment Fund through our traditional grants (not including microgrants)?	Approximately $196,000
	3 - Project/Program Details Grant applications are typically approved to occur between July 2026 through June 2027. What is your plan to complete this project/program within this time frame?
Anticipated Start Date (July 1 is the soonest available start date)	7/31/2026
Anticipated End Date (typically projects/programs end by June 30)	6/27/2027
Please describe your project/program schedule	"The Importance of Being Earnest" Auditions Aug 2026- Shows November 2026 "Shakespeare In Love" Auditions December 2026- Shows March 2027 "Rock of Ages" Auditions March 2027- Shows June 2027
What challenges do you anticipate in your project/program's implementation? What is your plan to complete your project/program should those or other challenges arise?	We always run into challenges with securing space, but multiple avenues are currently being discussed and already underway. I have an incredible team and we are always able to overcome any problems that arise.
How many individuals does your project/program serve?	One show generates around 700 people served. 3 shows would generate around 2100

How many Rancho Cordova residents does your project/program serve?	Many, as audiences and actors make up about half of our program.
	4 - Project/Program Location
Address Verification	If you need to check if your project is in Rancho Cordova, type in your program/project's location in the Assessor Parcel Viewer: https://assessorparcelviewer.saccounty.gov/jsviewer/assessor.html
School and park related applications are due before Noon (12:00 p.m.) on March 6, 2026, to allow for the endorsement process.	Please note that projects or programs that are proposed on property owned or operated by outside agencies or a private party will require coordination with and potentially approvals from outside agencies, organizations, and/or the private party. Include whether you have received a letter of support for the project/program from the property owner. Upload any letters of support with your application. City staff will verify third-party permits have been discussed. In your planning discussions, be sure to discuss any necessary insurance or volunteer requirements that may increase budget costs. School Sites If your project/program is intended to operate at a public K-12 school site, your application is due by March 6 at Noon (12:00 p.m.). City staff will work with the school districts to confirm an endorsement for your project/program. It's the applicant's responsibility to communicate with school site and district representatives before applying so there is clarity during the endorsement process. Districts will only consider endorsement for applications submitted to the Community Enhancement & Investment Fund by the March 6 at Noon (12:00 p.m.). deadline. Each participating school superintendent reserves the right to withhold their endorsement of a project/program. Parks If your project/program is intended to operate at a park or community center site, your application is due by the March 6 at Noon (12:00 p.m.). deadline. City staff will work with the Cordova Recreation & Park District to confirm an endorsement for your project/program. It's the applicant's responsibility to communicate with district representatives before applying so there is clarity during the endorsement process. A special use permit application is required for any program or event planned at a CRPD facility. The special use application can be found at the CRPD website: https://www.cordovarpd.gov/. CRPD will only consider endorsement for applications submitted to the Community Enhancement & Investment Fund by the March 6 at Noon (12:00 p.m.). deadline. The Cordova Recreation & Park District reserves the right to withhold their endorsement of a project/program. Below is the list of staff to communicate with at school and park organizations: Folsom Cordova Unified School District: mwest@fcusd.org Cordova Recreation & Park District: cmichelotti@cordovarpd.gov Elk Grove Unified School District: mgulden@egusd.net Sacramento City Unified School District: Tuan-Duong@scusd.edu for Winn and Carver and Enrique-Flores@scusd.edu for Lincoln.

Primary street address of project/program	2300 Mine Shaft Ln, Rancho Cordova, Ca 95742
List the city location of the project/program.	2300 Mine Shaft Ln, Rancho Cordova, Ca 95742
Select State	CA
Provide the zip code for your project/program's primary location.	95742
If your project/program takes place at multiple locations, please list other or secondary locations.	
Third Party Letters of Support (Note: Combine multiple files in one pdf before uploading)	
Does your project/program involve one of Rancho Cordova's school districts?	No
Does your project/program involve the Cordova Recreation & Park District?	No
	5 - Applicant Information
Name	Danielle Mercado
Is this project/program on behalf of an organization?	Yes
What is the name of your organization?	Hummingbird Theatre Company

What is your title and/or role at your organization?	Artistic Director
Provide contact phone number:	[redacted]
Provide contact email:	[redacted]
Are you the primary point of contact on this project/program?	Yes
If your project/program was awarded the requested funds, are you authorized to sign the contract for your organization?	Yes, I would be the one to sign the contract
By checking here, I confirm that I am aware that my application materials will become public record.	checked
	Thank you for applying to the Community Enhancement & Investment Fund Fiscal Year 2026-2027 Grant Cycle. Applicants will receive an automated response through the grant portal. Community Enhancement & Investment Fund (CEIF) Staff will follow up with any questions regarding your Fiscal Year 2026-2027 application. For information about the next steps in the CEIF grant process, visit our website for more information. It is anticipated that applications will be reviewed by the City Council starting in April 2026 with adoption in June 2026. Should applicants be awarded by the City Council, funding would not be available to grantees until the start of Fiscal Year 2026-2027 and the completion of a contract. Please send an email to CEIFGrants@cityofranchocordova.org with any questions or comments.

Internal Form

Score	n/a

Hummingbird Theatre Company's 2026-2027 Season Budget Breakdown

2026 Rancho Cordova Community Enhancement & Investment Fund Application

CATEGORY- SHOW	COMEDY: **The Importance of Being Earnest** August 2026- November 2026	HISTORY: **Shakespeare in Love** December 2026- March 2027	MUSICAL: **Rock of Ages Revival** April 2026- June 2027
INSURANCE:			
TOTAL	**3500/year**	-	-
REHEARSAL & PERFORMANCE SPACE:			
Heartstoppers, Re-Nu, various	4000	4000	4000
TOTAL	**4000**	**4000**	**4000**
PRODUCTION EXPENSES:			
Rights, Scripts, Music, etc.	1800	3500	5000
Music/ Band	N/A	1000	3000
Costumes	1500	3000	2000
Props	1000	1000	500
Superior Self Storage- $293/mo	1,172	1,172	1,172
Sets	2500	3500	3500
Lights	3000	4000	4000
Sound (Mics, sound equipment)	2000	2000	2000
TOTAL	**$12,972**	**$19,172**	**$21,172**
ADVERTISING:			
Posters, flyers, cards, print	1000	1000	1000
Large Neighborhood signs	800	800	800

Online- Meta/ local papers: ads, social media boosts	1000	1000	1000
Canva- 12.99/mo	52	52	52
Wix- $20/mo	80	80	80
Eventbrite- $15/mo	60	60	60
Promo Photos	200	200	200
TOTAL	**$3,192**	**$3,192**	**$3,192**
STAFF:			
Artistic Director	2000	2000	2000
Producer	1500	1500	1500
Director	1500	1500	1500
Music Director	N/A	NA	1500
Band Director	NA	500	1000
Musicians	NA	4 @200= 800	4@600=2400
Tech Director	800	1200	1500
Technician	400	400	400x2= 800
Costumer	1000	1500	1200
Costume Assistant	200	700	300
Master Carpenter	1200	1500	1200
Stage Manager	600	800	800
Choreographer	N/A	800	1500
Fight Choreographer	N/A	700	N/A
Marketing Person	600	600	600
Accountant	600	600	600
Set Assistant	400	400	400
Scenic Painter	500	500	500

Actors	12x100= 1200	20 x 100=2000	20 x 100=2000
TOTAL	**$12,500**	**$18,000**	**$21,300**

SHOW	TOTALS	
The Importance of Being Earnest	32,664	
Shakespeare In Love	44,364	
Rock of Ages	49,664	
Insurance	3500	
		GRAND TOTAL $130,192

Expenditures	Estimate	Total
Rehearsal and Production Space	Rancho Cordova Library, Heartstoppers Haunted House, Elks Lodge, Amphitheatre, Re-New and Hawkins Dance Studio. Assumes rehearsal space costs $25/hr. If we are able to secure donated space, the program will realize savings. Importance of Being Earnest: 4,000 Shakespeare In Love: 4,000 Rock of Ages: 4,000	$12,000
Staff	Importance of Being Earnest: 12,500 Shakespeare In Love: 18,000 Rock of Ages: 21,300	$51,800
Production Expenses	Importance of Being Earnest: 12,972 Shakespeare In Love: 19,172 Rock of Ages: 21,172	$53,316
Miscellaneous Expenses	Importance of Being Earnest: 3,192 Shakespeare In Love: 3,192 Rock of Ages: 3,192 Yearly Insurance: 3500	$13,076
Estimated Expenses		$130,192
Revenues	Estimate	Total
City of Rancho Cordova Grant		$130,192
Donation of Rehearsal Space Assumes commitment of TE4TN, church, or other vacant commercial space		*$10,000 in kind*

Donation of Producing/Advising by Diane Standring	10 hours/month at $50/hour= $6,000	*$6,000 in kind*
Donation of Professional Services	Producing 400 hrs at $50/ hr = $20,000 Directing 310 hrs at $50/hr= $15,500 Dramaturgy 39 hrs at $50/hr= $1,950 Costuming 210 hrs at $50/hr= $10,500 Sewing 140 hrs at $25/hr= $3,500 Musical Directing 130 hrs at $50/hr= $6,500 Choreography 130 hrs at $50/hr= $6,500 Carpenter 70 hrs at $50/hr= $3,500 Set/Lighting Designer 75 hrs at $60/hr = $4,500 Skilled Building 212 hrs at $40/hr= $8,500 Fabricating Props/Sets 42 hrs at $60/hr= $2500 Acting $15/hr Comedy- 1500 per actor x 15 actors = $22500 Musical- $2,700 per actor x 25 actors = $67500 History- $1500 per actor x 20 actors = $30000 TOTAL ACTING = $93,000 Sound Design/Engineer 300 hrs at $25/hr= $7500 Advertising 68 hrs at $50/hr= $3,400 Graphic Design 40 hrs at $60/hr= $2,400 Print 133 hrs at $18/hr= $2,400 Secretarial 130 hrs at $20/hr= $2,600 Tech/ Manual Labor 115 hrs at $20/hr= $2,300 per person 2 on Musical, 1 on other productions = $9200 TOTAL IN KIND = $203,950 - $51,800 budgeted for Staff Stipends	*$203,950 in kind*
Production Revenues	(Ticket and concession sales) Importance of Being Earnest: 7500 Shakespeare In Love: 9000	$25,500*

	Rock of Ages: 9000 **Number may actually be less because fluctuating audience, and credit card/online processing fees* ***assumes ticket sales to support additional stipends, tech equipment, specialty items and coaching classes.*	
Estimated Total Revenues		$155,692

Title

My Musical Village: Rancho Cordova Community Music Initiative

03/06/2026

id. 53403974

by **Ariel Elliott** in **Fiscal Year 2026-2027 Community Enhancement & Investment Fund Grant Application**

[redacted]
RANCHO CORDOVA, California
95670
CA
United States
[redacted]
hello@mymusicalvillage.org

Original Submission

03/06/2026

Score n/a

	Thank you for your interest in applying to the City of Rancho Cordova's Community Enhancement & Investment Fund. Applications are open from February 9, 2026, to March 13, 2026, Noon (12:00 p.m.) with a specific deadline of March 6th Noon (12:00 p.m.) for certain applications**. Before you begin, please read the notes about deadlines and certain types of grant applications/grants below. **School/Park Application Deadline **Note that projects or programs involving a park or school district have a deadline of March 6 Noon (12:00 p.m.) to allow for the third-party endorsement process by the grant deadline.** A Note about Religious Schools and the Application/Grant Process **Note for grant applications from religious schools. The United States Supreme Court has recently ruled in part that: “denying a generally available benefit [from government] solely on account of religious identity imposes a penalty on the free exercise of religion that can be justified only by a state interest of the highest order.” The City is of the opinion that not all grants to religious schools are prohibited under this and other similar rulings. However, these United States Supreme Court decisions remain in conflict with a section of the California State Constitution that says: “[n]either the Legislature, nor any county, city and county, township, school district, or other municipal corporation, shall ever make an appropriation, or pay from any public fund whatever, or grant anything to or in aid of any religious sect, church, creed, or sectarian purpose, or help to support or sustain any school, college, university, hospital, or other institution controlled by any religious creed, church, or sectarian denomination whatever; nor shall any grant or donation of personal property or real estate ever be made by the state, or any city, city and county, town, or other municipal corporation for any religious creed, church, or sectarian purpose whatever”. The City will accept applications for grants of these City public funds from religious schools, but will have language in the grant agreements to address the possibility and consequences of legal challenges and new court decisions on this and related topics. ** Future Grant Opportunities If you are interested in remaining up-to-date on available grants from the City of Rancho Cordova, click here to sign up for the Grants Interest List. A separate call for programming opportunities with the Rancho Cordova Youth Center is anticipated later in 2026. The list is also used to advertise separate art programs when funds are available. Ongoing Grant Opportunity The City of Rancho Cordova offers a microgrant opportunity. Learn more about those grants online.
Is this your first time applying for grant funding from the City of Rancho Cordova? As a first-time applicant, Community Enhancement & Investment Fund (CEIF) staff will contact you to discuss your project and grant application process.	Yes: First Time Applicant

	1 - Project/Program Information Note: You can add a collaborator to this form to assist you in completing this application! A collaborator can help you complete this form by filling in fields for you, although only you can submit this form. You can add a collaborator by navigating to the top of the form and clicking on the 'Manage Collaborators' button. Simply enter their email address and click 'invite' to invite them as a collaborator. If you need further assistance, you may consult this Help article for more information.
Project/Program Name. Assign a project name to your project/program.	My Musical Village: Rancho Cordova Community Music Initiative
Which category does your Project/Program align with?	Arts, Culture, History, & Entertainment
Provide a Project/Program Synopsis	My Musical Village connects Rancho Cordova families through joyful music experiences. The program provides early childhood music classes, family-friendly concerts with local musicians, and workshops for caregivers and educators. These activities support child development, strengthen community connections, and create accessible opportunities for families to engage with live music.
Provide a Project/Program Description	My Musical Village is a community centered music program designed to connect Rancho Cordova families through joyful musical experiences while supporting early childhood development, local musicians, and local businesses. The program provides accessible opportunities for families with young children to experience music as a tool for learning, connection, and community engagement. Through developmentally informed music classes, community music gatherings, and family friendly concerts, My Musical Village creates welcoming environments where children and caregivers can participate in shared music making experiences. Programming will include early childhood music classes hosted at family centered businesses and community spaces throughout Rancho Cordova. These classes help activate local venues while introducing families to businesses that serve the community. The program will also offer family friendly live music events featuring local musicians performing accessible sets designed for children and caregivers to enjoy together. Additional workshops will be offered for parents, educators, and childcare providers to provide practical tools for using music and movement to support children’s emotional regulation, creativity, and social development. By partnering with local businesses, musicians, and community organizations, My Musical Village strengthens community pride while expanding access to arts education for young children.

Tell us about your Project/Program Team	**Ariel Elliott – Founder & Program Facilitator** Ariel Elliott is an early childhood educator, music teacher, and behavioral care specialist with over fifteen years of experience creating playful, developmentally informed learning environments for children and families. Through My Musical Village, Ariel designs and facilitates music programs that integrate rhythm, movement, and community connection to support early childhood development. Community partnerships may include local businesses, musicians, and family-centered organizations within Rancho Cordova.
Provide your Project/Program Goals	**Goal 1 – Expand access to early childhood arts programming** Provide accessible music and movement experiences for Rancho Cordova families by hosting **30–40 music classes and community sessions** during the program year. **Goal 2 – Strengthen community connection through music** Create welcoming shared music experiences for families by facilitating **multiple community gatherings and family-friendly music events** that encourage participation and interaction. **Goal 3 – Support local musicians and businesses** Partner with Rancho Cordova businesses and musicians to host **live music events and music classes** that increase community engagement and support the local creative economy. **Goal 4 – Promote music as a developmental tool for families** Provide caregivers and educators with **practical music-based tools** they can use at home or in classrooms to support emotional regulation, creativity, and learning.
Optional File Upload: Provide any additional records to supplement your program/project application. Note: Combine multiple files in one pdf before uploading.	
	2 - Funding & Costs
Funding Request - Complete this section with total dollar amounts for your project/program's costs	Funds are generally not intended to be used for deferred maintenance and ongoing operational needs. The funds are intended for enhancing and investing in the City of Rancho Cordova. If your project/program is awarded, the costs identified below would be reviewed and potentially open to modification during a contracting phase (if a grant is awarded by the City Council). If awarded, grant funds are not available until a contract is executed during Fiscal Year 2026-2027.
Total project/program cost*	15400

What is the amount of Community Enhancement & Investment Fund grant monies requested?	15400
Does your project/program involve construction of any facilities or improvements upon any property?	No
What is the total cost of personnel for your project/program?	10200
What is the total cost of supplies for your project/program?	1200
What is the total cost of transportation for your project/program?	0
What is the total cost of equipment for your project/program?	2000
What is the total cost of any miscellaneous expenses for your project/program?	2000

Upload your project/program's budget as a .pdf file. Include the categories and their dollar amounts along with information about any other funding sources to demonstrate your project/program's total budget. Note, the sum of all categories must match the total project or program cost, or the amount requested of CEIF if there is no other funding source. Please clearly illustrate any matching funds or funding from other sources in your project/program budget, including in-kind sources. Note: Combine multiple files in one pdf before uploading.

my_musical_village_outreach_budget.pdf

Has your organization sought or will seek other funding for this project/program?	Yes, actively seeking funding support or have secured additional funding support for this project/program.

Describe any funding secured or being sought for this project/program.	Community partnerships, small program fees, and in-kind venue support from local businesses may contribute additional support for the program.
Please describe any ongoing operations and maintenance costs beyond Fiscal Year 2026/2027, if applicable.	Some programming may continue beyond the grant period through community partnerships, program fees, and collaborations with local businesses and organizations that host family-centered programming.
Do you have volunteer or in-kind support for your project? This could include volunteers for an activity/event that is ongoing or a one-time experience.	No
Is this a single year request or a request for funding for multiple years?	Single Year
Has your project/program received funding from the Community Enhancement & Investment Fund previously?	No
	3 - Project/Program Details Grant applications are typically approved to occur between July 2026 through June 2027. What is your plan to complete this project/program within this time frame?
Anticipated Start Date (July 1 is the soonest available start date)	7/1/2026
Anticipated End Date (typically projects/programs end by June 30)	6/30/2027

Please describe your project/program schedule	The My Musical Village Community Music Initiative will take place between July 2026 and June 2027. Programming will occur throughout the year and will include a combination of recurring music classes, community music gatherings, and family friendly live music events hosted at partner businesses and community spaces within Rancho Cordova. Early childhood music and movement classes will be offered on a regular basis through collaborations with local family centered businesses and organizations. These classes provide structured music experiences for young children and their caregivers while introducing families to local community spaces. Throughout the year, My Musical Village will also host family friendly live music events featuring local musicians performing sets designed to be accessible and engaging for children and caregivers. These events create opportunities for families to experience live music together while supporting local artists. Workshops for parents, educators, and childcare providers may also be offered periodically to share practical tools for using music and movement to support children's emotional regulation, creativity, and social development. Program scheduling will remain flexible to allow for collaboration with community partners and to respond to interest from Rancho Cordova families and organizations.
What challenges do you anticipate in your project/program's implementation? What is your plan to complete your project/program should those or other challenges arise?	Possible challenges include coordinating schedules with partner venues, building consistent attendance while the program grows, and organizing logistics for community music events that involve musicians and families with young children. To address these challenges, My Musical Village will collaborate closely with partner businesses and community organizations to plan programming well in advance. Events will be promoted through local community groups, social media, and partnerships with family-serving organizations in Rancho Cordova. Programming formats are intentionally flexible so that events can adapt to different group sizes while still providing engaging musical experiences for participating families.
How many individuals does your project/program serve?	600+
How many Rancho Cordova residents does your project/program serve?	450+

4 - Project/Program Location

Address Verification	If you need to check if your project is in Rancho Cordova, type in your program/project's location in the Assessor Parcel Viewer: https://assessorparcelviewer.saccounty.gov/jsviewer/assessor.html
School and park related applications are due before Noon (12:00 p.m.) on March 6, 2026, to allow for the endorsement process.	Please note that projects or programs that are proposed on property owned or operated by outside agencies or a private party will require coordination with and potentially approvals from outside agencies, organizations, and/or the private party. Include whether you have received a letter of support for the project/program from the property owner. Upload any letters of support with your application. City staff will verify third-party permits have been discussed. In your planning discussions, be sure to discuss any necessary insurance or volunteer requirements that may increase budget costs. School Sites If your project/program is intended to operate at a public K-12 school site, your application is due by March 6 at Noon (12:00 p.m.). City staff will work with the school districts to confirm an endorsement for your project/program. It's the applicant's responsibility to communicate with school site and district representatives before applying so there is clarity during the endorsement process. Districts will only consider endorsement for applications submitted to the Community Enhancement & Investment Fund by the March 6 at Noon (12:00 p.m.). deadline. Each participating school superintendent reserves the right to withhold their endorsement of a project/program. Parks If your project/program is intended to operate at a park or community center site, your application is due by the March 6 at Noon (12:00 p.m.). deadline. City staff will work with the Cordova Recreation & Park District to confirm an endorsement for your project/program. It's the applicant's responsibility to communicate with district representatives before applying so there is clarity during the endorsement process. A special use permit application is required for any program or event planned at a CRPD facility. The special use application can be found at the CRPD website: https://www.cordovarpd.gov/. CRPD will only consider endorsement for applications submitted to the Community Enhancement & Investment Fund by the March 6 at Noon (12:00 p.m.). deadline. The Cordova Recreation & Park District reserves the right to withhold their endorsement of a project/program. Below is the list of staff to communicate with at school and park organizations: Folsom Cordova Unified School District: mwest@fcusd.org Cordova Recreation & Park District: cmichelotti@cordovarpd.gov Elk Grove Unified School District: mgulden@egusd.net Sacramento City Unified School District: Tuan-Duong@scusd.edu for Winn and Carver and Enrique-Flores@scusd.edu for Lincoln.
Primary street address of project/program	[redacted]
List the city location of the project/program.	RANCHO CORDOVA
Select State	CA

Provide the zip code for your project/program's primary location.	95670
If your project/program takes place at multiple locations, please list other or secondary locations.	Address is for home offices. Programming may take place at multiple partner businesses and community spaces throughout Rancho Cordova that host family-centered programming and community events.
Third Party Letters of Support (Note: Combine multiple files in one pdf before uploading)	
Does your project/program involve one of Rancho Cordova's school districts?	No
Does your project/program involve the Cordova Recreation & Park District?	Yes
Is the project/program requesting facility use only or is this a request to partner with the Cordova Recreation & Park District?	Facility Use Only. Visit Cordova Recreation & Park District's website for facility use information.
Please select one or more of the Cordova Recreation & Park District facilities which your project/program will involve:	Federspiel Park
Have you already discussed your project/program with staff at the Cordova Recreation & Park District?	No

What is your plan to engage the Cordova Recreation & Park District about your project/program?	I have sent an email so far.
	5 - Applicant Information
Name	Ariel Elliott
Is this project/program on behalf of an organization?	No
Provide contact phone number:	[redacted]
Provide contact email:	[redacted]
Are you the primary point of contact on this project/program?	Yes
If your project/program was awarded the requested funds, are you authorized to sign the contract for your organization?	Yes, I would be the one to sign the contract
By checking here, I confirm that I am aware that my application materials will become public record.	checked
	Thank you for applying to the Community Enhancement & Investment Fund Fiscal Year 2026-2027 Grant Cycle. Applicants will receive an automated response through the grant portal. Community Enhancement & Investment Fund (CEIF) Staff will follow up with any questions regarding your Fiscal Year 2026-2027 application. For information about the next steps in the CEIF grant process, visit our website for more information. It is anticipated that applications will be reviewed by the City Council starting in April 2026 with adoption in June 2026. Should applicants be awarded by the City Council, funding would not be available to grantees until the start of Fiscal Year 2026-2027 and the completion of a contract. Please send an email to CEIFGrants@cityofranchocordova.org with any questions or comments.

Internal Form

Score	n/a

My Musical Village – Rancho Cordova Community Music Initiative

Program Budget (July 2026 – June 2027)

This budget supports approximately 36 community music sessions and 2 family-friendly community concerts in Rancho Cordova. Costs include program facilitation, musician stipends, supplies, equipment, insurance, venue support, and community outreach.

Detailed Budget Breakdown

Category	Line Item	Calculation	Amount (USD)
Personnel	Community Music Class Facilitation	36 sessions × $150	$5,400
Personnel	Program Planning & Coordination	Scheduling, curriculum, outreach	$2,000
Personnel	Event Facilitation	2 concerts × $250	$500
Personnel	Local Musician Stipends	2 concerts × $400	$800
Personnel	Program Administration	Grant reporting & coordination	$1,500
Supplies	Music Class Materials	Scarves, rhythm instruments, props	$800
Supplies	Event & Craft Supplies	Community music event materials	$400
Equipment	Portable PA System & Microphones	Sound equipment for events	$2,000
Miscellaneous	General Liability Insurance	Annual policy	$700
Miscellaneous	Venue Honorariums	Partner venue support	$400
Miscellaneous	Marketing & Printing	Flyers, outreach materials	$900
TOTAL			**$15,400**

Funding Summary

Funding Source	Amount (USD)
Community Enhancement & Investment Fund Request	$15,400
TOTAL PROJECT COST	**$15,400**

5. Application Withdrawn

Title

Creative Wellness Series: Healing Through Art, Music and Mindfulness Meditation

03/11/2026

id. 53460384

by **Anu Aaltonen-Bond** in **Fiscal Year 2026-2027 Community Enhancement & Investment Fund Grant Application**

9719 Lincoln Village Drive
Suite 500
Sacramento, California
95827
United States
[redacted]

Original Submission

03/11/2026

Score n/a

	Thank you for your interest in applying to the City of Rancho Cordova's Community Enhancement & Investment Fund. Applications are open from February 9, 2026, to March 13, 2026, Noon (12:00 p.m.) with a specific deadline of March 6th Noon (12:00 p.m.) for certain applications**. Before you begin, please read the notes about deadlines and certain types of grant applications/grants below. **School/Park Application Deadline **Note that projects or programs involving a park or school district have a deadline of March 6 Noon (12:00 p.m.) to allow for the third-party endorsement process by the grant deadline.** A Note about Religious Schools and the Application/Grant Process **Note for grant applications from religious schools. The United States Supreme Court has recently ruled in part that: “denying a generally available benefit [from government] solely on account of religious identity imposes a penalty on the free exercise of religion that can be justified only by a state interest of the highest order.” The City is of the opinion that not all grants to religious schools are prohibited under this and other similar rulings. However, these United States Supreme Court decisions remain in conflict with a section of the California State Constitution that says: “[n]either the Legislature, nor any county, city and county, township, school district, or other municipal corporation, shall ever make an appropriation, or pay from any public fund whatever, or grant anything to or in aid of any religious sect, church, creed, or sectarian purpose, or help to support or sustain any school, college, university, hospital, or other institution controlled by any religious creed, church, or sectarian denomination whatever; nor shall any grant or donation of personal property or real estate ever be made by the state, or any city, city and county, town, or other municipal corporation for any religious creed, church, or sectarian purpose whatever”. The City will accept applications for grants of these City public funds from religious schools, but will have language in the grant agreements to address the possibility and consequences of legal challenges and new court decisions on this and related topics. ** Future Grant Opportunities If you are interested in remaining up-to-date on available grants from the City of Rancho Cordova, click here to sign up for the Grants Interest List. A separate call for programming opportunities with the Rancho Cordova Youth Center is anticipated later in 2026. The list is also used to advertise separate art programs when funds are available. Ongoing Grant Opportunity The City of Rancho Cordova offers a microgrant opportunity. Learn more about those grants online.
Is this your first time applying for grant funding from the City of Rancho Cordova? As a first-time applicant, Community Enhancement & Investment Fund (CEIF) staff will contact you to discuss your project and grant application process.	No: Not a First Time Applicant

	1 - Project/Program Information Note: You can add a collaborator to this form to assist you in completing this application! A collaborator can help you complete this form by filling in fields for you, although only you can submit this form. You can add a collaborator by navigating to the top of the form and clicking on the 'Manage Collaborators' button. Simply enter their email address and click 'invite' to invite them as a collaborator. If you need further assistance, you may consult this Help article for more information.
Project/Program Name. Assign a project name to your project/program.	Creative Wellness Series: Healing Through Art, Music and Mindfulness Meditation
Which category does your Project/Program align with?	Arts, Culture, History, & Entertainment
Provide a Project/Program Synopsis	Creative Wellness Series: Healing Through Art, Music and Mindfulness Meditation expands Ri-Nu Imagination's proven Healing Through the Arts program by integrating visual arts, healing through music, and mindfulness meditation. Free, weekly, art workshops promote emotional wellbeing, community connection, and accessible creative healing for Rancho Cordova residents.
Provide a Project/Program Description	Ri-Nu Imagination Community Arts Center proposes the Creative Wellness Series: Healing Through Art, Music & Mindfulness, an expanded community-based wellness program building on last year's successful CEIF-funded Healing Through the Arts initiative. This program provides free, creative wellness workshops for Rancho Cordova residents, integrating visual arts, healing through music, and mindfulness meditation to support emotional wellbeing, reduce social isolation, and strengthen community connection. During the previous funding cycle, Ri-Nu Imagination delivered weekly Healing Through the Arts workshops, serving residents experiencing grief, recovery, stress, and life transitions. Participant feedback demonstrated increased emotional regulation, reduced isolation, and a stronger sense of belonging. Based on this success and growing community demand, Ri-Nu is expanding the program to include healing through music, mindfulness practices, and additional weekly sessions, creating a more holistic Creative Wellness Series. The program will offer approximately 70–90 workshops annually, including visual art sessions, music-based healing experiences, and mindfulness integration. Workshops are facilitated by local teaching artists and wellness practitioners using inclusive, non-clinical approaches that welcome participants regardless of artistic experience. Activities include guided painting and mandala creation, rhythm and sound exploration, meditation, and reflective sharing. Each session emphasizes accessibility, creative expression, and connection in a supportive environment.

Healing Through Music is a new component this year, providing participants with opportunities to engage in rhythm, sound, and collaborative music experiences that support stress reduction and nervous system regulation. Mindfulness meditation is also newly incorporated, offering grounding techniques that complement the creative process and promote mental clarity. Together, these modalities serve residents who may struggle with traditional talk-based supports, offering alternative pathways to wellness.

The Creative Wellness Series directly aligns with Rancho Cordova's Community Enhancement & Investment Fund priorities by strengthening community wellbeing, increasing access to cultural programming, supporting local artists, and activating shared community spaces. The program is free to participants and intentionally designed to remove barriers to engagement. Ri-Nu provides art supplies, musical instruments, and participant support such as water and light refreshments, ensuring equitable access for individuals with limited financial resources.

Community benefit is central to this project. The program serves adults and seniors navigating grief, recovery, loneliness, and stress, while also welcoming caregivers and community members seeking connection. By creating consistent weekly programming, Ri-Nu offers a reliable gathering space that fosters relationships across cultures and life experiences. The Creative Wellness Series strengthens Rancho Cordova's social fabric by bringing residents together through creativity, shared experience, and mutual support.

Funding from CEIF will support teaching artist stipends, program coordination, supplies, musical instruments, insurance coverage, outreach, and documentation. A part-time program coordinator will manage scheduling, community outreach, reporting, and partnerships, ensuring program continuity and accountability. Local artists and facilitators are compensated for their work, contributing to the creative economy while modeling pathways for artistic leadership within the community.

Ri-Nu Imagination leverages CEIF investment through in-kind contributions including studio space, volunteer support, and administrative oversight. The organization also collaborates with community partners and healthcare-adjacent organizations to reach residents who benefit most from creative wellness programming. Program success will be measured through attendance tracking, participant feedback, and qualitative outcomes such as reduced isolation and increased sense of connection.

By expanding from a single-modality arts program into a multi-disciplinary

	Creative Wellness Series, Ri-Nu Imagination is building sustainable creative infrastructure that supports both individual healing and community resilience. CEIF funding enables this evolution, transforming a proven program into a comprehensive wellness initiative that enhances quality of life, supports local artists, and strengthens Rancho Cordova as a vibrant, connected community.
Tell us about your Project/Program Team	The Creative Wellness Series is developed and delivered by Ri-Nu Imagination Community Arts Center under the leadership of Executive Director Anu Aaltonen-Bond, with facilitation by local teaching artists and wellness practitioners. Ri-Nu brings extensive experience in community-based Healing Through the Arts programming, creative workshops, and collaborative partnerships. Anu provides program oversight, coordination, and fiscal management, drawing on her background in healthcare administration and trauma-informed care. Teaching artists lead visual art, music, and mindfulness sessions, while Ri-Nu coordinates outreach, supplies, accessibility, and evaluation to ensure consistent, high-quality programming for Rancho Cordova residents.
Provide your Project/Program Goals	The primary goal of the Creative Wellness Series: Healing Through Art, Music & Mindfulness is to improve emotional wellbeing and strengthen community connection among Rancho Cordova residents through accessible, trauma-informed creative programming. Goal 1: Expand access to creative wellness opportunities. Ri-Nu Imagination will provide consistent, free weekly workshops integrating visual art, healing through music, and mindfulness meditation. Metrics: • 70–90 workshops delivered annually • Number of participants served per session • Attendance consistency and repeat participation Goal 2: Support emotional wellbeing and reduce social isolation. Workshops are designed to promote stress reduction, emotional regulation, and a sense of belonging through creative expression and shared experience. Metrics: • Participant feedback collected through brief surveys and informal reflection

- Qualitative indicators such as reported stress reduction, increased connection, and participant testimonials
- Observed engagement and participation during sessions

Goal 3: Support local artists and creative professionals.

The program employs local teaching artists and facilitators, ensuring fair compensation and professional opportunities within Rancho Cordova's creative economy.

Metrics:

- Number of artists contracted
- Total artist stipends paid
- Number of sessions facilitated by local artists

Goal 4: Strengthen organizational capacity and program sustainability.

Ri-Nu will ensure effective coordination, outreach, and reporting to sustain and grow the program.

Metrics:

- Timely program delivery and reporting
- Documentation through photos and attendance records
- Successful partnerships and repeat community engagement

To remain focused, the project team meets regularly to review schedules, participation data, and feedback. Clear roles, consistent documentation, and ongoing evaluation ensure the program remains responsive to community needs and aligned with CEIF objectives.

Optional File Upload: Provide any additional records to supplement your program/project application. Note: Combine multiple files in one pdf before uploading.

IMG_1453.JPG

IMG_1415_2.jpg

IMG_1461.JPG

IMG_1420.jpg

IMG_1470.JPG

IMG_1584.jpg

IMG_1260.jpg

IMG_1464.JPG

IMG_1514.jpg

Elizabeth_E_Letter.pdf

	2 - Funding & Costs
Funding Request - Complete this section with total dollar amounts for your project/program's costs	Funds are generally not intended to be used for deferred maintenance and ongoing operational needs. The funds are intended for enhancing and investing in the City of Rancho Cordova. If your project/program is awarded, the costs identified below would be reviewed and potentially open to modification during a contracting phase (if a grant is awarded by the City Council). If awarded, grant funds are not available until a contract is executed during Fiscal Year 2026-2027.
Total project/program cost*	60000
What is the amount of Community Enhancement & Investment Fund grant monies requested?	50000
Does your project/program involve construction of any facilities or improvements upon any property?	No
What is the total cost of personnel for your project/program?	30000
What is the total cost of supplies for your project/program?	8000
What is the total cost of transportation for your project/program?	2000
What is the total cost of equipment for your project/program?	6000

What is the total cost of any miscellaneous expenses for your project/program?	4000

Upload your project/program's budget as a .pdf file. Include the categories and their dollar amounts along with information about any other funding sources to demonstrate your project/program's total budget. Note, the sum of all categories must match the total project or program cost, or the amount requested of CEIF if there is no other funding source. Please clearly illustrate any matching funds or funding from other sources in your project/program budget, including in-kind sources. Note: Combine multiple files in one pdf before uploading.

2027_Budget.pdf

Has your organization sought or will seek other funding for this project/program?	Yes, actively seeking funding support or have secured additional funding support for this project/program.
Describe any funding secured or being sought for this project/program.	Ri-Nu Imagination maintains a diversified funding model built on multiple financial pillars including grants, earned revenue through arts and creative wellness programming, individual giving, community sponsorships, and fundraising efforts. This multi-faceted approach strengthens organizational resilience while ensuring programs remain accessible to Rancho Cordova residents. Ri-Nu also leverages in-kind support including studio space, volunteer engagement, administrative leadership, and internship partnerships with CSU Sacramento and local work project programs to support workforce development and organizational capacity. Ri-Nu is guided by an active board and advisors with expertise in nonprofit leadership, marketing, small business development, and community engagement. Board members and advisors include visual artists, musicians, and therapists whose professional experience directly informs program design, outreach, and evaluation. This collaborative governance structure supports fiscal accountability, program effectiveness, and long-term community impact, ensuring CEIF investment is leveraged within a broader, sustainable framework.

Please describe any ongoing operations and maintenance costs beyond Fiscal Year 2026/2027, if applicable.	Ri-Nu Imagination intends for the Healing Through the Arts and Music Programming to continue as a sustainable community offering beyond the 2026–2027 grant period. Ongoing workshop costs will primarily include teaching artist stipends, art and music supplies, minor equipment maintenance or replacement, insurance, and program coordination. Many of the equipment purchases funded through this grant—such as sound equipment, microphones, and musical instruments—are durable items expected to serve the program for multiple years, significantly reducing long-term costs. Additionally, Ri-Nu Imagination maintains strong partnerships with local artists, volunteers, and community organizations who contribute in-kind support such as studio space, volunteer hours, and donated supplies. Future operational costs will be supported through a diversified funding strategy that includes additional grants, community sponsorships, small program fees when appropriate, donations, fundraising events, and continued in-kind support. This approach allows Ri-Nu Imagination to maintain and expand the Healing Through the Arts programming while keeping workshops accessible to underserved members of the Sacramento County community. Overall, ongoing maintenance costs are expected to remain modest and manageable due to the program's community partnership model and the durable equipment investments made through the CEIF funding.
Do you have volunteer or in-kind support for your project? This could include volunteers for an activity/event that is ongoing or a one-time experience.	Yes
Please share the total dollar amount for volunteer/in-kind support using $34.79 as the national rate for a volunteer hour. Source: Value of Volunteer Time	9748.2

Please provide a worksheet explaining your volunteer/in-kind contribution. You may upload a file in the following formats: CSV, DOC, DOCX, or PDF.

Volunteer_worksheet.pdf

Is this a single year request or a request for funding for multiple years?	Single Year

Has your project/program received funding from the Community Enhancement & Investment Fund previously?	Yes
How many years has your project/program received funding from the Community Enhancement & Investment Fund?	1
How much funding has your organization received from the Community Enhancement & Investment Fund through our traditional grants (not including microgrants)?	15,000
	3 - Project/Program Details Grant applications are typically approved to occur between July 2026 through June 2027. What is your plan to complete this project/program within this time frame?
Anticipated Start Date (July 1 is the soonest available start date)	7/1/2026
Anticipated End Date (typically projects/programs end by June 30)	6/30/2027
Please describe your project/program schedule	**Healing Through the Arts & Music Programming** Project Schedule and Timeline (CEIF Grant) Project Period: July 1, 2026 – June 30, 2027 **July – August 2026: Program Preparation and Outreach** During the initial phase, Ri-Nu Imagination will finalize workshop schedules, confirm teaching artists and music instructors, purchase art supplies and musical equipment, and conduct

outreach to Rancho Cordova residents and community partners. Outreach will include

collaboration with local nonprofits, wellness organizations, and community groups to identify

participants who would benefit from creative wellness programming.

September 2026 – May 2027: Program Implementation

The primary program phase will consist of weekly Healing Through the Arts and Music

workshops. Current Sunday workshops at Ri-Nu Imagination average approximately **25**

participants, demonstrating strong community interest. Additional Saturday workshops are

anticipated to serve a similar number of participants, expanding access to the program. Over

the course of the program year, Ri-Nu Imagination anticipates offering approximately **40–45**

workshops, serving an estimated **1,000–1,200 total participant visits**. Workshops integrate

visual arts, music exploration, rhythm and percussion activities, and collaborative creative

expression designed to support emotional wellness, stress reduction, and community

connection. Ri-Nu Imagination will also host community **open mic and creative gathering**

events where participants can share poetry, music, and spoken word. Based on current

participation patterns, approximately **80–85% of participants are expected to be Rancho**

Cordova residents, ensuring the program directly benefits the local community.

Research from organizations such as the World Health Organization and the National

Endowment for the Arts demonstrates that participation in arts programs can significantly

improve mental health by reducing stress, anxiety, and social isolation while strengthening

emotional resilience and community connection.

June 2027: Program Culmination and Evaluation

The final phase will include a community showcase and celebration event where participants

may share artwork and music created during the program. Ri-Nu Imagination will also

complete program evaluation, collect participant feedback, and prepare final reporting

documentation

Music Partnerships Supporting Healing Through Music

Ri-Nu Imagination collaborates with a network of local musicians and music advocates to support its Healing Through Music workshops, which use music as a tool for emotional wellness, creative expression, and community connection. Key partners include Gary Avila of The Foundry, who helps connect local musicians and performance opportunities; Maude Gilman of Musiclandria, a regional music advocate who brings extensive artist networks and community engagement; and Ri-Nu Imagination board members Ryan Thomas Nance and Casey Zacharias, both Board Members and musicians who help guide music programming and workshop development. Outreach to Rancho Cordova musicians for Instruction: priority.

Together, these partnerships create a strong community music ecosystem that allows Ri-Nu Imagination to offer artist-led workshops where participants explore rhythm, songwriting, and collaborative music-making as pathways to healing, confidence, and connection. Through these collaborations, the organization expands access to creative wellness programming and strengthens the role of music as a powerful tool for personal and community healing.

What challenges do you anticipate in your project/program's implementation? What is your plan to complete your project/program should those or other challenges arise?	Ri-Nu Imagination recognizes that community-based programming may encounter challenges related to participant scheduling, resource availability, and maintaining consistent engagement over the course of a year-long program. Because the Healing Through the Arts and Music Programming serves a diverse community with varying schedules and life circumstances, workshop attendance may fluctuate throughout the year. To address this, Ri-Nu Imagination already offers workshops on multiple days each week, including Tuesday, Saturday, and Sunday sessions, which are part of the organization's current programming schedule. These multiple offerings allow participants greater flexibility to attend workshops based on their availability and have already demonstrated strong community participation. Maintaining this schedule will help ensure consistent access and participation throughout the project period. Another potential challenge is the cost and availability of art supplies and musical equipment. To address this, Ri-Nu Imagination will purchase essential materials in advance and supplement supplies through donated materials and community contributions. The organization maintains strong relationships with local artists, volunteers, and community supporters who regularly contribute supplies and in-kind support. Maintaining consistent teaching artist availability may also present scheduling challenges. Ri-Nu Imagination works with a network of experienced local artists and musicians who can rotate workshop facilitation when necessary, ensuring continuity of programming. As with any community program, unexpected operational challenges may arise. Ri-Nu Imagination's leadership and volunteer team will regularly monitor participation, outreach efforts, and program logistics and will adjust workshop scheduling or programming activities as needed to ensure the program remains accessible and successful. Because the Healing Through the Arts workshops are already an established part of Ri-Nu Imagination's programming, the organization has the experience, partnerships, and community engagement necessary to successfully implement and sustain the program throughout the grant period.
How many individuals does your project/program serve?	1400 Programming includes 3–4 workshops per month, each serving approximately 25 participants, resulting in approximately 1,050 workshop participant visits annually. In addition, the program will host approximately 8 open mic community events, serving about 160 participants, and an annual art and music showcase event with approximately 200 attendees.)

How many Rancho Cordova residents does your project/program serve?	1190 (based on current participation patterns, approximately 85% of participants are Rancho Cordova residents)
	4 - Project/Program Location
Address Verification	If you need to check if your project is in Rancho Cordova, type in your program/project's location in the Assessor Parcel Viewer: https://assessorparcelviewer.saccounty.gov/jsviewer/assessor.html
School and park related applications are due before Noon (12:00 p.m.) on March 6, 2026, to allow for the endorsement process.	Please note that projects or programs that are proposed on property owned or operated by outside agencies or a private party will require coordination with and potentially approvals from outside agencies, organizations, and/or the private party. Include whether you have received a letter of support for the project/program from the property owner. Upload any letters of support with your application. City staff will verify third-party permits have been discussed. In your planning discussions, be sure to discuss any necessary insurance or volunteer requirements that may increase budget costs. School Sites If your project/program is intended to operate at a public K-12 school site, your application is due by March 6 at Noon (12:00 p.m.). City staff will work with the school districts to confirm an endorsement for your project/program. It's the applicant's responsibility to communicate with school site and district representatives before applying so there is clarity during the endorsement process. Districts will only consider endorsement for applications submitted to the Community Enhancement & Investment Fund by the March 6 at Noon (12:00 p.m.). deadline. Each participating school superintendent reserves the right to withhold their endorsement of a project/program. Parks If your project/program is intended to operate at a park or community center site, your application is due by the March 6 at Noon (12:00 p.m.). deadline. City staff will work with the Cordova Recreation & Park District to confirm an endorsement for your project/program. It's the applicant's responsibility to communicate with district representatives before applying so there is clarity during the endorsement process. A special use permit application is required for any program or event planned at a CRPD facility. The special use application can be found at the CRPD website: https://www.cordovarpd.gov/. CRPD will only consider endorsement for applications submitted to the Community Enhancement & Investment Fund by the March 6 at Noon (12:00 p.m.). deadline. The Cordova Recreation & Park District reserves the right to withhold their endorsement of a project/program. Below is the list of staff to communicate with at school and park organizations: Folsom Cordova Unified School District: mwest@fcusd.org Cordova Recreation & Park District: cmichelotti@cordovarpd.gov Elk Grove Unified School District: mgulden@egusd.net Sacramento City Unified School District: Tuan-Duong@scusd.edu for Winn and Carver and Enrique-Flores@scusd.edu for Lincoln.

Primary street address of project/program	9719 Lincoln Village Drive, Suite 500
List the city location of the project/program.	Sacramento
Select State	CA
Provide the zip code for your project/program's primary location.	95827
If your project/program takes place at multiple locations, please list other or secondary locations.	n/a

Third Party Letters of Support (Note: Combine multiple files in one pdf before uploading)

Letters_Recommendation.pdf

Does your project/program involve one of Rancho Cordova's school districts?	No
Does your project/program involve the Cordova Recreation & Park District?	No
	5 - Applicant Information
Name	Anu Aaltonen Bond
Is this project/program on behalf of an organization?	Yes
What is the name of your organization?	Ri-Nu Imagination
What is your title and/or role at your organization?	CEO/Founder

Provide contact phone number:	[redacted]
Provide contact email:	[redacted]
Are you the primary point of contact on this project/program?	Yes
If your project/program was awarded the requested funds, are you authorized to sign the contract for your organization?	Yes, I would be the one to sign the contract
By checking here, I confirm that I am aware that my application materials will become public record.	checked
	Thank you for applying to the Community Enhancement & Investment Fund Fiscal Year 2026-2027 Grant Cycle. Applicants will receive an automated response through the grant portal. Community Enhancement & Investment Fund (CEIF) Staff will follow up with any questions regarding your Fiscal Year 2026-2027 application. For information about the next steps in the CEIF grant process, visit our website for more information. It is anticipated that applications will be reviewed by the City Council starting in April 2026 with adoption in June 2026. Should applicants be awarded by the City Council, funding would not be available to grantees until the start of Fiscal Year 2026-2027 and the completion of a contract. Please send an email to CEIFGrants@cityofranchocordova.org with any questions or comments.

Internal Form

Score	n/a

Ri-Nu Imagination

Healing Through the Arts & Music Programming

Community Enhancement Investment Fund (CEIF) Budget

Project Period: July 2026 – June 2027

Total Project Cost: $60,000

CEIF Grant Request: $50,000

Matching / In-Kind Support: $10,000

Category	CEIF Funds	In-Kind Support	Total
Personnel (Program Director, Teaching Artists, Music Instructor)	$30,000	$5,000	$35,000
Supplies (art materials, canvases, paint, journals, percussion instruments)	$8,000	$2,000	$10,000
Transportation (community outreach, artist travel, supply pickup)	$2,000	$500	$2,500
Equipment (sound system, microphones,	$6,000	$1,000	$7,000

keyboard, recording equipment)			
Miscellaneous (insurance, marketing, printing, evaluation, events)	$4,000	$1,500	$5,500
TOTAL	$50,000	$10,000	$60,000

This budget supports Ri-Nu Imagination's Healing Through the Arts and Music Programming serving Rancho Cordova residents from July 2026 through June 2027. Programs include visual art workshops, music workshop sessions, and community performances designed to support emotional wellness, creative expression, and community connection. Personnel funds support teaching artists, music instructors, and program coordination. Supplies include visual art materials and musical instruments (others to be donated in-kind) used during workshops. Equipment purchases support instruments, musician supplies and recording equipment for classes and events. Transportation covers artist travel and outreach.

Miscellaneous costs include insurance, marketing, printing, and program evaluation. Ri-Nu Imagination contributes $10,000 in in-kind support including donated studio/community space, volunteer administrative hours, and donated art materials/music supplies.

City of Rancho Cordova
To Whom It May Concern,

My name is Elizabeth [redacted] and I wanted to share my personal experience with the Artists in Recovery class at Ri Nu Imagination. I attended this 12 week class this past August. This class came into my life at a time when I was struggling creatively, and it ended up helping me in ways I did not expect.

Before taking this class, I had been dealing with a long and frustrating creative block. For most of my life, I believed that my creativity only showed up during moments of chaos, when my emotions were intense or when my mind felt overloaded. When my life became quieter through recovery, it felt like that creative spark disappeared. I felt disconnected from a part of myself that once felt so natural.

Since my sobriety, I have struggled to create. It was not a lack of desire,but a feeling of not knowing how to reach that part of myself again. I worried that the creative version of me only existed in the past and that without chaos I might never find that spark again.

When I joined the class at Ri Nu Imagination, things began to shift for me, creatively. The room had an energy that felt warm, inspiring, and uplifting.

Being surrounded by other artists in recovery was motivating. It was exciting to see the different ideas that everyone brought to life. Watching others create made me want to create too. There was a sense of encouragement in the room and a great deal of inspiration.

Maria, who was leading the class helped guide us with prompts and she read to us as we created from the book “The Artist Way”. I felt a sense of peace in this class that I had not felt in a very long time. It helped me to see that art can come from peace just as much as it can come from chaos. It reminded me that creativity can grow in supportive environments, in shared experiences, and in moments where people lift each other up.

This class helped me reconnect with a part of myself I thought I had lost. It encouraged me to try new things such as painting, mixed media, and exploring different art mediums. It reminded me that creativity can rise from a peaceful place inside of myself

I also want to mention how meaningful it was that the program was offered through a nonprofit at no cost. I did not have to worry about paying for the class or buying new supplies, which was a huge help. Many people in recovery are already struggling with their finances, and removing that burden allows others in recovery to focus on healing and artistic expression.

I sincerely hope that Ri Nu Imagination can continue receiving funding. I have seen how much this program helps people in recovery. Art brings people together. It allows us to express emotions we often cannot describe with words. It helps us heal, rebuild confidence, and feel connected again. This program has helped me, and I know it has helped many others find their spark.

Ri Nu Imagination is an amazing asset to the community. What they offer goes far beyond art. It provides hope, connection, and a place where people can rediscover themselves in a supportive and encouraging space.

Sincerely,
Elizabeth [redacted]

Rancho Cordova Resident

[redacted]
Cheryl@cordovcouncil.org
www.rcmacc.org

10191 Mills Station Rd., Rancho Cordova, CA. 95827

To Whom It May Concern,

It is my sincere pleasure to write this letter of recommendation in support of Ri-Nu Imagination Community Arts Center and its founder and Executive Director, Anu Aaltonen-Bond.

As Director of The MACC, I have had the privilege of working alongside Anu for several years and witnessing firsthand her extraordinary dedication to building community through the arts. Anu brings a rare combination of creative vision, organizational leadership, and deep compassion to everything she does. Her work consistently centers people — especially those who are often underserved — and uses art as a bridge for healing, connection, and empowerment.

Ri-Nu Imagination has quickly become a meaningful creative hub in Rancho Cordova, offering accessible studio space, exhibitions, and community workshops that welcome artists of all backgrounds and skill levels. Through programs such as Healing Through the Arts, Ri-Nu provides safe, inclusive environments where individuals experiencing grief, recovery, trauma, or life transitions can express themselves creatively and find connection with others. These programs are thoughtfully designed and deeply impactful, helping participants regain confidence, process emotions, and build supportive relationships.

Anu's leadership extends far beyond programming. She actively collaborates with local artists, nonprofits, healthcare providers, and community organizations to create partnerships that strengthen the cultural fabric of the city. Under her guidance, Ri-Nu has hosted community art shows, healing workshops, and creative gatherings that bring together diverse populations and foster a true sense of belonging. Her ability to mobilize volunteers, engage artists, and cultivate meaningful relationships reflects both her professionalism and her heartfelt commitment to service.

What stands out most about Anu is her integrity and perseverance. She leads with humility, creativity, and purpose, often investing her own time and resources to ensure programs remain accessible to the community. Her background in healthcare administration further informs her trauma-informed approach, ensuring that Ri-Nu's offerings are not only artistic, but genuinely supportive of emotional and personal well-being.

THE MACC
Mills Station Arts & Culture Center

[redacted]
Cheryl@cordovcouncil.org
www.rcmacc.org

10191 Mills Station Rd., Rancho Cordova, CA. 95827

Ri-Nu Imagination is more than an arts organization — it is a community builder. Through exhibitions, workshops, and healing-centered programs, it creates spaces where people feel seen, valued, and inspired. Anu Aaltonen-Bond's leadership is the heart of this work, and her vision continues to positively shape Rancho Cordova's creative landscape.

I wholeheartedly recommend Ri-Nu Imagination Community Arts Center for funding consideration. Any organization would be fortunate to support such meaningful, community-driven work. Please feel free to contact me should you need any additional information.

Sincerely,

Cheryl Gleason
Director, The MACC

Soroptimist International of Rancho Cordova/Gold RiverPO Box 1814 Rancho Cordova, CA 95741([redacted] |
President@SoroptimistRanchoCordova.org https://soroptimistranchocordova.org/

February 10, 2026

To Whom It May Concern,

I am pleased to offer my wholehearted recommendation for **Ri-Nu Imagination** and its founder and director, **Anu Aaltonen-Bond**, in recognition of the extraordinary contributions the Community Art Center brings to our region.

Anu is an exceptional leader and dedicated professional who works tirelessly to support fellow nonprofits and community members. As President of Soroptimist International of Rancho Cordova/Gold River, I have had the pleasure of collaborating directly with her through community initiatives, workshops, and fundraising events hosted at Ri-Nu. These partnerships have benefited many individuals and organizations in meaningful ways. Soroptimist now hosts Paint & Sip events at Ri-Nu, for which we are deeply grateful; these have become highly successful fundraisers that also introduce new participants to the joy of creative expression.

Ri-Nu Imagination provides far more than art programming. It offers a welcoming, inclusive space where creativity becomes a pathway to healing, connection, and personal growth. Anu's *Healing Through the Arts* workshops create meaningful opportunities for people experiencing grief, recovery, trauma, or life transitions to express themselves, build confidence, and form supportive relationships. I have personally hosted and attended workshops at Ri-Nu and have witnessed participants leave feeling uplifted, empowered, and inspired—myself included.

Anu leads with heart, integrity, and vision. She has created a vibrant creative hub in Rancho Cordova that strengthens community bonds while providing accessible opportunities for artistic expression. Ri-Nu Imagination's exhibitions, workshops, and community gatherings foster a deep sense of belonging and elevate voices that might otherwise go unheard.

Ri-Nu Imagination is an invaluable asset to our community, and Anu Aaltonen-Bond's leadership is central to its success. I wholeheartedly recommend Ri-Nu Imagination for funding consideration. Any organization would be fortunate to support such impactful, community-centered work.

Please feel free to contact me if you need any additional information.

Sincerely,

Ingrid Rosten PresidentSoroptimist International of Rancho Cordova/Gold River

Volunteer / In-Kind Contribution Explanation

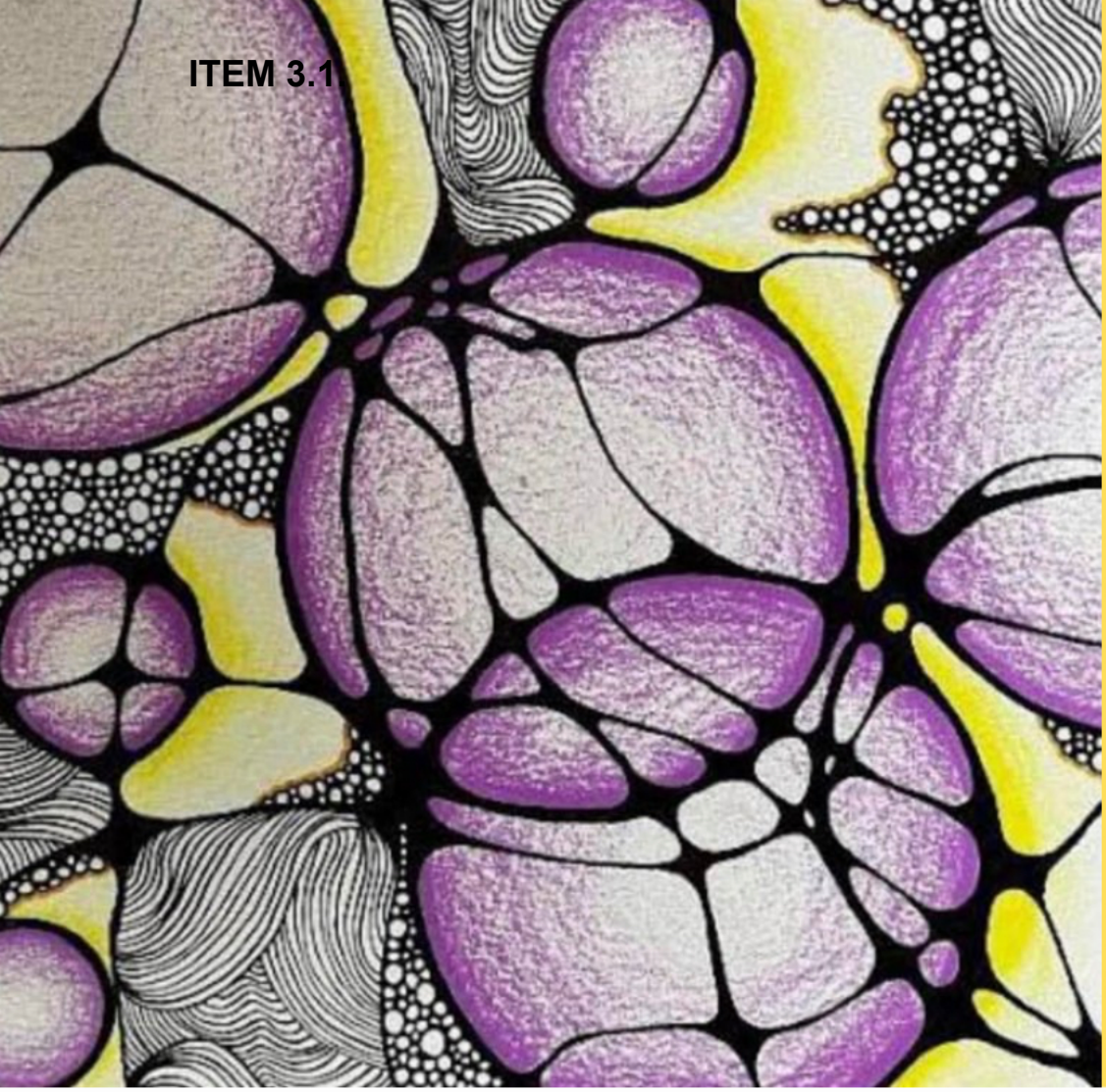
Ri-Nu Imagination benefits from the support of volunteers who assist with program coordination, workshop support, and community outreach activities related to the Healing Through the Arts and Music Programming.

For the July 2026 – June 2027 program period, Ri-Nu Imagination estimates 280 volunteer hours supporting the project. Using the Independent Sector national volunteer value rate of $34.79 per hour, the total estimated value of volunteer service equals $9,748.20.

These volunteer contributions include assistance from board members, community artists, and program volunteers who support workshop preparation, participant engagement, and event coordination.

The $9,748.20 volunteer contribution is included as in-kind support toward the overall project cost and demonstrates community investment in the success of Ri-Nu Imagination’s Healing Through the Arts and Music Programming.
Volunteer Worksheet:

Contribution Type	Hours	Hourly Rate	Total Value
Program Support Volunteers	120	$34.79	$4,174.80
Teaching Artist Assistants	80	$34.79	$2,783.20
Board Member & Administrative Support	50	$34.79	$1,739.50
Event & Community Support	30	$34.79	$1,043.70
TOTAL	280 hours	$34.79	$9,748.20



Art Creation for Manifestation
Led by: Artist Yannah Evans

Ri-Nu Studios:
Healing Through the Arts Workshop
December 06, 2025 11 - 1pm

FREE MINDFULNESS MEDITATION CLASS

Our Meditation Class is designed for all levels —beginners, explorers, and seasoned practitioners who want to deepen their practice

Part of Healing through the Arts Community Program
Feb 2026 - Saturdays @ 0900 @ ri-nu studios
9719 lincoln village drive, suite 500
sacto, 95827

- Guided meditation session
- Breathing & relaxation techniques
- Mindfulness practices

[redacted]

No cost and supplies provided

Watercolors
Led by: Nishi Chaudhary

Healing Through the Arts
Every Tuesday in February 1000-1200

Ri-Nu Studios:
9719 Lincoln Village Dr, Suite 500

CITY OF COMMUNITY ENHANCEMENT & INVESTMENT FUND RANCHO CORDOVA

Zines Unleashed

with artist Patti Phare-Camp

Free Public Workshop (Limited Seating)

Oct 18, 4-7 PM @ Ri-Nu Imagination

HEALING THROUGH THE ARTS

STAND UP COMEDY CLASS

5 WEEKS + GRADUATION SHOW

THURSDAYS IN APRIL 6-8 pm + SHOW TBD

Taught by award-winning writer and stand up comic **Jacki Kane** [redacted]

That's her below, 200 years ago.

TURN ADVERSITY INTO CLEAN COMEDY

Making fun of trauma can give you power over it.
In this class, you'll learn how to turn bad experiences into a **5-minute joke set** and **perform live.**

This class is FREE, thanks to a grant from Rancho Cordova!

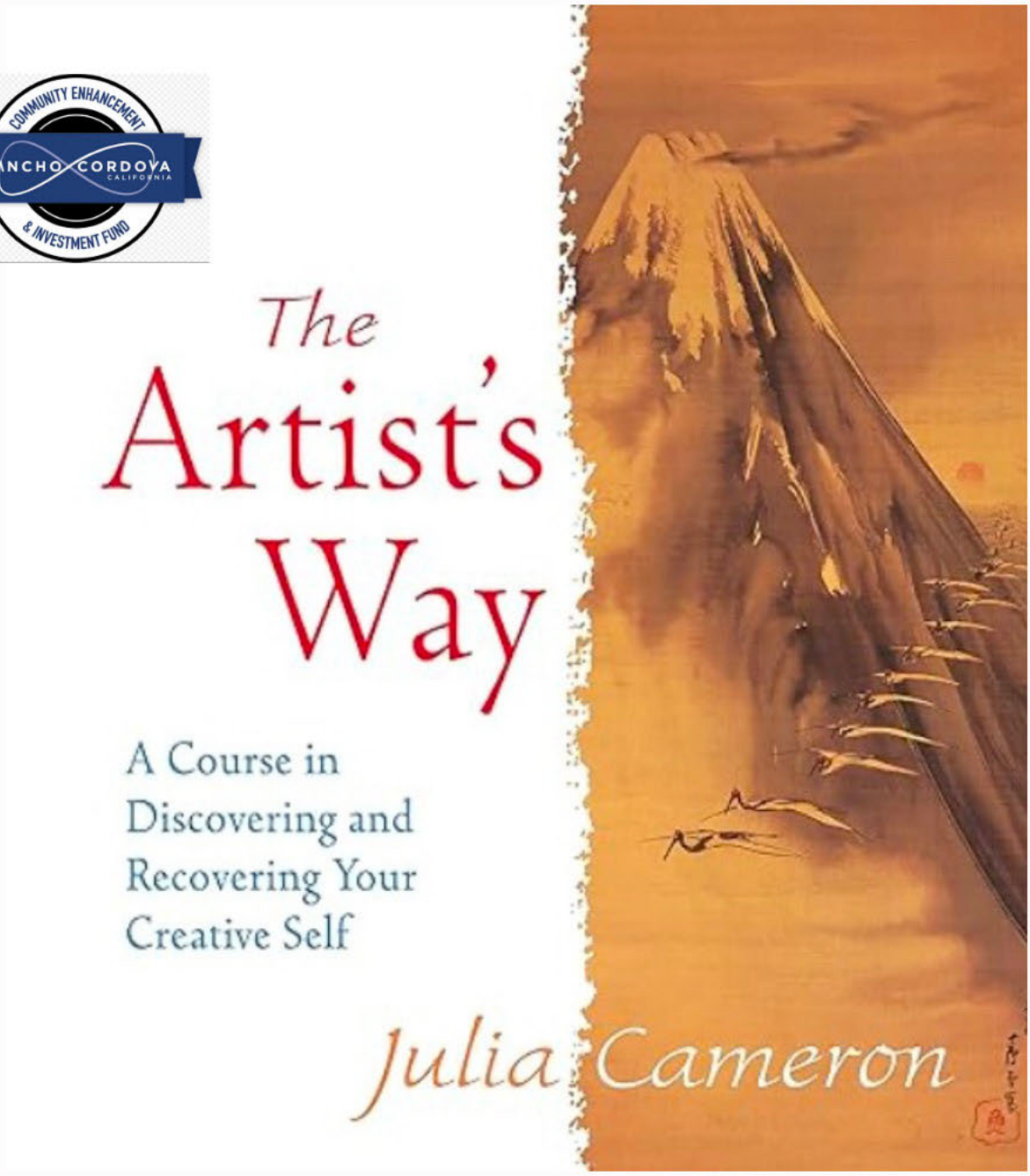
To register, call: [redacted]

Space is limited

APRIL 2026

RI-NU IMAGINATION STUDIOS
9719 LINCOLN VILLAGE DR. SUITE 500
SACRAMENTO/RANCHO CORDOVA, CA 95827

CITY OF COMMUNITY ENHANCEMENT & INVESTMENT FUND RANCHO CORDOVA



Ri-Nu Studios with Instructor Maria Pasqcoal

Starting weekly August 17th
11-1pm
Free to Public : Seating Limited

BRING YOUR OLD CLOTHING AND CREATE....
WEARABLE ART
2 AUGUST 2025
11-1 PM
@ RI-NU STUDIOS
9719 LINCOLN VILLAGE DRIVE, SUITE 500
SACTO, CA. 95827
$10 PER PERSON FEE

Free 3-Part Community Healing Series

Part 1 — February 28

Divine Feminine Awakening

Softness • Intuition • Receiving

Reconnect with your intuition, release emotional heaviness, & return to your inner radiance.

You'll Leave with:

- Emotional clarity
- Renewed intuition
- Inner nourishment

Part 2 — March 7

Divine Masculine Awakening

Strength • Structure • Confidence

Ground your energy through clarity, direction, & self-trust supporting balance and aligned action.

You'll Leave with:

- Clearer purpose
- Stability & confidence
- Practical tools for action

Part 3 — March 14

Embodying the Divisine Union & Art

With guest artist **Yannah Evans**, art becomes the pathway to harmonize softness and strength.

You'll Leave with:

- Embodied balance
- Creative expression art experience
- Inner harmony (Activation)

Free Community Event | All Are Welcome

WORTHY BALANCE
Awakening the Sacred Union Within Through Healing & the Arts

Lighten the heart and embody harmony between the feminine & masculine through healing, visualization, & sacred art.

Session 1: The Divine Feminine Awakening
Session 2: The Divine Masculine Awakening
Session 3: Intuitive Union Activation & Art

Hosted at
Ri-Nu Imagination Gallery, Sacramento

Presented by
Rancho Cordova Healing Through the Arts

Funded through Community Wellness Grants

REGISTER HERE:

JOIN NOW

An Event Hosted by:
Marleece Peart, Luminary Shaman, Intuitive Energy Healing Practitioner

Saturdays | 11:00–1:30 PM 9719 Lincoln Village Drive, Suite 500 Sacramento

No cost and supplies provided

Mix Media
Led by: Nishi Chaudhary

Healing Through the Arts
Every Tuesday in March 1000-1200

Ri-Nu Studios:
9719 Lincoln Village Dr, Suite 500

CITY OF COMMUNITY ENHANCEMENT & INVESTMENT FUND RANCHO CORDOVA

Title

TE4TN: Theatrical Stage Lighting 2026

03/11/2026

id. 53462013

by **Lisa CannonWheeler** in **Fiscal Year 2026-2027 Community Enhancement & Investment Fund Grant Application**

2300 Mine Shaft Lane
Rancho Cordova, California
95742
United States
[redacted]

Original Submission

03/11/2026

Score n/a

	Thank you for your interest in applying to the City of Rancho Cordova's Community Enhancement & Investment Fund. Applications are open from February 9, 2026, to March 13, 2026, Noon (12:00 p.m.) with a specific deadline of March 6th Noon (12:00 p.m.) for certain applications**. Before you begin, please read the notes about deadlines and certain types of grant applications/grants below. **School/Park Application Deadline **Note that projects or programs involving a park or school district have a deadline of March 6 Noon (12:00 p.m.) to allow for the third-party endorsement process by the grant deadline.** A Note about Religious Schools and the Application/Grant Process **Note for grant applications from religious schools. The United States Supreme Court has recently ruled in part that: “denying a generally available benefit [from government] solely on account of religious identity imposes a penalty on the free exercise of religion that can be justified only by a state interest of the highest order.” The City is of the opinion that not all grants to religious schools are prohibited under this and other similar rulings. However, these United States Supreme Court decisions remain in conflict with a section of the California State Constitution that says: “[n]either the Legislature, nor any county, city and county, township, school district, or other municipal corporation, shall ever make an appropriation, or pay from any public fund whatever, or grant anything to or in aid of any religious sect, church, creed, or sectarian purpose, or help to support or sustain any school, college, university, hospital, or other institution controlled by any religious creed, church, or sectarian denomination whatever; nor shall any grant or donation of personal property or real estate ever be made by the state, or any city, city and county, town, or other municipal corporation for any religious creed, church, or sectarian purpose whatever”. The City will accept applications for grants of these City public funds from religious schools, but will have language in the grant agreements to address the possibility and consequences of legal challenges and new court decisions on this and related topics. ** Future Grant Opportunities If you are interested in remaining up-to-date on available grants from the City of Rancho Cordova, click here to sign up for the Grants Interest List. A separate call for programming opportunities with the Rancho Cordova Youth Center is anticipated later in 2026. The list is also used to advertise separate art programs when funds are available. Ongoing Grant Opportunity The City of Rancho Cordova offers a microgrant opportunity. Learn more about those grants online.
Is this your first time applying for grant funding from the City of Rancho Cordova? As a first-time applicant, Community Enhancement & Investment Fund (CEIF) staff will contact you to discuss your project and grant application process.	Yes: First Time Applicant

	1 - Project/Program Information Note: You can add a collaborator to this form to assist you in completing this application! A collaborator can help you complete this form by filling in fields for you, although only you can submit this form. You can add a collaborator by navigating to the top of the form and clicking on the 'Manage Collaborators' button. Simply enter their email address and click 'invite' to invite them as a collaborator. If you need further assistance, you may consult this Help article for more information.
Project/Program Name. Assign a project name to your project/program.	TE4TN: Theatrical Stage Lighting 2026
Which category does your Project/Program align with?	Arts, Culture, History, & Entertainment
Provide a Project/Program Synopsis	Acquire lighting equipment for use on traditional performance stages, and offer a workshop with national caliber theater lighting professional, to inspire Rancho Cordova youth interested in technical theater and enhance the experience of those who attend shows at the Mine Shaft in Rancho Cordova, including our signature event, **Heartstoppers Haunts**.
Provide a Project/Program Description	**Background**: Theater Education 4 Theater Nerds (TE4TN) is a Rancho Cordova-based 501(c)(3) community benefit theatrical education organization. Having produced its signature theatrical fundraiser, **Heartstoppers Haunts**, in and around Rancho since 2010, TE4TN achieved tax-exempt status in 2018, and the **Heartstoppers** event has only grown every year since with approximately 14,000 people attending its performances at the Mine Shaft in October 2025. A major aspect of that event, and the secret to TE4TN's success, is our community volunteer and theater education programs, which operate year-round in the Mine Shaft facility. For young people interested in the 'behind the scenes' aspects of theater production there are limited opportunities to learn the advanced techniques and practice skills necessary for a high-quality theatrical production. Theater Education 4 Theater Nerds is one of the only theater organizations in the region that offers community members of any age - but especially youth - the opportunity to learn about technical theater (lights, sound, animatronics, special effects) and stage craft (costumes, scenery, props, makeup.) Most high school and childrens' community theater programs focus on the performing arts, and don't have opportunities for students to operate equipment, much less learn design, engineer tech scenarios or craft scenery. For theatrical lighting specifically, while TE4TN has offered skills training around lighting equipment over the many years of Heartstoppers' events, none of that equipment is designed to be used on traditional thrust stages, as that is not the type of productions TE4TN has done in the past. However, in Spring 2025, TE4TN produced its first non-Heartstoppers related play at the Mine Shaft: a traditionally staged premiere of "She Has A Ticket To Ride," a dark comedy that was well received by the Rancho

	community. What that production made plain was the need for different lighting equipment in order to maintain the high production quality for which TE4TN has become known. **Grant Project Scope:** In order to increase the capacity of the Mine Shaft facility for more theatrical productions, and to offer the best possible learning experience, TE4TN requires theatrical lighting equipment designed for traditional stages with which to teach and continue to expand its theatrical offerings to the Rancho Cordova community. TE4TN's portion of the proceeds from the Heartstoppers event provides its annual education program budget and the seed money to build the next year's fundraising event.There are no excess funds to purchase the necessary equipment all at once to ensure compatibility and training efficiency. To provide maximum usability in both production and training environments, the equipment needs to be mobile, weather-resistant (e.g. Theater in the Park,) recent technology, allow for design flexibility and a wide variety of infrastructure resources, as well as compatibility with TE4TN's existing light program boards and other equipment to leverage CEIF dollars. **Equipment**: The equipment to be purchased includes two telescoping light poles with integrated stabilizing bases that can work at heights between 12 and 18 feet, allowing for both intimate indoor productions as well as larger outdoor stagings. The cross trusses are removable for maximum storage options. Blizzard TOUGHPAR Neo light units will serve as key front/defined color splashes, and the Blizzard Wash lights will keep symmetry with design and color output even at 100 feet distance to allow for maximum design flexibility, thus giving TE4TN students and partnering community groups a full-range of creative options. In addition, the package includes NewFeel 380W moving heads to provide high-intensity dynamic spot lighting. These powerful lights can be programmed to move on cue or follow the stage action, and they can also be used via manual remote control. The equipment wish list includes all of the cabling and power supplies needed, and all units are DMX controllable and power-linkable for a fully integrated – and interchangeable – system that is suitable for indoor and outdoor events. The project includes the purchase of specialized storage containers to maximize secure storage space at the Mine Shaft (when it's not being used) and transportation safety for the equipment as it moves to its next use.
Tell us about your Project/Program Team	**TE4TN President/Executive Director – Joel Watson**: The original "theater nerd," Joel started out in his high school's theater program because he wanted to learn how to make cool effects with lights. Combining his love of all things Halloween with theater tech and the detailed décor he grew up admiring at Disneyland, was a natural evolution. After years of progressively complex and popular home haunts, Joel opened his first professional haunted theatrical production in 2007, "Heartstoppers Haunted House." *see attachment "Project Team"*

Provide your Project/Program Goals	The goals of the ***TE4TN: Theatrical Stage Lighting 2026*** project are to purchase the indicated lighting equipment in time to be used for demonstration at the program kick-off: an advanced training workshop, free to the Rancho community, with a Broadway/national tour lighting designer. Its first theatrical production use would be for the trainees to design and build full-function light shows for the early Spring ’27 Showcase, as well as for the late Spring ‘27 theatrical production of Hummingbird Theater Company, a Rancho Cordova-supported theater group utilizing the Mine Shaft facility. The equipment would then be available to enhance the 2027 Heartstoppers Haunt event and for other community groups that have events at the Mine Shaft.

Optional File Upload: Provide any additional records to supplement your program/project application. Note: Combine multiple files in one pdf before uploading.

2026AppATTACH-TE4TN_Project_Team.pdf

	2 - Funding & Costs
Funding Request - Complete this section with total dollar amounts for your project/program's costs	Funds are generally not intended to be used for deferred maintenance and ongoing operational needs. The funds are intended for enhancing and investing in the City of Rancho Cordova. If your project/program is awarded, the costs identified below would be reviewed and potentially open to modification during a contracting phase (if a grant is awarded by the City Council). If awarded, grant funds are not available until a contract is executed during Fiscal Year 2026-2027.
Total project/program cost*	42461
What is the amount of Community Enhancement & Investment Fund grant monies requested?	29825
Does your project/program involve construction of any facilities or improvements upon any property?	No
What is the total cost of personnel for your project/program?	2000
What is the total cost of supplies for your project/program?	0

What is the total cost of transportation for your project/program?	1500
What is the total cost of equipment for your project/program?	25825
What is the total cost of any miscellaneous expenses for your project/program?	500

Upload your project/program's budget as a .pdf file. Include the categories and their dollar amounts along with information about any other funding sources to demonstrate your project/program's total budget. Note, the sum of all categories must match the total project or program cost, or the amount requested of CEIF if there is no other funding source. Please clearly illustrate any matching funds or funding from other sources in your project/program budget, including in-kind sources. Note: Combine multiple files in one pdf before uploading.

2026AppATTACH-TE4TN_ProjectBudget.pdf

Has your organization sought or will seek other funding for this project/program?	Yes, actively seeking funding support or have secured additional funding support for this project/program.
Describe any funding secured or being sought for this project/program.	In addition to the valuable work our dedicated volunteers will do on behalf of the Kick Off workshop and the training of interested community members on the use and care of the equipment, TE4TN has budgeted for its employees to inspect and manage the equipment and the training program, as well as purchasing the containers to securely store the equipment at the Mine Shaft when not in use. Funding and sponsorships are also being sought to pay for additional industry expert workshop presenters and mentors in the areas of light board programming and operation, lighting design, and scenery projection to enhance the education offered around the requested equipment. These workshops are in addition to the 2026-27 planned educational classes on such topics as stage makeup, crafting props, set building, sound effects, etc., for which TE4TN's part of the Heartstoppers' revenues are used. It is hoped that the cumulative effects of this thorough education approach will help increase awareness around the performing arts in Rancho Cordova, encourage volunteerism for our artistic organizations, and raise the production levels of theater events locally.

Please describe any ongoing operations and maintenance costs beyond Fiscal Year 2026/2027, if applicable.	Based on the operating life-span of TE4TN's inventory of other theatrical equipment, thanks to TE4TN's volunteers' careful use and maintenance, it is anticipated that the light fixtures and cabling will have a five-year operating life after which they will need to be replaced or repaired. The stands and trusses will probably be functional for 10 years. TE4TN's long term plan is to both secure future equipment grant funding and expand budgetary commitments to TE4TN's 'reserve for replacement' account, so that it is fully funded and future equipment replacements and upgrades can be accomplished timely.
Do you have volunteer or in-kind support for your project? This could include volunteers for an activity/event that is ongoing or a one-time experience.	Yes
Please share the total dollar amount for volunteer/in-kind support using $34.79 as the national rate for a volunteer hour. Source: Value of Volunteer Time	6611

Please provide a worksheet explaining your volunteer/in-kind contribution. You may upload a file in the following formats: CSV, DOC, DOCX, or PDF.

ATTACHMENT-TE4TN_Volunteer.pdf

Is this a single year request or a request for funding for multiple years?	Single Year
Has your project/program received funding from the Community Enhancement & Investment Fund previously?	No
	3 - Project/Program Details Grant applications are typically approved to occur between July 2026 through June 2027. What is your plan to complete this project/program within this time frame?

Anticipated Start Date (July 1 is the soonest available start date)	9/1/2026
Anticipated End Date (typically projects/programs end by June 30)	6/30/2027
Please describe your project/program schedule	**Sept 1, 2026 – June 30, 2027** Sept 2026 - Receive grant award contract & funding; promote Senior Student Showcase program and call for entries Oct 2026 – run Heartstoppers Haunts fundraising event; price equipment; accept applications for Senior Student Showcase program; secure kick off speaker; select Senior Student Showcase participants Nov 2026 – finalize purchases & sign speaker contract; begin Senior Student meetings with mentors Jan. 2027 – receive equipment & test; continue Senior Student meetings with mentors (first design deadlines) Feb. 2027 – finish planning for kick-off event & Showcase promotion plan; March 2027 – lighting workshop series kick off event; Senior Student Showcase performances (3/26-/2027-4/3/2027) April 2027 – prep for Hummingbird Theater Co. production & equipment use May 2027 – Hummingbird performances June 2027 – Second lighting workshop & equipment pack up
What challenges do you anticipate in your project/program's implementation? What is your plan to complete your project/program should those or other challenges arise?	Challenge 1 – most of this equipment is imported and the current tariff environment could change thereby increasing costs beyond the budget. If that becomes the case, there are a few solutions – not the least of which is a combination of all of them: a.) if we think the prices will go down in the near term (30-60 days,) we just wait to make our purchases; b.) buy fewer pieces or different brands so long as the objective of a workable lighting system is achieved; c.) depending on revenues from the 2026 Heartstoppers event, TE4TN could contribute a few more dollars to make up the difference if it doesn't jeopardize the build budget for the 2027 event and/or the ongoing educational program objectives for the 2027 fiscal year. Challenge 2 – Unable to secure space or desired caliber of speaker for kickoff event at desired time; Solutions are to try other venues, move the date, try other contacts or some combination of the three.

How many individuals does your project/program serve?	The kick-off workshops and the rest of the lighting workshop series could reach over 200 individuals, while the hands-on advanced training will be limited in 2027 to six senior students (more in subsequent years); the impact of improved theatrical lighting for the benefit of audiences in 2027 alone is potentially over 1,000 people.
How many Rancho Cordova residents does your project/program serve?	While it is the intention of the program to market all events to residents of Rancho Cordova first, with preferences for Rancho students, etc., ultimately the objective is to reach as many people as possible for the workshops and to sell tickets to performances to support ongoing programming. Based on the volunteer participation in the Heartstoppers fundraising event, we would expect approximately 40 percent of the program participation numbers noted above to be from Rancho Cordova. Heartstoppers Haunts attracts patrons from all over Northern California (and a few from Southern California,) but the Showcase and Hummingbird Theater's performances will only pull from the greater Sacramento area, including Rancho Cordova.
	4 - Project/Program Location
Address Verification	If you need to check if your project is in Rancho Cordova, type in your program/project's location in the Assessor Parcel Viewer: https://assessorparcelviewer.saccounty.gov/jsviewer/assessor.html

School and park related applications are due before Noon (12:00 p.m.) on March 6, 2026, to allow for the endorsement process.	Please note that projects or programs that are proposed on property owned or operated by outside agencies or a private party will require coordination with and potentially approvals from outside agencies, organizations, and/or the private party. Include whether you have received a letter of support for the project/program from the property owner. Upload any letters of support with your application. City staff will verify third-party permits have been discussed. In your planning discussions, be sure to discuss any necessary insurance or volunteer requirements that may increase budget costs. School Sites If your project/program is intended to operate at a public K-12 school site, your application is due by March 6 at Noon (12:00 p.m.). City staff will work with the school districts to confirm an endorsement for your project/program. It's the applicant's responsibility to communicate with school site and district representatives before applying so there is clarity during the endorsement process. Districts will only consider endorsement for applications submitted to the Community Enhancement & Investment Fund by the March 6 at Noon (12:00 p.m.). deadline. Each participating school superintendent reserves the right to withhold their endorsement of a project/program. Parks If your project/program is intended to operate at a park or community center site, your application is due by the March 6 at Noon (12:00 p.m.). deadline. City staff will work with the Cordova Recreation & Park District to confirm an endorsement for your project/program. It's the applicant's responsibility to communicate with district representatives before applying so there is clarity during the endorsement process. A special use permit application is required for any program or event planned at a CRPD facility. The special use application can be found at the CRPD website: https://www.cordovarpd.gov/. CRPD will only consider endorsement for applications submitted to the Community Enhancement & Investment Fund by the March 6 at Noon (12:00 p.m.). deadline. The Cordova Recreation & Park District reserves the right to withhold their endorsement of a project/program. Below is the list of staff to communicate with at school and park organizations: Folsom Cordova Unified School District: mwest@fcusd.org Cordova Recreation & Park District: cmichelotti@cordovarpd.gov Elk Grove Unified School District: mgulden@egusd.net Sacramento City Unified School District: Tuan-Duong@scusd.edu for Winn and Carver and Enrique-Flores@scusd.edu for Lincoln.
Primary street address of project/program	2300 Mine Shaft Lane
List the city location of the project/program.	Rancho Cordova
Select State	CA
Provide the zip code for your project/program's primary location.	95742

If your project/program takes place at multiple locations, please list other or secondary locations.	

Third Party Letters of Support (Note: Combine multiple files in one pdf before uploading)

SupportLtrs-TE4TN_2026.pdf

Does your project/program involve one of Rancho Cordova's school districts?	No
Does your project/program involve the Cordova Recreation & Park District?	No
	5 - Applicant Information
Name	Lisa Cannon-Wheeler
Is this project/program on behalf of an organization?	Yes
What is the name of your organization?	Theater Education 4 Theater Nerds, Inc.
What is your title and/or role at your organization?	Volunteer Business Manager
Provide contact phone number:	[redacted]
Provide contact email:	[redacted]
Are you the primary point of contact on this project/program?	Yes

If your project/program was awarded the requested funds, are you authorized to sign the contract for your organization?	No, someone else would sign the contract
If selected by the City Council to receive an award, what is the name of the person at your organization who would sign the contract?	Joel Watson
What is the title of this individual?	President/Exec. Director
What is the best phone number where we could contact the signatory?	[redacted]
What is the best email address to contact the signatory?	[redacted]
By checking here, I confirm that I am aware that my application materials will become public record.	checked
	Thank you for applying to the Community Enhancement & Investment Fund Fiscal Year 2026-2027 Grant Cycle. Applicants will receive an automated response through the grant portal. Community Enhancement & Investment Fund (CEIF) Staff will follow up with any questions regarding your Fiscal Year 2026-2027 application. For information about the next steps in the CEIF grant process, visit our website for more information. It is anticipated that applications will be reviewed by the City Council starting in April 2026 with adoption in June 2026. Should applicants be awarded by the City Council, funding would not be available to grantees until the start of Fiscal Year 2026-2027 and the completion of a contract. Please send an email to CEIFGrants@cityofranchocordova.org with any questions or comments.

Internal Form

Score n/a

TE4TN: Theatrical Stage Lighting 2026 - PROJECT BUDGET

(all expense amounts are estimates based on pricing available on Feb. 27, 2026)

Item Description	Qty	Unit Price	Total
LIGHTING EQUIPMENT			
IP65 Wash PARs	10	$ 325.00	$3,250.00
IP65 Defined PARs	8	680.00	5,440.00
Moving Heads Spot lights (NewFeel 380W IP65)	2	755.00	1,510.00
Lighting Tree Stand (Telescoping tower stand, safety cables, counter weights)	2	5,362.50	10,725.00
Lighting T-truss (attaches to stands)	2	550.00	1,100.00
DMX & Power Cables + Accessories		1,000.00	1,000.00
Shipping & handling		1,200.00	1,200.00
Sales Tax (Rancho Cordova 8.75%)		1,600.00	1,600.00
SUBTOTAL LIGHTING EQUIPMENT			**$25,825.00**
EQUIPMENT STORAGE AND TRANSPORT CONTAINERS			
Custom cases (Pelican or equivalent) *incl shipping & tax*	4	550.00	2,200.00
Storage Bin system (rack & 12-27 gal. bins – Costco or equivalent) *incl shipping & tax*	1/12		325.00
SUBTOTAL EQUIP. STORAGE			**$2,525.00**
KICK OFF WORKSHOP & PRESENTER			
Speaker Fee		2,000.00	2,000.00
Speaker transportation & housing *(Fri @ Cordova High; Sat workshop)*		1,500.00	1,500.00
Workshop Expenses *(materials, space fees)*		500.00	500.00
SUBTOTAL KICK OFF WORKSHOP			**$4,000.00**
2026-27 LIGHTING EDUCATION PERSONNEL			
TE4TN Personnel to initialize, inspect & manage equip. (hours: Sept 2026-June 2027)	80	37.50	3,000.00
Volunteer Mentor Expense Reimb. – 2027 Lighting Intern Program	1	500.00	500.00
Volunteer Lighting Educator hours value – 2026-27	40	34.79	1,392.00
Workshop Volunteer hours value *(promotion, hosting, coordination)*	150	34.79	5,219.00
SUBTOTAL 2026-27 … PERSONNEL			**$10,111.00**

TOTAL PROJECT BUDGET			**$42,461.00**
CEIF FUNDING REQUEST			***29,825.00***
Balance to be funded via TE4TN budgets and sponsors			6,025.00
Balance supported by TE4TN volunteers *(value of hrs)*			6,611.00

CEIF PROGRAM APPLICATION – TE4TN

ATTACHMENT – Project Volunteers

TE4TN's dedicated volunteers are all theater lovers and many are members of Rancho Cordova's community. It is anticipated that at least ten of our volunteer group will assist with the Kick Off workshop by doing community promotions, outreach to schools in Rancho to encourage them to come to the schools-only Friday session with the workshop presenter, and to assist at the Saturday workshop itself, with set up/take down, directing students, distributing materials, etc. The estimates for this level of engagement are 10 persons over many days, totaling approx. 150 hours. Later in the 2026-27 term, volunteer educators will be working with our technical theater students to teach them how to use the new equipment and those estimates are five individuals putting in eight hours each to ensure the equipment is used correctly and safely.

Volunteer Lighting Educator hours value – 2026-27	40	34.79	1,392.00
Workshop Volunteer hours value *(promotion, hosting, coordination)*	150	34.79	5,219.00
SUBTOTAL 2026-27 … VOLUNTEERS			**6,611.00**

CORDOVA COMMUNITY COUNCIL

Feb. 26, 2026

City of Rancho Cordova
Community Enhancement & Investment Fund Grant Program
Rancho Cordova, CA

Dear CEIF Team:

On behalf of the Cordova Community Council (CCC), I am delighted to endorse and strongly urge approval of Theater Education for Theater Nerds (TE4TN)'s application to purchase theatrical lighting equipment to enhance community performances in Rancho Cordova.

CCC has proudly partnered with TE4TN since 2013, as they created and built Heartstoppers Haunted House, now the Sacramento region's leading Halloween haunt attraction. Through this signature event, TE4TN has cultivated a powerful sense of belonging for hundreds of youth and adult volunteers while helping establish Rancho Cordova as a true Halloween-season destination. Each year, more than 14,000 visitors experience Heartstoppers, with ticket revenue supporting the charitable missions of both TE4TN and the Cordova Community Council.

Beyond the annual haunt, TE4TN demonstrates an unwavering commitment to quality and community engagement. They are a fan favorite in the Rancho Cordova Fourth of July Parade and have expanded their presence by participating in our annual "Date Night" volunteer recruitment event. They generously donate complimentary tickets to support local fundraisers and intentionally create space within their volunteer ranks for a broad and diverse community of theater enthusiasts of all ages.

In recent years, TE4TN has expanded its impact even further. They now offer hands-on training classes for aspiring "haunters" and stage artists, covering essential skills such as set construction, costuming, theatrical makeup, and technical production. For the past two years, they have transformed the Mine Shaft property—home to Heartstoppers—into a live theater venue, producing original plays and demonstrating the space's versatility. This year, they are collaborating with Hummingbird Theater to continue expanding performing arts opportunities in our community.

The focus of this grant—upgrading theatrical lighting equipment—represents a critical next step in strengthening the technical capacity of our local performing arts scene. Modern, flexible-use lighting will not only elevate the quality of productions at Heartstoppers and other performances but also provide meaningful skill-building opportunities for youth and adults interested in technical theater. As Rancho Cordova's performing arts sector continues to grow, access to professional-grade equipment and hands-on training will help cultivate talent, deepen connections, and foster a true sense of belonging.

In support of this effort, the Cordova Community Council has committed space at our Mine Shaft property for skill development, safe storage, and proper use of the requested equipment. We are proud to partner in

ensuring that these resources are maintained responsibly and leveraged to raise the overall quality of stagecraft in Rancho Cordova. As additional venues are identified and developed in the future, having established performing arts groups and loyal audiences will position our city for continued cultural and economic success.

TE4TN's dedication to continuous improvement, inclusive participation, and community enrichment makes them an outstanding candidate for support through the Community Enhancement & Investment Fund. We are proud to collaborate with them and enthusiastically support this investment in Rancho Cordova's blossoming performing arts sector.

Sincerely,

Shelly Blanchard

Shelly Blanchard
Executive Director
Cordova Community Council

HUMMINGBIRD
THEATRE COMPANY

To Whom It May Concern:

My name is Danielle Mercado, and I am the Artistic Director of Hummingbird Theatre Company in Rancho Cordova, CA. We are currently in residence with the Non-profit ‘Theatre Education 4 Theatre Nerds’’ (T.E.4.T.N.) at the Mineshaft Building in Rancho Cordova. We are putting on “Romeo and Juliet (but Pirates)” in May 2026 and have been working with TE4TN as well as the Cordova Community Council Foundation for the last couple of months to begin conceiving and developing this project.

I understand that T.E.4.T.N. is applying for a grant, and I am happy to write this letter in full support of their organization.

While I haven’t known Joel, Lisa or the organization for very long, the Heartstoppers event's reputation speaks for itself. They have shown enormous growth and potential throughout their stay at the Mineshaft Building, building up Heartstoppers year after year in what can only be described as a magnificent feat. They are very well known in Northern California.

The TE4TN team has been very supportive and accommodating as fellow theatre lovers and makers. That initiative speaks volumes about the leadership. They understand that community theatre thrives on support, collaboration, and shared success. The Heartstoppers team puts in an incredible amount of work behind the scenes. From set building and technical design to administration, outreach, acquiring materials, and taking care of actors and creative teams, education in costuming, special effects, engineering, stunts, etc., they are ready to bring even more to the space and use it as a multi-event venue.

This request for lighting would not only allow them to put on more shows throughout the year, it would also allow organizations such as mine to thrive as well. If we pool our resources, we can create a multi-discipline creative arts space that allows us all to reach our full potential, put on incredible shows, and truly benefit the entire City of Rancho Cordova.

I have no doubt that Theatre Education 4 Theatre Nerds would use grant funding responsibly and transparently. The leadership team members are thoughtful, organized, and passionate about bringing quality theatre to our community. The impact of their work extends beyond actors - it also benefits technicians, students, creative teams, families, and audiences throughout the Sacramento region and beyond.

I strongly support Theatre Education 4 Theatre Nerds and am confident in their ability to successfully complete the proposed project. Please do not hesitate to contact me if you have any further questions.

Best Regards,

Danielle Mercado

Hummingbird Theatre Company
Artistic Director
[redacted]

CEIF PROGRAM APPLICATION – TE4TN

ATTACHMENT – PROJECT TEAM (continued)

Joel Watson continued - Over the intervening years, Joel has created a program offering hundreds of young people opportunities to try their hand at theatrical lighting, sound effects and set design – not to mention project management, team work and problem solving – while working on the annual Heartstoppers production, as well as other stagecraft skills and technical topics through monthly theater education workshops. Joel designs all of the educational opportunities and uses his contacts in the technical theater and professional haunt industries to bring presenters for the various workshops, as well as serving as the primary instructor during the Heartstoppers production season.

Cordova Community Council Foundation: CCCF was originally introduced to TE4TN in 2010, when the Heartstoppers haunted theatrical event came to Haggin Park, and then began actively working with the organization in 2013 to more fully integrate TE4TN with the Rancho Cordova community and its high school students. Today, the CCCF assists with location management and is a major financial beneficiary of the large community fundraiser that Heartstoppers has become. As the owner of the Mine Shaft facility where the requested lighting equipment will be used and stored, the CCCF's mission will also benefit in that the equipment would be available (along with TE4TN-trained advanced tech students) for use with the community concert band and other CCCF supported groups when they come to the facility to rehearse or perform.

TE4TN Board Secretary/CFO – Toan Pham: Mr. Pham is a live performance sound engineer and sound board software developer, who joined the TE4TN board of directors in January 2025, but has ties to Heartstoppers that go way back. He is part of Joel's circle of fellow theater techies that started out working with theatrical lighting and sound design in the mid 90s. Now as the volunteer CFO for the organization, he is responsible for financial oversight and ensuring that all funds are used according to the budget, grant and sponsor restrictions, and board guidance. Toan works closely with the organization's Business Manager who has the day-to-day money management duties.

Title

Aim High: Soaring with the Tuskegee Airmen Exhibit & Programming

03/13/2026

id. 53481260

by **Sherry Anne Dayag** in **Fiscal Year 2026-2027 Community Enhancement & Investment Fund Grant Application**

2701 Prospect Park Drive
Rancho Cordova, California
95670
United States
[redacted]
grants@sackids.org

Original Submission

03/13/2026

Score n/a

	Thank you for your interest in applying to the City of Rancho Cordova's Community Enhancement & Investment Fund. Applications are open from February 9, 2026, to March 13, 2026, Noon (12:00 p.m.) with a specific deadline of March 6th Noon (12:00 p.m.) for certain applications**. Before you begin, please read the notes about deadlines and certain types of grant applications/grants below. **School/Park Application Deadline **Note that projects or programs involving a park or school district have a deadline of March 6 Noon (12:00 p.m.) to allow for the third-party endorsement process by the grant deadline.** A Note about Religious Schools and the Application/Grant Process **Note for grant applications from religious schools. The United States Supreme Court has recently ruled in part that: “denying a generally available benefit [from government] solely on account of religious identity imposes a penalty on the free exercise of religion that can be justified only by a state interest of the highest order.” The City is of the opinion that not all grants to religious schools are prohibited under this and other similar rulings. However, these United States Supreme Court decisions remain in conflict with a section of the California State Constitution that says: “[n]either the Legislature, nor any county, city and county, township, school district, or other municipal corporation, shall ever make an appropriation, or pay from any public fund whatever, or grant anything to or in aid of any religious sect, church, creed, or sectarian purpose, or help to support or sustain any school, college, university, hospital, or other institution controlled by any religious creed, church, or sectarian denomination whatever; nor shall any grant or donation of personal property or real estate ever be made by the state, or any city, city and county, town, or other municipal corporation for any religious creed, church, or sectarian purpose whatever”. The City will accept applications for grants of these City public funds from religious schools, but will have language in the grant agreements to address the possibility and consequences of legal challenges and new court decisions on this and related topics. ** Future Grant Opportunities If you are interested in remaining up-to-date on available grants from the City of Rancho Cordova, click here to sign up for the Grants Interest List. A separate call for programming opportunities with the Rancho Cordova Youth Center is anticipated later in 2026. The list is also used to advertise separate art programs when funds are available. Ongoing Grant Opportunity The City of Rancho Cordova offers a microgrant opportunity. Learn more about those grants online.
Is this your first time applying for grant funding from the City of Rancho Cordova? As a first-time applicant, Community Enhancement & Investment Fund (CEIF) staff will contact you to discuss your project and grant application process.	No: Not a First Time Applicant

	1 - Project/Program Information Note: You can add a collaborator to this form to assist you in completing this application! A collaborator can help you complete this form by filling in fields for you, although only you can submit this form. You can add a collaborator by navigating to the top of the form and clicking on the 'Manage Collaborators' button. Simply enter their email address and click 'invite' to invite them as a collaborator. If you need further assistance, you may consult this Help article for more information.
Project/Program Name. Assign a project name to your project/program.	Aim High: Soaring with the Tuskegee Airmen Exhibit & Programming
Which category does your Project/Program align with?	Arts, Culture, History, & Entertainment
Provide a Project/Program Synopsis	With CEIF support, Sacramento Children's Museum will bring a new nationally traveling exhibit called *Aim High: Soaring with the Tuskegee Airmen* to our Museum that invites children and their families to explore multiple aspects of aviation, from the rich history of the Tuskegee Airmen to 21st century STEM concepts.
Provide a Project/Program Description	**Project Details** Sacramento Children's Museum respectfully requests $50,000 in funding support over a two-year period from the City of Rancho Cordova Community Enhancement & Investment Fund (CEIF) to bring a new nationally traveling exhibit called *Aim High: Soaring with the Tuskegee Airmen* to our Museum in Fall 2027. This immersive exhibit invites children and their families to explore multiple aspects of aviation, from the rich history of the Tuskegee Airmen to 21st century STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics) concepts. Inspired by the tools and tasks related to flying and aeronautics, the interactive experiences mix real artifacts with hands-on play. Visitors of all ages will be able to imagine themselves in the role of aviators, inspired by the past and dream of the future. In this exhibit, visitors can: • Scroll through an interactive slide show featuring historical images of the Tuskegee Airmen and their airplanes. • Dive into aviation history by exploring historical artifacts and information panels on display that highlight the legacy of the Tuskegee Airmen and their influence on the future of aviation. • Get an up-close view of the inside of a Cockpit Flight Trainer and watch videos of the plane taking off and landing from the captain's seat advantage point. This life-size cockpit is perfect for dramatic play and includes a row of actual airplane seats. • Design and build a custom rocket using just paper and tape, and watch it blast off at the Rocket Launcher. • Step up to the Interactive Mirror, activated by pressure sensitive mats, to expose images of airplanes. This activity helps visitors see themselves in roles in the aviation field with a variety of costumes.

To complement this exhibit and expand the learning experience, we plan to host three community events during the exhibit's run (September 2027 - January 2028). These events will offer extended evening hours for families to explore the *Aim High: Soaring with the Tuskegee Airmen* exhibit and will feature community partners. All Rancho Cordova residents will receive free admission for these family-friendly events.

CEIF support will cover essential expenses for our project, including exhibit rental and shipping costs ($18,000); installation costs ($20,000); marketing and graphic design ($4,500); personnel expenses ($2,500); and free event admission for Rancho Cordova residents ($5,000).

Alignment with Grant Purpose

Our project primarily aligns with the fund's focus on promoting **Arts, Culture, History and Entertainment** for the benefit of the Rancho Cordova community. The *Aim High: Soaring with the Tuskegee Airmen* exhibit brings history to life. The exhibit centers on the Tuskegee Airmen, the first military division of African American pilots who fought in World War II. Their courage, dedication, and groundbreaking achievements in the face of adversity are an essential part of American history, and this exhibit will provide a unique opportunity for local children to learn about these trailblazing figures in an interactive, age-appropriate setting. Further, the family-friendly events will celebrate the rich aviation history of the Sacramento region and Rancho Cordova. We will invite community partners to participate and table at these events, including California Capitol Airshow, the City of Rancho Cordova, and other Sacramento Area Museums.

Our project also aligns with the fund's focus on **Children and Youth**. The exhibit's engaging, hands-on activities on aviation and aeronautics will make a profound impact on promoting STEM education for those in the critical 0-8 age range. By making these STEM concepts accessible and fun, the exhibit will not only engage children in understanding how flight works, but will also foster their curiosity about science and technology at an early age. Moreover, this exhibit inspires children to dream big! Children of all ages can imagine themselves as future aviators through hands-on imaginative play, interactive games, and inspirational artifacts and stories from the past.

Sacramento Children's Museum has proudly served the Rancho Cordova community for the past 15 years, and this new project will provide thousands of local children and their families with a rich, multidimensional learning experience that incorporates STEM education, the heroic contributions of the Tuskegee Airmen, and Rancho Cordova's ties to the aviation industry.

Tell us about your Project/Program Team

Exhibit Development

Aim High: Soaring with the Tuskegee Airmen was created by Children's Museum of Pittsburgh in partnership with Hosanna House, Inc. Sacramento Children's Museum will be the first museum in California to feature this extraordinary exhibit.

Museum Project Team

Museum Executive Director Sharon Stone Smith will oversee all aspects of the exhibit. Sharon has spearheaded our traveling exhibits program over the past four years, successfully bringing four distinct, immersive exhibitions that have engaged thousands of children in STEM learning, social-emotional learning, and health and wellness.

Museum Grants Coordinator Sherry Anne Dayag will assist in fundraising efforts for this project.

Provide your Project/Program Goals

Project Goals

1. Educate children about the inspiring history of the Tuskegee Airmen, pioneers who broke barriers in both aviation and American society.
2. Promote STEM learning, notably the fundamentals of flight and aviation, through hands-on activities.
3. Inspire children to dream big and pursue continued education and careers in aviation-related fields.
4. Celebrate Rancho Cordova's rich aviation history.
5. Serve 4,400 Rancho Cordova residents through this project.

Metrics

To measure our progress in meeting goals Nos. 1-4, we will utilize online parent surveys and staff observations to assess how the exhibit impacts children's STEM knowledge, and their understanding of the history of the Tuskegee Airmen and Rancho Cordova's ties to the aviation industry. To measure our success in meeting goal No. 5, we will track the number of Rancho Cordova residents who visit the exhibit and attend the free community events.

Team Management Strategies

To ensure the project team's efforts remain focused, we will hold quarterly meetings to assess project progress and address any challenges. We will also seek feedback from visitors, staff, and partners following each community event to ensure these events successfully meet visitors' needs and stay aligned with our project goals.

Optional File Upload: Provide any additional records to supplement your program/project application. Note: Combine multiple files in one pdf before uploading.

SCM_AimHigh_ONE-PAGER.pdf

2 - Funding & Costs

Funding Request - Complete this section with total dollar amounts for your project/program's costs	Funds are generally not intended to be used for deferred maintenance and ongoing operational needs. The funds are intended for enhancing and investing in the City of Rancho Cordova. If your project/program is awarded, the costs identified below would be reviewed and potentially open to modification during a contracting phase (if a grant is awarded by the City Council). If awarded, grant funds are not available until a contract is executed during Fiscal Year 2026-2027.
Total project/program cost*	77000
What is the amount of Community Enhancement & Investment Fund grant monies requested?	50000
Does your project/program involve construction of any facilities or improvements upon any property?	No
What is the total cost of personnel for your project/program?	2500
What is the total cost of supplies for your project/program?	0
What is the total cost of transportation for your project/program?	0
What is the total cost of equipment for your project/program?	38000
What is the total cost of any miscellaneous expenses for your project/program?	9500

Upload your project/program's budget as a .pdf file. Include the categories and their dollar amounts along with information about any other funding sources to demonstrate your project/program's total budget. Note, the sum of all categories must match the total project or program cost, or the amount requested of CEIF if there is no other funding source. Please clearly illustrate any matching funds or funding from other sources in your project/program budget, including in-kind sources. Note: Combine multiple files in one pdf before uploading.

SCM_AimHigh_Budget.pdf

Has your organization sought or will seek other funding for this project/program?	Yes, actively seeking funding support or have secured additional funding support for this project/program.
Describe any funding secured or being sought for this project/program.	We plan to request additional grant funding from the Kelly Foundation ($10,000) and the Sacramento County TOT Grant program ($10,000). We also plan to use revenue from Museum ticket sales to fund this project.
Please describe any ongoing operations and maintenance costs beyond Fiscal Year 2026/2027, if applicable.	We are requesting funding for a two-year period. The exhibit is reserved for our Museum's use for Fall 2027, and the exhibit's rental fees are due over multiple years.
Do you have volunteer or in-kind support for your project? This could include volunteers for an activity/event that is ongoing or a one-time experience.	No
Is this a single year request or a request for funding for multiple years?	Multiple Years
If requesting CEIF grant funding for multiple years, please share how many years?	2 years
For requests spanning multiple years, share the dollar amount requested per year.	FY 2026-2027: $25,000 FY 2027-2028: $25,000

For projects/programs that span multiple years, please describe your sustainability plan and whether it is viable as a single year request.	Our project is not viable as a single-year request. The exhibit is reserved for our Museum's use for Fall 2027, and the exhibit's rental fees are due over multiple years. The project will end in January 2028 at the culmination of our exhibit rental period.
Has your project/program received funding from the Community Enhancement & Investment Fund previously?	No
	3 - Project/Program Details Grant applications are typically approved to occur between July 2026 through June 2027. What is your plan to complete this project/program within this time frame?
Anticipated Start Date (July 1 is the soonest available start date)	7/1/2026
Anticipated End Date (typically projects/programs end by June 30)	1/31/2028
Please describe your project/program schedule	**FY 2026-2027** • July 1, 2026: Museum staff fundraising efforts begin • September 2026: Exhibit rental fee payment due • January 2027 - March 2027: Graphic design and staff planning for community events begins • April 2027 - June 2027: Marketing and community outreach begins **FY 2027-2028** • July 2027 - August 2027: Marketing and community outreach continues • August 2027: Exhibit rental fee payment due • September 13 - 24, 2027: Exhibit receiving and installation • September 25, 2027 - January 9, 2028: Exhibit open to the public. Three family-friendly community events will take place during the timeframe of the exhibit, tentatively once monthly in October, November, and December 2027. • January 10 - 16, 2028: Exhibit breakdown and outbound shipping

What challenges do you anticipate in your project/program's implementation? What is your plan to complete your project/program should those or other challenges arise?	We anticipate that maintenance of the *Aim High: Soaring with the Tuskegee Airmen* exhibit will be one challenge. Because the exhibit is interactive, we expect some of the exhibit's hands-on components to wear out or break and some of the technological elements may fail. To ensure that all exhibit components continue operating smoothly, we will develop a proactive maintenance and inspection schedule to ensure everything is functioning properly, with special attention to high-use exhibits. We also will train staff on basic troubleshooting. Another potential challenge is reaching our intended audience. To build awareness and ensure maximum engagement, particularly for our family-friendly community events, we will utilize social media, press releases to local news outlets, and community partners to promote the project and broaden its reach, and increase these efforts if our events are not heavily attended.
How many individuals does your project/program serve?	26,000
How many Rancho Cordova residents does your project/program serve?	4,400
	4 - Project/Program Location
Address Verification	If you need to check if your project is in Rancho Cordova, type in your program/project's location in the Assessor Parcel Viewer: https://assessorparcelviewer.saccounty.gov/jsviewer/assessor.html

School and park related applications are due before Noon (12:00 p.m.) on March 6, 2026, to allow for the endorsement process.	Please note that projects or programs that are proposed on property owned or operated by outside agencies or a private party will require coordination with and potentially approvals from outside agencies, organizations, and/or the private party. Include whether you have received a letter of support for the project/program from the property owner. Upload any letters of support with your application. City staff will verify third-party permits have been discussed. In your planning discussions, be sure to discuss any necessary insurance or volunteer requirements that may increase budget costs. School Sites If your project/program is intended to operate at a public K-12 school site, your application is due by March 6 at Noon (12:00 p.m.). City staff will work with the school districts to confirm an endorsement for your project/program. It's the applicant's responsibility to communicate with school site and district representatives before applying so there is clarity during the endorsement process. Districts will only consider endorsement for applications submitted to the Community Enhancement & Investment Fund by the March 6 at Noon (12:00 p.m.). deadline. Each participating school superintendent reserves the right to withhold their endorsement of a project/program. Parks If your project/program is intended to operate at a park or community center site, your application is due by the March 6 at Noon (12:00 p.m.). deadline. City staff will work with the Cordova Recreation & Park District to confirm an endorsement for your project/program. It's the applicant's responsibility to communicate with district representatives before applying so there is clarity during the endorsement process. A special use permit application is required for any program or event planned at a CRPD facility. The special use application can be found at the CRPD website: https://www.cordovarpd.gov/. CRPD will only consider endorsement for applications submitted to the Community Enhancement & Investment Fund by the March 6 at Noon (12:00 p.m.). deadline. The Cordova Recreation & Park District reserves the right to withhold their endorsement of a project/program. Below is the list of staff to communicate with at school and park organizations: Folsom Cordova Unified School District: mwest@fcusd.org Cordova Recreation & Park District: cmichelotti@cordovarpd.gov Elk Grove Unified School District: mgulden@egusd.net Sacramento City Unified School District: Tuan-Duong@scusd.edu for Winn and Carver and Enrique-Flores@scusd.edu for Lincoln.
Primary street address of project/program	2701 Prospect Park Drive
List the city location of the project/program.	Rancho Cordova
Select State	CA
Provide the zip code for your project/program's primary location.	95670

If your project/program takes place at multiple locations, please list other or secondary locations.	N/A

Third Party Letters of Support (Note: Combine multiple files in one pdf before uploading)

SCM_Letter_of_Support_CCA2026.pdf

Does your project/program involve one of Rancho Cordova's school districts?	No
Does your project/program involve the Cordova Recreation & Park District?	No
	5 - Applicant Information
Name	Sherry Anne Dayag
Is this project/program on behalf of an organization?	Yes
What is the name of your organization?	Sacramento Children's Museum
What is your title and/or role at your organization?	Grants Coordinator
Provide contact phone number:	[redacted]
Provide contact email:	grants@sackids.org
Are you the primary point of contact on this project/program?	Yes

If your project/program was awarded the requested funds, are you authorized to sign the contract for your organization?	No, someone else would sign the contract
If selected by the City Council to receive an award, what is the name of the person at your organization who would sign the contract?	Sharon Stone Smith
What is the title of this individual?	Executive Director
What is the best phone number where we could contact the signatory?	[redacted]
What is the best email address to contact the signatory?	sharon@sackids.org
By checking here, I confirm that I am aware that my application materials will become public record.	checked
	Thank you for applying to the Community Enhancement & Investment Fund Fiscal Year 2026-2027 Grant Cycle. Applicants will receive an automated response through the grant portal. Community Enhancement & Investment Fund (CEIF) Staff will follow up with any questions regarding your Fiscal Year 2026-2027 application. For information about the next steps in the CEIF grant process, visit our website for more information. It is anticipated that applications will be reviewed by the City Council starting in April 2026 with adoption in June 2026. Should applicants be awarded by the City Council, funding would not be available to grantees until the start of Fiscal Year 2026-2027 and the completion of a contract. Please send an email to CEIFGrants@cityofranchocordova.org with any questions or comments.

Internal Form

Score n/a

ATTACHMENT 4

Organization Name: Sacramento Children's Museum (SCM)
Project Name: Aim High: Soaring with the Tuskegee Airmen Exhibit & Programming
Grant Program: City of Rancho Cordova Community Enhancement & Investment Fund
Grant Period: FY 2026-2028 (2-year)

Project Budget

EXPENSES	Project Amount	Amount Requested	Notes
Personnel Costs			
Executive Director	$ 2,000.00	$ 2,000.00	Personnel costs to oversee traveling exhibit & fundraising
Grants Coordinator	$ 500.00	$ 500.00	Personnel costs for fundraising
Supplies & Equipment			
Exhibit rental & shipping	$ 45,000.00	$ 18,000.00	Traveling exhibit rental fees & shipping costs
Exhibit installation	$ 20,000.00	$ 20,000.00	Receiving, inloading, installation set-up, maintenance, and tear down (includes rentals of forklifts, trucks, and other equipment)
Marketing & Outreach			
Marketing & graphic design	$ 4,500.00	$ 4,500.00	Paid social media posts, flyers/posters, and graphics
Other			
Free admission for Rancho Cordova residents	$ 5,000.00	$ 5,000.00	Cost of complimentary admission for Rancho Cordova residents at 3 community events
Total Expenses	**$ 77,000.00**	**$ 50,000.00**	

REVENUE	Project Amount	Amount Requested	Notes
Grant funding	$ 70,000.00	$ 50,000.00	$50,000 pending from Rancho Cordova CEIF $10,000 pending from Kelly Foundation $10,000 pending from Sacramento County TOT Grant
Corporate sponsorships	$ -	$ -	
Gift memberships	$ -	$ -	
Individual/private donations	$ -	$ -	
Museum admission	$ 7,000.00	$ -	Revenue from Museum ticket sales
Fundraisers, events, sales	$ -	$ -	
Other	$ -	$ -	
Total Revenue	**$ 77,000.00**	**$ 50,000.00**	

Revenue Over Expenses	**$**	**-**

CALIFORNIA CAPITAL AIRSHOW
HONORING OUR PAST – INSPIRING THE FUTURE

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BOARD MEMBER EMERITUS

March 5, 2026

Re: Letter of Support for Sacramento Children's Museum

Dear Grants Committee,

I am pleased to offer my strong support for Sacramento Children's Museum's grant proposal to feature a new children's exhibit highlighting the legacy of the Tuskegee Airmen and the fascinating world of flight.

The California Capital Airshow is proud to support educational efforts that inspire young people to explore aviation, aerospace, and STEM opportunities, and we are honored to partner regularly with Sacramento Children's Museum in sharing the rich aviation heritage of our region. Located near historic Mather Airport -- home to more than a century of aviation history -- the Museum provides an exceptional environment to spark curiosity in young minds and introduce children to the many rewarding careers across aviation, aerospace, and advanced technology industries. This work aligns closely with our own mission at the California Capital Airshow to inspire young people to explore these career fields through exciting and meaningful educational experiences.

Sacramento Children's Museum consistently delivers engaging, hands-on learning experiences that translate complex ideas into moments of discovery for young learners. Their commitment to interactive education and family-centered programming makes them an invaluable community resource and a trusted partner for organizations like ours that are dedicated to inspiring the next generation.

The proposed *Aim High* exhibit is a natural extension of the Museum's mission. Through hands-on and age-appropriate activities, children will explore the principles of aerodynamics and the mechanics of flight while discovering the heroic contributions of the Tuskegee Airmen. As the first Black military aviators in the U.S. Army Air Corps during World War II, the Tuskegee Airmen demonstrated extraordinary skill and courage while helping break barriers in American aviation. Their legacy remains especially meaningful in our region, which is fortunate to be home to two very active Tuskegee Airmen Heritage Chapters that continue to preserve and share these important stories. An exhibit like this will resonate deeply with the incredibly diverse students and families we serve, offering young learners both inspiration and a powerful reminder that aviation—and the opportunities it represents -- belongs to everyone.

I am confident that this exhibit will provide a meaningful educational experience for Rancho Cordova and the broader Sacramento region's children and families, inspiring the next generation of pilots, engineers, innovators, and leaders. Based on our experience partnering with Sacramento Children's Museum -- and with the strong support for youth aviation education across our region -- I believe in their ability to deliver an engaging and impactful exhibit that will benefit our community for years to come.

I fully support Sacramento Children's Museum in bringing this important and inspiring project to life. Thank you for your time and consideration.

Sincerely,

Darcy Brewer
Chief Executive Officer
California Capital Airshow

AIM HIGH

Soaring with the Tuskegee Airmen

AIM HIGH: Soaring with the Tuskegee Airmen, a new traveling exhibit that honors the legacy of the Tuskegee Airmen by exploring STEAM concepts and aviation themes through the lens of the pioneering group's Six Guiding Principles. Inspired by the tools and tasks connected to airplanes and flying, the interactive exhibits mix real artifacts with hands-on imaginative play. Aim High will let visitors of all ages imagine themselves as future aviators, inspired by the stories from the past.

COMPONENTS

COCKPIT FLIGHT TRAINER
Get an up-close view of the inside of a Cock Pit Flight Trainer. Watch videos of the plane taking off and landing from the captain's seat advantage point. This life-size Cock Pit Flight Trainer is perfect for dramatic play and also includes a row of actual airplane seats.

DRESS-UP, LIGHT-UP PHOTO-OP MIRROR
Choose the outfit of one of the many jobs necessary in the aviation and aeronautics industries. See yourself as a pilot, a mechanic, engineer, ground-crew or flight attendant. Be whoever you want to be.

LAND THE PLANE RADAR MAZE
Tilt the table to roll the ball through the maze while avoiding other aircraft in the sky, like an Air Traffic Controller. Take a breath, concentrate and see how long it takes you to land your airplane.

FLYING MACHINES IN MOTION
Bring drawings of flying machines to life using this praxinoscope, an early form of animation. From DaVinci's flying machine to hot air balloons and rockets, this creative and interactive device lets users spin pre-made illustrations and view them in motion on the mirrored display above.

WEARABLE WINGS & RUNWAY RUN
Assemble your own pair of wearable wings and then try them on for size before racing down the runway. Learn what the numbers and letters on the runway mean and imagine where you will go.

AIRPLANE HANGAR TABLE
Assemble a P51 Mustang using Discovery Cards to learn facts about the iconic airplane and how to create your own mini-version.

MAGNETIC TANGRAMS
Explore the six principles of the Tuskegee Airmen through tangrams. These seven piece geometric puzzles make shapes representing these principles and share the stories behind each one.

VIEW FINDER
Scroll through an interactive slide show featuring the historical images of the Tuskegee Airmen and their airplanes, as well as the generations of men and women who followed in their footsteps.

AIRPLANE LAUNCHER
Using just paper and tape, design and build your own custom airplane. Then, take it to the flight table and use a plunger launcher to propel the plane into the air

ARTIFACT DISPLAYS
Dive into aviation history by exploring historical artifacts and information panels on display. Learn about the legacy of the Tuskegee Airmen and their influence on the future of the aviation

SPECIFICATIONS

SIZE: 1,500 - 2,000 square feet
COST: $45,000 plus inbound shipping
CONTACT: exhibits@pittsburghkids.org

CREATED IN PARTNERSHIP BY

Hosanna House
Fostering Education • Inspiring Hope • Celebrating Life

children's museum pittsburgh

FOR MORE INFORMATION ABOUT CMP TRAVELING EXHIBITS
www.pittsburghkidsdesign.org

9. Application Withdrawn

Title

Sacramento Telangana Association: Festival of Flowers

03/04/2026

id. 53389145

by **General Board Email Sacramento Telangana Association** in **Fiscal Year 2026-2027 Community Enhancement & Investment Fund Grant Application**

[redacted]
Rancho Cordova, California
95742
CA
United States
[redacted]

Original Submission

03/04/2026

Score n/a

	Thank you for your interest in applying to the City of Rancho Cordova's Community Enhancement & Investment Fund. Applications are open from February 9, 2026, to March 13, 2026, Noon (12:00 p.m.) with a specific deadline of March 6th Noon (12:00 p.m.) for certain applications**. Before you begin, please read the notes about deadlines and certain types of grant applications/grants below. **School/Park Application Deadline **Note that projects or programs involving a park or school district have a deadline of March 6 Noon (12:00 p.m.) to allow for the third-party endorsement process by the grant deadline.** A Note about Religious Schools and the Application/Grant Process **Note for grant applications from religious schools. The United States Supreme Court has recently ruled in part that: “denying a generally available benefit [from government] solely on account of religious identity imposes a penalty on the free exercise of religion that can be justified only by a state interest of the highest order.” The City is of the opinion that not all grants to religious schools are prohibited under this and other similar rulings. However, these United States Supreme Court decisions remain in conflict with a section of the California State Constitution that says: “[n]either the Legislature, nor any county, city and county, township, school district, or other municipal corporation, shall ever make an appropriation, or pay from any public fund whatever, or grant anything to or in aid of any religious sect, church, creed, or sectarian purpose, or help to support or sustain any school, college, university, hospital, or other institution controlled by any religious creed, church, or sectarian denomination whatever; nor shall any grant or donation of personal property or real estate ever be made by the state, or any city, city and county, town, or other municipal corporation for any religious creed, church, or sectarian purpose whatever”. The City will accept applications for grants of these City public funds from religious schools, but will have language in the grant agreements to address the possibility and consequences of legal challenges and new court decisions on this and related topics. ** Future Grant Opportunities If you are interested in remaining up-to-date on available grants from the City of Rancho Cordova, click here to sign up for the Grants Interest List. A separate call for programming opportunities with the Rancho Cordova Youth Center is anticipated later in 2026. The list is also used to advertise separate art programs when funds are available. Ongoing Grant Opportunity The City of Rancho Cordova offers a microgrant opportunity. Learn more about those grants online.
Is this your first time applying for grant funding from the City of Rancho Cordova? As a first-time applicant, Community Enhancement & Investment Fund (CEIF) staff will contact you to discuss your project and grant application process.	No: Not a First Time Applicant

	1 - Project/Program Information Note: You can add a collaborator to this form to assist you in completing this application! A collaborator can help you complete this form by filling in fields for you, although only you can submit this form. You can add a collaborator by navigating to the top of the form and clicking on the 'Manage Collaborators' button. Simply enter their email address and click 'invite' to invite them as a collaborator. If you need further assistance, you may consult this Help article for more information.
Project/Program Name. Assign a project name to your project/program.	Sacramento Telangana Association: Festival of Flowers
Which category does your Project/Program align with?	Arts, Culture, History, & Entertainment
Provide a Project/Program Synopsis	The Festival of Flowers, organized by the Sacramento Telangana Association, brings together diverse cultures through traditional dances, music, art exhibitions, and educational workshops.

Provide a Project/Program Description	The Sacramento Telangana Association is a non-profit organization dedicated to preserving and promoting the rich culture and arts of India. Our mission is to bridge the gap between diverse ethnic communities and integrate multiple cultures through active civic engagement and community involvement. Every year, during the September–October time frame, the Sacramento Telangana Association organizes the festival “Bathukamma – Festival of Flowers.” This vibrant and colorful celebration highlights the intrinsic relationship between earth, water, plants, flowers, and human beings, fostering a sense of community integration and harmony. The festival honors the beauty of nature, the collective spirit of people, the indomitable strength of women, and the agrarian community’s scientific approach to preserving natural resources. The Bathukamma Festival is a unique cultural event that showcases the heritage of Telangana through a variety of activities. These include traditional dances, music performances, art exhibitions, and educational workshops on creating Bathukammas—beautiful, multi-layered floral arrangements. The festival also features authentic Telangana cuisine, which is served free to all attendees, offering a delightful cultural and culinary experience. The Sacramento Telangana Association is requesting community enhancement grant funds to support the Festival of Flowers. This event encourages active civic engagement and provides a strong sense of place for residents through arts, music, culture, education, and entertainment. Over the past decade, this festival has served as a platform for integrating diverse cultures into the community, fostering mutual respect, appreciation, and understanding. Over the last ten years, the festival has attracted approximately 2,000 participants annually from diverse ethnic and cultural backgrounds, including elected representatives, public officials, business leaders, community leaders, and volunteers. Measure H grant funding will enable us to further enhance, educate, and organize this unique festival in the heart of the City of Rancho Cordova. Bathukamma – Festival of Flowers has the potential to grow into a major regional tourist attraction, drawing visitors from across California and beyond. It promotes the image of Rancho Cordova as a vibrant cultural hub, enhancing the city’s reputation while contributing to economic growth. Visitors from cities such as Folsom, Roseville, Rocklin, Stockton, Yuba City, Fremont, San Ramon, Fresno, Modesto, and Fairfield help generate new revenue for the local economy and create opportunities for partnerships that improve quality of life in Rancho Cordova. In summary, the Bathukamma Festival is not just a celebration of flowers—it is a celebration of culture, community, and collective spirit. It serves as a vital platform for cultural exchange, education, and civic engagement, making it an invaluable asset to the Sacramento region.

Tell us about your Project/Program Team	Sacramento Telangana Association board has leadership and skill to organize the event with help of dedicated community volunteers, our team contains members from various professionals, doctors, business owners, educators, and community leaders. 1. Satish Pasupulati – Sr. Engineer/Entrepreneur/Community Leader-Founder 2. Sunitha Venteru – President and Sr.Engineer, UC Davis 3. Srinadha Babu - Member of Board of Trustee, Sr.Engineer, State of California 4. Laxma Legala – IT Professional/Community Volunteer 5. Anil Reddy – Community Volunteer 6. Srinivas Reddy Kumbam –Entrepreneur 7. Dr.Venu Bellum, MD Kaiserpermanete, Rancho Cordova 8. Dr.Nataraj Podishetty - Plant Sciences ,UC Davis
Provide your Project/Program Goals	Our goal is to integrate the diverse cultures and ethnicities of the Greater Sacramento region by providing enriching experiences in arts, music, culture, and education. This festival connects various sectors of the community through active civic engagement, fostering a strong sense of place and community pride. It strengthens community relationships through shared experiences in arts, music, culture, education, and entertainment. This festival is free and open to all community members. It remains a celebration of women's strength and symbolic empowerment. The event honors womanhood and nature's beauty by celebrating flowers and their significance in cultural tradition. It is essential to educate future generations about different cultures, traditions, and the diverse world we live in. As global connections continue to grow, cultural understanding becomes increasingly important. The Bathukamma festival helps children in our community learn to appreciate and respect various cultures and traditions, ultimately shaping them into more informed, compassionate, and responsible citizens. The festival features a variety of engaging programs, including traditional dancing, an art exhibition, an educational workshop on creating Bathukammas, and the opportunity to enjoy authentic Telangana cuisine—served free to all attendees. This festival supports the Rancho Cordova community by attracting visitors from across the Sacramento region, including cities such as Folsom, Roseville, Rocklin, Stockton, Yuba City, Fremont, San Ramon, Fresno, Modesto, and Fairfield. The influx of visitors contributes new revenue to the local economy and creates opportunities for partnerships that enhance the overall quality of life in Rancho Cordova.

Optional File Upload: Provide any additional records to supplement your program/project application. Note: Combine multiple files in one pdf before uploading.

2025_pics.pdf

2 - Funding & Costs

Funding Request - Complete this section with total dollar amounts for your project/program's costs	Funds are generally not intended to be used for deferred maintenance and ongoing operational needs. The funds are intended for enhancing and investing in the City of Rancho Cordova. If your project/program is awarded, the costs identified below would be reviewed and potentially open to modification during a contracting phase (if a grant is awarded by the City Council). If awarded, grant funds are not available until a contract is executed during Fiscal Year 2026-2027.
Total project/program cost*	30000
What is the amount of Community Enhancement & Investment Fund grant monies requested?	20000
Does your project/program involve construction of any facilities or improvements upon any property?	No
What is the total cost of personnel for your project/program?	0
What is the total cost of supplies for your project/program?	15000
What is the total cost of transportation for your project/program?	0
What is the total cost of equipment for your project/program?	5000
What is the total cost of any miscellaneous expenses for your project/program?	5000

Upload your project/program's budget as a .pdf file. Include the categories and their dollar amounts along with information about any other funding sources to demonstrate your project/program's total budget. Note, the sum of all categories must match the total project or program cost, or the amount requested of CEIF if there is no other funding source. Please clearly illustrate any matching funds or funding from other sources in your project/program budget, including in-kind sources. Note: Combine multiple files in one pdf before uploading.

Has your organization sought or will seek other funding for this project/program?	Yes, actively seeking funding support or have secured additional funding support for this project/program.
Describe any funding secured or being sought for this project/program.	We have few annual sponsors for our events who contributes from 500 to 2000. For this event we have secured 5000 dollars funding.
Please describe any ongoing operations and maintenance costs beyond Fiscal Year 2026/2027, if applicable.	N/A
Do you have volunteer or in-kind support for your project? This could include volunteers for an activity/event that is ongoing or a one-time experience.	No
Is this a single year request or a request for funding for multiple years?	Single Year
Has your project/program received funding from the Community Enhancement & Investment Fund previously?	Yes
How many years has your project/program received funding from the Community Enhancement & Investment Fund?	5 or more years

How much funding has your organization received from the Community Enhancement & Investment Fund through our traditional grants (not including microgrants)?	More than 50000 dollars over the years
	3 - Project/Program Details Grant applications are typically approved to occur between July 2026 through June 2027. What is your plan to complete this project/program within this time frame?
Anticipated Start Date (July 1 is the soonest available start date)	10/17/2026
Anticipated End Date (typically projects/programs end by June 30)	10/17/2026
Please describe your project/program schedule	The Flower Festival is a single-day event that will be scheduled based on the availability of Navigator School on October 17 or 18, 2026.
What challenges do you anticipate in your project/program's implementation? What is your plan to complete your project/program should those or other challenges arise?	In case of bad weather, we may need to postpone the event to the following day or the next weekend.
How many individuals does your project/program serve?	About 2000
How many Rancho Cordova residents does your project/program serve?	1500
	4 - Project/Program Location

Address Verification	If you need to check if your project is in Rancho Cordova, type in your program/project's location in the Assessor Parcel Viewer: https://assessorparcelviewer.saccounty.gov/jsviewer/assessor.html
School and park related applications are due before Noon (12:00 p.m.) on March 6, 2026, to allow for the endorsement process.	Please note that projects or programs that are proposed on property owned or operated by outside agencies or a private party will require coordination with and potentially approvals from outside agencies, organizations, and/or the private party. Include whether you have received a letter of support for the project/program from the property owner. Upload any letters of support with your application. City staff will verify third-party permits have been discussed. In your planning discussions, be sure to discuss any necessary insurance or volunteer requirements that may increase budget costs. School Sites If your project/program is intended to operate at a public K-12 school site, your application is due by March 6 at Noon (12:00 p.m.). City staff will work with the school districts to confirm an endorsement for your project/program. It's the applicant's responsibility to communicate with school site and district representatives before applying so there is clarity during the endorsement process. Districts will only consider endorsement for applications submitted to the Community Enhancement & Investment Fund by the March 6 at Noon (12:00 p.m.). deadline. Each participating school superintendent reserves the right to withhold their endorsement of a project/program. Parks If your project/program is intended to operate at a park or community center site, your application is due by the March 6 at Noon (12:00 p.m.). deadline. City staff will work with the Cordova Recreation & Park District to confirm an endorsement for your project/program. It's the applicant's responsibility to communicate with district representatives before applying so there is clarity during the endorsement process. A special use permit application is required for any program or event planned at a CRPD facility. The special use application can be found at the CRPD website: https://www.cordovarpd.gov/. CRPD will only consider endorsement for applications submitted to the Community Enhancement & Investment Fund by the March 6 at Noon (12:00 p.m.). deadline. The Cordova Recreation & Park District reserves the right to withhold their endorsement of a project/program. Below is the list of staff to communicate with at school and park organizations: Folsom Cordova Unified School District: mwest@fcusd.org Cordova Recreation & Park District: cmichelotti@cordovarpd.gov Elk Grove Unified School District: mgulden@egusd.net Sacramento City Unified School District: Tuan-Duong@scusd.edu for Winn and Carver and Enrique-Flores@scusd.edu for Lincoln.
Primary street address of project/program	10679 Bear Hollow Dr
List the city location of the project/program.	Rancho Cordova
Select State	CA

Provide the zip code for your project/program's primary location.	95670
If your project/program takes place at multiple locations, please list other or secondary locations.	
Third Party Letters of Support (Note: Combine multiple files in one pdf before uploading)	
Does your project/program involve one of Rancho Cordova's school districts?	Yes
Is the project/program requesting facility use only or is this a request to partner with the school district?	Facility Use Only. Visit the school district website for facility use information.
Please select all the school districts which your project/program intends to involve:	Folsom Cordova USD
Please select one or more of the Folsom Cordova Unified School District school facilities which your project/program will involve:	Navigator Elementary School
Have you reached out to a contact at the school(s) you indicated above?	Yes

Please provide the names of your contacts at the school(s) or district(s) who are familiar with your project/program.	Ariel Gilson
Does your project/program involve the Cordova Recreation & Park District?	No
	5 - Applicant Information
Name	Sunitha Venteru
Is this project/program on behalf of an organization?	Yes
What is the name of your organization?	Sacramento Telangana Association
What is your title and/or role at your organization?	President
Provide contact phone number:	[redacted]
Provide contact email:	[redacted]
Are you the primary point of contact on this project/program?	Yes
If your project/program was awarded the requested funds, are you authorized to sign the contract for your organization?	Yes, I would be the one to sign the contract

By checking here, I confirm that I am aware that my application materials will become public record.	checked

Thank you for applying to the Community Enhancement & Investment Fund Fiscal Year 2026-2027 Grant Cycle. Applicants will receive an automated response through the grant portal. Community Enhancement & Investment Fund (CEIF) Staff will follow up with any questions regarding your Fiscal Year 2026-2027 application. For information about the next steps in the CEIF grant process, visit our website for more information. It is anticipated that applications will be reviewed by the City Council starting in April 2026 with adoption in June 2026. Should applicants be awarded by the City Council, funding would not be available to grantees until the start of Fiscal Year 2026-2027 and the completion of a contract. Please send an email to CEIFGrants@cityofranchocordova.org with any questions or comments.

Internal Form

Score	n/a

Total Project Cost: $30000
Matching Funds: $10000
Total Measure H Funds request for 2025: $20000
Festival of flowers expenses:

Expense	Estimated breakdown Forecast -2025/26
Rent for the facility and equipment	$4000
Event promotion	$1000
Event Insurance	$3000
Event Setup and supplies	$8000
Educational workshop	$1000
Festive Dinner	$10000
Cleaning after the event	$1000
Security	$1000
Total Project Cost	**$30000**
Matching Funds	**$10000**
Measure H grant request	**$20000**

Skyhawks
DHG PROFESSIONAL
ITEM #
FM-HPSWFB

ion

Title

Teatro Espejo: Season 51

03/04/2026

by **manuel pickett** in **Fiscal Year 2026-2027 Community Enhancement & Investment Fund Grant Application**

id. 53386469

[redacted]
Sacramento
Rancho Cordova, California
95670
California
United States
[redacted]

Original Submission

03/11/2026

Score n/a

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Is this your first time applying for grant funding from the City of Rancho Cordova? As a first-time applicant, Community Enhancement & Investment Fund (CEIF) staff will contact you to discuss your project and grant application process.	Yes: First Time Applicant

	1 - Project/Program Information Note: You can add a collaborator to this form to assist you in completing this application! A collaborator can help you complete this form by filling in fields for you, although only you can submit this form. You can add a collaborator by navigating to the top of the form and clicking on the 'Manage Collaborators' button. Simply enter their email address and click 'invite' to invite them as a collaborator. If you need further assistance, you may consult this Help article for more information.
Project/Program Name. Assign a project name to your project/program.	Teatro Espejo: Season 51
Which category does your Project/Program align with?	Arts, Culture, History, & Entertainment
Provide a Project/Program Synopsis	Teatro Espejo's 51st season will feature resonant and electric offerings for the community including a piece of original theater created by our ensemble of teatristas, a comedic one-man show, and our bi-annual Intercultural Festival of the Arts.
Provide a Project/Program Description	**THE SEASON** Teatro Espejo's 51st season is designed as a three-part, community-centered initiative serving Rancho Cordova and greater Sacramento County through original artistic creation and intercultural collaboration. The season begins with the development and production of a new, collectively created original play. Rooted in community stories and devised in collaboration with local artists, this work will reflect the lived experiences, histories, and aspirations of Rancho Cordova residents. The creation process will include artist convenings, story circles, and rehearsals that prioritize multigenerational participation. The production will be presented at Fat Elephant Theatre, with accessible ticket options to ensure broad community access. The second show of our season is a new comedic one-man show written and performed by a local favorite, Ike Torres. Having performed several of his original solo shows throughout the Sacramento region, Ike has cultivated a local following and will premiere his newest show, HUMANIDAD, in collaboration with a creative team of teatristas. The show, while still in development, will touch on themes of being Latino in today's political climate, the "American Dream", and gender expression. With a shorter run, HUMANIDAD will also be presented at Fat Elephant Theatre. The third anchor of the season is the Intercultural Festival of the Arts, a week-long celebration produced in partnership with culturally specific arts organizations including Matriarchy Theatre, Sinag-tala Filipino Theater, Ma Series Arts, and PNDA Lahiarts. Each partner will curate an evening of performance representing distinct cultural traditions across theater, dance, music, spoken word, and visual art. The festival culminates in a free community block party featuring live music, local vendors, teaching artists, and family-friendly activities.

	Together, these programs advance Rancho Cordova's goals of community enhancement by: • Expanding access to arts programming at low cost • Increasing visibility and opportunity for historically under-resourced BIPOC artists • Strengthening cross-cultural understanding and civic connection • Activating local venues and public spaces • Driving foot traffic to nearby small businesses during performances and festival events **COMMUNITY BENEFIT** Rancho Cordova is home to a diverse and growing population. However, culturally specific performing arts opportunities that reflect the identities of Latine, Black, Indigenous, and AAPI residents remain limited. Teatro Espejo's season directly addresses this gap by creating spaces where community members see their stories, languages, and aesthetics represented. Our plays offer local artists paid professional opportunities while fostering collaboration and skill-building. The Intercultural Festival expands audiences across communities, breaking down silos between organizations and encouraging shared participation. The culminating block party and marketplace support local creative entrepreneurs and vendors, contributing to neighborhood vibrancy and economic activity. By combining original storytelling with intercultural celebration, Teatro Espejo's season strengthens cultural vitality, supports economic activity, promotes inclusive public gathering, and deepens community pride in Rancho Cordova. It represents both artistic excellence and meaningful community investment.
Tell us about your Project/Program Team	**Dr. Manuel Pickett (Lead Festival Organizer & Lead Season Producer)** Manuel joined El Teatro Campesino in 1968 and founded Teatro Espejo in 1974. He was hired by Sacramento State to create a Chicano Teatro program, where he retired after 33 years. Recently, Manuel was recognized by California Arts Council as one of 20 artists in the state, awarded with a Legacy Individual Artist Award. **Nicole Limón (Associate Festival Organizer)** Nicole is a teatrista and teaches feminist, Latinx and multicultural theatre at Sacramento State. She holds an MFA in Acting from UC Davis, and a BA's in Theatre and Ethnic Studies.
Provide your Project/Program Goals	Teatro Espejo's season has five primary goals, each supported by measurable outcomes and clear internal accountability. **GOAL 1: PRODUCE AND PRESENT A HIGH-QUALITY, COMMUNITY-ROOTED ORIGINAL PLAY.** We will collectively create and stage one original theatrical work developed in collaboration with local artists and community members.

Metrics:
• Minimum of 8 public performances
• At least 400 attendees
• Engagement of 10–15 paid local artists and collaborators
• Post-show audience surveys measuring cultural relevance and perceived impact (target: 85% positive response rate)

GOAL 2: PRODUCE AND PRESENT AN ENGAGING SOLO SHOW.

We will support Ike Torres' development of a new one-man show.

Metrics:
• Minimum of 6 public performances
• At least 300 attendees
• Engagement of 8-10 paid local artists and collaborators
• Post-show audience surveys measuring cultural relevance and perceived impact (target: 85% positive response rate)

GOAL 3: PRODUCE A SUCCESSFUL INTERCULTURAL FESTIVAL OF THE ARTS THAT STRENGTHENS CROSS-CULTURAL COLLABORATION.

We will convene partner organizations to present a week-long series of performances and a culminating community celebration.

Metrics:
• Participation of at least 4 partners
• 5–7 days of programming
• 900–1,300 total attendees across festival events
• At least 12 paid festival artists and 4 teaching artists/panelists
• 10–15 local vendors and community partners at the block party
• Documented increase in cross-promotional audience engagement (measured through shared mailing lists, social media analytics, and ticket origin data)

GOAL 4: INCREASE ACCESS TO ARTS PROGRAMMING FOR HISTORICALLY UNDERREPRESENTED COMMUNITIES.
We will ensure that cost is not a barrier to participation.

Metrics:
• Minimum 30% of tickets offered free or at sliding-scale rates
• One fully free public event (block party)
• Multilingual marketing materials distributed in community spaces
• Audience demographic data collected voluntarily to assess reach across age, ethnicity, and income levels

GOAL 5: STRENGTHEN LOCAL ECONOMIC AND CIVIC VITALITY.

Through performances and public gatherings, we will contribute to increased foot traffic and local business engagement.

Metrics:
• Partnerships with local small businesses for cross-promotion
• Vendor sales participation at the block party
• Audience survey question measuring whether attendees visited nearby

	businesses before or after events **MAINTAINING FOCUS AND ACCOUNTABILITY** Internally, to ensure steady progress toward these goals, Teatro Espejo will: • Establish a detailed production calendar with monthly benchmarks • Hold biweekly planning meetings during peak production periods • Conduct post-event debrief sessions with partners • Review attendance and budget reports weekly
Optional File Upload: Provide any additional records to supplement your program/project application. Note: Combine multiple files in one pdf before uploading.	
	2 - Funding & Costs
Funding Request - Complete this section with total dollar amounts for your project/program's costs	Funds are generally not intended to be used for deferred maintenance and ongoing operational needs. The funds are intended for enhancing and investing in the City of Rancho Cordova. If your project/program is awarded, the costs identified below would be reviewed and potentially open to modification during a contracting phase (if a grant is awarded by the City Council). If awarded, grant funds are not available until a contract is executed during Fiscal Year 2026-2027.
Total project/program cost*	54760
What is the amount of Community Enhancement & Investment Fund grant monies requested?	35000
Does your project/program involve construction of any facilities or improvements upon any property?	No
What is the total cost of personnel for your project/program?	37200

What is the total cost of supplies for your project/program?	4800
What is the total cost of transportation for your project/program?	1200
What is the total cost of equipment for your project/program?	1750
What is the total cost of any miscellaneous expenses for your project/program?	9810

Upload your project/program's budget as a .pdf file. Include the categories and their dollar amounts along with information about any other funding sources to demonstrate your project/program's total budget. Note, the sum of all categories must match the total project or program cost, or the amount requested of CEIF if there is no other funding source. Please clearly illustrate any matching funds or funding from other sources in your project/program budget, including in-kind sources. Note: Combine multiple files in one pdf before uploading.

Teatro_Espejo_Project-Program_Budget.pdf

Has your organization sought or will seek other funding for this project/program?	Yes, actively seeking funding support or have secured additional funding support for this project/program.
Describe any funding secured or being sought for this project/program.	Teatro Espejo maintains diverse income streams to support our robust season programming. For Season 51, we have pursued or will pursue the following revenue generators, all of which are currently pending/projected: CONTRIBUTED INCOME Sacramento County California Arts Council National Association of Latino Arts & Culture Costco Foundation Individual Donors

Please describe any ongoing operations and maintenance costs beyond Fiscal Year 2026/2027, if applicable.	Teatro Espejo's season does not create any long-term capital improvements or facility obligations that would generate ongoing maintenance costs beyond the grant period. Ongoing operational costs associated with Teatro Espejo's annual programming include typical artistic and administrative expenses such as artist stipends, venue rentals, insurance, marketing, and production materials. These recurring costs are incorporated into our standard annual operating budget and supported through a combination of ticket revenue, individual giving, government grants, foundation support, and partnerships. Because this project relies on short-term venue rentals and temporary event permits rather than permanent installations, there are no additional maintenance, repair, or long-term upkeep expenses anticipated beyond Fiscal Year 2026–2027.
Do you have volunteer or in-kind support for your project? This could include volunteers for an activity/event that is ongoing or a one-time experience.	Yes
Please share the total dollar amount for volunteer/in-kind support using $34.79 as the national rate for a volunteer hour. Source: Value of Volunteer Time	2922.36

Please provide a worksheet explaining your volunteer/in-kind contribution. You may upload a file in the following formats: CSV, DOC, DOCX, or PDF.

Teatro_Espejo_Volunteer_Hours.pdf

Is this a single year request or a request for funding for multiple years?	Single Year
Has your project/program received funding from the Community Enhancement & Investment Fund previously?	No

3 - Project/Program Details Grant applications are typically approved to occur between July 2026 through June 2027. What is your plan to complete this project/program within this time frame?	
Anticipated Start Date (July 1 is the soonest available start date)	8/20/2026
Anticipated End Date (typically projects/programs end by June 30)	6/10/2027

Please describe your project/program schedule

AUGUST-SEPTEMBER 2026
Pre-production for the collectively created original play. Teatro Espejo will convene participating artists for story circles, research sessions, and creative development workshops. During this period, the artistic team will define themes, structure, and production needs. Key production personnel will be contracted and rehearsal schedules finalized.

OCTOBER 2026
Full rehearsals for the original play begin. Production elements including scenic, lighting, costumes, and sound will be built and finalized. Marketing efforts intensify, including multilingual promotion, social media campaigns, and community-based outreach.

NOVEMBER 2026
Public performances of the original play will be presented in Rancho Cordova. Post-show talkbacks and audience surveys will be conducted to measure impact and engagement.

DECEMBER 2026
Rehearsals for Ike Torres' Humanidad begins.

JANUARY 2027
Public performances of Humanidad will be presented in Rancho Cordova. Post-show talkbacks and audience surveys will be conducted to measure impact and engagement.

FEBRUARY-MARCH 2027
Planning and coordination for the Intercultural Festival of the Arts will take place in collaboration with partner organizations. Artistic curation will be finalized, festival artists and vendors confirmed, permits secured, and production logistics completed. Cross-promotional marketing campaigns will activate shared audiences.

APRIL-MAY 2027
The Intercultural Festival of the Arts will be presented as a week-long series of performances culminating in a free community block party and marketplace. Attendance tracking, documentation, and community engagement activities will be conducted throughout.

JUNE 2027
Project evaluation and reporting. The team will hold partner debrief meetings, review attendance and survey data, reconcile budgets, and prepare final reports. Findings will inform planning for the following season.

What challenges do you anticipate in your project/program's implementation? What is your plan to complete your project/program should those or other challenges arise?	As a small, artist-led organization, the primary challenges we anticipate involve funding timing and audience development. **FUNDING AND CASH FLOW** As with many nonprofit arts organizations, grant disbursement timelines and reimbursement-based funding can create temporary cash flow challenges. Response: Teatro Espejo maintains a diversified funding strategy that includes individual donations, earned income, and government support. The project budget is built conservatively, and programming can be scaled proportionally to confirmed revenue. If necessary, production elements such as design scope, marketing spend, or number of performances can be adjusted without compromising artistic integrity or community access. **AUDIENCE VARIABILITY** While previous iterations of the festival have demonstrated strong attendance, audience behavior can shift due to economic pressures and/or competing events. Response: Our outreach strategy prioritizes direct, relationship-based engagement through partner organizations, community leaders, churches, schools, and small businesses. We will employ multilingual marketing, sliding-scale ticketing, and free public components to reduce barriers to participation. Should attendance projections shift, we will increase targeted outreach and leverage partner mailing lists and cross-promotion. **EXTERNAL FACTORS** Unforeseen circumstances such as venue availability changes, permitting delays, or public safety considerations may arise. Response: We secure permits and venue contracts well in advance and maintain open communication with venue partners and the City. Backup dates and alternative space options will be identified during early planning stages to ensure continuity. Teatro Espejo’s 50-year history demonstrates resilience and adaptability. Our implementation strategy emphasizes early planning, shared leadership, fiscal conservatism, and scalable programming. Should challenges arise, we are prepared to adjust responsibly while ensuring that the core goals of artistic excellence, community access, and intercultural collaboration remain intact.
How many individuals does your project/program serve?	1,900
How many Rancho Cordova residents does your project/program serve?	1,200

4 - Project/Program Location

Address Verification	If you need to check if your project is in Rancho Cordova, type in your program/project's location in the Assessor Parcel Viewer: https://assessorparcelviewer.saccounty.gov/jsviewer/assessor.html
School and park related applications are due before Noon (12:00 p.m.) on March 6, 2026, to allow for the endorsement process.	Please note that projects or programs that are proposed on property owned or operated by outside agencies or a private party will require coordination with and potentially approvals from outside agencies, organizations, and/or the private party. Include whether you have received a letter of support for the project/program from the property owner. Upload any letters of support with your application. City staff will verify third-party permits have been discussed. In your planning discussions, be sure to discuss any necessary insurance or volunteer requirements that may increase budget costs. School Sites If your project/program is intended to operate at a public K-12 school site, your application is due by March 6 at Noon (12:00 p.m.). City staff will work with the school districts to confirm an endorsement for your project/program. It's the applicant's responsibility to communicate with school site and district representatives before applying so there is clarity during the endorsement process. Districts will only consider endorsement for applications submitted to the Community Enhancement & Investment Fund by the March 6 at Noon (12:00 p.m.). deadline. Each participating school superintendent reserves the right to withhold their endorsement of a project/program. Parks If your project/program is intended to operate at a park or community center site, your application is due by the March 6 at Noon (12:00 p.m.). deadline. City staff will work with the Cordova Recreation & Park District to confirm an endorsement for your project/program. It's the applicant's responsibility to communicate with district representatives before applying so there is clarity during the endorsement process. A special use permit application is required for any program or event planned at a CRPD facility. The special use application can be found at the CRPD website: https://www.cordovarpd.gov/. CRPD will only consider endorsement for applications submitted to the Community Enhancement & Investment Fund by the March 6 at Noon (12:00 p.m.). deadline. The Cordova Recreation & Park District reserves the right to withhold their endorsement of a project/program. Below is the list of staff to communicate with at school and park organizations: Folsom Cordova Unified School District: mwest@fcusd.org Cordova Recreation & Park District: cmichelotti@cordovarpd.gov Elk Grove Unified School District: mgulden@egusd.net Sacramento City Unified School District: Tuan-Duong@scusd.edu for Winn and Carver and Enrique-Flores@scusd.edu for Lincoln.
Primary street address of project/program	9845 Horn Rd
List the city location of the project/program.	Rancho Cordova
Select State	CA

Provide the zip code for your project/program's primary location.	95827
If your project/program takes place at multiple locations, please list other or secondary locations.	The Intercultural Festival of the Arts will have some events, such as the block party, held at another TBA Rancho Cordova venue. Around 90% of the programming will be held at Fat Elephant Theatre in Rancho Cordova.

Third Party Letters of Support (Note: Combine multiple files in one pdf before uploading)

Teatro_Espejo_Rental_Confirmation_Letter_1.pdf

Does your project/program involve one of Rancho Cordova's school districts?	No
Does your project/program involve the Cordova Recreation & Park District?	No
	5 - Applicant Information
Name	Manuel Pickett
Is this project/program on behalf of an organization?	Yes
What is the name of your organization?	Teatro Espejo
What is your title and/or role at your organization?	Founding Artistic Director
Provide contact phone number:	[redacted]
Provide contact email:	[redacted]
Are you the primary point of contact on this project/program?	Yes

If your project/program was awarded the requested funds, are you authorized to sign the contract for your organization?	Yes, I would be the one to sign the contract
By checking here, I confirm that I am aware that my application materials will become public record.	checked
	Thank you for applying to the Community Enhancement & Investment Fund Fiscal Year 2026-2027 Grant Cycle. Applicants will receive an automated response through the grant portal. Community Enhancement & Investment Fund (CEIF) Staff will follow up with any questions regarding your Fiscal Year 2026-2027 application. For information about the next steps in the CEIF grant process, visit our website for more information. It is anticipated that applications will be reviewed by the City Council starting in April 2026 with adoption in June 2026. Should applicants be awarded by the City Council, funding would not be available to grantees until the start of Fiscal Year 2026-2027 and the completion of a contract. Please send an email to CEIFGrants@cityofranchocordova.org with any questions or comments.

Internal Form

Score	n/a

SHOW 1: *TBA TITLE / COLLECTIVE CREATION*			
PERSONNEL EXPENSES	**QTY**	**BUDGET**	**TOTAL**
Producer	1	$ 1,000	$ 1,000
Director	1	$ 1,000	$ 1,000
Actor	6	$ 500	$ 3,000
Stage Manager	1	$ 400	$ 400
Asst. Stage Manager	1	$ 300	$ 300
Scenic Designer	1	$ 600	$ 600
Lighting Designer	1	$ 400	$ 400
Costume Designer	1	$ 350	$ 350
Props Designer	1	$ 150	$ 150
Choreographer	1	$ 100	$ 100
Technical Director	1	$ 600	$ 600
Scenic Builders	2	$ 400	$ 800
House Manager	1	$ 150	$ 150
Board Operator	1	$ 200	$ 200
Videographer	1	$ 400	$ 400
Graphic Designer	1	$ 350	$ 350
Personnel Expenses Total:			**$ 9,800**
PRODUCTION EXPENSES	**QTY**	**BUDGET**	**TOTAL**
Venue Rental		$ 2,500	$ 2,500
Scenic Supplies		$ 800	$ 800
Costume Supplies		$ 500	$ 500
Prop Supplies		$ 150	$ 150
Sound Supplies		$ 50	$ 50
Printing		$ 500	$ 500
Overhead		$ 750	$ 750
Meeting/Travel		$ 400	$ 400
Production Expenses Total:			**$ 5,650**
SHOW 1 Total Expenses:			**$ 15,450**

SHOW 2: *HUMANIDAD*			
PERSONNEL EXPENSES	**QTY**	**BUDGET**	**TOTAL**
Producer	1	$ 1,000	$ 1,000
Director	1	$ 1,000	$ 1,000
Actor	1	$ 500	$ 500
Stage Manager	1	$ 400	$ 400
Lighting Designer	1	$ 400	$ 400
Scenic Designer	1	$ 400	$ 400
Technical Director	1	$ 600	$ 600
Scenic Builders	2	$ 400	$ 800
House Manager	1	$ 150	$ 150
Board Operator	1	$ 200	$ 200
Videographer		$ 300	$ 300
Graphic Designer		$ 350	$ 350
Personnel Expenses Total:			**$ 5,100**
PRODUCTION EXPENSES	**QTY**	**BUDGET**	**TOTAL**
Venue Rental		$ 1,900	$ 1,900
Scenic Supplies		$ 500	$ 500
Costume Supplies		$ 200	$ 200
Prop Supplies		$ 100	$ 100
Printing		$ 300	$ 300
Overhead		$ 750	$ 750

Meeting/Travel		$ 200	$ 200
Production Expenses Total:			**$ 3,950**
SHOW 2 Total Expenses:			**$ 9,050**

SHOW 3: INTERCULTURAL FESTIVAL OF THE ARTS			
PERSONNEL EXPENSES	**QTY**	**BUDGET**	**TOTAL**
Lead Producer	1	$ 2,500	$ 2,500
Co-Producers	4	$ 1,500	$ 6,000
Assistant Producers	2	$ 900	$ 1,800
Festival Featured Artists	12	$ 325	$ 3,900
Festival Teaching Artists/Pane	4	$ 325	$ 1,300
Production Manager	1	$ 800	$ 800
Stage Manager	1	$ 700	$ 700
Lighting Designer	1	$ 600	$ 600
Scenic Designer	1	$ 600	$ 600
Technical Director	1	$ 750	$ 750
Scenic Builders	2	$ 400	$ 800
Block Party Live Bands	2	$ 600	$ 1,200
Videographer	1	$ 650	$ 650
Graphic Designer	1	$ 350	$ 350
House Manager	1	$ 150	$ 150
Board Operator	1	$ 200	$ 200
Personnel Expenses Total:			**$ 22,300**
PRODUCTION EXPENSES	**QTY**	**BUDGET**	**TOTAL**
Venue Rentals		$ 2,600	$ 2,600
Equipment		$ 1,750	$ 1,750
Supplies		$ 1,000	$ 1,000
Printing		$ 700	$ 700
Overhead		$ 1,000	$ 1,000
Meeting/Travel		$ 600	$ 600
Insurance		$ 160	$ 160
Permits		$ 150	$ 150
Production Expenses Total:			**$ 7,960**
SHOW 3 Total Expenses:			**$ 30,260**

TOTAL SEASON PRODUCTION EXPENSES	**$ 54,760**

CONTRIBUTED INCOME	
Rancho Cordova CEIF Grant	$ 35,000
California Arts Council Impact Projects Grant	$ 9,260
Sacramento County Grant	$ 10,500

TOTAL REVENUE	**$ 54,760**

TEATRO ESPEJO VOLUNTEER HOURS

SHOW 1: *TBA TITLE / COLLECTIVE CREATION*			
POSITION	**QTY**	**HOURS**	**TOTAL HRS**
Usher	8	3	24
Clean-Up Crew	3	4	12
Website Maintenance	1	12	12
SHOW 2: *HUMANIDAD*			
POSITION	**QTY**	**HOURS**	**TOTAL HRS**
Usher	6	3	18
Clean-Up Crew	3	4	12
Website Maintenance	1	12	12
SHOW 3: INTERCULTURAL FESTIVAL OF THE ARTS			
POSITION	**QTY**	**HOURS**	**TOTAL HRS**
Usher	10	3	30
Clean-Up Crew	5	4	20
Website Maintenance	1	20	20

TOTAL VOLUNTEER HOURS: 160

at $34.79 / Hour: $5,566.40

Teatro Espejo
Rancho Cordova, CA 95827

March 8, 2026

Dear Manuel,

This letter will confirm that the Rancho Cordova Film Office will rent, and make Fat Elephant Theater at 9845 Horn Roads, Sacramento available to your organization to present the following shows:

1. Collective Creation – Fall 2026 – Cost $2,500.00
2. Humanidad – February 2027 – Cost $1,900.00
3. Intercultural Feat I AI – May 2027 – Cost $2,600.00

It is understood that further discussion will take place for Fat Elephant Theater to receive a percentage of box office TBD.

Please let me know if you have any questions and look forward to working with you on theses productions.

Sincerely,

Charles Lago
Executive Director.
The Rancho Cordova Film Office / Fat Elephant Theater
9845 Horn Road, Suite 100,
Sacramento, CA 95827
clago@calcaparts.org
[redacted]

12. Application Withdrawn

Title

American River Parkway Half Marathon

03/13/2026

id. 53481992

by **ken Press** in **Fiscal Year 2026-2027 Community Enhancement & Investment Fund Grant Application**

[redacted]
carmichael, California
95608
CA
United States
[redacted]

Original Submission

03/13/2026

Score n/a

	Thank you for your interest in applying to the City of Rancho Cordova's Community Enhancement & Investment Fund. Applications are open from February 9, 2026, to March 13, 2026, Noon (12:00 p.m.) with a specific deadline of March 6th Noon (12:00 p.m.) for certain applications**. Before you begin, please read the notes about deadlines and certain types of grant applications/grants below. **School/Park Application Deadline **Note that projects or programs involving a park or school district have a deadline of March 6 Noon (12:00 p.m.) to allow for the third-party endorsement process by the grant deadline.** A Note about Religious Schools and the Application/Grant Process **Note for grant applications from religious schools. The United States Supreme Court has recently ruled in part that: “denying a generally available benefit [from government] solely on account of religious identity imposes a penalty on the free exercise of religion that can be justified only by a state interest of the highest order.” The City is of the opinion that not all grants to religious schools are prohibited under this and other similar rulings. However, these United States Supreme Court decisions remain in conflict with a section of the California State Constitution that says: “[n]either the Legislature, nor any county, city and county, township, school district, or other municipal corporation, shall ever make an appropriation, or pay from any public fund whatever, or grant anything to or in aid of any religious sect, church, creed, or sectarian purpose, or help to support or sustain any school, college, university, hospital, or other institution controlled by any religious creed, church, or sectarian denomination whatever; nor shall any grant or donation of personal property or real estate ever be made by the state, or any city, city and county, town, or other municipal corporation for any religious creed, church, or sectarian purpose whatever”. The City will accept applications for grants of these City public funds from religious schools, but will have language in the grant agreements to address the possibility and consequences of legal challenges and new court decisions on this and related topics. ** Future Grant Opportunities If you are interested in remaining up-to-date on available grants from the City of Rancho Cordova, click here to sign up for the Grants Interest List. A separate call for programming opportunities with the Rancho Cordova Youth Center is anticipated later in 2026. The list is also used to advertise separate art programs when funds are available. Ongoing Grant Opportunity The City of Rancho Cordova offers a microgrant opportunity. Learn more about those grants online.
Is this your first time applying for grant funding from the City of Rancho Cordova? As a first-time applicant, Community Enhancement & Investment Fund (CEIF) staff will contact you to discuss your project and grant application process.	No: Not a First Time Applicant

	1 - Project/Program Information Note: You can add a collaborator to this form to assist you in completing this application! A collaborator can help you complete this form by filling in fields for you, although only you can submit this form. You can add a collaborator by navigating to the top of the form and clicking on the 'Manage Collaborators' button. Simply enter their email address and click 'invite' to invite them as a collaborator. If you need further assistance, you may consult this Help article for more information.
Project/Program Name. Assign a project name to your project/program.	American River Parkway Half Marathon
Which category does your Project/Program align with?	Arts, Culture, History, & Entertainment
Provide a Project/Program Synopsis	Provide a positive race experience for participants to inspire healthy, active lifestyle, and regular fitness engagement for all ages and leverage those attributes to both brand the race as a City of Rancho Cordova event, and elevate the City of Rancho Cordova as a California destination for travel.

Provide a Project/Program Description	First, to maintain the start and finish line configuration from the previous year's grant, which considers the start line in William Pond Park (to facilitate larger volume parking accommodations) and all finish lines and the entire Kids Otter Dash within the Rancho Cordova City limits, similar to the Eppie's Great Race configuration (and what is now the Great American Triathlon). The section along the American River Parkway, from River Bend to Sunrise, is the main route for the Parkway Half Marathon, and travels through the most pristine, remote, and expansive portions of the Parkway. Additionally, to continue the Parkway Half Marathon route and finish line within the Rancho Cordova city limits aligns the city with a major running event, as well as a meets the goal of having a community health a fitness event. The Parkway Half also raises awareness for, as well as greatly contributes and promotes, Rancho Cordova as an active lifestyle community in concert with other local jurisdictions health resources and environments. The alignment of the Parkway Half Marathon with Rancho Cordova elevates the City as a primary regional supporter of the Parkway, as proceeds from the race are donated to fund projects and improvements along the Parkway. Having the race route and finish line within the City and connected to other existing events is beneficial to all local residents. Further, to maintain support for the Kid's 1k "Otter Dash." This is known as the Otter Run. The goal is to align this event to the morning of Kids' Day in the Park. As Kids' Day is no cost to participants, the object is to continue with keeping the Otter run at no charge to all Rancho Cordova children as well. The participants in the event have all the safety, supervision and environmental needs of a race event. Plus they are provided with a shirt and medal. Finally, to provide an opportunity for local youth organizations to volunteer in a safe environment while supporting a major running event. It, also, expands the awareness of the sport of running and hiking. Youth groups would primarily be identified as those associated with the Rancho Cordova Alethic Association.
Tell us about your Project/Program Team	Parkway Half Marathon is produced by Sacfit, a charitable non-profit 501(c)(3) organization. Tax identification number 11-3782144. The race committee is primarily volunteer experts working with industry specialists in producing race events, including Capital Road Race Management (CRRM). This race is the third largest half marathon in the region and is unique, in that; it has a separate half marathon runners and walkers course. There is, also, a 5k run/walker and 1k kids Otter Dash. Nearly 40,000 participants from over 130 cities across California and the nation have enjoyed the race over the past 17 years.

Provide your Project/Program Goals	The primary goal of the race is to provide a positive race experience for the participants to inspire healthy, active lifestyle, and regular fitness engagement and, as such, leveraging those attributes (which annually attracts participants from over 130 California cities) to both brand the race as a City of Rancho Cordova event, and elevate the City of Rancho Cordova as a California destination for travel. Secondary goals include: 1. Upgrading and improving the American River Parkway experience of its users (5 million annually), of which a substantial portion runs through the City of Rancho Cordova, thereby making it a primary recreational location for numerous residents of the City of Rancho Cordova.: 2. Providing the best affordable half marathon race to the community. Driving out-of-town participants to use Rancho Cordova's hospitality services. 3.. Maintaining sponsorship of the 1k Kids race to provide a free event for the children of City of Rancho Cordova with all the excitement of a race event, in concert with the existing Kids Day event in the afternoon. The combined metrics of these goals include: Raising over $400,000 over the past 17 years, with 100% of those proceeds used to benefit the Parkway by various projects. The most recent project is a collaborative effort with the City of Rancho Cordova, the Cordova Recreation and Park District, the Rotary Club of Rancho Cordova and the Parkway Half Marathon, which has led, so far, to the completion of installing of four drinking fountains, and one more installation scheduled for April 2026. These fountains are ADA accessible, dog friendly, bike safe and runner/walker useable, all within the boundaries of the City of Rancho Cordova along the Parkway. Aligning and branding the race event with the City of Rancho Cordovan through website and other media broadcasts, including having Rancho Cordova local government officers serving as grand marshal at the race start to deliver a message to the community, and a post-race video message to all participants from the mayor of Rancho Cordova.
Optional File Upload: Provide any additional records to supplement your program/project application. Note: Combine multiple files in one pdf before uploading.	
	2 - Funding & Costs

Funding Request - Complete this section with total dollar amounts for your project/program's costs	Funds are generally not intended to be used for deferred maintenance and ongoing operational needs. The funds are intended for enhancing and investing in the City of Rancho Cordova. If your project/program is awarded, the costs identified below would be reviewed and potentially open to modification during a contracting phase (if a grant is awarded by the City Council). If awarded, grant funds are not available until a contract is executed during Fiscal Year 2026-2027.
Total project/program cost*	85000
What is the amount of Community Enhancement & Investment Fund grant monies requested?	20000
Does your project/program involve construction of any facilities or improvements upon any property?	No
What is the total cost of personnel for your project/program?	0
What is the total cost of supplies for your project/program?	15000
What is the total cost of transportation for your project/program?	0
What is the total cost of equipment for your project/program?	0
What is the total cost of any miscellaneous expenses for your project/program?	0

Upload your project/program's budget as a .pdf file. Include the categories and their dollar amounts along with information about any other funding sources to demonstrate your project/program's total budget. Note, the sum of all categories must match the total project or program cost, or the amount requested of CEIF if there is no other funding source. Please clearly illustrate any matching funds or funding from other sources in your project/program budget, including in-kind sources. Note: Combine multiple files in one pdf before uploading.

Expense_Projection_2027.pdf

Has your organization sought or will seek other funding for this project/program?	Yes, actively seeking funding support or have secured additional funding support for this project/program.
Describe any funding secured or being sought for this project/program.	In-kind or monetary donations for food, medals, and booth space for vendors
Please describe any ongoing operations and maintenance costs beyond Fiscal Year 2026/2027, if applicable.	N/A
Do you have volunteer or in-kind support for your project? This could include volunteers for an activity/event that is ongoing or a one-time experience.	Yes
Please share the total dollar amount for volunteer/in-kind support using $34.79 as the national rate for a volunteer hour. Source: Value of Volunteer Time	47627.51

Please provide a worksheet explaining your volunteer/in-kind contribution. You may upload a file in the following formats: CSV, DOC, DOCX, or PDF.

Value_of_Volunteer_Time_2027.pdf

Is this a single year request or a request for funding for multiple years?	Single Year

Has your project/program received funding from the Community Enhancement & Investment Fund previously?	Yes
How many years has your project/program received funding from the Community Enhancement & Investment Fund?	3
How much funding has your organization received from the Community Enhancement & Investment Fund through our traditional grants (not including microgrants)?	45,000
	3 - Project/Program Details Grant applications are typically approved to occur between July 2026 through June 2027. What is your plan to complete this project/program within this time frame?
Anticipated Start Date (July 1 is the soonest available start date)	10/1/2026
Anticipated End Date (typically projects/programs end by June 30)	4/24/2027

Please describe your project/program schedule	· Aug 2026 - Update website for 2027 · Oct 2026 - Open Registration/ First round of active marketing · Nov/Dec 2026 - Direct marketing to past participants/Holiday marketing/ 2027 Logo design · Jan/Feb 2027 - Recruitment of Volunteers/Secure All Vendor Services/Marketing email/FB/Instagram broadcasts · Mar 2027 - Tee shirt order/Medal order/Food order/Continued Marketing · April 2027 - Tee shirt printing and delivery/Medal delivery · April 24, 2027 - Event · May/June 2027 - Follow up report/Close out
What challenges do you anticipate in your project/program's implementation? What is your plan to complete your project/program should those or other challenges arise?	We have been producing this race for 17 years and have leveraged the region's best industry professionals to ensure any challenges that arise can be anticipated and mitigated to eliminate any impact to the event. To date, all events have been executed in full capacity with no diminishment or reduction of service or experience. In fact, the only challenge that has impacted the event to the extent that it could not be operated, was the pandemic. In those extreme cases, our mitigation plan is to cancel the event, advise all participants and vendors of a new proposed date, offer reimbursement or rollover of registration fees to participants, and hold over any already-purchases resources for the next available date.
How many individuals does your project/program serve?	Between 1200 and 2000 at the event, depending on registrations. Additionally, because all proceeds are invested back into Parkway improvements (specifically drinking fountains), our project, on a more broad scale, serves all residents of the Sacramento area, including Rancho Cordova who frequent the Parkway. Annual estimates are 5 million visitors
How many Rancho Cordova residents does your project/program serve?	Any resident who frequents the Parkway and uses the drinking fountains, participates in the race, or derives indirect economic benefits from the visitors frequenting businesses in Rancho Cordova.
	4 - Project/Program Location
Address Verification	If you need to check if your project is in Rancho Cordova, type in your program/project's location in the Assessor Parcel Viewer: https://assessorparcelviewer.saccounty.gov/jsviewer/assessor.html

School and park related applications are due before Noon (12:00 p.m.) on March 6, 2026, to allow for the endorsement process.	Please note that projects or programs that are proposed on property owned or operated by outside agencies or a private party will require coordination with and potentially approvals from outside agencies, organizations, and/or the private party. Include whether you have received a letter of support for the project/program from the property owner. Upload any letters of support with your application. City staff will verify third-party permits have been discussed. In your planning discussions, be sure to discuss any necessary insurance or volunteer requirements that may increase budget costs. School Sites If your project/program is intended to operate at a public K-12 school site, your application is due by March 6 at Noon (12:00 p.m.). City staff will work with the school districts to confirm an endorsement for your project/program. It's the applicant's responsibility to communicate with school site and district representatives before applying so there is clarity during the endorsement process. Districts will only consider endorsement for applications submitted to the Community Enhancement & Investment Fund by the March 6 at Noon (12:00 p.m.). deadline. Each participating school superintendent reserves the right to withhold their endorsement of a project/program. Parks If your project/program is intended to operate at a park or community center site, your application is due by the March 6 at Noon (12:00 p.m.). deadline. City staff will work with the Cordova Recreation & Park District to confirm an endorsement for your project/program. It's the applicant's responsibility to communicate with district representatives before applying so there is clarity during the endorsement process. A special use permit application is required for any program or event planned at a CRPD facility. The special use application can be found at the CRPD website: https://www.cordovarpd.gov/. CRPD will only consider endorsement for applications submitted to the Community Enhancement & Investment Fund by the March 6 at Noon (12:00 p.m.). deadline. The Cordova Recreation & Park District reserves the right to withhold their endorsement of a project/program. Below is the list of staff to communicate with at school and park organizations: Folsom Cordova Unified School District: mwest@fcusd.org Cordova Recreation & Park District: cmichelotti@cordovarpd.gov Elk Grove Unified School District: mgulden@egusd.net Sacramento City Unified School District: Tuan-Duong@scusd.edu for Winn and Carver and Enrique-Flores@scusd.edu for Lincoln.
Primary street address of project/program	[redacted]
List the city location of the project/program.	Rancho Cordova
Select State	CA
Provide the zip code for your project/program's primary location.	95827

If your project/program takes place at multiple locations, please list other or secondary locations.	Due to the nature of a foot race, the event extends 6.5 miles in either direction from Riverbend Park, essentially covering 12 miles of the American River Parkway bike trail
Third Party Letters of Support (Note: Combine multiple files in one pdf before uploading)	
Does your project/program involve one of Rancho Cordova's school districts?	No
Does your project/program involve the Cordova Recreation & Park District?	No
	5 - Applicant Information
Name	Kenneth Press
Is this project/program on behalf of an organization?	Yes
What is the name of your organization?	American River Parkway Half Marathon
What is your title and/or role at your organization?	Race Director
Provide contact phone number:	+[redacted]
Provide contact email:	[redacted]
Are you the primary point of contact on this project/program?	Yes

If your project/program was awarded the requested funds, are you authorized to sign the contract for your organization?	Yes, I would be the one to sign the contract
By checking here, I confirm that I am aware that my application materials will become public record.	checked
	Thank you for applying to the Community Enhancement & Investment Fund Fiscal Year 2026-2027 Grant Cycle. Applicants will receive an automated response through the grant portal. Community Enhancement & Investment Fund (CEIF) Staff will follow up with any questions regarding your Fiscal Year 2026-2027 application. For information about the next steps in the CEIF grant process, visit our website for more information. It is anticipated that applications will be reviewed by the City Council starting in April 2026 with adoption in June 2026. Should applicants be awarded by the City Council, funding would not be available to grantees until the start of Fiscal Year 2026-2027 and the completion of a contract. Please send an email to CEIFGrants@cityofranchocordova.org with any questions or comments.

Internal Form

Score	n/a

Revenue	**Line Item**	**Subtotal**
Registration Fees	80,000	
Individual Donations	3,000	
In-kind (Food Samples and Goodie Bag Items)	2,000	
Total Revenue	**85,000**	
Expenses		
Event Elements (Estimanted 1800 -2000 participants)	**Line Item**	**Subtotal**
Race Timing, Course Set up, Event Management	14,000	
Start Line Arch and Stage	2,000	
Race shirts	8,500	
Volunteer Shirts	500	
T Shirt Printing	5,400	
Musical Artists/Entertainment	6,500	
Aid Stations	900	
Insurance	900	
Subtotal		**38,700**
Publicity Materials		
Internet/Social Media/Email Broadcast Marketing	2,000	
PeachJar Marketing to City of Rancho Cordova Schools	500	
Logo and brochure design	1,100	
Magnets	2,400	
Packet Pick Up Bags	200	
Subtotal		**6,200**
Food and Refreshments		
Strawberries	500	
Cookies	800	
Gatorade	300	
Water	300	
Beer and Wine	1,100	
Cups	300	
Subtotal		**3,300**
Medals		
Half Marathon Medals	8,000	
5K and Otter Medals	1,100	
Otter dash medals	400	
Age Division Awards	400	
Overall awards	200	
Subtotal		**10,100**
Other Incidentals		
Porta-potties	4,800	
Fencing	900	
Ice	400	
Park permit	11,000	
Incidentals	200	
Tables and Chairs	200	
EMTs	1,200	
Subtotal		**18,700**
Total Expenses	**77,000**	

Positions	# of Volunteers	Hours ea	Total Hours	Hourly Rate	Dollar Calculation
Race Director	1	500	500	$34.79	17,395.00
Volunter Coordinator	1	20	20	$34.79	695.80
Medal Packaging	15	3	45	$34.79	1,565.55
Packet Pickup	20	5	100	$34.79	3,479.00
HighSchool Clubs	80	6	480	$34.79	16,699.20
Community Volunteers	25	7	175	$34.79	6,088.25
Station Captains	7	7	49	$34.79	1,704.71
Totals	149		1369	$34.79	**47,627.51**

Title

Rancho Cordova's Annual Video Game Expo

03/13/2026

id. 53476647

by **Donna Walters** in **Fiscal Year 2026-2027 Community Enhancement & Investment Fund Grant Application**

[redacted]
Folsom, California
95630
United States
[redacted]
info@collegeesports.gg

Original Submission

03/13/2026

Score n/a

	Thank you for your interest in applying to the City of Rancho Cordova's Community Enhancement & Investment Fund. Applications are open from February 9, 2026, to March 13, 2026, Noon (12:00 p.m.) with a specific deadline of March 6th Noon (12:00 p.m.) for certain applications**. Before you begin, please read the notes about deadlines and certain types of grant applications/grants below. **School/Park Application Deadline **Note that projects or programs involving a park or school district have a deadline of March 6 Noon (12:00 p.m.) to allow for the third-party endorsement process by the grant deadline.** A Note about Religious Schools and the Application/Grant Process **Note for grant applications from religious schools. The United States Supreme Court has recently ruled in part that: “denying a generally available benefit [from government] solely on account of religious identity imposes a penalty on the free exercise of religion that can be justified only by a state interest of the highest order.” The City is of the opinion that not all grants to religious schools are prohibited under this and other similar rulings. However, these United States Supreme Court decisions remain in conflict with a section of the California State Constitution that says: “[n]either the Legislature, nor any county, city and county, township, school district, or other municipal corporation, shall ever make an appropriation, or pay from any public fund whatever, or grant anything to or in aid of any religious sect, church, creed, or sectarian purpose, or help to support or sustain any school, college, university, hospital, or other institution controlled by any religious creed, church, or sectarian denomination whatever; nor shall any grant or donation of personal property or real estate ever be made by the state, or any city, city and county, town, or other municipal corporation for any religious creed, church, or sectarian purpose whatever”. The City will accept applications for grants of these City public funds from religious schools, but will have language in the grant agreements to address the possibility and consequences of legal challenges and new court decisions on this and related topics. ** Future Grant Opportunities If you are interested in remaining up-to-date on available grants from the City of Rancho Cordova, click here to sign up for the Grants Interest List. A separate call for programming opportunities with the Rancho Cordova Youth Center is anticipated later in 2026. The list is also used to advertise separate art programs when funds are available. Ongoing Grant Opportunity The City of Rancho Cordova offers a microgrant opportunity. Learn more about those grants online.
Is this your first time applying for grant funding from the City of Rancho Cordova? As a first-time applicant, Community Enhancement & Investment Fund (CEIF) staff will contact you to discuss your project and grant application process.	No: Not a First Time Applicant

	1 - Project/Program Information Note: You can add a collaborator to this form to assist you in completing this application! A collaborator can help you complete this form by filling in fields for you, although only you can submit this form. You can add a collaborator by navigating to the top of the form and clicking on the 'Manage Collaborators' button. Simply enter their email address and click 'invite' to invite them as a collaborator. If you need further assistance, you may consult this Help article for more information.
Project/Program Name. Assign a project name to your project/program.	Rancho Cordova's Annual Video Game Expo
Which category does your Project/Program align with?	Arts, Culture, History, & Entertainment
Provide a Project/Program Synopsis	The **Rancho Cordova Video Game Expo**, hosted by *College Esports*, is a free, family-friendly event celebrating gaming, esports, and community. It features tournaments, workshops, cosplay, vendor showcases, and interactive play areas, promoting learning, local creators, and community engagement while connecting students and enthusiasts with gaming culture and unique opportunities.
Provide a Project/Program Description	The **Video Game Expo** is a **free, family.friendly community event** hosted by *College Esports*, a California nonprofit public benefit organization. This bigger and better two-day Expo will take place the first weekend of May 2027, at Rancho Cordova City Hall and is designed to unite residents of Rancho Cordova and the broader Sacramento region for a celebration of gaming, learning, creativity, and community connection. ## Purpose and Community Impact The Video Game Expo enhances Rancho Cordova's quality of life by providing an inclusive, creative experience that supports CEIF goals; promoting arts, culture, youth engagement, digital literacy, and community pride through accessible activities. ## Program Goals 1. **Promote Inclusive Community Engagement:** The Expo welcomes participants of all ages, backgrounds, and skill levels. By offering free admission and a diverse range of activities, it ensures that community members have equitable access to enriching cultural and recreational experiences. 2. **Support Youth Services and Empowerment:** Through hands.on workshops, beginner sessions, and interactive exhibits, the Expo encourages youth engagement in learning opportunities that build confidence, teamwork, and problem.solving skills. This aligns directly with CEIF's emphasis on youth services and community benefit. 3. **Stimulate Local Arts, Culture, and Creative Economy:** The event showcases local artists, vendors, and creators, providing

them with visibility and an opportunity to connect with attendees. It also encourages creativity through cosplay contests, game design demonstrations, and other cultural activities.

4. **Foster Community Development:**
   By giving students hands.on roles in event production, peer.to.peer learning, and engagement with industry professionals and developers, the Expo creates meaningful pathways into creative and tech.related careers, echoing CEIF's investment in community development and opportunities.

Core Program Elements

The Video Game Expo features a wide variety of activities crafted to engage different interests and age groups. This encourages learning, participation, and community interaction:

1. Gaming and Esports Activities

- **Tournaments and Micro.Competitions:**
  Competitive and casual gaming sessions for popular video games, tabletop games, and trading card games (such as Disney Lorcana), offering prizes and recognition.
- **Free Play Zones:**
  Open areas where families and youth can try new console titles and games, fostering exploration and shared enjoyment.
- **Interactive Exhibits:**
  Displays such as historical console exhibits and genre highlights that encourage cultural appreciation of gaming.

2. Educational Workshops and Learning Opportunities

- **Learn.to.Play and Skill Sessions:**
  Facilitated workshops introduce participants to new games and mechanics, which supports digital literacy, patience, collaboration, and strategy.
- **Digital Literacy Clinics:**
  Sessions designed to improve computer and technology skills for attendees of all ages, fostering confidence and competence in a digital world.
- **Game Development Demos & Discussions:**
  Panels and showcases featuring local developers, educators, and students who share insights into game creation, design tools, and creative careers.

3. Cultural and Creative Activities

- **Cosplay Workshops & Contests:**
  Professional and community.led sessions celebrating costume design, craftsmanship, and self.expression. Attendees are encouraged to participate in a community costume showcase.
- **Vendor & Community Showcase:**
  Local artisans, pop.culture creators, and nonprofit booths will highlight

their work, offering visibility and opportunities for economic engagement.
- **Special Guest Appearances:**
  Personalities from local media, creators, and influencers will host sessions, meet.and.greets, and interactive engagements, creating excitement and community connection.

4. Community and Family.Friendly Engagement

- **Family Areas and Youth Zones:**
  Spaces are dedicated to younger children and families, ensuring that all ages feel welcome and engaged.
- **Community Collaboration & Partnerships:**
  The event fosters collaboration with local organizations, schools, and stakeholders to strengthen community networks and bring resources directly to Rancho Cordova residents.

Alignment with CEIF Guidelines

The Video Game Expo clearly aligns with the **City of Rancho Cordova's Community Enhancement & Investment Fund priorities** by:

- **Enhancing Arts, Culture, and Entertainment:**
  By offering a multifaceted celebration of gaming culture, creativity, and interactive arts, the Expo promotes cultural enrichment and community participation.
- **Supporting Youth Services and Education:**
  Through accessible workshops, digital literacy initiatives, and youth.centered programming, the Expo provides developmental opportunities consistent with CEIF's support for youth.oriented programs that benefit residents.
- **Engaging Local Community and Boosting Quality of Life:**
  By hosting a free, locally focused event that brings diverse community members together, the Expo strengthens social connections, fosters civic pride, and enhances Rancho Cordova's cultural offerings.
- **Partnering with Local Businesses and Creators:**
  The inclusion of local vendors and partners amplifies economic opportunities and supports the broader community ecosystem.

Expected Outcomes and Benefits

The Video Game Expo, expected to draw 750+ participants, will expand access to creative and tech experiences, empower youth, connect local creators and residents, and enhance Rancho Cordova's vibrant, inclusive community.

Tell us about your Project/Program Team	• **Donna Walters** – Executive Director and Founder of *College Esports*, a California nonprofit public benefit corporation dedicated to empowering students and communities through esports and gaming. • **Brad Epstein** – Chief Legal Officer for *College Esports*, providing strategic legal guidance for nonprofit operations and programs. • **Amber Gillespie** – Executive Director of *Sacramento Extra Life* and key organizer behind graphic design and program concepts • **Odin Abbott** – Local celebrity YouTuber known for creating affordable, high-quality cosplay props and costumes, inspiring creativity and accessibility in the cosplay community.
Provide your Project/Program Goals	• **Engage the Community:** Attract **750+ attendees** over a two-day event, providing inclusive, family-friendly activities that connect residents, students, and local creators. • **Expand Learning and Entertainment Opportunities:** Offer **expanded programming** including workshops, interactive exhibits, and creative sessions to enhance skills and community engagement. • **Strengthen Partnerships:** Increase sponsorship opportunities by securing **5 new organizational partners**, fostering long-term community and business collaboration. • **Showcase Competitive Gaming:** Host a **AAA title esports tournament** on gaming PCs, highlighting high-level play while encouraging participation and interest in esports culture.

Optional File Upload: Provide any additional records to supplement your program/project application. Note: Combine multiple files in one pdf before uploading.

Report.pdf

	2 - Funding & Costs
Funding Request - Complete this section with total dollar amounts for your project/program's costs	Funds are generally not intended to be used for deferred maintenance and ongoing operational needs. The funds are intended for enhancing and investing in the City of Rancho Cordova. If your project/program is awarded, the costs identified below would be reviewed and potentially open to modification during a contracting phase (if a grant is awarded by the City Council). If awarded, grant funds are not available until a contract is executed during Fiscal Year 2026-2027.
Total project/program cost*	65000
What is the amount of Community Enhancement & Investment Fund grant monies requested?	40000

Does your project/program involve construction of any facilities or improvements upon any property?	No
What is the total cost of personnel for your project/program?	10000
What is the total cost of supplies for your project/program?	1000
What is the total cost of transportation for your project/program?	0
What is the total cost of equipment for your project/program?	15000
What is the total cost of any miscellaneous expenses for your project/program?	14000

Upload your project/program's budget as a .pdf file. Include the categories and their dollar amounts along with information about any other funding sources to demonstrate your project/program's total budget. Note, the sum of all categories must match the total project or program cost, or the amount requested of CEIF if there is no other funding source. Please clearly illustrate any matching funds or funding from other sources in your project/program budget, including in-kind sources. Note: Combine multiple files in one pdf before uploading.

Budget.pdf

Has your organization sought or will seek other funding for this project/program?	Yes, actively seeking funding support or have secured additional funding support for this project/program.
Describe any funding secured or being sought for this project/program.	We have secured funding through a grant from the State of California to support Digital Literacy initiatives, which can be applied toward this two-day event. In addition, we have received ongoing sponsorship support from local Rancho Cordova businesses and anticipate continued community partnership and sponsorship contributions to help support the program.

Please describe any ongoing operations and maintenance costs beyond Fiscal Year 2026/2027, if applicable.	Beyond Fiscal Year 2026–2027, the organization will continue to incur ongoing operational and maintenance costs, including software subscriptions, website hosting and maintenance, and other basic administrative expenses necessary to sustain programming. Grant funding helps offset these foundational costs and allows us to continue expanding our programs. The City's generous support in previous years has enabled our nonprofit to grow operations and qualify for additional grant opportunities, which we intend to leverage to further expand initiatives that directly benefit the City and its community.
Do you have volunteer or in-kind support for your project? This could include volunteers for an activity/event that is ongoing or a one-time experience.	Yes
Please share the total dollar amount for volunteer/in-kind support using $34.79 as the national rate for a volunteer hour. Source: Value of Volunteer Time	3438.62

Please provide a worksheet explaining your volunteer/in-kind contribution. You may upload a file in the following formats: CSV, DOC, DOCX, or PDF.

Volunteer_In_Kind_Support.pdf

Is this a single year request or a request for funding for multiple years?	Single Year
Has your project/program received funding from the Community Enhancement & Investment Fund previously?	Yes
How many years has your project/program received funding from the Community Enhancement & Investment Fund?	3

How much funding has your organization received from the Community Enhancement & Investment Fund through our traditional grants (not including microgrants)?	75000
	3 - Project/Program Details Grant applications are typically approved to occur between July 2026 through June 2027. What is your plan to complete this project/program within this time frame?
Anticipated Start Date (July 1 is the soonest available start date)	4/30/2027
Anticipated End Date (typically projects/programs end by June 30)	5/1/2027
Please describe your project/program schedule	**Video Game Expo – Two-Day Project Timeline (High-Level Overview)** **Pre-Event Preparation (Weeks Before Event)** • Finalize event schedule, vendors, and sponsors • Confirm speakers, workshops, and esports tournament logistics • Promote event via social media, local press, and community partners • Coordinate volunteer roles and staffing **Day 1: Setup & Event Kickoff** **Morning (7:00 AM – 11:00 AM)** • Venue setup: stages, gaming stations, booths, signage • Technical setup: PCs, consoles, networking, audiovisual systems • Volunteer and staff briefing **Midday (11:00 AM – 1:00 PM)** • Welcome and registration for early attendees • Orientation for vendors and exhibitors **Afternoon (1:00 PM – 5:00 PM)** • Opening ceremonies and community welcome • Launch interactive workshops and free play zones • Begin esports tournament preliminary rounds

- Cosplay workshop and vendor showcase

Evening (5:00 PM – 7:00 PM)

- Networking session for sponsors and local creators
- Wrap-up of Day 1, secure equipment, and prep for Day 2

Day 2: Main Event & Tournament Finals

Morning (7:00 AM – 11:00 AM)

- Final setup adjustments, soundchecks, and tech testing
- Volunteer briefing for Day 2 operations

Midday (11:00 AM – 1:00 PM)

- Continue workshops, free play, and community activities
- Esports tournament quarterfinals and semifinals

Afternoon (1:00 PM – 4:00 PM)

- AAA title esports tournament finals on gaming PCs
- Cosplay contest and creative showcases
- Vendor demonstrations and interactive exhibits

Evening (4:00 PM – 6:00 PM)

- Awards ceremony for tournaments, cosplay, and community recognitions
- Closing remarks and thank-you to participants, sponsors, and volunteers
- Begin venue breakdown and equipment teardown

Post-Event (Following Week)

- Debrief with team and volunteers
- Collect feedback from attendees, vendors, and sponsors
- Document lessons learned and finalize event report for CEIF and stakeholders
- Send thank-you communications and highlight event outcomes on social media

What challenges do you anticipate in your project/program's implementation? What is your plan to complete your project/program should those or other challenges arise?	A potential challenge is if the City is unable to expand the budget to fully support a two-day event with high-end gaming PCs. Should this occur, we are prepared to proceed with a single-day event, utilizing Nintendo Switch consoles instead of online machines. This approach ensures that the Expo remains accessible, engaging, and community-focused, while still delivering workshops, tournaments, and interactive activities. We will maintain our core goals of community engagement, youth empowerment, and local creative showcases, ensuring a meaningful experience for all participants despite scaled resources.

How many individuals does your project/program serve?	500+
How many Rancho Cordova residents does your project/program serve?	500+
	4 - Project/Program Location
Address Verification	If you need to check if your project is in Rancho Cordova, type in your program/project's location in the Assessor Parcel Viewer: https://assessorparcelviewer.saccounty.gov/jsviewer/assessor.html

School and park related applications are due before Noon (12:00 p.m.) on March 6, 2026, to allow for the endorsement process.	Please note that projects or programs that are proposed on property owned or operated by outside agencies or a private party will require coordination with and potentially approvals from outside agencies, organizations, and/or the private party. Include whether you have received a letter of support for the project/program from the property owner. Upload any letters of support with your application. City staff will verify third-party permits have been discussed. In your planning discussions, be sure to discuss any necessary insurance or volunteer requirements that may increase budget costs. School Sites If your project/program is intended to operate at a public K-12 school site, your application is due by March 6 at Noon (12:00 p.m.). City staff will work with the school districts to confirm an endorsement for your project/program. It's the applicant's responsibility to communicate with school site and district representatives before applying so there is clarity during the endorsement process. Districts will only consider endorsement for applications submitted to the Community Enhancement & Investment Fund by the March 6 at Noon (12:00 p.m.). deadline. Each participating school superintendent reserves the right to withhold their endorsement of a project/program. Parks If your project/program is intended to operate at a park or community center site, your application is due by the March 6 at Noon (12:00 p.m.). deadline. City staff will work with the Cordova Recreation & Park District to confirm an endorsement for your project/program. It's the applicant's responsibility to communicate with district representatives before applying so there is clarity during the endorsement process. A special use permit application is required for any program or event planned at a CRPD facility. The special use application can be found at the CRPD website: https://www.cordovarpd.gov/. CRPD will only consider endorsement for applications submitted to the Community Enhancement & Investment Fund by the March 6 at Noon (12:00 p.m.). deadline. The Cordova Recreation & Park District reserves the right to withhold their endorsement of a project/program. Below is the list of staff to communicate with at school and park organizations: Folsom Cordova Unified School District: mwest@fcusd.org Cordova Recreation & Park District: cmichelotti@cordovarpd.gov Elk Grove Unified School District: mgulden@egusd.net Sacramento City Unified School District: Tuan-Duong@scusd.edu for Winn and Carver and Enrique-Flores@scusd.edu for Lincoln.
Primary street address of project/program	2729 Prospect Park Drive
List the city location of the project/program.	Rancho Cordova
Select State	CA
Provide the zip code for your project/program's primary location.	95670

If your project/program takes place at multiple locations, please list other or secondary locations.	N/A

Third Party Letters of Support (Note: Combine multiple files in one pdf before uploading)

Letter_of_Support.pdf

Does your project/program involve one of Rancho Cordova's school districts?	No
Does your project/program involve the Cordova Recreation & Park District?	No
	5 - Applicant Information
Name	Donna Walters
Is this project/program on behalf of an organization?	Yes
What is the name of your organization?	College Esports
What is your title and/or role at your organization?	Executive Director
Provide contact phone number:	[redacted]
Provide contact email:	info@collegeesports.gg
Are you the primary point of contact on this project/program?	Yes

If your project/program was awarded the requested funds, are you authorized to sign the contract for your organization?	Yes, I would be the one to sign the contract
By checking here, I confirm that I am aware that my application materials will become public record.	checked
	Thank you for applying to the Community Enhancement & Investment Fund Fiscal Year 2026-2027 Grant Cycle. Applicants will receive an automated response through the grant portal. Community Enhancement & Investment Fund (CEIF) Staff will follow up with any questions regarding your Fiscal Year 2026-2027 application. For information about the next steps in the CEIF grant process, visit our website for more information. It is anticipated that applications will be reviewed by the City Council starting in April 2026 with adoption in June 2026. Should applicants be awarded by the City Council, funding would not be available to grantees until the start of Fiscal Year 2026-2027 and the completion of a contract. Please send an email to CEIFGrants@cityofranchocordova.org with any questions or comments.

Internal Form

Score	n/a

Revenue	
Sponsorship	10,000
State of California Grant	15,000
CEIF Grant	40,000
Total Revenue	**$65,000**
Expense	
Venue / Event Rentals and Furnishings	4,000
Two day venue rental	
Event staff	10,000
Supplies	1,000
Staff shirts	
Equipment	15,000
Additional Internet and Power	
Gaming PCs & Video Game Consoles	
Digital Literacy Computers	15,000
Miscellaneous Expense	20,000
Marketing & Advertising	
Food Truck/Catering	
Insurance	
Software & Website	
SWAG, Prizes, and Giveaways	
Workshop Materials	
Non-screen activities	
Total Expense	**$65,000**
Total Income	**$0**

`

Volunteers		
Brad Epstein	$347.90	10 Hours X $34.79
Gina Olivares	$347.90	10 Hours X $34.79
Eric Vu	$347.90	10 Hours X $34.79
Odin Abbott	$347.90	10 Hours X $34.79
Amber Gillespie	$347.90	10 Hours X $34.79
501st Legion	$139.16	4 Hours X $34.79
501st Legion	$139.16	4 Hours X $34.79
501st Legion	$139.16	4 Hours X $34.79
501st Legion	$139.16	4 Hours X $34.79
501st Legion	$139.16	4 Hours X $34.79
501st Legion	$139.16	4 Hours X $34.79
501st Legion	$139.16	4 Hours X $34.79
Total	**$2,713.62**	

In Kind Support		
Costco	$200	Gift Card
Starbucks	$150	Coffee
Chick-Fil-A	$75	Food
ELAK Health	$100	Prizes
Geek Freaks	$100	Prizes
Techedify	$100	Prizes
Total In Kind Support	**$725**	

Total Amount Sponsored / Donated	**$3,438.62**

Amber Gillespie
President
Extra Life, Sacramento branch
[redacted]
Sacramento, CA 95835
[redacted]
[redacted]

March 12, 2026

City of Rancho Cordova
Community Enhancement & Investment Fund
2729 Prospect Park Drive
Rancho Cordova, CA 95760

Dear Members of the Selection Committee,

I am writing to strongly support College Esports' application for the City of Rancho Cordova's Community Enhancement Grant. College Esports provides valuable hands-on learning opportunities in the growing esports industry, helping students develop leadership, teamwork, and technical skills. Their inclusive programs engage local students, offering mentorship and career pathways in tech, media, and business.

I hope you will consider supporting College Esports again this year, allowing them to continue to foster youth development, workforce growth, and creativity within Rancho Cordova. I believe their initiatives have had a lasting, positive impact on the community and I hope they will have the opportunity to expand their events so they can include more students in these wonderful, hands-on, leadership opportunities.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Amber Gillespie
President, Sacramento Extra Life

2024-2025

Project Report

City of Rancho Cordova
Community Enhancement
and Investment Fund

Prepared by
Donna Walters

Visit Us
https://CollegeEsports.gg

COLLEGE ESPORTS

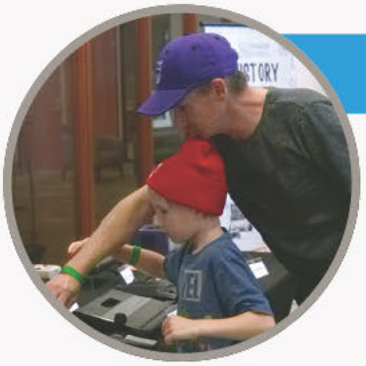
Event Summary

Main Goals:

- **Support City goals:** Align with Rancho Cordova's Community Enhancement & Investment Fund by fostering community engagement and economic activity.
- **Grow the event:** Make the 2025 Video Game Expo bigger and better with expanded activities and experiences.
- **Increase attendance and participation:** Attract more attendees, students, families, and community members.
- **Strengthen local partnerships:** Engage Rancho Cordova businesses and organizations through sponsorship and collaboration.
- **Promote education and careers:** Highlight digital literacy, technology skills, and career pathways.

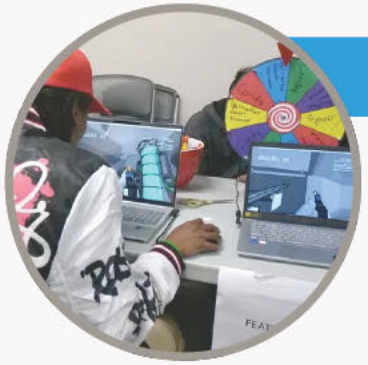
COLLEGE ESPORTS

Issues & Challenges



Problems Encountered:

- **Infrastructure limitations:** The 2024 event exceeded available electrical and internet capacity, highlighting the need for expanded power and network capabilities to support additional vendors and gaming stations.
- **Space constraints:** The event reached near-capacity attendance and vendor participation, demonstrating the need for a larger venue footprint to accommodate future growth.



Resolution Steps:

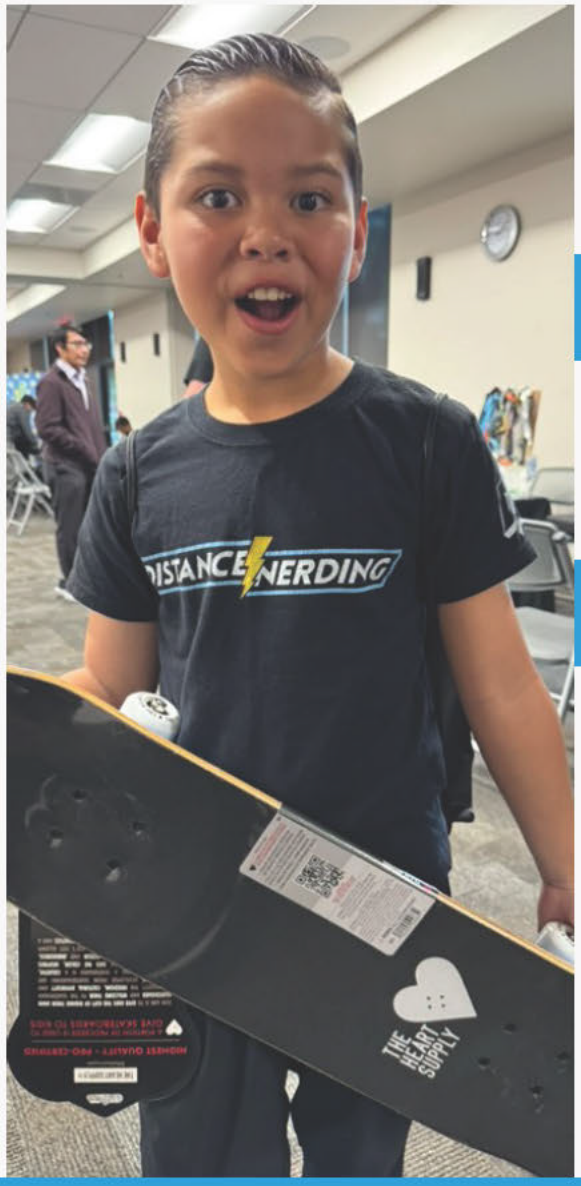
- **Proposed solution:** Increase the event budget to support expanded power and internet infrastructure, or relocate the event to a larger venue with greater built-in electrical, network, and space capacity to accommodate growing attendance, vendors, and programming.

Next Steps

May 2, 2026 - Feat. Disney's Lorcana

- **Engage the community:** Attract new audiences through Disney's Lorcana Trading Card Game and local radio talent participation from 106.5 FM.
- **Increase participation:** Build on past success with expected year-over-year growth in attendance.
- **Expand sponsorships:** Onboard new sponsors and strengthen local partnerships.
- **Enhance offerings:** Add more activities, exhibitors, and interactive experiences to broaden appeal.

COLLEGE ESPORTS



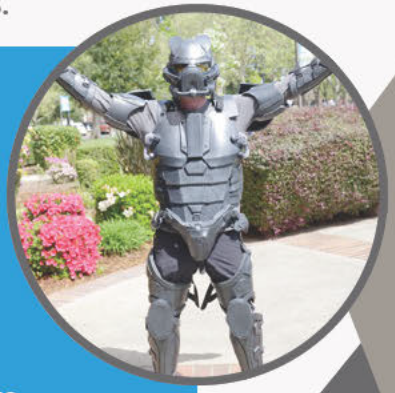
Budget and Resources

Budget Needs:

- Improved Internet & Power
- Expanded Space
- Additional Stakeholder Engagement

Resource Utilization:

- **Increased sponsorship & donation revenue:** Secured more financial support from local businesses and community donors to expand programming.
- **Additional State funding:** Leveraged grants from the State of California to supplement event resources and enhance offerings.
- **Reinvestment into programming:** Channeling additional funds directly into expanding activities, enhancing attendee experience, and supporting community engagement initiatives.



Conclusion

Continued investment from the City of Rancho Cordova ensures that the Video Game Expo can grow in size, scope, and impact, bringing together community members, families, and local businesses in meaningful ways. The Expo not only supports digital literacy, education, and career pathways, but also drives economic activity, strengthens community partnerships, and aligns directly with the City's goals for engagement and quality of life. By funding this event, the City helps sustain a proven program that delivers measurable benefits and continues to expand its reach year after year.

Title

Rancho Cordova Elks 2484 seating and table improvement project

03/04/2026

id. 53392483

by **Troy Reitz** in **Fiscal Year 2026-2027 Community Enhancement & Investment Fund Grant Application**

11440 Elk Circle
Rancho Cordova, California
95742
United States
[redacted]

Original Submission

03/04/2026

Score n/a

	Thank you for your interest in applying to the City of Rancho Cordova's Community Enhancement & Investment Fund. Applications are open from February 9, 2026, to March 13, 2026, Noon (12:00 p.m.) with a specific deadline of March 6th Noon (12:00 p.m.) for certain applications**. Before you begin, please read the notes about deadlines and certain types of grant applications/grants below. **School/Park Application Deadline **Note that projects or programs involving a park or school district have a deadline of March 6 Noon (12:00 p.m.) to allow for the third-party endorsement process by the grant deadline.** A Note about Religious Schools and the Application/Grant Process **Note for grant applications from religious schools. The United States Supreme Court has recently ruled in part that: “denying a generally available benefit [from government] solely on account of religious identity imposes a penalty on the free exercise of religion that can be justified only by a state interest of the highest order.” The City is of the opinion that not all grants to religious schools are prohibited under this and other similar rulings. However, these United States Supreme Court decisions remain in conflict with a section of the California State Constitution that says: “[n]either the Legislature, nor any county, city and county, township, school district, or other municipal corporation, shall ever make an appropriation, or pay from any public fund whatever, or grant anything to or in aid of any religious sect, church, creed, or sectarian purpose, or help to support or sustain any school, college, university, hospital, or other institution controlled by any religious creed, church, or sectarian denomination whatever; nor shall any grant or donation of personal property or real estate ever be made by the state, or any city, city and county, town, or other municipal corporation for any religious creed, church, or sectarian purpose whatever”. The City will accept applications for grants of these City public funds from religious schools, but will have language in the grant agreements to address the possibility and consequences of legal challenges and new court decisions on this and related topics. ** Future Grant Opportunities If you are interested in remaining up-to-date on available grants from the City of Rancho Cordova, click here to sign up for the Grants Interest List. A separate call for programming opportunities with the Rancho Cordova Youth Center is anticipated later in 2026. The list is also used to advertise separate art programs when funds are available. Ongoing Grant Opportunity The City of Rancho Cordova offers a microgrant opportunity. Learn more about those grants online.
Is this your first time applying for grant funding from the City of Rancho Cordova? As a first-time applicant, Community Enhancement & Investment Fund (CEIF) staff will contact you to discuss your project and grant application process.	No: Not a First Time Applicant

	1 - Project/Program Information Note: You can add a collaborator to this form to assist you in completing this application! A collaborator can help you complete this form by filling in fields for you, although only you can submit this form. You can add a collaborator by navigating to the top of the form and clicking on the 'Manage Collaborators' button. Simply enter their email address and click 'invite' to invite them as a collaborator. If you need further assistance, you may consult this Help article for more information.
Project/Program Name. Assign a project name to your project/program.	Rancho Cordova Elks 2484 seating and table improvement project
Which category does your Project/Program align with?	Community Assistance Programs
Provide a Project/Program Synopsis	Chairs and table for community events are over 10 years old and are starting to have issues with support hardware and have become a safety concern and require replacement.
Provide a Project/Program Description	The funds would be used to replace all aging chairs and some of the tables which are of safety concern. The new chairs and tables will be stored and used at the lodge. This project would be executed by the lodge purchasing the items from a supply vendor. This would be replacing two hundred aging chairs, chair racks, and some of our eight foot and six foot tables which are beyond repair. The table and chairs would be used by the elks to include supporting many community functions. Here is a list of some of the functions that will be using the table and chairs at the Rancho Cordova Elks Lodge 2484. • Boy scouts use the chairs and tables for monthly meeting and events by the Rancho Cordova Cub and Boy scouts . • Using these chairs and table to provide free dinners to all veterans and their family on Veterans day. • Promote the Rancho Cordova Lancer Leaders & Legends kids by providing them learning and financial opportunity in the food preparation and serving at many events. • The chairs and tables are used for event in support of funding and visibility of the services offered by Four Paws For Vets • During the year we have multiple fund raisers using the table and chairs in support for the annual Elks youth scholarship program.
Tell us about your Project/Program Team	The delivery of the project will be performed by the Rancho Cordova Elks #2484. The team will be members of the lodge committee

Provide your Project/Program Goals	**Cost Efficiency:** Compares the actual price paid against the budgeted price; Measures the financial return relative to project costs. **Project Efficiency:** Measure the total time from purchase requisition to purchase order delivery. **Project Accuracy:** Measure accuracy of any invoices by checking for errors prior to payments made. **Supplier Performance:** Measure Orders delivered by the agreed-upon date and incoming goods meet quality standards with no defects. **Compliance & Risk Management:** Verify that all purchase made are with in agreed contract and the scope of the pro.
Optional File Upload: Provide any additional records to supplement your program/project application. Note: Combine multiple files in one pdf before uploading.	
	2 - Funding & Costs
Funding Request - Complete this section with total dollar amounts for your project/program's costs	Funds are generally not intended to be used for deferred maintenance and ongoing operational needs. The funds are intended for enhancing and investing in the City of Rancho Cordova. If your project/program is awarded, the costs identified below would be reviewed and potentially open to modification during a contracting phase (if a grant is awarded by the City Council). If awarded, grant funds are not available until a contract is executed during Fiscal Year 2026-2027.
Total project/program cost*	13180.65
What is the amount of Community Enhancement & Investment Fund grant monies requested?	13180.65
Does your project/program involve construction of any facilities or improvements upon any property?	No

What is the total cost of personnel for your project/program?	0
What is the total cost of supplies for your project/program?	0
What is the total cost of transportation for your project/program?	0
What is the total cost of equipment for your project/program?	13180.65
What is the total cost of any miscellaneous expenses for your project/program?	1000

Upload your project/program's budget as a .pdf file. Include the categories and their dollar amounts along with information about any other funding sources to demonstrate your project/program's total budget. Note, the sum of all categories must match the total project or program cost, or the amount requested of CEIF if there is no other funding source. Please clearly illustrate any matching funds or funding from other sources in your project/program budget, including in-kind sources. Note: Combine multiple files in one pdf before uploading.

Project_Budget_for_Chairs_and_Table_for_the_Elks_Lodge-combined.pdf

Has your organization sought or will seek other funding for this project/program?	No, not seeking any other funding support.
Please explain why you are not seeking any other funding support for your project/program.	This project is solely in support of the Ranch Cordova Elks 2484 There is no similar project within the local Elks lodges or organizations or groups to help assist us with funding support. This project is specialized and support from other groups or organizations are not available.
Please describe any ongoing operations and maintenance costs beyond Fiscal Year 2026/2027, if applicable.	Not Applicable, This project does not require operation and, or maintenance costs.

Do you have volunteer or in-kind support for your project? This could include volunteers for an activity/event that is ongoing or a one-time experience.	No
Is this a single year request or a request for funding for multiple years?	Single Year
Has your project/program received funding from the Community Enhancement & Investment Fund previously?	No
	3 - Project/Program Details Grant applications are typically approved to occur between July 2026 through June 2027. What is your plan to complete this project/program within this time frame?
Anticipated Start Date (July 1 is the soonest available start date)	7/1/2026
Anticipated End Date (typically projects/programs end by June 30)	12/31/2026

Please describe your project/program schedule	**Week 1:** (Jul 06,2026) **Requirements & Planning:** Define needs, establish budget, and create a scope of work; **Week 2: Request for Quote (RFQ):** for defined needs from a vendors to supply ; **Week 5: Vendor Evaluation:** Review proposals, and negotiate terms; **Week 6: Approval:** Submit to lodge house committee finalized budget, detail of products, and vendor selection for approval; **Week 8: Award & Contracting:** Finalize contract, land issue Purchase Order (PO); **Week 9 thru 12: Production & Delivery:** Vendor produces items, monitoring milestones (shipping, inspections); **Week 13: Delivery & Closure:** Receive goods/services, final acceptance, and invoice payment.
What challenges do you anticipate in your project/program's implementation? What is your plan to complete your project/program should those or other challenges arise?	• The Benevolent and Protective Order of Elks (BPOE) will not allow additionally insured on the Elks Master General Liability Insurance. To meet the City of Rancho Cordova requirement of insurance. Our officers are looking to purchasing a separate insurance policy for the purpose of this Grant. • Another challenge is the fluctuation of price of goods that may arise from increases of tariffs., To address this issue it may require us to adjust or reduced items needed to meet costs of project. • Another issue is items being on back order, or delivery issues. Continuous communication and updates with vendor on items stock level and estimated delivery times. Communication with the vendor will provide us the tools to set the estimated delivery date on our timeline. Also vendor updated will provide us a method to monitor our milestone and the progress of our timelines. By monitoring the progress and milestones of our time line. • The lodge is currently actively working on an insurance policy to be used in support of the Rancho Cordova City's insurance requirements. If insurance is part of the requirement to carry out this project.
How many individuals does your project/program serve?	The progect supports events upto 200 individuals from a single event and greater than 4000 people served yearly.
How many Rancho Cordova residents does your project/program serve?	This project supports Rancho Cordova residents with events upto 150 residents at a single event and greater that 3000 people served yearly.
	4 - Project/Program Location

Address Verification	If you need to check if your project is in Rancho Cordova, type in your program/project's location in the Assessor Parcel Viewer: https://assessorparcelviewer.saccounty.gov/jsviewer/assessor.html
School and park related applications are due before Noon (12:00 p.m.) on March 6, 2026, to allow for the endorsement process.	Please note that projects or programs that are proposed on property owned or operated by outside agencies or a private party will require coordination with and potentially approvals from outside agencies, organizations, and/or the private party. Include whether you have received a letter of support for the project/program from the property owner. Upload any letters of support with your application. City staff will verify third-party permits have been discussed. In your planning discussions, be sure to discuss any necessary insurance or volunteer requirements that may increase budget costs. School Sites If your project/program is intended to operate at a public K-12 school site, your application is due by March 6 at Noon (12:00 p.m.). City staff will work with the school districts to confirm an endorsement for your project/program. It's the applicant's responsibility to communicate with school site and district representatives before applying so there is clarity during the endorsement process. Districts will only consider endorsement for applications submitted to the Community Enhancement & Investment Fund by the March 6 at Noon (12:00 p.m.). deadline. Each participating school superintendent reserves the right to withhold their endorsement of a project/program. Parks If your project/program is intended to operate at a park or community center site, your application is due by the March 6 at Noon (12:00 p.m.). deadline. City staff will work with the Cordova Recreation & Park District to confirm an endorsement for your project/program. It's the applicant's responsibility to communicate with district representatives before applying so there is clarity during the endorsement process. A special use permit application is required for any program or event planned at a CRPD facility. The special use application can be found at the CRPD website: https://www.cordovarpd.gov/. CRPD will only consider endorsement for applications submitted to the Community Enhancement & Investment Fund by the March 6 at Noon (12:00 p.m.). deadline. The Cordova Recreation & Park District reserves the right to withhold their endorsement of a project/program. Below is the list of staff to communicate with at school and park organizations: Folsom Cordova Unified School District: mwest@fcusd.org Cordova Recreation & Park District: cmichelotti@cordovarpd.gov Elk Grove Unified School District: mgulden@egusd.net Sacramento City Unified School District: Tuan-Duong@scusd.edu for Winn and Carver and Enrique-Flores@scusd.edu for Lincoln.
Primary street address of project/program	11440 Elk Circle
List the city location of the project/program.	Rancho Cordova
Select State	CA

Provide the zip code for your project/program's primary location.	95742
If your project/program takes place at multiple locations, please list other or secondary locations.	None
Third Party Letters of Support (Note: Combine multiple files in one pdf before uploading)	
Does your project/program involve one of Rancho Cordova's school districts?	No
Does your project/program involve the Cordova Recreation & Park District?	No
	5 - Applicant Information
Name	Troy Reitz
Is this project/program on behalf of an organization?	Yes
What is the name of your organization?	Rancho Cordova Elks 2484
What is your title and/or role at your organization?	Trustee, role includes support in managing the lodge's property and funds
Provide contact phone number:	[redacted]
Provide contact email:	[redacted]

Are you the primary point of contact on this project/program?	Yes
If your project/program was awarded the requested funds, are you authorized to sign the contract for your organization?	Yes, I would be the one to sign the contract
By checking here, I confirm that I am aware that my application materials will become public record.	checked
	Thank you for applying to the Community Enhancement & Investment Fund Fiscal Year 2026-2027 Grant Cycle. Applicants will receive an automated response through the grant portal. Community Enhancement & Investment Fund (CEIF) Staff will follow up with any questions regarding your Fiscal Year 2026-2027 application. For information about the next steps in the CEIF grant process, visit our website for more information. It is anticipated that applications will be reviewed by the City Council starting in April 2026 with adoption in June 2026. Should applicants be awarded by the City Council, funding would not be available to grantees until the start of Fiscal Year 2026-2027 and the completion of a contract. Please send an email to CEIFGrants@cityofranchocordova.org with any questions or comments.

Internal Form

Score	n/a

Project Budget for Chairs and Table for the Elks Lodge

PROJECT BUDGET

1. Staffing/Project Oversight

Staffing (research, planning, resource materials, logistics, etc.)

$0.00

2. Direct Expenses

Cost to replace tables and chairs $13,180.65

Direct Expenses Subtotal $13,180.65

3. Other Expenses

General Liability Insurance to be used for the Grant (optional) $1.000.00

EXPENSES TOTAL $14,180.65

EventStable
16200 Commerce Way
Cerritos, CA 90703

Quotation # Q1800172283
Quotation Created On: Jan 26, 2026
Quotation Valid Until: Feb 25, 2026

Quote for:	Shipping Details:
Troy Reitz Rancho Cordova Elks 2484 11440 Elk Circle Rancho Cordova, California, 95741 United States [redacted]	Troy Reitz Rancho Cordova Elks 2484 11440 Elk Circle Rancho Cordova, California, 95741 United States T[redacted]

Shipping Method:

Quote Shipping - Custom Price

(Total Shipping Charges $0.00)

Products	SKU	Price	Qty	Tax	Subtotal
Spandex Folding Chair Cover *Color: White* **Comment** *in stock*	SPFCC34-WH	**$2.18**	**200**	**$38.15**	**$436.00**
200 Titan Series Fabric Padded Metal Folding Chairs and 3 Hanging Chair Carts Bundle *Hanging Chair Cart - Double Tier x 3* *Titan Series Premium Triple-Braced Fabric Padded Metal Folding Chair - Black Fabric 2" Cushion x 200* **Comment** *in stock*	MFCFP-BDL200	**$7,557.83**	**1**	**$661.31**	**$7,557.83**
Spandex Folding Chair Cover *Color: Black* **Comment** *in stock*	SPFCC34-BK	**$2.18**	**200**	**$38.15**	**$436.00**
10 - TitanPRO™ 6' x 30" Plastic Banquet Folding Tables Bundle *TitanPRO™ Plastic Folding Table - 6' x 30" Banquet x 10* **Comment** *in stock*	PFT2-630BDL10	**$945.10**	**1**	**$82.70**	**$945.10**
10 - TitanPRO™ 8' x 30" Plastic Banquet Folding Tables Bundle *TitanPRO™ Plastic Folding Table - 8'x30" banquet x 10* **Comment** *in stock*	PFT2-830BDL10	**$1,372.60**	**2**	**$240.21**	**$2,745.20**

Original Subtotal:	**$12,591.68**
Quoted Subtotal:	**$12,120.13**
Quote Adjustment:	**-$471.55**
Tax:	**$1,060.52**
Grand Total:	**$13,180.65**

Remarks with quote:
Hi there!
Thank you for reaching out!
Here is the quote you requested. Your order qualifies for free shipping. Please verify your shipping address is correct as charges will apply if changes are made while the product is in route.
I have also extended an additional discount on top of your wholesale discount. Please review for accuracy.
All in stock items have a 7-10 business day turnaround time. Any backorder dates are listed under each product in the comment section.
Quotes do not commit inventory. Inventory availability is subject to change at any time.
Let me know if you have any questions or need any adjustments!
Thank you,
Michele Goebel
[redacted]

We trust that you will find our quote satisfactory and look forward to working with you. Please contact us should you have any questions at all.

Title

Healthy Food Access for Low-Income Families at the Rancho Cordova Certified Farmers' Market

03/13/2026

id. 53477088

by **Samuel Greenlee** in **Fiscal Year 2026-2027 Community Enhancement & Investment Fund Grant Application**

2901 K St
Suite 302
Sacramento, California
95816
CA
United States
[redacted]
sam@alchemistcdc.org

Original Submission

03/13/2026

Score n/a

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Is this your first time applying for grant funding from the City of Rancho Cordova? As a first-time applicant, Community Enhancement & Investment Fund (CEIF) staff will contact you to discuss your project and grant application process.	No: Not a First Time Applicant

	1 - Project/Program Information Note: You can add a collaborator to this form to assist you in completing this application! A collaborator can help you complete this form by filling in fields for you, although only you can submit this form. You can add a collaborator by navigating to the top of the form and clicking on the 'Manage Collaborators' button. Simply enter their email address and click 'invite' to invite them as a collaborator. If you need further assistance, you may consult this Help article for more information.
Project/Program Name. Assign a project name to your project/program.	Healthy Food Access for Low-Income Families at the Rancho Cordova Certified Farmers' Market
Which category does your Project/Program align with?	Community Assistance Programs
Provide a Project/Program Synopsis	This program provides low-income, food-insecure Rancho Cordova residents who depend on CalFresh/EBT to use their benefits at the Rancho Cordova Certified Farmers' Market and earn nutrition incentives that double their spending power on fresh fruits and vegetables grown by local farms.
Provide a Project/Program Description	The Rancho Cordova Certified Farmers' Market (RCCFM) has served the City of Rancho Cordova since 2010, and Alchemist CDC has provided CalFresh access and Market Match nutrition incentives at the market for most of that time. We operate a CalFresh booth at the market where CalFresh customers can swipe their EBT card and choose how much they want to take from their account. If they want $20 to spend at the market, those $20 are debited from their EBT account and turned into $20 worth of market vouchers, which can be spent just like cash on groceries and vegetable seedlings with any eligible vendor who participates in the program. Additionally, CalFresh/EBT customers can also receive incentives of up to $15 per market, per card, to spend on fresh fruits and vegetables. This program delivers several important benefits: 1. It increases the purchasing power of the most vulnerable Rancho Cordova families, who depend on CalFresh benefits to put food on the table. 2. It incentivizes those families to buy and eat more locally-grown fresh fruits and vegetables. This dietary change promotes public health through improved nutrition. 3. By providing equitable access to high-quality, just-picked fruits and vegetables, families experience better tasting produce that can win picky-eater children over to cultivate a lifelong habit of healthy eating. 4. The CalFresh and Market Match dollars go directly into the pockets of smaller local farms, sustaining local agriculture businesses and stimulating the local economy. A UC Davis study found that every dollar spent at a farmers' market generates $1.86 in local economic activity. With the added multiplier of the Market Match incentive, this means every dollar spent at the RCCFM generates $3.72 in local activity.

5. Attracting more CalFresh household spending to the farmers' market helps the market to retain more vendors, keeping the market vibrant with a wide range of offerings for all Rancho Cordova households.
6. The Rancho Cordova Certified Farmers' Market has proven itself to be an important incubator for additional small businesses based in Rancho Cordova, and a thriving market supports those businesses and the local tax base.
7. Farmers' markets are not just places for food access and economic development. They also help build and strengthen communities. Academic research has demonstrated that customers who shop at farmers' markets experience an average of 15 to 20 social interactions per trip, compared to 1-2 for a trip to the grocery store. This is important as the US faces an epidemic of loneliness. It is especially important for senior customers, as the routine social and physical engagement of a farmers' market trip can help prevent cognitive and physical decline. The formation of "weak social ties" across broad, diverse groups of people at a farmers' market also promotes civic-mindedness and social mobility.

In 2025, Alchemist CDC distributed $36,340 in CalFresh/EBT benefits and $29,786 in Market Match incentives at the Rancho Cordova Certified Farmers' Market, across 2,096 unique customer transactions. This represents a 31% increase compared to 2024 and a 359% increase compared to 2020! If CalFresh/Market Match participation plateaued at this level, every dollar requested here from the City of Rancho Cordova would lead to $1.13 in nutrition incentives that would otherwise never reach Rancho Cordova residents. This Return on Investment is remarkable, and does not take into account the many other benefits or the fact that the program's usage continues to grow year over year.

Given the long-standing nature of this program, reviewers may ask why Alchemist is seeking this programmatic funding for the first time from the City of Rancho Cordova. To answer this clearly:

1. The program has always had significant staffing costs, but Alchemist CDC has effectively subsidized the service for more than a decade through a combination of funding sources including state, county, and private grants.
2. Changes in the funding environment have led to the reduction and loss of some past funding sources, leaving a larger gap to be filled.
3. As the program has grown in popularity, the staffing demands have increased alongside other inflationary pressures.
4. In conversations with private funder, there is a clear and growing perception that this program functions as a sort of safety net and should be funded consistently via government funding.

In sum, as the program's impact has grown, costs have increased while funding sources have decreased. In order to sustain this essential program that delivers a positive Return on Investment for the City of Rancho Cordova, we need the City's financial support for the costs specific to the Rancho Cordova Certified Farmers' Market.

Tell us about your Project/Program Team	Alchemist CDC has provided CalFresh/EBT access at farmers' markets since 2011. On the ground at the market, dedicated paid program associates operate the CalFresh/Market Match program at the RCCFM. The program has been managed by Alma Wilcox since 2023, and is under the direction of Joe Robustelli, our Food Access Director with decades of nonprofit management and executive experience. Our Chief Compliance Officer, Davida Douglas, was among the first in California to launch CalFresh at Farmers' Markets after state law allowed for such programs in 2021. CEO, Sam Greenlee, has led Alchemist since 2020.
Provide your Project/Program Goals	We have seen rapid growth each year in program usage at the Rancho Cordova Certified Farmers' Market and expect this trend to continue as the market grows and thrives and more residents become aware of the program. At the same time, the effects of HR 1 from the US Congress will begin to be felt in 2026, reducing CalFresh eligibility for some households. Given this, we conservatively estimate continued growth of at least 15% in CalFresh and Market Match usage at the market in 2026 and another 12% in 2027. This translates to $41,791 (EBT) and $34,254 (Market Match) distributed in 2026, and $46,806 (EBT) and $38,364 (Market Match) distributed in 2027.
Optional File Upload: Provide any additional records to supplement your program/project application. Note: Combine multiple files in one pdf before uploading.	
	2 - Funding & Costs
Funding Request - Complete this section with total dollar amounts for your project/program's costs	Funds are generally not intended to be used for deferred maintenance and ongoing operational needs. The funds are intended for enhancing and investing in the City of Rancho Cordova. If your project/program is awarded, the costs identified below would be reviewed and potentially open to modification during a contracting phase (if a grant is awarded by the City Council). If awarded, grant funds are not available until a contract is executed during Fiscal Year 2026-2027.
Total project/program cost*	49969
What is the amount of Community Enhancement & Investment Fund grant monies requested?	26302

Does your project/program involve construction of any facilities or improvements upon any property?	No
What is the total cost of personnel for your project/program?	26302
What is the total cost of supplies for your project/program?	0
What is the total cost of transportation for your project/program?	0
What is the total cost of equipment for your project/program?	0
What is the total cost of any miscellaneous expenses for your project/program?	0

Upload your project/program's budget as a .pdf file. Include the categories and their dollar amounts along with information about any other funding sources to demonstrate your project/program's total budget. Note, the sum of all categories must match the total project or program cost, or the amount requested of CEIF if there is no other funding source. Please clearly illustrate any matching funds or funding from other sources in your project/program budget, including in-kind sources. Note: Combine multiple files in one pdf before uploading.

Alchemist_Rancho_Cordova_Farmers_Market_Budget.pdf

Has your organization sought or will seek other funding for this project/program?	Yes, actively seeking funding support or have secured additional funding support for this project/program.
Describe any funding secured or being sought for this project/program.	The CalFresh/Market Match program at Rancho Cordova Certified Farmers' Market receives staffing/operational funding from the California Market Match Consortium grant, with $23,667 available to support the program at this market.

Please describe any ongoing operations and maintenance costs beyond Fiscal Year 2026/2027, if applicable.	As mentioned, this is a long-running and highly impactful safety net program. We anticipate that it will continue to run well into the future and will require funding each year if it is to continue operating. The project does not include construction of a facility that will require maintenance.
Do you have volunteer or in-kind support for your project? This could include volunteers for an activity/event that is ongoing or a one-time experience.	No
Is this a single year request or a request for funding for multiple years?	Single Year
Has your project/program received funding from the Community Enhancement & Investment Fund previously?	No
	3 - Project/Program Details Grant applications are typically approved to occur between July 2026 through June 2027. What is your plan to complete this project/program within this time frame?
Anticipated Start Date (July 1 is the soonest available start date)	7/1/2026
Anticipated End Date (typically projects/programs end by June 30)	6/30/2027
Please describe your project/program schedule	The Rancho Cordova Certified Farmers' Market operates year-round, every Saturday morning. The CalFresh and Market Match program must operate whenever the farmers' market operates. We are seeking funding for the fiscal year running from July 2026 to June 2027.

What challenges do you anticipate in your project/program's implementation? What is your plan to complete your project/program should those or other challenges arise?	We do not anticipate any challenges. As mentioned, we have operated this program successfully with major impact in Rancho Cordova for years and are experts in delivering this program.
How many individuals does your project/program serve?	On average, 90 individuals per week, 4,658 per year.
How many Rancho Cordova residents does your project/program serve?	On average, 90 individuals per week, 4,658 per year.
	4 - Project/Program Location
Address Verification	If you need to check if your project is in Rancho Cordova, type in your program/project's location in the Assessor Parcel Viewer: https://assessorparcelviewer.saccounty.gov/jsviewer/assessor.html

School and park related applications are due before Noon (12:00 p.m.) on March 6, 2026, to allow for the endorsement process.	Please note that projects or programs that are proposed on property owned or operated by outside agencies or a private party will require coordination with and potentially approvals from outside agencies, organizations, and/or the private party. Include whether you have received a letter of support for the project/program from the property owner. Upload any letters of support with your application. City staff will verify third-party permits have been discussed. In your planning discussions, be sure to discuss any necessary insurance or volunteer requirements that may increase budget costs. School Sites If your project/program is intended to operate at a public K-12 school site, your application is due by March 6 at Noon (12:00 p.m.). City staff will work with the school districts to confirm an endorsement for your project/program. It's the applicant's responsibility to communicate with school site and district representatives before applying so there is clarity during the endorsement process. Districts will only consider endorsement for applications submitted to the Community Enhancement & Investment Fund by the March 6 at Noon (12:00 p.m.). deadline. Each participating school superintendent reserves the right to withhold their endorsement of a project/program. Parks If your project/program is intended to operate at a park or community center site, your application is due by the March 6 at Noon (12:00 p.m.). deadline. City staff will work with the Cordova Recreation & Park District to confirm an endorsement for your project/program. It's the applicant's responsibility to communicate with district representatives before applying so there is clarity during the endorsement process. A special use permit application is required for any program or event planned at a CRPD facility. The special use application can be found at the CRPD website: https://www.cordovarpd.gov/. CRPD will only consider endorsement for applications submitted to the Community Enhancement & Investment Fund by the March 6 at Noon (12:00 p.m.). deadline. The Cordova Recreation & Park District reserves the right to withhold their endorsement of a project/program. Below is the list of staff to communicate with at school and park organizations: Folsom Cordova Unified School District: mwest@fcusd.org Cordova Recreation & Park District: cmichelotti@cordovarpd.gov Elk Grove Unified School District: mgulden@egusd.net Sacramento City Unified School District: Tuan-Duong@scusd.edu for Winn and Carver and Enrique-Flores@scusd.edu for Lincoln.
Primary street address of project/program	11164 Folsom Blvd.
List the city location of the project/program.	Rancho Cordova
Select State	CA
Provide the zip code for your project/program's primary location.	95742

If your project/program takes place at multiple locations, please list other or secondary locations.	N/A Single Location
Third Party Letters of Support (Note: Combine multiple files in one pdf before uploading)	
Does your project/program involve one of Rancho Cordova's school districts?	No
Does your project/program involve the Cordova Recreation & Park District?	No
	5 - Applicant Information
Name	Samuel Greenlee
Is this project/program on behalf of an organization?	Yes
What is the name of your organization?	Alchemist Community Development Corporation (Alchemist CDC)
What is your title and/or role at your organization?	Chief Executive Officer
Provide contact phone number:	+[redacted]
Provide contact email:	sam@alchemistcdc.org
Are you the primary point of contact on this project/program?	Yes

If your project/program was awarded the requested funds, are you authorized to sign the contract for your organization?	Yes, I would be the one to sign the contract
By checking here, I confirm that I am aware that my application materials will become public record.	checked
	Thank you for applying to the Community Enhancement & Investment Fund Fiscal Year 2026-2027 Grant Cycle. Applicants will receive an automated response through the grant portal. Community Enhancement & Investment Fund (CEIF) Staff will follow up with any questions regarding your Fiscal Year 2026-2027 application. For information about the next steps in the CEIF grant process, visit our website for more information. It is anticipated that applications will be reviewed by the City Council starting in April 2026 with adoption in June 2026. Should applicants be awarded by the City Council, funding would not be available to grantees until the start of Fiscal Year 2026-2027 and the completion of a contract. Please send an email to CEIFGrants@cityofranchocordova.org with any questions or comments.

Internal Form

Score	n/a

Revenues

	California Market Match Consortium grant (state funding)	Requested CEIF Funding
July 2026 - June 2027	$23,667	$26,302

Costs

July 2026 - Dec 2026

RANCHO CORDOVA	CEO	Chief Compliance Officer	Bookkeeper	Accounts Payable Specialist	HR Coordinator	Food Access Director	Program Manager	Assistant Program Manager	CalFresh Admin Assistant	Full-time Program Assistant	Program Assistants (8 hour day)	Program Assistants (6 hour day)	Program Associate (8 hour day)	Program Associates (6 hour day)		
Cost per Hour	58.32	58.82	43.69	32.76	35.65	51 59	44 00	37.87	30.87	28.49	27.78	27.78	26.96	26.96		
Rancho Cordova Hours per Week	0.055	1	0.4	0.6	0 5	1.3	3	3	3	0	8	0	0	6		
Weeks in July-Dec 2026	26	26	26	26	26	26	26	26	26	26	26	26	26	26		
Number of people per position per market	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	1	Total number of People per market	2
Cost for Jul-Dec 2026	$83.40	$1,529.32	$454.38	$511.06	$463.45	$1,743.74	$3,432.00	$2,953.86	$2,407.86	$0.00	$5,778.24	$0.00	$0.00	$4,205.76	Total Cost	$23,563.06

Jan 2027 - June 2027

RANCHO CORDOVA	CEO	Chief Compliance Officer	Bookkeeper	Accounts Payable Specialist	HR Coordinator	Food Access Director	Program Manager	Assistant Program Manager	CalFresh Admin Assistant	Full-time Program Assistant	Program Assistants (8 hour day)	Program Assistants (6 hour day)	Program Associate (8 hour day)	Program Associates (6 hour day)		
Cost per Hour	61.24	61.75	45.88	34.40	37.44	54.17	46 20	39.76	32.41	29.91	29.17	29.17	28.31	28.31		
Rancho Cordova Hours per Week	0.55	1.33	0.44	0.66	0 55	1.44	3	3	3	0	8	0	0	6		
Weeks in Jan-jun 2027	26	26	26	26	26	26	26	26	26	26	26	26	26	26		
Number of people per position per market	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	1	Total number of People per market	2
Cost for Jan-June 2027	$875.73	$2,135.32	$524 87	$590.30	$535.39	$2,028.12	$3,603.60	$3,101.28	$2,527.98	$0.00	$6,067.36	$0.00	$0.00	$4,416.36	Total Cost	$26,406.32

Title

Capital Compassion: Food Recovery Innovation Hub

03/12/2026

id. 53474367

by **Lisa Berry** in **Fiscal Year 2026-2027 Community Enhancement & Investment Fund Grant Application**

10173 Croydon Way
Suite 4
Sacramento, California
95827
United States
[redacted]
lisa.berry@capitalcompassion.org

Original Submission

03/12/2026

Score n/a

	Thank you for your interest in applying to the City of Rancho Cordova's Community Enhancement & Investment Fund. Applications are open from February 9, 2026, to March 13, 2026, Noon (12:00 p.m.) with a specific deadline of March 6th Noon (12:00 p.m.) for certain applications**. Before you begin, please read the notes about deadlines and certain types of grant applications/grants below. **School/Park Application Deadline **Note that projects or programs involving a park or school district have a deadline of March 6 Noon (12:00 p.m.) to allow for the third-party endorsement process by the grant deadline.** A Note about Religious Schools and the Application/Grant Process **Note for grant applications from religious schools. The United States Supreme Court has recently ruled in part that: “denying a generally available benefit [from government] solely on account of religious identity imposes a penalty on the free exercise of religion that can be justified only by a state interest of the highest order.” The City is of the opinion that not all grants to religious schools are prohibited under this and other similar rulings. However, these United States Supreme Court decisions remain in conflict with a section of the California State Constitution that says: “[n]either the Legislature, nor any county, city and county, township, school district, or other municipal corporation, shall ever make an appropriation, or pay from any public fund whatever, or grant anything to or in aid of any religious sect, church, creed, or sectarian purpose, or help to support or sustain any school, college, university, hospital, or other institution controlled by any religious creed, church, or sectarian denomination whatever; nor shall any grant or donation of personal property or real estate ever be made by the state, or any city, city and county, town, or other municipal corporation for any religious creed, church, or sectarian purpose whatever”. The City will accept applications for grants of these City public funds from religious schools, but will have language in the grant agreements to address the possibility and consequences of legal challenges and new court decisions on this and related topics. ** Future Grant Opportunities If you are interested in remaining up-to-date on available grants from the City of Rancho Cordova, click here to sign up for the Grants Interest List. A separate call for programming opportunities with the Rancho Cordova Youth Center is anticipated later in 2026. The list is also used to advertise separate art programs when funds are available. Ongoing Grant Opportunity The City of Rancho Cordova offers a microgrant opportunity. Learn more about those grants online.
Is this your first time applying for grant funding from the City of Rancho Cordova? As a first-time applicant, Community Enhancement & Investment Fund (CEIF) staff will contact you to discuss your project and grant application process.	Yes: First Time Applicant

	1 - Project/Program Information Note: You can add a collaborator to this form to assist you in completing this application! A collaborator can help you complete this form by filling in fields for you, although only you can submit this form. You can add a collaborator by navigating to the top of the form and clicking on the 'Manage Collaborators' button. Simply enter their email address and click 'invite' to invite them as a collaborator. If you need further assistance, you may consult this Help article for more information.
Project/Program Name. Assign a project name to your project/program.	Capital Compassion: Food Recovery Innovation Hub
Which category does your Project/Program align with?	Community Assistance Programs
Provide a Project/Program Synopsis	The Capital Compassion Food Recovery Innovation Hub is a centralized infrastructure and logistics system designed to recover, repurpose, and redistribute surplus edible food through strategic partnerships and door-to-door delivery. The Hub integrates warehouse operations, cold-chain storage, workforce development, and mobile food access to expand community-level food security.
Provide a Project/Program Description	Capital Compassion is a nonprofit serving Rancho Cordova residents through programs addressing food insecurity, homelessness, and barriers to stability. Working with local food providers, volunteers, and community partners, Capital Compassion connects resources with residents who need them most. Through the Food Recovery Innovation Hub, Capital Compassion is expanding a locally focused program that benefits Rancho Cordova residents while supporting the City's goals of improving community well-being and reducing food waste. The Capital Compassion Food Recovery Innovation Hub builds on this work by transforming surplus food into nutritious meals and groceries for vulnerable residents, particularly seniors facing transportation and health-related barriers. Recover. Repurpose. Deliver to Rancho Cordova seniors. The project operates entirely within Rancho Cordova with a clear goal: ensuring good food reaches people who need it. Capital Compassion recovers surplus food, repurposes it into usable portions, and delivers it directly to seniors through the Mobile Food Pantry. What makes this model different is that Capital Compassion transforms bulk surplus food into ready-to-use meals delivered directly to seniors who cannot easily access traditional distribution sites. Food recovery programs sit at the intersection of waste reduction and hunger relief. California defines food recovery as collecting edible food destined for waste and redistributing it to feed people, while SB 1383 sets a goal of recovering at least 20 percent of edible food sent to landfill. The Capital Compassion Food Recovery Innovation Hub supports this effort locally by building infrastructure to safely recover, store, repurpose, and

distribute edible food within Rancho Cordova.

Through partnerships with Tier 1 and Tier 2 edible food generators, Capital Compassion recovers high-quality prepared and perishable foods that would otherwise go to waste. This food is redirected from grocery stores, restaurants, and other providers into the community where it provides immediate benefit. Recovered food is transported in temperature-controlled vehicles and stored in cold storage meeting Sacramento County Environmental Health standards, with protocols ensuring safe handling.

A distinguishing feature of the Innovation Hub is its micro-kitchen and cold storage repurposing operation. Many food recovery programs distribute food as received, but bulk food is not always practical for every household. Large trays of prepared meals or bulk ingredients can be difficult for older adults or individuals with limited kitchen capacity to prepare safely.

Capital Compassion addresses this challenge by repurposing recovered food into individual portions suitable for household use. Bulk food is divided into ready-to-use servings seniors can easily store, heat, and consume. Instead of receiving food difficult to prepare, residents receive meals and groceries that fit their daily lives, improving equitable access to nutritious food for residents facing mobility and transportation barriers.

The Mobile Food Pantry is the primary way food reaches the community. Rather than requiring seniors to travel to a distribution site, Capital Compassion provides door-to-door delivery to Rancho Cordova residents age 65 and older who face health-related transportation barriers. Deliveries occur Tuesdays and Wednesdays between 9:00 a.m. and 3:00 p.m. Each household typically receives five prepared meals, at no cost.

By bringing food directly to the home, the program removes transportation barriers and ensures seniors who are homebound or managing health challenges can access nutritious meals with dignity and independence.

The Innovation Hub also incorporates inclusive workforce participation through Capital Compassion's CARES Workforce Program. Adults with special needs assist with warehouse operations, sorting, packaging, and logistics while gaining meaningful experience.

Capital Compassion works with local service networks, including referral partners such as 211 Sacramento, to ensure seniors experiencing food insecurity and transportation barriers are connected to the Mobile Food Pantry program.

Focusing the program exclusively within Rancho Cordova ensures City investment directly benefits Rancho Cordova residents while allowing Capital Compassion to track outcomes such as households served, pounds of food recovered, and meals delivered to seniors.

City investment will strengthen Capital Compassion's ability to safely store, repurpose, and deliver recovered food within Rancho Cordova. With expanded capacity, the program expects to recover more than 35,000 pounds of edible food annually and deliver nutritious meals and groceries to approximately 120–150 households, primarily seniors facing transportation

	barriers. The program will continue growing through food recovery partnerships, volunteers, and community support beyond the grant period. Through careful stewardship of resources and strong community partnerships, this approach builds a sustainable local system that reduces food waste while strengthening food security and equitable food access for Rancho Cordova residents with measurable community outcomes. The Food Recovery Innovation Hub helps Rancho Cordova seniors maintain dignity, stability, and independence while turning surplus food into reliable nutrition that strengthens community well-being and quality of life.
Tell us about your Project/Program Team	Capital Compassion's team combines professional leadership, dedicated volunteers, and community partners committed to serving Rancho Cordova residents. Lisa Berry, Director of Development, oversees fundraising, partnerships, and strategic program support. Crystal Molnar, Director of Operations, manages daily program implementation and operational coordination. Jamie Henderson, Logistics Coordinator, supports food recovery transportation and delivery operations for the Mobile Food Pantry. Theresa Holloway serves as a kitchen volunteer assisting with meal preparation and food repurposing. Pat Solvo volunteers with the CARES Workforce Program, helping support inclusive workforce participation while strengthening the organization's ability to serve vulnerable residents with dignity and care.
Provide your Project/Program Goals	The Capital Compassion Food Recovery Innovation Hub expands access to nutritious food for Rancho Cordova residents while reducing edible food waste. The program recovers surplus food from local partners, safely repurposes it into practical meal portions, and delivers it directly to seniors who face transportation and health-related barriers. Through this coordinated effort, Capital Compassion will provide approximately 26,000 nutritious meals annually to 100 homebound Rancho Cordova seniors, helping stabilize health, reduce emergency food crises, and support seniors in living safely and independently at home. Capital Compassion will pursue three primary goals: • Increase recovery of edible food from local Tier 1 and Tier 2 food generators • Repurpose recovered food into safe, practical household meal portions • Deliver nutritious meals and groceries directly to Rancho Cordova seniors through the Mobile Food Pantry By focusing services exclusively within Rancho Cordova, the program ensures City investment directly benefits local residents while addressing food insecurity and social isolation among vulnerable seniors. Program progress will be measured through clear operational metrics, including: • Pounds of edible food recovered from partner food generators • Number of meals repurposed through the micro-kitchen • Number of Rancho Cordova households served

	• Frequency of weekly delivery routes • Volunteer participation hours • CARES Workforce Program participation With expanded capacity, the program anticipates the following annual outcomes: • More than 35,000 pounds of edible food recovered • Approximately 1500 - 2000 meals prepared each month • 26,000 nutritious meals delivered annually • Regular service to approximately 100–150 Rancho Cordova households Capital Compassion maintains strong operational oversight through food recovery logs, meal preparation records, and delivery tracking that document the source, use, and distribution of recovered food. These records allow the leadership team to monitor performance, adjust delivery routes or volunteer assignments as needed, and maintain consistent service. Through partnerships with local food providers, volunteers, and community organizations, the program multiplies the impact of City funding by leveraging donated food and volunteer service. Because much of the food distributed is recovered, the program delivers significant community benefit while maximizing the efficiency of public investment. By recovering surplus food, repurposing it into usable meals, and delivering it directly to seniors, Capital Compassion transforms excess food into reliable nutrition for Rancho Cordova residents who need it most while strengthening the local food recovery system and improving community well-being.

Optional File Upload: Provide any additional records to supplement your program/project application. Note: Combine multiple files in one pdf before uploading.

CEIF_Grant_Supporting_Docs.pdf

	2 - Funding & Costs
Funding Request - Complete this section with total dollar amounts for your project/program's costs	Funds are generally not intended to be used for deferred maintenance and ongoing operational needs. The funds are intended for enhancing and investing in the City of Rancho Cordova. If your project/program is awarded, the costs identified below would be reviewed and potentially open to modification during a contracting phase (if a grant is awarded by the City Council). If awarded, grant funds are not available until a contract is executed during Fiscal Year 2026-2027.
Total project/program cost*	139386.94

What is the amount of Community Enhancement & Investment Fund grant monies requested?	38158.22
Does your project/program involve construction of any facilities or improvements upon any property?	No
What is the total cost of personnel for your project/program?	15000
What is the total cost of supplies for your project/program?	11840.44
What is the total cost of transportation for your project/program?	0
What is the total cost of equipment for your project/program?	10913.82
What is the total cost of any miscellaneous expenses for your project/program?	403.90

Upload your project/program's budget as a .pdf file. Include the categories and their dollar amounts along with information about any other funding sources to demonstrate your project/program's total budget. Note, the sum of all categories must match the total project or program cost, or the amount requested of CEIF if there is no other funding source. Please clearly illustrate any matching funds or funding from other sources in your project/program budget, including in-kind sources. Note: Combine multiple files in one pdf before uploading.

Capital_Compassion_CEIF_Budget_2026.pdf

Has your organization sought or will seek other funding for this project/program?	Yes, actively seeking funding support or have secured additional funding support for this project/program.

Describe any funding secured or being sought for this project/program.	Capital Compassion actively pursues multiple funding sources to support and expand the Food Recovery Innovation Hub and Mobile Food Pantry program. In addition to the City of Rancho Cordova's Community Enhancement & Investment Fund request, Capital Compassion has submitted an application to the California Food Assistance Program Expansion Grant (CFAA) through the California Department of Social Services. The CFAA program supports organizations working to expand food access and strengthen food distribution systems for communities experiencing food insecurity. The CFAA application focuses on expanding food recovery, transportation capacity, and the infrastructure needed to safely store and distribute recovered food. If awarded, this funding would complement the CEIF investment by strengthening the operational capacity of the Food Recovery Innovation Hub and increasing the amount of food that can be recovered, repurposed, and delivered to Rancho Cordova residents. In addition to grant funding, Capital Compassion leverages significant in-kind support through donated food from local grocery stores, restaurants, and other food providers participating in the edible food recovery network. Volunteer participation also plays an important role in supporting warehouse operations, food sorting, meal packaging, and delivery logistics. These partnerships allow the organization to extend the reach of the program while maintaining efficient use of available resources. Capital Compassion's recently established Tier 2 edible food recovery partnership with the City of Rancho Cordova further strengthens the program by expanding opportunities to recover surplus food from local businesses and redirect it into the community where it can provide immediate benefit. By combining public funding, community partnerships, donated food, and volunteer support, Capital Compassion multiplies the impact of each funding source while maintaining a cost-effective and sustainable program model. This diversified funding strategy ensures that the Food Recovery Innovation Hub can continue growing and serving Rancho Cordova residents while maximizing the value of City investment.

Please describe any ongoing operations and maintenance costs beyond Fiscal Year 2026/2027, if applicable.	The Capital Compassion Food Recovery Innovation Hub is designed to operate with modest ongoing costs by leveraging donated food, volunteer participation, and existing operational infrastructure. Because the majority of food distributed through the program is recovered from local food providers, the primary long-term expenses relate to transportation, food-safe storage, packaging materials, fuel, and basic program coordination. Capital Compassion will continue supporting these operational costs through a diversified funding strategy that includes foundation grants, community donations, and public funding opportunities that support food recovery and food security initiatives. The organization will also continue pursuing partnerships with local businesses and food providers participating in Tier 1 and Tier 2 edible food recovery programs, ensuring a steady supply of recoverable food without increasing program costs. Volunteer participation and community partnerships play a key role in sustaining the program. Volunteers assist with food sorting, packaging, and delivery preparation, while community partners help identify residents who may benefit from services. These collaborations allow the organization to operate efficiently while maximizing available resources. The program also benefits from Capital Compassion's existing facility, cold storage capacity, and established operational systems. Because the Food Recovery Innovation Hub builds on this existing infrastructure, the program does not require significant new capital investment beyond the grant period. Instead, the model is designed to scale gradually as additional food recovery partnerships develop within Rancho Cordova. Capital Compassion's partnership with the City of Rancho Cordova through the Tier 2 edible food recovery network further strengthens the long-term sustainability of the program by expanding opportunities to recover surplus food generated within the community and redirect it to residents experiencing food insecurity. Through diversified funding, responsible program management, and strong community partnerships, Capital Compassion is well positioned to sustain and grow the Food Recovery Innovation Hub beyond the 2026–2027 grant period. Because the program relies heavily on recovered food, donated resources, and volunteer support, the Food Recovery Innovation Hub multiplies the value of every funding dollar while continuing to deliver reliable nutrition to Rancho Cordova residents who need it most.
Do you have volunteer or in-kind support for your project? This could include volunteers for an activity/event that is ongoing or a one-time experience.	Yes

Please share the total dollar amount for volunteer/in-kind support using $34.79 as the national rate for a volunteer hour. Source: Value of Volunteer Time	68745.04

Please provide a worksheet explaining your volunteer/in-kind contribution. You may upload a file in the following formats: CSV, DOC, DOCX, or PDF.

capital_compassion_volunteer_leverage.pdf

Is this a single year request or a request for funding for multiple years?	Single Year
Has your project/program received funding from the Community Enhancement & Investment Fund previously?	No
	3 - Project/Program Details Grant applications are typically approved to occur between July 2026 through June 2027. What is your plan to complete this project/program within this time frame?
Anticipated Start Date (July 1 is the soonest available start date)	7/1/2026
Anticipated End Date (typically projects/programs end by June 30)	6/30/2027
Please describe your project/program schedule	The Capital Compassion Food Recovery Innovation Hub is an operational program designed to expand food recovery, safe repurposing, and direct home delivery of nutritious meals to Rancho Cordova seniors. The program officially launched on March 2, 2026, and CEIF funding will allow Capital Compassion to expand program capacity and serve additional Rancho Cordova residents. Activities will take place throughout the City of Rancho Cordova fiscal year from July 1 through June 30, ensuring consistent service delivery and measurable community impact. Capital Compassion has secured a new agreement with the City of Rancho Cordova to support Tier 2 edible food recovery. This partnership strengthens the City's food recovery network by allowing additional surplus food from Rancho Cordova businesses to be safely recovered and

redistributed to residents experiencing food insecurity. By expanding food recovery within the city, Capital Compassion is able to serve more households while ensuring that edible food generated locally benefits the Rancho Cordova community.

July – August | Program Coordination and Capacity Expansion
At the start of the fiscal year, Capital Compassion will strengthen coordination with Tier 1 and Tier 2 edible food generators to increase the amount of surplus food recovered within Rancho Cordova. The recently established Tier 2 recovery partnership with the City of Rancho Cordova will expand opportunities to recover food from local businesses and food providers. Operational schedules for food collection, transportation, cold storage, and micro-kitchen meal repurposing will be confirmed to support expanded service. During this phase, the organization will also continue coordination with referral partners such as 211 Sacramento to identify Rancho Cordova seniors who qualify for the Mobile Food Pantry program.

September – October | Expanded Food Recovery and Meal Repurposing
Recovered food from grocery stores, restaurants, and other food providers will be transported to the Capital Compassion facility for intake, storage, and safe repurposing. Surplus food will be sorted and evaluated according to established food safety procedures before being repurposed into individual meal portions suitable for household use. The micro-kitchen will convert bulk food into ready-to-use meals that seniors can easily store, heat, and consume. As additional Tier 2 food recovery partnerships develop within Rancho Cordova, the program will redirect even more edible food into the community where it can provide immediate benefit.

November – April | Mobile Food Pantry Delivery and Ongoing Operations
During the majority of the fiscal year, the Mobile Food Pantry will provide scheduled door-to-door delivery of meals and groceries to Rancho Cordova seniors age 65 and older who face health-related transportation barriers. Deliveries occur weekly on Tuesdays and Wednesdays between 9:00 a.m. and 3:00 p.m. Each participating household typically receives five prepared meals at a time along with additional groceries when available. Through this coordinated system, Rancho Cordova businesses contribute surplus food, Capital Compassion safely repurposes it, and residents experiencing food insecurity receive nutritious meals delivered directly to their homes.

May – June | Program Evaluation, Reporting, and Continued Service
During the final months of the fiscal year, Capital Compassion will review program performance while continuing regular food recovery and delivery services. Program data—including pounds of food recovered, meals repurposed, delivery routes completed, and households served—will be evaluated to measure progress toward program goals and demonstrate the community impact of the program. This evaluation process will guide program improvements and support continued growth of the Food Recovery Innovation Hub.

Because the program is already operational, CEIF funding will allow Capital Compassion to scale a proven model that recovers surplus food, repurposes it into practical meals, and delivers reliable nutrition directly to Rancho Cordova seniors who face transportation and health-related

barriers. The program creates a complete local food loop within Rancho Cordova—where businesses contribute surplus food, community partners support recovery, and residents experiencing food insecurity receive nutritious meals. In this way, Capital Compassion serves as the conduit between a community need and a practical solution, connecting local resources with residents who need them most while strengthening Rancho Cordova's food recovery system. Because much of the food distributed through the program is recovered and donated, the Food Recovery Innovation Hub multiplies the value of City investment by converting existing community resources into nutritious meals for residents in need.

What challenges do you anticipate in your project/program's implementation? What is your plan to complete your project/program should those or other challenges arise?	As with any community-based food recovery and distribution program, several operational challenges may arise as the Capital Compassion Food Recovery Innovation Hub continues to grow. Capital Compassion has designed the program with flexible systems, established food safety procedures, and strong community partnerships to ensure these challenges can be effectively managed without disrupting service to Rancho Cordova residents. One potential challenge is variability in the amount and type of food recovered from Tier 1 and Tier 2 edible food generators. Because recovered food depends on daily surplus from grocery stores, restaurants, and other food providers, quantities may fluctuate. Capital Compassion addresses this by maintaining relationships with multiple food recovery partners throughout Rancho Cordova, allowing the organization to balance supply across several sources. The recently established Tier 2 recovery partnership with the City of Rancho Cordova will further strengthen the local food recovery network and expand opportunities to recover edible food from additional local businesses. Another potential challenge is ensuring that recovered food can be safely repurposed and distributed within established food safety guidelines. Capital Compassion follows Sacramento County Environmental Health standards for food recovery and distribution, including temperature-controlled transportation, cold storage, and clearly defined intake and repurposing procedures. These safeguards ensure that all recovered food is handled responsibly and remains safe for community distribution. Transportation and delivery logistics can also present challenges when serving seniors who are homebound or experiencing health-related mobility limitations. The Mobile Food Pantry addresses this by operating on a consistent weekly delivery schedule, allowing staff and volunteers to plan efficient routes and maintain reliable service. The program also benefits from volunteer support and coordinated logistics to ensure meals reach residents on a regular and dependable basis. Identifying seniors who qualify for the program and may benefit from home delivery can also present challenges, as many individuals experiencing food insecurity may not be connected to traditional food assistance programs. Capital Compassion works closely with community referral partners, including 211 Sacramento and other local service providers, to identify Rancho Cordova residents who face transportation barriers and may benefit from the Mobile Food Pantry. Capital Compassion regularly reviews program operations, recovery partnerships, and delivery schedules to ensure the program continues to operate efficiently and respond to community needs. Through strong partnerships, clear procedures, and consistent program oversight, the organization has built a resilient service model capable of adapting to changing conditions while continuing to deliver reliable nutrition to Rancho Cordova residents.

How many individuals does your project/program serve?	125
How many Rancho Cordova residents does your project/program serve?	125
	4 - Project/Program Location
Address Verification	If you need to check if your project is in Rancho Cordova, type in your program/project's location in the Assessor Parcel Viewer: https://assessorparcelviewer.saccounty.gov/jsviewer/assessor.html

School and park related applications are due before Noon (12:00 p.m.) on March 6, 2026, to allow for the endorsement process.	Please note that projects or programs that are proposed on property owned or operated by outside agencies or a private party will require coordination with and potentially approvals from outside agencies, organizations, and/or the private party. Include whether you have received a letter of support for the project/program from the property owner. Upload any letters of support with your application. City staff will verify third-party permits have been discussed. In your planning discussions, be sure to discuss any necessary insurance or volunteer requirements that may increase budget costs. School Sites If your project/program is intended to operate at a public K-12 school site, your application is due by March 6 at Noon (12:00 p.m.). City staff will work with the school districts to confirm an endorsement for your project/program. It's the applicant's responsibility to communicate with school site and district representatives before applying so there is clarity during the endorsement process. Districts will only consider endorsement for applications submitted to the Community Enhancement & Investment Fund by the March 6 at Noon (12:00 p.m.). deadline. Each participating school superintendent reserves the right to withhold their endorsement of a project/program. Parks If your project/program is intended to operate at a park or community center site, your application is due by the March 6 at Noon (12:00 p.m.). deadline. City staff will work with the Cordova Recreation & Park District to confirm an endorsement for your project/program. It's the applicant's responsibility to communicate with district representatives before applying so there is clarity during the endorsement process. A special use permit application is required for any program or event planned at a CRPD facility. The special use application can be found at the CRPD website: https://www.cordovarpd.gov/. CRPD will only consider endorsement for applications submitted to the Community Enhancement & Investment Fund by the March 6 at Noon (12:00 p.m.). deadline. The Cordova Recreation & Park District reserves the right to withhold their endorsement of a project/program. Below is the list of staff to communicate with at school and park organizations: Folsom Cordova Unified School District: mwest@fcusd.org Cordova Recreation & Park District: cmichelotti@cordovarpd.gov Elk Grove Unified School District: mgulden@egusd.net Sacramento City Unified School District: Tuan-Duong@scusd.edu for Winn and Carver and Enrique-Flores@scusd.edu for Lincoln.
Primary street address of project/program	10173 Croydon Way Suite 4
List the city location of the project/program.	Rancho Cordova
Select State	CA
Provide the zip code for your project/program's primary location.	95827

If your project/program takes place at multiple locations, please list other or secondary locations.	N/A

Third Party Letters of Support (Note: Combine multiple files in one pdf before uploading)

Group_LOS.pdf

Does your project/program involve one of Rancho Cordova's school districts?	No
Does your project/program involve the Cordova Recreation & Park District?	No
	5 - Applicant Information
Name	Lisa Berry
Is this project/program on behalf of an organization?	Yes
What is the name of your organization?	Capital Compassion
What is your title and/or role at your organization?	Director of Business Development
Provide contact phone number:	+[redacted]
Provide contact email:	Lisa.Berry@Capitalcompassion.org
Are you the primary point of contact on this project/program?	Yes

If your project/program was awarded the requested funds, are you authorized to sign the contract for your organization?	Yes, I would be the one to sign the contract
By checking here, I confirm that I am aware that my application materials will become public record.	checked
	Thank you for applying to the Community Enhancement & Investment Fund Fiscal Year 2026-2027 Grant Cycle. Applicants will receive an automated response through the grant portal. Community Enhancement & Investment Fund (CEIF) Staff will follow up with any questions regarding your Fiscal Year 2026-2027 application. For information about the next steps in the CEIF grant process, visit our website for more information. It is anticipated that applications will be reviewed by the City Council starting in April 2026 with adoption in June 2026. Should applicants be awarded by the City Council, funding would not be available to grantees until the start of Fiscal Year 2026-2027 and the completion of a contract. Please send an email to CEIFGrants@cityofranchocordova.org with any questions or comments.

Internal Form

Score	n/a

Capital Compassion | Micro-Kitchen & Mobile Food Pantry Funding Plan

This workbook shows how secured CFAA launch funding and the proposed CEIF request work together to support startup and sustained operations.

CFAA Grant Secured	CEIF Grant Request	Combined Project Budget	Quote Pending Items
$101,228.72	$38,158.22	$139,386.94	-

Sources of Funds

Funding Source	Status	Primary Use	Amount
CFAA Grant	Secured	Core infrastructure, vehicle readiness, permit, and launch oversight	$101,228.72
CEIF Grant	Requested	Operating supplies, delivery equipment, and driver support	$38,158.22
Total Project Funding Plan			**$139,386.94**

Uses of Funds by Category

Category	CFAA	CEIF	Combined	Sustainability Role
Supplies & Materials	$461.26	$11,840.44	$12,301.70	Launch consumables, packaging, print pieces, and operational supplies
Equipment	$74,330.96	$10,913.82	$85,244.78	Kitchen infrastructure plus delivery tools and shelving
Consulting & Permits	$703.00	-	$703.00	Required compliance and setup costs
Other Direct Costs	$16,290.00	$403.96	$16,693.96	Administrative tools tied to service execution
Personnel	$9,443.50	$15,000.00	$24,443.50	Oversight plus delivery staffing for continuity
Total	**$101,228.72**	**$38,158.22**	**$139,386.94**	**Combined launch and sustainment budget**

Narrative Summary

CFAA funding establishes the project's fixed launch infrastructure: kitchen fixtures, cold storage, truck acquisition, permit costs, and initial implementation oversight. The CEIF request layers in the operating supplies, delivery equipment, and driver support needed to convert that infrastructure into consistent meal production and mobile pantry distribution. Together, these two grants create a balanced funding plan that covers both startup readiness and ongoing execution.

Applicant Name: Capital Compassion **Project: k Mobile Food Pantry Launch**

Secured CFAA launch funding for foundational kitchen infrastructure, vehicle readiness, compliance, and implementation oversight for Capital Compassion's micro-kitchen and mobile food pantry.

Supplies & Materials (include support for supplies and administratively related to the execution of the grant project)			
Item Description	**Number of Items**	**Amount or Rate**	**Total Request**
Kitchen Supplies	1.0	$461.26	$461.26
			-
			-
			-
			-
			-
Supplies & Materials Subtotal:			**$461.26**
Equipment (including vehicles, etc., directly related to the execution of the project)			
Item Description	**Number of Items**	**Amount or Rate**	**Total Request**
Double Sink	1.0	$165.99	$165.99
Handwashing Sink	1.0	$153.99	$153.99
Faucet	1.0	$222.49	$222.49
Garbage Disposal	1.0	$179.00	$179.00
Kitchen Prep & Work Table	1.0	$541.49	$541.49
Refrigerator	1.0	$2,599.00	$2,599.00
Freezer	1.0	$2,969.00	$2,969.00
Certified Pre Owned Catering Food Truck	1.0	$60,000.00	$60,000.00
Vehicle Insurance (Annual)	1.0	$4,000.00	$4,000.00
Vehicle Registration & CARB Compliance (Annual)	1.0	$1,500.00	$1,500.00
Vehicle Maintenance (Annual)	1.0	$2,000.00	$2,000.00
			$74,330.96
Consulting & Professional Services (include any external services directly related to the execution of the project)			
Sacramento County Environmental Management Department	1.0	$703.00	**$703.00**
			-
			-
			-

Consulting Subtotal:				**$703.00**
Other Direct Costs (list any additional costs directly related to the execution of the project)				
Description		**Number of Items**	**Amount or Rate**	**Total Request**
Welded Platform Truck		1.0	$645.00	$645.00
Electric Pallet Stacker		1.0	$10,325.00	$10,325.00
Utility Cart		6.0	$145.00	$870.00
Cold Holding Buffered Probe Kit		10.0	$174.00	$1,740.00
Shipping and Tax				*$2,710.00*
				$16,290.00
Personnel (include staffing support directly related to the execution of the project up to 10% of total budget request)				
Role (and Name, if identified)	**Level of Support (% of FTE)**	**Salary Request**	**Benefit Request**	**Total Requested Support**
Crystal Molnar - Director of Operations	10.0%	$9,443.50	-	$9,443.50
				-
				-
				-
Personnel Subtotal:				**$9,443.50**
Personnel Cap Based on 10% of Total Budget				*$10,122.87*
Indirect Costs (Up to 5%)				*$5,061.44*
Total Funding Request				**$101,228.72**

Complementary Project Support (secured or pending funding that strengthens this project)		
Funding Agency or Organization	**Pending or Secured**	**Amount**
CEIF Grant (proposed request)	Pending	$38,158.22
Other Project Support:		**$38,158.22**

Directions: This narrative supports the secured CFAA budget and provides context for the core launch infrastructure already identified for the project.

Supplies & Materials (include support for supplies and administratively related to the execution of the grant project)

Budget Narrative: Micro-Kitchen Supplies
Amount Requested: $461.26
This budget line supports the purchase of essential supplies for Capital Compassion's micro-kitchen, a key component of our Food Recovery Innovation Hub. The requested amount will fund a variety of basic, food-safe items necessary for safe and efficient daily operations. These include utensils and smallwares required to meet local health codes and food safety standards. By equipping our kitchen with the appropriate tools, this investment ensures that we can launch operations smoothly, safely, and in full compliance with Sacramento County's nonprofit charitable feeding guidelines.

Equipment (including vehicles, etc., directly related to the execution of the project)

Budget Narrative: Food Recovery Innovation Hub & Mobile Distribution Infrastructure
Total Requested: $74,330.96
This funding request supports essential infrastructure and equipment for the launch and operation of Capital Compassion's Food Recovery Innovation Hub and Mobile People's Choice Food Pantry. Requested items include critical commercial kitchen fixtures, cold storage units, and food-safe prep equipment necessary to process and repurpose recovered Tier 2 food into ready-to-eat meals. In addition, this budget covers the purchase of a certified pre-owned catering food truck, along with first-year operational costs such as insurance, vehicle registration, CARB compliance, and routine maintenance. These investments will directly enhance our capacity to safely recover, prepare, and deliver high-quality surplus food to underserved communities across Sacramento County.

Consulting & Professional Services (include any external services directly related to the execution of the project)

Line Item: Environmental Management Department Permit – Type 1689
Amount Requested: $703
Justification:
This fee covers the required Type 1689 permit through the Sacramento County Environmental Management Department for nonprofit charitable feeding operations. This permit ensures that Capital Compassion's Food Recovery Innovation Hub complies with local health and safety standards for food handling, storage, and distribution. Obtaining this permit is essential for operating the Hub's micro-commercial kitchen and repackaging recovered Tier 2 food into safe, ready-to-eat meals for distribution to food-insecure individuals across the region.

Personnel (include staffing support directly related to the execution of the project)

Line Item: Personnel – Director of Operations (Crystal Molnar)
Amount Requested: $7,000. This request supports a portion of compensation for Crystal Molnar, Capital Compassion's Director of Operations. Crystal plays a critical role in overseeing implementation of CFAA-funded programs, including compliance, vendor coordination, facility logistics, and reporting. The $7,000 allocation reflects partial support for her time dedicated specifically to managing the launch and oversight of the Mobile People's Choice Pantry and the Food Recovery Innovation Hub.

Applicant Name: Capital Compassion

Project: & Mobile Food Pantry Launch

CEIF request layered onto the secured CFAA award to fund launch-day operating supplies, delivery logistics, and driver support that sustain the micro-kitchen and mobile pantry after core infrastructure is in place.

Supplies & Materials (packaging, labels, outreach print pieces, and launch supplies for daily service)

Item Description	Number of Items	Amount or Rate	Total Request
Take Out Box, Size #1, Kraft, 450 ct	75.0	$47.99	$3,599.25
Duro Bag Recycled #70 Handle Bag, Kraft, 300 ct	112.0	$62.69	$7,021.28
Thermal Labels	5.0	$9.99	$49.95
8.5x11 Info sheet	2.4	$400.00	$960.00
Natural Choice Multi-Purpose Copy Paper, 20 lb, Letter, White, 5000 Sheets	2.0	$39.99	$79.98
Blue Striped 32 oz. Cotton Bar Towels	2.0	$64.99	$129.98
Supplies & Materials Subtotal:			$11,840.44

Equipment (delivery and operational equipment directly related to execution of the project)

Item Description	Number of Items	Amount or Rate	Total Request
Stainless Steel Work Table 36x24 Inch with 4 Wheels	1.0	$96.90	$96.90
Premium Insulated Food Delivery Bag	8.0	$61.99	$495.92
Built In Van Shelving (quote pending)	1.0	$10,000.00	$10,000.00
Utility Cart	1.0	$210.00	$210.00
Colored Angled Broom	3.0	$37.00	$111.00
			-
			-
			-
			-
			-
			-
			$10,913.82
			-

Other Direct Costs (administrative tools directly tied to implementation)

Description	Number of Items	Amount or Rate	Total Request
Stapler Heavy Duty	2.0	$17.99	$35.98
Staples	2.0	$18.99	$37.98
Quaternary Test Kit	2.0	$75.00	$150.00
Lysol No Rinse Sanitizer - 1 Gallon Bottle	4.0	$45.00	$180.00
			-
			$403.96

Personnel (staffing support directly tied to mobile pantry delivery and execution)

Role (and Name, if identified)	Level of Support (% of FTE)	Salary Request	Benefit Request	Total Requested Support
Logistics Coordinator/Mobile Pantry Driver/Operations	15.0%	$15,000.00	-	$15,000.00
				-
				-
				-
Personnel Subtotal:				$15,000.00
Personnel Share of CEIF Request				*39.3%*
Items Pending Final Quote				-
Total CEIF Funding Request				**$38,158.22**

Complementary Project Support (secured or pending funding that strengthens this project)

Funding Agency or Organization	Pending or Secured	Amount
CFAA Equipment and Expansion Grant (secured)	Secured	$101,228.72
Other Project Support:		$101,228.72

Directions: This narrative supports the CEIF request and shows how the ask complements the secured CFAA launch budget.

Supplies & Materials

Budget Narrative: CEIF Operating Supplies
Amount Requested: $11,840.44
This section funds the packaging, thermal labels, printed information sheets, copy paper, and bar towels needed to operate Capital Compassion's micro-kitchen and mobile pantry on a day-to-day basis. These items support food-safe packaging, participant communication, inventory handling, and routine sanitation once the kitchen and truck funded by CFAA are in service.

Equipment

Budget Narrative: CEIF Supplies and Materials
Amount Requested: $10,913.82
Funds will support a stainless steel work table, insulated delivery bags, and van shelving needed to safely prepare, organize, and transport recovered food for Capital Compassion's Mobile Food Pantry and senior delivery program in Rancho Cordova. The shelving system will improve vehicle organization, food safety, and distribution efficiency.

Other Direct Costs

Budget Narrative: Administrative Implementation Tools
Amount Requested: $403.96
This section covers a heavy-duty stapler and staples used to assemble printed information packets, route documents, and participant-facing materials that accompany mobile pantry service.

Personnel

Budget Narrative: Mobile Pantry Driver Support
Amount Requested: $15,000.00
This request supports driver staffing directly tied to mobile pantry delivery. The role is essential for route execution, loading and unloading, safe transport, and reliable community distribution after the CFAA-funded vehicle and kitchen infrastructure are in place.

Capital Compassion Volunteer Leverage Calculation

Volunteer Rate Used: $34.79/hour (Independent Sector National Volunteer Value)

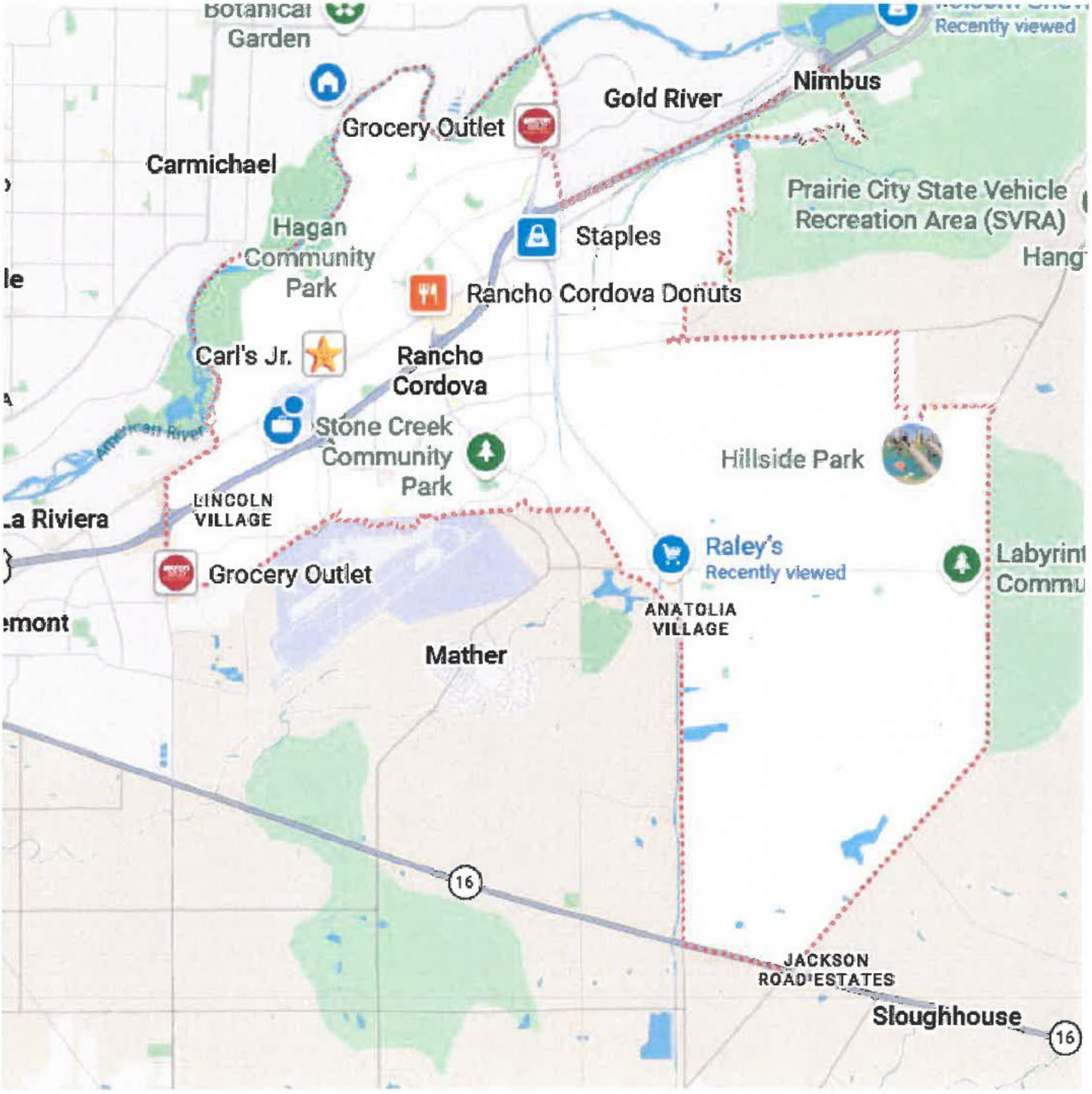
Volunteer	Schedule	Weekly Hours	Weekly Value ($)
Theresa Halloway	Mon–Thu 8:30–12:00	14	487.06
Pat Solvo	Tue–Thu 9:00–12:00	9	313.11
CARES Workforce Team (5 participants)	Wed 9:00–12:00	15	521.85
TOTAL		38	1,322.02

Volunteer Value Summary

Period	Hours	Dollar Value ($)
Weekly	38	1,322.02
Monthly (avg)	164.5	5,724.35
Annual	1976	68,745.04

Program Narrative

Capital Compassion leverages volunteer engagement to significantly expand the impact of its food recovery and community nutrition programs. Using the Independent Sector national volunteer rate of $34.79 per hour, the organization’s volunteers contribute meaningful operational capacity each week. Theresa Halloway and Pat Solvo provide consistent weekly support in food recovery, sorting, and distribution activities. In addition, the CARES Workforce Development participants contribute structured weekly service hours that support the repurposing and distribution of recovered food. Together, these volunteer hours help increase the amount of edible food recovered, safely repurposed, and distributed to Rancho Cordova residents, including seniors receiving home-delivered groceries and unhoused neighbors served through the Respite Center. This volunteer leverage allows Capital Compassion to maximize grant investments while expanding community benefit through workforce participation, food recovery, and direct service.


Botanical Garden
Recently viewed
Nimbus
Gold River
Grocery Outlet
Carmichael
Prairie City State Vehicle Recreation Area (SVRA)
Hagan Community Park
Staples
Rancho Cordova Donuts
Carl's Jr.
Rancho Cordova
Stone Creek Community Park
Hillside Park
LINCOLN VILLAGE
Raley's
Recently viewed
Grocery Outlet
ANATOLIA VILLAGE
Mather
16
JACKSON ROAD ESTATES
Sloughhouse
16

CAPITAL COMPASSION

CEIF Grant Program Summary

Rancho Cordova, California

Food Recovery Innovation Hub

The Capital Compassion Food Recovery Innovation Hub increases access to nutritious food by recovering surplus edible food from local partners and safely repurposing it for community distribution. Recovered food is sorted, stored using temperature-controlled systems, and portioned into practical meal servings through a small-scale micro-kitchen process. This coordinated system reduces food waste while expanding access to healthy food for vulnerable residents within Rancho Cordova.

Mobile Food Pantry – Rancho Cordova Seniors

The Mobile Food Pantry delivers nutritious groceries and prepared meals directly to Rancho Cordova residents age 65 and older who face transportation barriers due to health or mobility challenges. Referrals are coordinated through 211 and local service partners to ensure seniors receive consistent access to healthy food. By bringing food directly to homes, the program supports food security, improves nutrition, and reduces isolation among older adults.

CARES Workforce Development Program

Capital Compassion's CARES Workforce Development Program provides hands-on job training opportunities for adults with developmental disabilities. Participants assist with sorting recovered food, preparing meal portions, packaging deliveries, and supporting distribution logistics. Through this work experience, participants build workplace skills, confidence, and meaningful community engagement while strengthening Capital Compassion's food recovery and distribution capacity.

Community Impact

Together, these programs create a coordinated system that rescues edible food, reduces waste, and increases equitable access to nutritious meals for vulnerable Rancho Cordova residents. The program serves seniors experiencing transportation and health barriers while providing meaningful workforce development opportunities for individuals with disabilities.

Environmental and Community Benefit

By recovering and repurposing surplus food that would otherwise go to waste, Capital Compassion helps reduce greenhouse gas emissions associated with food waste while strengthening local food security and community resilience.

Impact Summary

- Nutritious food recovered from Tier 1 and Tier 2 food partners
- Meals safely repurposed and distributed to Rancho Cordova residents
- Home delivery for seniors experiencing transportation and health barriers
- Workforce training opportunities for adults with developmental disabilities
- Reduced food waste and improved environmental sustainability

CAPITAL COMPASSION

MOBILE FOOD PANTRY

ZIP CODE RESTRICTION

- 95670, 95742 (Rancho Cordova)
- ID must reflect the current zip code

We are excited to offer our new home delivery of nutritious meals to seniors living in Rancho Cordova. **Please see back for more details.**

DELIVERY HOURS

- Tuesdays | 9am-3pm
- Wednesdays | 9am-3pm

DELIVERING FROM

Capital Compassion
10173 Croydon Way, Suite 4
Sacramento, CA 95827

For More Information : [redacted] www.capitalcompassion.org

CAPITAL COMPASSION

REQUIREMENTS FOR THE DELIVERY SERVICE

1. **Registration is required for everyone**; you will need the following:
   - Valid photo ID with current address
   - Phone Number
   - List of household members with birthdays

2. **This service is available to Rancho Cordova residents who are 65 years of age or older and experiencing health issues that create transportation challenges.**
   - All meals are prepared using recovered food that has been safely repurposed into nutritious meals through our food recovery program.

3. **How To Request Food Delivery:**
   - Call 211 for a referral
   - Contact Capital Compassion Mobile Food Pantry directly by text of voicemail: **916-572-3799**
   - Complete an online registration form at **capitalcompassion.org**

4. **Delivery Service Includes:**
   - 7 individual meals for the week
   - Delivery is weekly

DELIVERING FROM

Capital Compassion
10173 Croydon Way, Suite 4
Sacramento, CA 95827
[redacted]

Replate, Inc.
PO Box 11338
Oakland, CA 94611

3/10/26

To Whom It May Concern,
I am writing to express Replate's enthusiastic support for Capital Compassion's application for a grant from the city of Rancho Cordova for food rescue. Our partnership with Capital Compassion has been a shining example of collaborative success in the critical work of food recovery and distribution.

Through our joint efforts, Capital Compassion has demonstrated an unwavering commitment to reducing food waste and addressing community hunger, as well as the environmental impact of wasted edible food.

The synergy between Replate and Capital Compassion extends beyond sharing logistical resources; we are united in our mission to create a more sustainable and hunger-free community. Our partnership enables Capital Compassion to connect with a wider network of food donors, facilitating the logistics of food recovery. The impact of this collaboration has been profound, leading to increased efficiency and reach in our shared efforts to combat food insecurity.

We believe that with the support of the city of Rancho Cordova, Capital Compassion will further amplify their impact, innovating new ways to recover and redistribute food within our communities. Their proven track record, bolstered by our collaborative initiatives, positions them as an exemplary candidate for this grant.

Replate stands firmly with the Capital Compassion team, confident in their capacity to drive meaningful change.

Thank you for considering this application. As a resident of Rancho Cordova for the past 8 years, our partnership with Capital Compassion is one that has made me both proud and humbled to see the impact first hand, in my own community. Should you require further information regarding our collaboration with Capital Compassion, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Emily Black

Emily Black
Director of Operations | Replate
Replate.org
Direct ema[redacted]
Phone: [redacted]

Center Point, Inc.
CORPORATE OFFICE
135 PAUL DRIVE
SAN RAFAEL, CA 94901
P 415.492.4444 F 415.492.8844

March 10, 2026

Dear Grant Review Committee,

On behalf of Center Point, Inc, I am pleased to offer our strong support for Capital Compassion's CEIF grant application. Capital Compassion is a trusted community partner serving Rancho Cordova residents through programs that address food insecurity, social isolation, and barriers to opportunity.

Through its Food Recovery efforts, Capital Compassion rescues high-quality surplus food from local partners and redirects it to seniors, families, and unhoused neighbors who need reliable access to nutritious meals. Their Mobile Food Program further strengthens this work by delivering groceries and prepared meals directly to residents facing health or transportation barriers, ensuring vulnerable individuals can remain stable and supported in their homes.

We also support Capital Compassion's CARES Workforce Program, which provides job training and meaningful work opportunities for adults with special needs. By combining workforce development with community service, the program helps participants build skills, confidence, and a sense of purpose while contributing to the broader community's well-being.

Capital Compassion has demonstrated a strong commitment to collaboration, responsible program management, and compassionate service. Their work reflects a thoughtful and practical approach to meeting the real needs of Rancho Cordova residents. We believe CEIF funding will allow Capital Compassion to expand its impact and continue strengthening the community it serves.

If you have any questions, please feel free to contact me at [redacted] or via email at [redacted]

Sincerely,

Stephen Grilley
Vice President

March 10, 2026

CEIF Grant Review Committee
City of Rancho Cordova

Subject: Letter of Support for Capital Compassion

Dear Grant Review Committee,

On behalf of Capital Food Access Alliance, I am pleased to offer our strong support for Capital Compassion's CEIF grant application. Capital Compassion is a trusted community partner serving Rancho Cordova residents through programs that address food insecurity, social isolation, and barriers to opportunity.

Through its Food Recovery efforts, Capital Compassion rescues high-quality surplus food from local partners and redirects it to seniors, families, and unhoused neighbors who need reliable access to nutritious meals. Their Mobile Food Program further strengthens this work by delivering groceries and prepared meals directly to residents who face health or transportation barriers, ensuring that vulnerable individuals can remain stable and supported in their homes.

We also support Capital Compassion's CARES Workforce Program, which provides job training and meaningful work opportunities for adults with special needs. By combining workforce development with community service, the program helps participants build skills, confidence, and a sense of purpose while contributing to the wellbeing of the broader community.

Capital Compassion has consistently demonstrated an exceptional commitment to collaboration, responsible program management, and compassionate service to the Rancho Cordova community. Their work reflects not only a deep understanding of the challenges many residents face, but also a thoughtful, practical approach to delivering programs that meet real and immediate needs. Capital Compassion has built trust within the community and has proven to be a reliable and impactful partner in advancing community wellbeing.

Our collaboration with Capital Compassion has been overwhelmingly positive. Their team operates with a high level of professionalism and has consistently maintained clear communication throughout the CFAA grant process. Their work produces meaningful, measurable impacts for residents, demonstrating their ability to translate resources into tangible outcomes for the community.

We strongly believe that CEIF funding will enable Capital Compassion to expand the reach and effectiveness of their programs. Additional support will allow them to deepen their impact, serve more residents, and continue strengthening the social fabric of Rancho Cordova. We are confident that an investment in Capital Compassion will yield lasting benefits for the community.

Sincerely,

Riley Waite
Sustainability Specialist
Capital Food Access Alliance

7919 Folsom Boulevard, Suite 300
Sacramento, CA 95826-2616
(916) 383-2500 FAX (916) 383-0552

March 10, 2026

CEIF Grant Review Committee
City of Rancho Cordova

Subject: Letter of Support for Capital Compassion

Dear Grant Review Committee:

I am pleased to offer my strong support for Capital Compassion's CEIF grant application. Capital Compassion is a trusted community partner serving Rancho Cordova residents through programs that address food insecurity, social isolation, and barriers to opportunity.

Through its Food Recovery efforts, Capital Compassion rescues high-quality surplus food from local partners and redirects it to seniors, families, and unhoused neighbors who need reliable access to nutritious meals. Their Mobile Food Program further strengthens this work by delivering groceries and prepared meals directly to residents who face health or transportation barriers, ensuring that vulnerable individuals can remain stable and supported in their homes.

I also support Capital Compassion's CARES Workforce Program, which provides job training and meaningful work opportunities for adults with special needs. By combining workforce development with community service, the program helps participants build skills, confidence, and a sense of purpose while contributing to the wellbeing of the broader community.

Capital Compassion has demonstrated a strong commitment to collaboration, responsible program management, and compassionate service. Their work reflects a thoughtful and practical approach to meeting the real needs of Rancho Cordova residents.

We believe CEIF funding will allow Capital Compassion to expand its impact and continue strengthening the community it serves.

Please do not hesitate to contact me (**brief bio here**) if I can provide any additional information. Many thanks in advance for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Louis A. Vismara, M.D.
Consultant, AKT Investments Inc.
Cell: [redacted]
[redacted]

2·1·1 Sacramento

community Link
information | engagement | impact

March 9, 2026

Dear Grant Review Committee,

On behalf of Community Link Capital Region and 211 Sacramento, I am pleased to offer our strong support for Capital Compassion's CEIF grant application. Capital Compassion is a trusted community partner serving Rancho Cordova residents through programs that address food insecurity, social isolation, and barriers to opportunity.

Through its Food Recovery efforts, Capital Compassion rescues high-quality surplus food from local partners and redirects it to seniors, families, and unhoused neighbors who need reliable access to nutritious meals. Their Mobile Food Program further strengthens this work by delivering groceries and prepared meals directly to residents who face health or transportation barriers, ensuring that vulnerable individuals can remain stable and supported in their homes.

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Capital Compassion has demonstrated a strong commitment to collaboration, responsible program management, and compassionate service. Their work reflects a thoughtful and practical approach to meeting the real needs of Rancho Cordova residents. We believe CEIF funding will allow Capital Compassion to expand its impact and continue strengthening the community it serves.

Sincerely,

Gabriel Kendall

Gabriel Kendall
Executive Director,
Community Link Capital Region 2-1-1

[redacted]

8001 Folsom Boulevard, Sacramento, Ca 95826
916.447.7063| www.communitylinkcr.org

Title

Senior Nutrition Services

03/09/2026

by **Jennifer Massello** in **Fiscal Year 2026-2027 Community Enhancement & Investment Fund Grant Application**

id. 53441749

7375 Park City Drive
Sacramento, California
95831
United States
[redacted]
jmassello@mowsac.org

Original Submission

03/09/2026

Score n/a

	Thank you for your interest in applying to the City of Rancho Cordova's Community Enhancement & Investment Fund. Applications are open from February 9, 2026, to March 13, 2026, Noon (12:00 p.m.) with a specific deadline of March 6th Noon (12:00 p.m.) for certain applications**. Before you begin, please read the notes about deadlines and certain types of grant applications/grants below. **School/Park Application Deadline **Note that projects or programs involving a park or school district have a deadline of March 6 Noon (12:00 p.m.) to allow for the third-party endorsement process by the grant deadline.** A Note about Religious Schools and the Application/Grant Process **Note for grant applications from religious schools. The United States Supreme Court has recently ruled in part that: “denying a generally available benefit [from government] solely on account of religious identity imposes a penalty on the free exercise of religion that can be justified only by a state interest of the highest order.” The City is of the opinion that not all grants to religious schools are prohibited under this and other similar rulings. However, these United States Supreme Court decisions remain in conflict with a section of the California State Constitution that says: “[n]either the Legislature, nor any county, city and county, township, school district, or other municipal corporation, shall ever make an appropriation, or pay from any public fund whatever, or grant anything to or in aid of any religious sect, church, creed, or sectarian purpose, or help to support or sustain any school, college, university, hospital, or other institution controlled by any religious creed, church, or sectarian denomination whatever; nor shall any grant or donation of personal property or real estate ever be made by the state, or any city, city and county, town, or other municipal corporation for any religious creed, church, or sectarian purpose whatever”. The City will accept applications for grants of these City public funds from religious schools, but will have language in the grant agreements to address the possibility and consequences of legal challenges and new court decisions on this and related topics. ** Future Grant Opportunities If you are interested in remaining up-to-date on available grants from the City of Rancho Cordova, click here to sign up for the Grants Interest List. A separate call for programming opportunities with the Rancho Cordova Youth Center is anticipated later in 2026. The list is also used to advertise separate art programs when funds are available. Ongoing Grant Opportunity The City of Rancho Cordova offers a microgrant opportunity. Learn more about those grants online.
Is this your first time applying for grant funding from the City of Rancho Cordova? As a first-time applicant, Community Enhancement & Investment Fund (CEIF) staff will contact you to discuss your project and grant application process.	No: Not a First Time Applicant

	1 - Project/Program Information Note: You can add a collaborator to this form to assist you in completing this application! A collaborator can help you complete this form by filling in fields for you, although only you can submit this form. You can add a collaborator by navigating to the top of the form and clicking on the 'Manage Collaborators' button. Simply enter their email address and click 'invite' to invite them as a collaborator. If you need further assistance, you may consult this Help article for more information.
Project/Program Name. Assign a project name to your project/program.	Senior Nutrition Services
Which category does your Project/Program align with?	Community Assistance Programs
Provide a Project/Program Synopsis	Senior Nutrition Services in the City of Rancho Cordova

Provide a Project/Program Description	If awarded this funding request, Meals on Wheels by ACC dba Meals on Wheels Sacramento County (MoW) will provide a total of 17,500 meals at $4 per meal to City of Rancho Cordova homebound and frail eligible seniors for a total of $70,000. This is a 2 year request: 8,750 meals would be provided in year 1 and 8,750 meals provided in year 2. We anticipate about 82 unduplicated seniors will benefit from this program each year. Meals on Wheels is more than just a meal. Our service helps seniors stay in their homes and community while aging in place. Our meals are nutritionally balanced and vetted by our Registered Dietician to meet one third of the DRI for seniors. Nearly 20% of seniors in Rancho Cordova and Sacramento County live alone, and loneliness has been shown to have as severe effects as smoking two packs of cigarettes a day. Sacramento County projects that our senior population will increase 400% by 2030 and we project that need for our services will continue to increase along with that senior population. Most seniors prefer to stay in their own homes as long as they can and our service and nutrition education allows them to do just that while making healthier choices about their health and nutrition outside of our program. Our drivers provide a smile, friendly visit and a status check to ensure all is well with our seniors. Meals on Wheels America says that meals for a senior for a year costs less than a day in the hospital or a month in a care facility. Our service and nutritional support helps keep our seniors healthy, preventing unnecessary hospital visits and costly premature institutionalization with our nutritious meals, status checks and friendly visits that keep the loneliness at bay. We provide nutrition education four times per year on topics relevant to our participants and that support their health and well being. MoW has been the senior nutrition provider since 2010, when the County of Sacramento could no longer afford the senior nutrition program. Over the past fifteen years, we have streamlined ou operations and worked to grow sustainably. The Pandemic uncovered a deep need in our community for nutritional support amongst our seniors that has not decreased in the past few years and we are committed to find ways to continue to grow so we can continue to serve more seniors in our community. This grant and continued support from the CDBG grant from the City of Rancho Cordova helps us do just that- serve more meals and more seniors in the City of Rancho Cordova.
Tell us about your Project/Program Team	MIndy Klick, Executive Director Jennifer Massello, Director of Operations Jennifer Yee, Business Office Manager Robin Smith, Volunteer Manager Vance Jones, HDM Operations Manager Francisco Alvarado, Cafe Operations Manager

Provide your Project/Program Goals	MoW will serve 17,500 meals across the 2 year grant period- 8,750 meals in year one and 8,750 meals in year two- to eligible seniors living in the City of Rancho Cordova. The majority of the meals served will be home delivered meals (HDM), which go to the most frail and homebound seniors. Meals will also be served to the Community Cafe (Cafe) and to Restaurant Program (RP) participants who live in the City of Rancho Cordova. Although there is not a cafe within the City limits, our Cafe participants can eat at any cafe they choose, just as our RP participants can choose which Restaurant they wish to eat each day. Our HDM program is the bulk of the meals served to Rancho Cordova seniors. Meals are delivered frozen once per week in a box of five frozen meals with milk and side items. The most needy participants receive a daily Monday through Friday delivery of a hot meal along with milk and side items. HDM and Cafe meals are prepared by Brick House Restaurant and Lounge, located in Elk Grove, and brought to our distribution center where volunteers and staff pick up meals to deliver to seniors. All of our meals, HDM, Cafe and RP meet one third the daily nutritional requirements for seniors and approved by our Registered Dietician. Meals and participants are tracked and totaled from each day's daily or weekly route sheet, RP daily report or the Cafe roster depending on which program the participant is enrolled in. We then enter those totals into our database monthly. We will only report meals served to participants who reside within the City limits of Rancho Cordova for the purposes of this grant. We will compile that data into a monthly meal count spreadsheet for reporting purposes. This funding request is in addition to the CDBG funding request and will allow for an additional 17,500 meals to be served to Rancho Cordova seniors over the two year grant period.

Optional File Upload: Provide any additional records to supplement your program/project application. Note: Combine multiple files in one pdf before uploading.

RC_Monthly_Meal_Count_Report_C2_Blank_CY.pdf

F.G.3._HDM_menu-_3_bean_chili.pdf

MOW_NEWSLETTER_APR26_v2.pdf

	2 - Funding & Costs
Funding Request - Complete this section with total dollar amounts for your project/program's costs	Funds are generally not intended to be used for deferred maintenance and ongoing operational needs. The funds are intended for enhancing and investing in the City of Rancho Cordova. If your project/program is awarded, the costs identified below would be reviewed and potentially open to modification during a contracting phase (if a grant is awarded by the City Council). If awarded, grant funds are not available until a contract is executed during Fiscal Year 2026-2027.
Total project/program cost*	166250

What is the amount of Community Enhancement & Investment Fund grant monies requested?	35000
Does your project/program involve construction of any facilities or improvements upon any property?	No
What is the total cost of personnel for your project/program?	0
What is the total cost of supplies for your project/program?	140000
What is the total cost of transportation for your project/program?	0
What is the total cost of equipment for your project/program?	0
What is the total cost of any miscellaneous expenses for your project/program?	0

Upload your project/program's budget as a .pdf file. Include the categories and their dollar amounts along with information about any other funding sources to demonstrate your project/program's total budget. Note, the sum of all categories must match the total project or program cost, or the amount requested of CEIF if there is no other funding source. Please clearly illustrate any matching funds or funding from other sources in your project/program budget, including in-kind sources. Note: Combine multiple files in one pdf before uploading.

Budget_for_CEIF_2026_2028.pdf

Has your organization sought or will seek other funding for this project/program?	Yes, actively seeking funding support or have secured additional funding support for this project/program.

Describe any funding secured or being sought for this project/program.	Current awards or applications for funding: Agency on Aging\Area 4: $4,510,829 SHRA: $1,101,511 City of Citrus Heights: $16,000 City of Elk Grove: $90,000 (applied) City of Folsom: $22,500 City of Galt: $5,000 Sacramento County ToT: $29,411 Teichert Foundation: $5,000 East Bay Community Foundation: $90,000 SCAN Foundation: $10,000 Meals on Wheels America Meeting Unmet Need: $144,000 Kelly Foundation $15,000 MoW continues to seek out private grants, additional foundation and community grants to supplement our uncertain governmental funding streams and grow our program. This request for $70,000 over a 2 year period helps to assure the MoW program in the City of Rancho Cordova will continue to support 82 seniors in Rancho Cordova with 17,500 meals through the 2026-2028 grant period.
Please describe any ongoing operations and maintenance costs beyond Fiscal Year 2026/2027, if applicable.	MoW works hard to build our budget, City grants, foundation grants, sponsorships and donor support to serve as many seniors as we possibly can. The need in our community for meal support continues to rise as the number of seniors grows at record paces. We are continuing to build our reserve so that we have one year's full operating costs in reserve to assure a full year's continuation of services if the Federal or State budgets are held up and payments stop. We use those reserves in those situations as needed and then replenish the funds when monies are repaid.
Do you have volunteer or in-kind support for your project? This could include volunteers for an activity/event that is ongoing or a one-time experience.	Yes
Please share the total dollar amount for volunteer/in-kind support using $34.79 as the national rate for a volunteer hour. Source: Value of Volunteer Time	1155028

Please provide a worksheet explaining your volunteer/in-kind contribution. You may upload a file in the following formats: CSV, DOC, DOCX, or PDF.

Vol_Hours.pdf

Is this a single year request or a request for funding for multiple years?	Multiple Years
If requesting CEIF grant funding for multiple years, please share how many years?	2
For requests spanning multiple years, share the dollar amount requested per year.	FY 2025-2026: $35,000 FY 2026-2027: $35,000
For projects/programs that span multiple years, please describe your sustainability plan and whether it is viable as a single year request.	This funding request contains two years' funding support, each year with an equal amount. Combined with CDBG funding awards and requests, these requests help support continued meal service to Rancho Cordova seniors over the next two years. MoW's sustainability plan is comprehensive and includes soliciting additional funding opportunities, sponsorships, partnerships and donations. It may include fundraising events such as a Golf Tournament. Additionally, we are continuing to build our reserves to our goal of one year's operating funds so that we could operate for a full year through a governmental shutdown and provide our seniors the support and meals they need.
Has your project/program received funding from the Community Enhancement & Investment Fund previously?	Yes
How many years has your project/program received funding from the Community Enhancement & Investment Fund?	1
How much funding has your organization received from the Community Enhancement & Investment Fund through our traditional grants (not including microgrants)?	$35,000

	3 - Project/Program Details Grant applications are typically approved to occur between July 2026 through June 2027. What is your plan to complete this project/program within this time frame?
Anticipated Start Date (July 1 is the soonest available start date)	7/1/2026
Anticipated End Date (typically projects/programs end by June 30)	6/30/2028
Please describe your project/program schedule	Year 1: July 1, 2026 to June 30, 2027 Year 2: July 1, 2027 to June 30, 2028 MoW operates approximately 250 service days per year and observes the following holidays: Independence Day, Labor Day, Thanksgiving Day, Friday after Thanksgiving, Christmas, New Year's Day, Martin Luther King Day, President's Day, and Memorial Day. MoW may close for other holidays. We provide meals for our participants for holidays that fall on weekdays through a double delivery- either a second box of five frozen meals for the frozen participants, or a second hot meal for the holiday for hot participants- for those on the Home delivered meal program to support their nutritional needs over holidays.
What challenges do you anticipate in your project/program's implementation? What is your plan to complete your project/program should those or other challenges arise?	MoW delivers, to each HDM participant, a shelf stable box (SSM) of 5 ready to eat meals for emergencies. We ask each participant save that box and keep it for an emergency that MoW is unable to deliver meals for any reason. Funds for this program are provided through the ToT Grant through the County of Sacramento. We replace the SSM box every six months or after an emergency, should one arise. During the pandemic, MoW remained flexible and provided meals through delivery and curbsides to participants to maintain safety while cafes were shutdown. We are confident we can stay flexible and adapt to any challenges that should arise in the future.
How many individuals does your project/program serve?	We serve approximately 3800 participants throughout Sacramento County each year.
How many Rancho Cordova residents does your project/program serve?	We anticipate serving 82 seniors in Rancho Cordova with this funding.
	4 - Project/Program Location

Address Verification	If you need to check if your project is in Rancho Cordova, type in your program/project's location in the Assessor Parcel Viewer: https://assessorparcelviewer.saccounty.gov/jsviewer/assessor.html
School and park related applications are due before Noon (12:00 p.m.) on March 6, 2026, to allow for the endorsement process.	Please note that projects or programs that are proposed on property owned or operated by outside agencies or a private party will require coordination with and potentially approvals from outside agencies, organizations, and/or the private party. Include whether you have received a letter of support for the project/program from the property owner. Upload any letters of support with your application. City staff will verify third-party permits have been discussed. In your planning discussions, be sure to discuss any necessary insurance or volunteer requirements that may increase budget costs. School Sites If your project/program is intended to operate at a public K-12 school site, your application is due by March 6 at Noon (12:00 p.m.). City staff will work with the school districts to confirm an endorsement for your project/program. It's the applicant's responsibility to communicate with school site and district representatives before applying so there is clarity during the endorsement process. Districts will only consider endorsement for applications submitted to the Community Enhancement & Investment Fund by the March 6 at Noon (12:00 p.m.). deadline. Each participating school superintendent reserves the right to withhold their endorsement of a project/program. Parks If your project/program is intended to operate at a park or community center site, your application is due by the March 6 at Noon (12:00 p.m.). deadline. City staff will work with the Cordova Recreation & Park District to confirm an endorsement for your project/program. It's the applicant's responsibility to communicate with district representatives before applying so there is clarity during the endorsement process. A special use permit application is required for any program or event planned at a CRPD facility. The special use application can be found at the CRPD website: https://www.cordovarpd.gov/. CRPD will only consider endorsement for applications submitted to the Community Enhancement & Investment Fund by the March 6 at Noon (12:00 p.m.). deadline. The Cordova Recreation & Park District reserves the right to withhold their endorsement of a project/program. Below is the list of staff to communicate with at school and park organizations: Folsom Cordova Unified School District: mwest@fcusd.org Cordova Recreation & Park District: cmichelotti@cordovarpd.gov Elk Grove Unified School District: mgulden@egusd.net Sacramento City Unified School District: Tuan-Duong@scusd.edu for Winn and Carver and Enrique-Flores@scusd.edu for Lincoln.
Primary street address of project/program	7375 Park City Drive,
List the city location of the project/program.	Sacramento,
Select State	CA

Provide the zip code for your project/program's primary location.	95831
If your project/program takes place at multiple locations, please list other or secondary locations.	Our administrative offices are at the Park City Drive location. Our distribution center is located at 4527 Harlin Drive, Sacramento, CA. The project will only serve those participants who live within the City limits of Rancho Cordova.
Third Party Letters of Support (Note: Combine multiple files in one pdf before uploading)	
Does your project/program involve one of Rancho Cordova's school districts?	No
Does your project/program involve the Cordova Recreation & Park District?	No
	5 - Applicant Information
Name	Jennifer Massello
Is this project/program on behalf of an organization?	Yes
What is the name of your organization?	Meals on Wheels by ACC, dba Meals on Wheels Sacramento County
What is your title and/or role at your organization?	Director of Operations
Provide contact phone number:	+[redacted]
Provide contact email:	jmassello@mowsac.org

Are you the primary point of contact on this project/program?	Yes
If your project/program was awarded the requested funds, are you authorized to sign the contract for your organization?	No, someone else would sign the contract
If selected by the City Council to receive an award, what is the name of the person at your organization who would sign the contract?	Melinda Klick
What is the title of this individual?	Executive Director
What is the best phone number where we could contact the signatory?	+[redacted]
What is the best email address to contact the signatory?	mklick@mowsac.org
By checking here, I confirm that I am aware that my application materials will become public record.	checked
	Thank you for applying to the Community Enhancement & Investment Fund Fiscal Year 2026-2027 Grant Cycle. Applicants will receive an automated response through the grant portal. Community Enhancement & Investment Fund (CEIF) Staff will follow up with any questions regarding your Fiscal Year 2026-2027 application. For information about the next steps in the CEIF grant process, visit our website for more information. It is anticipated that applications will be reviewed by the City Council starting in April 2026 with adoption in June 2026. Should applicants be awarded by the City Council, funding would not be available to grantees until the start of Fiscal Year 2026-2027 and the completion of a contract. Please send an email to CEIFGrants@cityofranchocordova.org with any questions or comments.

Internal Form

Score	n/a

Project Budget- Senior Nutrition Services/Meals on Wheels Sacramento County

Meals	Cost per Meal	Total Request	Total Program Cost	City's %:
17,500	**$4**	**$70,000**	**$332,500**	**21%**
Year 1:				
8,750	$4	$35,000	$166,250	21%
Year 2:				
8,750	$4	$35,000	$166,250	21%

Balance of total program cost is made up by other grants and funding sources, primarily Older Americans Act funds provided through California Department of Aging and Agency on Aging\Area 4.

We ask all of the Cities in the County, Sacramento County and the City of Sacramento (through SHRA) for the same share of cost $4/meal served.

All three programs' total cost to serve each meal is $19 per meal. We just went through a Request for Proposal Process for our HDM and Café meals, and are entering into year 1 of a contract with Brick House Restaurant and Lounge for catering of all our HDM and Café meals. The direct cost of each meal provided by Brick House is $8/meal. These are the bulk of meals served to Rancho Cordova participants. The RP has five vendors, each with their own price point and we negotiate prices with each one. Any increases in these costs will be minimal and not passed on to the City unless we start increasing the share of cost for each City, and the County (SHRA).

Volunteer In Kind

$34.79 national rate/volunteer hour

Total In-Kind	Ave. volunteer hours
$1,155,028	33,200

MoW has been averaging just over 33,200 volunteer hours the past few fiscal years.

meals on wheels by acc
Home Delivered Meals
Rancho Cordova Residents' Monthly Meal Report

meals on wheels by acc

Month/ Year	# of Serving Days	Number of Meals Served						Number of Participants					
		Hot	FZ	Mo. Total	Qtr. Total	YTD # of Meals Served	Ave. # of Meals Served	New Hot	New Frozen	Quarterly Unduplicated Totals	YTD # of Unduplicated Seniors	Active Hot	Active Frozen
Jan-20	21												
Feb-20	19												
Mar-20	22												
Apr-20	22												
May-20	20												
Jun-20	22												
Jul-20	22												
Aug-20	21												
Sep-20	21												
Oct-20	22												
Nov-20	19												
Dec-20	22												

Prepared by: Jennifer Massello

On: 1/19/2021

EAT WELL. AGE WELL.

NO SENIOR GOES HUNGRY IN SACRAMENTO COUNTY

mowsac.org

A PUBLICATION OF MEALS on WHEELS SACRAMENTO COUNTY

Home Delivered Meals Menu: 3 Bean Chili with Cornbread

1 oz. black beans
1 oz. kidney beans
2 oz. white beans (P)
2 oz. stew tomatoes (V)
2 oz. corn & onions (V)
2 oz square of whole grain cornbread (WG)
1/2 cup applesauce (F)
8 oz. milk, 1% (D)

Serving Size: 1 Meal
Calories: 642
Protein: 25
Fiber: 13 g
Vitamin C: 25 mg
Vitamin A: 216 mcg
Calcium: 571 mg
Sodium: 746 mg

7375 Park City Drive
Sacramento, CA 95831

PHONE: 916-444-9533
CA RELAY SERVICE: 711
WEB: mowsac.org
TAX ID: 30-0610870

SERVING SACRAMENTO COUNTY COMMUNITIES

MEALS ON WHEELS SACRAMENTO COUNTY is a non-profit organization which is partially supported by the Agency on Aging\Area 4, HUD CDBG funding, and city support funding from Sacramento Housing and Redevelopment Agency, and the cities of Citrus Heights, Elk Grove, Folsom, Galt and Rancho Cordova. Support is also provided by participant contributions, public donations and fundraisers, as well as over 300 volunteers who provide nearly 5,000 hours of service each month. **THANK YOU ALL SO MUCH!**

JANUARY, 2025

MEALS on WHEELS® SACRAMENTO COUNTY

HOME DELIVERED MEALS MENU

Menu Subject to Change Without Notice. For menu translations and nutritional information, visit **www.mowsac.org**.

MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY
YOUR CONTRIBUTION CAN MAKE A WORLD OF DIFFERENCE. Please consider a heartfelt contribution of $6 to help support the program. The grants we get do not cover all of the costs. Ask any of our staff members for a contribution envelope or scan the QR code to make your contribution online today!		**1** Beef Taquitos with Brown Rice Beans & Corn Sour Cream Fresh Orange 1% Milk *MOW Offices Closed*	**2** Chicken Marsala with Whole Grain Orzo Mixed Vegetables Fresh Bartlett Pear 1% Milk	**3** 3 Bean Chili with Beans, Corn & Green Chilies Cornbread Applesauce 1% Milk
6 Spaghetti & Meatballs With Whole Wheat Noodles & Marinara Sauce Mixed Vegetables Fresh Bartlett Pear 1% Milk	**7** Fish Sticks with Brown Rice & Carrots Steamed Broccoli Mandarin Oranges Tartar Sauce 1% Milk	**8** Corned Beef & Cabbage with Potatoes Steamed Carrots Oatmeal Raisin Cluster Applesauce 1% Milk	**9** Whole Wheat Pancakes With Maple Syrup Turkey Sausage Link Hashbrowns Fresh Orange 1% Milk NEW!	**10** Cheese Quesadilla with Wild Rice Beans & Corn Fruit Punch
13 English Muffin Sandwich Whole Wheat English Muffin With Egg & Turkey Patty Hashbrowns Fresh Orange 1% Milk NEW!	**14** Barbacoa Stew with Brown Rice Beans, Corn & Peppers Mandarin Oranges Oatmeal Raisin Cluster 1% Milk	**15** Shrimp Fried Rice with Brown Rice, Celery, Peas & Carrots Fresh Bartlett Pear 1% Milk	**16** Curry Chicken with Brown Rice, Green Beans Applesauce 1% Milk	**17** Cheese Ravioli with Basil Pesto Beans, Carrots, Olives & Peppers Whole Grain Bread Slice Fruit Punch
20 Cheeseburger Slider Whole Wheat Bun Sweet Potatoes Fresh Orange 1% Milk *MOW Offices Closed*	**21** Vegetable Frittata Eggs with Spniach, Onion, and Red Potatoes Whole Grain Bread Slice Applesauce 1% Milk NEW!	**22** Beef Stroganoff With Whole Wheat Pasta Steamed Peas & Carrots Fresh Barlett Pear 1% Milk	**23** Teriyaki Chicken With Brown Rice Streamed Broccoli & Carrots Mandarin Oranges 1% Milk	**24** Chicken Cheese Tamale With Brown Rice Beans & Corn Fruit Punch
27 Shrimp Stir Fry with Whole Wheat Noodles Bell Peppers & Green Beans Mandarin Oranges 1% Milk	**28** Beef Taquitos with Brown Rice Beans & Corn Sour Cream Fresh Orange 1% Milk	**29** Biscuits & Gravy Whole Wheat Biscuit With Beef Gravy Hashbrowns Fresh barlett Pear 1% Milk NEW!	**30** 3 Bean Chili with Beans, Corn & Green Chilies Cornbread Applesauce 1% Milk	**31** Country Fried Steak with Mashed Potatoes & Mozzarella Cheese Steamed Carrots Whole Grain Bread Slice Fruit Punch

ALLERGEN NOTICE: Prepared in a facility that processes common allergens. Please check ingredient list on meal for details. VEGETARIAN : SHELLFISH: FISH OIL: WHEAT:

MEAL HEATING INSTRUCTIONS:

Do not put the meal tray in a toaster over, under a broiler, or on a stove top, as these reheating methods may cause a fire.

DEFROST MEALS

MICROWAVE: Keep Covered. Cook on high for 1 minute and remove bread (if provided). Continue heating the rest of the meal for 1-2 minutes (total cook time 2-3 minutes). *Allow to rest for one minute before removing film.*

OVEN: Preheat oven to 300°. If the meal contains bread, peel back film and remove it first. Place the meal on a baking sheet in the center of your oven. Heat for 30 to 55 minutes, replacing any bread items for the last 10 minutes of heating.

FROZEN MEALS

MICROWAVE: Keep Covered. Cook on high for 1 minute and remove bread (if provided). Continue heating the rest of the meal for 2-3 minutes (total cook time 3-4 minutes). *Allow to rest for one minute before removing film.*

OVEN: Preheat oven to 300°. If the meal contains bread, peel back film and remove it first. Place the meal on a baking sheet in the center of your oven. Heat for 50 to 70 minutes, replacing any bread items for the last 20 minutes of heating.

DISCLAIMER

Microwave and Oven temperatures will vary. These are suggested heating instructions that might not be accurate to your oven. Heat meals to an internal temperature of 165°F or until very hot and steaming. *Test before consuming.*

EAT WELL. AGE WELL.
A PUBLICATION OF MEALS on WHEELS SACRAMENTO COUNTY
(916) 444-9533 | www.mowsac.org | @mowsac
APRIL 2026

MUSCLE CRAMPS & HOW FOOD CAN HELP

By Jillian Kubala MS, RD

Painful muscle cramps could be caused by number of issues; however, they are often linked to dehydration and nutritional imbalances. Increasing magnesium, potassium, vitamin D, and certain B vitamins may help. These 12 foods may help with muscle cramps:

1. Avocado: Packed with potassium and magnesium, essential electrolytes for muscle health.

2. Watermelon: Watermelon has a high-water content, and a good source of magnesium and potassium.

3. Coconut water: An excellent source of calcium, potassium, sodium, magnesium.

4. Sweet potato: Sweet potatoes are packed with potassium, calcium, and magnesium.

5. Greek yogurt: High protein, potassium, phosphorus, and calcium.

6. Bone broth: Helps you stay hydrated, and a good source of magnesium, calcium, and sodium.

7. Papaya: Especially high in potassium and magnesium.

8. Beet greens: Beet Greens contain a mix of electrolytes and anti-inflammatory compounds to help muscle function.

9. Fermented foods: Typically, high in electrolytes such as sodium, pickles, kimchi, and sauerkraut may be good choices.

10. Salmon: A rich source of protein, healthy anti-inflammatory fats, B vitamins, potassium, magnesium, phosphorus, and vitamin D.

12. Sardines: Very high in nutrients including calcium, iron, phosphorus, potassium, sodium, vitamin D, and magnesium.

If you're experiencing muscle cramps, try adding a few of these foods to help treat and prevent them.

RESOURCE OF THE MONTH

MENTAL HEALTH RESOURCES

SENIOR LINK
Provides support to seniors experiencing isolation and/or early signs of depression or anxiety. (916) 369-7872

988 SUICIDE & CRISIS LIFELINE
Confidential emotional support to people in suicidal crisis or emotional distress. 24-hours, 7 days a week. Dial 9-8-8 or visit www.988california.org

THE FRIENDSHIP LINE
24-hour hotline providing crisis intervention, emotional support, and referrals. (888) 670-1360

SACRAMENTO COUNTY COMMUNITY SUPPORT TEAM
Mental health services prevention and early intervention program. (916) 874-6015

7375 Park City Drive
Sacramento, CA 95831

PHONE: 916-444-9533
CA RELAY SERVICE: 711
WEB: mowsac.org
TAX ID: 30-0610870

SERVING SACRAMENTO COUNTY COMMUNITIES

MEALS ON WHEELS SACRAMENTO COUNTY is a 501(c)3 non-profit organization that is supported by the Agency on Aging\Area 4, Sacramento County, HUD/CDBG, Sacramento Housing and Redevelopment Agency, and the cities of Citrus Heights, Elk Grove, Folsom, Galt and Rancho Cordova. Meals on Wheels also receives support from individual donors, public/private foundations, local businesses, program participant contributions, and special events. Over 300 volunteers provide nearly 5,000 hours of service each month. **Thank you all for your support!**

APRIL 2026

MEALS on W

Menu subject to change without notice

MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDN
		Whole Wheat Panca with Syrup, Hash brown Turkey Link Mandarin Oranges 1% Milk
Philly Cheese Steak Sliders 6 on Whole Wheat Bun with Bell Peppers, Onions & Cheese Mandarin Oranges 1% Milk	**Shrimp Fried Rice** 7 with Brown Rice, Celery, Peas & Carrots Fresh Pear 1% Milk	**Curry Chicken** with Brown Rice, Green Beans Applesauce 1% Milk
Vegetable Frittata 13 Eggs with Spinach, Onion, & Red Potatoes Whole Grain Bread Slice Applesauce 1% Milk	**Beef Stroganoff** 14 With Whole Wheat Pasta Steamed Peas & Carrots Fresh Pear 1% Milk	**Teriyaki Chicken** With Brown Rice Streamed Broccoli & C Mandarin Oranges 1% Milk
Creamy Mushroom Chicken 20 with Brown Rice Green Beans Applesauce 1% Milk	**Veggie & Cheese Omelet** 21 with Bell Peppers & Onions Oat Cluster Hash browns Mandarin Oranges 1% Milk	**Broccoli Beef** Brown Rice, Peas & Carrots Fresh Pear 1% Milk
Fish Sticks 27 with Brown Rice, Broccoli & Carrots Mandarin Oranges 1% Milk	**Corned Beef** 28 with Cabbage, Potatoes Carrots and Oat Cluster Applesauce 1% Milk	**Whole Wheat Panc** with Syrup, Hash brown Turkey Link Mandarin Oranges 1% Milk

ALLERGEN NOTICE: Prepared in a facility that processes common allergens. Please check ingredient list

ATTACHMENT 4

VHEELS® SACRAMENTO COUNTY

. For menu translations and nutritional information, visit www.mowsac.org

QUESTIONS? PLEASE CALL:
(916) 444-9533

ESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY
ake 1 ns	**Cheese Quesadilla** 2 Wild Rice Black & White Beans, Corn & Onion 100% fruit juice	**Spaghetti & Meatballs** 3 Marinara Vegetable Blend Fresh Pear 1% Milk
8	**Cheese Ravioli** 9 with Basil Pesto Beans, Carrots, Olives & Peppers Whole Grain Bread Slice 100% fruit juice	**English Muffin Sandwich** 10 Whole Wheat English Muffin With Egg & Turkey Patty Hash browns Fresh Orange 1% Milk
15 arrots	**Chicken Cheese Tamale** 16 With Brown Rice Beans & Corn 100 % fruit juice	**Cheeseburger Slider** 17 Whole Wheat Bun Sweet Potatoes Fresh Orange 1% Milk
22	**Southwest Chicken Bowl** 23 with Wild Rice, Beans, Corn & Green Chilies Provolone & Mozzarella Cheese Salsa 100% fruit juice	**BBQ Chicken** 24 with Yellow Corn Sweet Potatoes Whole Grain Bread Slice Fresh Orange 1% Milk
ake 29 ns	**Cheese Quesadilla** 30 Wild Rice Black & White Beans, Corn & Onion 100% fruit juice	

on meal for details. VEGETARIAN : SHELLFISH: FISH OIL: WHEAT:

RESOURCE OF THE MONTH

HEALTHY HABITS FOR YOUR BRAIN

Take charge of your brain health! Healthy habits can lower the risk of developing cognitive decline and dementia.

- **Be smoke free:** It's never too late to stop.
- **Get moving:** Exercise regularly.
- **Challenge your mind:** Be curious.
- **Control your blood pressure:** Eating and exercising can help.
- **Manage diabetes:** Food, exercise and medications help.
- **Sleep well:** Good quality sleep is crucial.
- **Keep learning:** New things keeps the brain active.
- **Eat right:** Moderation and balance.
- **Maintain a healthy weight:** Talk to your healthcare provider about what is right for you.

Please consider a contribution of $6 per meal to help support Meals on Wheels programs.

Ask your driver or a Café Coordinator for a contribution envelope.

AGENCY ON AGING AREA 4

MEALS WHEELS AMERICA 2026 MEMBER

COMMUNITY CAFÉS

For details and more information please call Meals on Wheels at (916) 444-9533

MONDAY through FRIDAY

Chabolla Community Center
600 Chabolla Ave.
Galt, CA 95632
Lunch at 11:30 am

Creekside Village*
6465 Village Center Dr.
Sacramento, CA 95823
Lunch at 11:00 am
*Senior Apartments - Gate Access Required

Ethel Hart Senior Center
915 27th St.
Sacramento, CA 95816
Lunch at 11:30 am

Gibbons Community Center
4701 Gibbons Dr.
Carmichael, CA 95608
Lunch at 11:45 am

Hagginwood Community Center
3271 Marysville Blvd.
Sacramento, CA 95815
Lunch at 11:30 am

Light of the Valley
9270 Bruceville Rd.
Elk Grove, CA 95758
Lunch at 11:30 am

Pannell Meadowview Community Center
2450 Meadowview Rd.
Sacramento, CA 95832
Lunch at 11:30 am

Rio Linda Elverta Recreation & Park District
810 Oak Ln.
Rio Linda, CA 95673
Lunch at 11:30 am

Sierra Sunrise Apartments
4525 Manzanita Avenue
Carmichael, CA 95608
Lunch at 11:30 am

Stanford Settlement
450 West El Camino Ave.
Sacramento, CA 95833
Lunch at 11:30 am

MONDAY through THURSDAY Only

Eskaton Jefferson Manor
5959 66th Ave.
Sacramento, CA 95823
Lunch at 11:30 am

MONDAY / TUESDAY / THURSDAY Only

Folsom Senior Center
48 Natoma Street
Folsom, CA 95630
Lunch at 11:30 am

MONDAY / WEDNESDAY / FRIDAY Only

The Comstock
1725 K Street
Sacramento, CA 95811
Lunch at 11:30 am

TUESDAY / THURSDAY / FRIDAY Only

Crosswoods Community Center
6742 Auburn Blvd.
Citrus Heights, CA 95621
Lunch at 11:30 am

TUESDAY / WEDNESDAY Only

La Familia Maple Neighborhood Center
3301 37th Ave.
Sacramento, CA 95820
Lunch at 11:30 am

FRIDAY Only

Buddhist Church of Sacramento
2401 Riverside Blvd.
Sacramento, CA 95818
Lunch at 11:00 am

Title

Volunteers of America: Creating Safe and Stable Living Spaces for Families and Children Impacted by Homelessness

03/13/2026

id. 53480447

by **Reem Al-Amin** in **Fiscal Year 2026-2027 Community Enhancement & Investment Fund Grant Application**

3434 Marconi Ave
Sacramento, California
95821
United States
[redacted]
ral-amin@voa-ncnn.org

Original Submission

03/13/2026

Score n/a

	Thank you for your interest in applying to the City of Rancho Cordova's Community Enhancement & Investment Fund. Applications are open from February 9, 2026, to March 13, 2026, Noon (12:00 p.m.) with a specific deadline of March 6th Noon (12:00 p.m.) for certain applications**. Before you begin, please read the notes about deadlines and certain types of grant applications/grants below. **School/Park Application Deadline **Note that projects or programs involving a park or school district have a deadline of March 6 Noon (12:00 p.m.) to allow for the third-party endorsement process by the grant deadline.** A Note about Religious Schools and the Application/Grant Process **Note for grant applications from religious schools. The United States Supreme Court has recently ruled in part that: “denying a generally available benefit [from government] solely on account of religious identity imposes a penalty on the free exercise of religion that can be justified only by a state interest of the highest order.” The City is of the opinion that not all grants to religious schools are prohibited under this and other similar rulings. However, these United States Supreme Court decisions remain in conflict with a section of the California State Constitution that says: “[n]either the Legislature, nor any county, city and county, township, school district, or other municipal corporation, shall ever make an appropriation, or pay from any public fund whatever, or grant anything to or in aid of any religious sect, church, creed, or sectarian purpose, or help to support or sustain any school, college, university, hospital, or other institution controlled by any religious creed, church, or sectarian denomination whatever; nor shall any grant or donation of personal property or real estate ever be made by the state, or any city, city and county, town, or other municipal corporation for any religious creed, church, or sectarian purpose whatever”. The City will accept applications for grants of these City public funds from religious schools, but will have language in the grant agreements to address the possibility and consequences of legal challenges and new court decisions on this and related topics. ** Future Grant Opportunities If you are interested in remaining up-to-date on available grants from the City of Rancho Cordova, click here to sign up for the Grants Interest List. A separate call for programming opportunities with the Rancho Cordova Youth Center is anticipated later in 2026. The list is also used to advertise separate art programs when funds are available. Ongoing Grant Opportunity The City of Rancho Cordova offers a microgrant opportunity. Learn more about those grants online.
Is this your first time applying for grant funding from the City of Rancho Cordova? As a first-time applicant, Community Enhancement & Investment Fund (CEIF) staff will contact you to discuss your project and grant application process.	No: Not a First Time Applicant

	1 - Project/Program Information Note: You can add a collaborator to this form to assist you in completing this application! A collaborator can help you complete this form by filling in fields for you, although only you can submit this form. You can add a collaborator by navigating to the top of the form and clicking on the 'Manage Collaborators' button. Simply enter their email address and click 'invite' to invite them as a collaborator. If you need further assistance, you may consult this Help article for more information.
Project/Program Name. Assign a project name to your project/program.	Volunteers of America: Creating Safe and Stable Living Spaces for Families and Children Impacted by Homelessness
Which category does your Project/Program align with?	Community Assistance Programs
Provide a Project/Program Synopsis	This project will provide trauma.informed furniture for 33 transitional housing units, improving safety, stability, and well.being for families experiencing homelessness. By creating functional, supportive living spaces, it promotes healing, healthy routines, and housing readiness while strengthening community stability and helping Rancho Cordova families move toward lasting independence and long.term success.
Provide a Project/Program Description	Over the past 37 years, the Transitional Housing Program for Families has been keeping families together during the substance-abuse recovery process. The Program for women and children has been providing homeless families a safe environment for their children and themselves to live while they seek permanent housing and employment. This 18-month program has a capacity of 33 family units in Mather City/Rancho Cordova, and is designed for couples with children, as well as single parents. During their residency, parents in recovery are provided with social services and permanent-housing support. Services include individual and group counseling by dedicated case managers, life-skills and parenting classes, and referrals for permanent housing. Moreover, children residing in The Program attend schools in Rancho Cordova with high educational attainment. A critical and urgent need within the Transitional Housing Program is the acquisition of essential furniture that supports the safety, dignity, and overall well.being of families and individuals who have experienced homelessness, trauma, or abuse. Many residents arrive at the program after enduring significant instability, and their ability to begin the healing and recovery process is deeply influenced by the quality of their living environment. Appropriate, durable, and trauma.informed furnishings are not simply functional items; they are foundational components of creating a stable, nurturing home where vulnerable families can feel secure, cared for, and supported. At present, the Transitional Housing Program lacks adequate beds, cribs, seating, storage, and basic household furnishings needed to create safe and comfortable living units for residents. The absence of these essential items places additional stress on families who are already navigating the

emotional and practical challenges of homelessness. For children, in particular, the absence of child.friendly furniture—such as safe beds, proper study spaces, and accessible storage—can affect rest, school performance, emotional regulation, and the sense of normalcy that is vital to their development.

Investing in quality furniture directly strengthens a trauma.informed environment by:

 Promoting safety: Sturdy, appropriate furnishings reduce the risk of injuries and help create a predictable, secure space in which children and adults can function and relax.

 Supporting stability and mental well.being: A furnished, home.like setting reduces stress, supports emotional regulation, and creates a foundation for families to engage more effectively in case management, counseling, parenting support, and other recovery services.

 Encouraging healthy routines: Proper beds promote restful sleep; tables and seating support family meals; and organized storage helps families develop routines consistent with long.term housing independence.

 Enhancing dignity and self.worth: Access to comfortable and functional furniture helps families regain a sense of normalcy and ownership over their personal space, reinforcing the idea that they are valued and deserving of care.

By furnishing the Transitional Housing Program with beds, dressers, tables, cribs and child.appropriate items, and communal space enhancements, VOA can significantly improve the quality of life for families during their transitional period. These improvements will also support the program's broader goals of enhancing resilience, promoting stability, and preparing families for long.term, independent housing.

The requested funding will ensure that each family has access to the basic household necessities required to live safely and comfortably, allowing clients to focus their energy on healing, rebuilding their lives, and working toward a stable future. This investment will contribute to measurable improvements in family well.being, program participation, and overall housing readiness, making it a vital component of the program's ability to serve homeless families effectively.

ITEM 3.1.	ATTACHMENT 4
Tell us about your Project/Program Team	Volunteers of America (VOA) brings more than a century of service experience and operates over 40 programs that provide housing, employment, and recovery support to families, individuals, veterans, and seniors. Each night, more than 4,000 people find safety through VOA's shelter and housing programs, reflecting the organization's proven impact and deep community roots. What makes VOA team exceptional is its decentralized & community.driven approach. Front.line staff design services tailored to local needs, ensuring flexible, compassionate, and effective solutions for vulnerable populations. Through strong partnerships, dedicated staff, and volunteers VOA advances its mission to help individuals thrive. Learn more at www.voa-ncnn.org

Provide your Project/Program Goals

Goal:

Enhance the safety, stability, and overall well.being of families and children experiencing homelessness by furnishing the Transitional Housing Program with essential, trauma.informed household items that promote dignity, healthy routines, and long.term housing readiness.

Outcome:

Improve the safety, comfort, and emotional well.being of 33 families and 100 children within 12 months by providing fully furnished, child.friendly, and trauma.informed living spaces within the Transitional Housing Program.

Outputs:

1) Furnish 33 family units with beds, dressers, dinette sets, couches, loveseats and essential household items.

2) Provide child.appropriate furniture, including cribs, safe beds, and study spaces, to support healthy routines and emotional development.

3) Equip communal spaces with functional furnishings to promote community connection and program engagement.

4) Improve overall housing readiness by supporting families' ability to develop stability.based daily habits.

Activities*:*

1) Assess each family unit for specific furniture gaps and prioritize needs based on safety and child considerations.

2) Purchase and install beds, cribs, dressers, seating, tables, storage units, and other trauma.informed household furnishings.

3) Assemble and safely arrange furniture in each family unit to create stable, predictable, and functional living environments.

4) Enhance communal spaces by adding appropriate seating, tables, and storage for shared use.

5) Conduct post.installation evaluations to ensure all units meet safety, accessibility, and trauma.informed design standards.

Volunteers of America's Administrative Office oversees all administrative, programmatic, financial, and reporting responsibilities for this project. Project outcomes will be tracked and evaluated by Program Directors and Managers at the Transitional Family Program, ensuring accuracy, accountability, and continuous improvement. VOA welcomes any additional data or reporting metrics the City of Rancho Cordova may request as part of its investment. This information will not only support transparent reporting to the City but can also be used to demonstrate project impact and sustainability to future funders, strengthening long.term support for families experiencing homelessness.

Optional File Upload: Provide any additional records to supplement your program/project application. Note: Combine multiple files in one pdf before uploading.

VOA-NCNN__Gratitude_Report_2024.pdf

	2 - Funding & Costs
Funding Request - Complete this section with total dollar amounts for your project/program's costs	Funds are generally not intended to be used for deferred maintenance and ongoing operational needs. The funds are intended for enhancing and investing in the City of Rancho Cordova. If your project/program is awarded, the costs identified below would be reviewed and potentially open to modification during a contracting phase (if a grant is awarded by the City Council). If awarded, grant funds are not available until a contract is executed during Fiscal Year 2026-2027.
Total project/program cost*	25000
What is the amount of Community Enhancement & Investment Fund grant monies requested?	25000
Does your project/program involve construction of any facilities or improvements upon any property?	No
What is the total cost of personnel for your project/program?	1000
What is the total cost of supplies for your project/program?	21500
What is the total cost of transportation for your project/program?	0
What is the total cost of equipment for your project/program?	0
What is the total cost of any miscellaneous expenses for your project/program?	2500

Upload your project/program's budget as a .pdf file. Include the categories and their dollar amounts along with information about any other funding sources to demonstrate your project/program's total budget. Note, the sum of all categories must match the total project or program cost, or the amount requested of CEIF if there is no other funding source. Please clearly illustrate any matching funds or funding from other sources in your project/program budget, including in-kind sources. Note: Combine multiple files in one pdf before uploading.

VOA_Budget_CEIF_Fund_2026-2027.pdf

Has your organization sought or will seek other funding for this project/program?	Yes, actively seeking funding support or have secured additional funding support for this project/program.
Describe any funding secured or being sought for this project/program.	Volunteers of America (VOA) relies primarily on local, state, and federal contracts; however, the funding allocated to the Residential Family Program is limited to core operational and personnel costs. It does not cover the essential supportive needs outlined in this project. The program is currently operating with a significant budget shortfall of approximately $285,000, creating urgent gaps in services that directly affect families experiencing homelessness in The City of Rancho Cordova. To sustain high.quality, comprehensive wraparound support, VOA is actively pursuing additional funding and depends on the generosity of grant.making partners and private donors. A grant from the City of Rancho Cordova would provide critical resources to help close this funding gap and would represent a substantial investment in the Residential Family Program directly improving safety, stability, and overall quality of life for the hundreds of families and children it serves each year.
Please describe any ongoing operations and maintenance costs beyond Fiscal Year 2026/2027, if applicable.	Volunteers of America's Residential Family Program is primarily funded through contracts which cover the operation and maintenance cost. This Family Program has been operational and serving the community of Rancho Cordova for over 37 years. However, the budget allocated to the Residential Family Program covers only core operating, maintenance, and staffing expenses and does not extend to the essential needs identified in this project.
Do you have volunteer or in-kind support for your project? This could include volunteers for an activity/event that is ongoing or a one-time experience.	Yes

Please share the total dollar amount for volunteer/in-kind support using $34.79 as the national rate for a volunteer hour. Source: Value of Volunteer Time	5000

Please provide a worksheet explaining your volunteer/in-kind contribution. You may upload a file in the following formats: CSV, DOC, DOCX, or PDF.

Brief_VOA_Rancho_Cordova_Spring_Service_Day.pdf

Is this a single year request or a request for funding for multiple years?	Single Year
Has your project/program received funding from the Community Enhancement & Investment Fund previously?	Yes
How many years has your project/program received funding from the Community Enhancement & Investment Fund?	2
How much funding has your organization received from the Community Enhancement & Investment Fund through our traditional grants (not including microgrants)?	$50,000
	3 - Project/Program Details Grant applications are typically approved to occur between July 2026 through June 2027. What is your plan to complete this project/program within this time frame?
Anticipated Start Date (July 1 is the soonest available start date)	7/1/2026

Anticipated End Date (typically projects/programs end by June 30)	6/30/2027
Please describe your project/program schedule	• The project will begin on July 1, 2026, with initial activities focused on assessing furniture needs for all family units and coordinating procurement with approved vendors. • Installation, assembly, and placement of all furnishings will occur throughout the following months, along with enhancements to communal spaces. • Post.installation evaluations, safety checks, and documentation of outcomes will be completed during the final quarter of the project period, March-June 2027. • All activities will be fully completed by June 30, 2027, ensuring the Transitional Housing Program is fully furnished, safe, and equipped to support families and their children entering the program.
What challenges do you anticipate in your project/program's implementation? What is your plan to complete your project/program should those or other challenges arise?	The primary challenges anticipated in implementing this project stem from ongoing funding shortages and broader economic pressures affecting both VOA clients and program operations. Families experiencing homelessness continue to face severe barriers to securing and maintaining stable housing, including limited income, rising mental health needs, and insufficient access to supportive services. Additionally, the soaring cost of living in Sacramento, such as increased rents, utilities, food, and transportation expenses, places significant strain on households with already limited resources, often resulting in housing instability despite their best efforts. These same economic conditions also affect VOA's ability to meet growing service demands. While VOA maintains a responsible and mission.driven budget, many essential activities outlined in this project fall outside the scope of the existing allocation for the Residential Family Program. As a result, financial gaps persist, particularly as preventative and long.term stabilization needs escalate among the populations VOA serves. To address these challenges, VOA's Executive Team has proactively developed strategies to reduce expenses, identify new funding sources, and present long.term financial planning options to the Board of Directors. These measures ensure that, even in the face of economic uncertainty, VOA remains committed to delivering high.quality services. If additional challenges arise during project implementation, VOA will adjust timelines, seek supplementary funding, and leverage community partnerships to maintain project progress. VOA recognizes that ending homelessness requires ongoing and deliberate effort. Sustained community and foundation support is essential to ensure families not only achieve stable housing but also maintain it. Through thoughtful planning, financial stewardship, and continued collaboration, VOA is prepared to overcome anticipated challenges and successfully complete the project.

How many individuals does your project/program serve?	135
How many Rancho Cordova residents does your project/program serve?	135
	4 - Project/Program Location
Address Verification	If you need to check if your project is in Rancho Cordova, type in your program/project's location in the Assessor Parcel Viewer: https://assessorparcelviewer.saccounty.gov/jsviewer/assessor.html

School and park related applications are due before Noon (12:00 p.m.) on March 6, 2026, to allow for the endorsement process.	Please note that projects or programs that are proposed on property owned or operated by outside agencies or a private party will require coordination with and potentially approvals from outside agencies, organizations, and/or the private party. Include whether you have received a letter of support for the project/program from the property owner. Upload any letters of support with your application. City staff will verify third-party permits have been discussed. In your planning discussions, be sure to discuss any necessary insurance or volunteer requirements that may increase budget costs. School Sites If your project/program is intended to operate at a public K-12 school site, your application is due by March 6 at Noon (12:00 p.m.). City staff will work with the school districts to confirm an endorsement for your project/program. It's the applicant's responsibility to communicate with school site and district representatives before applying so there is clarity during the endorsement process. Districts will only consider endorsement for applications submitted to the Community Enhancement & Investment Fund by the March 6 at Noon (12:00 p.m.). deadline. Each participating school superintendent reserves the right to withhold their endorsement of a project/program. Parks If your project/program is intended to operate at a park or community center site, your application is due by the March 6 at Noon (12:00 p.m.). deadline. City staff will work with the Cordova Recreation & Park District to confirm an endorsement for your project/program. It's the applicant's responsibility to communicate with district representatives before applying so there is clarity during the endorsement process. A special use permit application is required for any program or event planned at a CRPD facility. The special use application can be found at the CRPD website: https://www.cordovarpd.gov/. CRPD will only consider endorsement for applications submitted to the Community Enhancement & Investment Fund by the March 6 at Noon (12:00 p.m.). deadline. The Cordova Recreation & Park District reserves the right to withhold their endorsement of a project/program. Below is the list of staff to communicate with at school and park organizations: Folsom Cordova Unified School District: mwest@fcusd.org Cordova Recreation & Park District: cmichelotti@cordovarpd.gov Elk Grove Unified School District: mgulden@egusd.net Sacramento City Unified School District: Tuan-Duong@scusd.edu for Winn and Carver and Enrique-Flores@scusd.edu for Lincoln.
Primary street address of project/program	10620 Schirra Avenue
List the city location of the project/program.	Mather
Select State	CA
Provide the zip code for your project/program's primary location.	95655

If your project/program takes place at multiple locations, please list other or secondary locations.	N/A
Third Party Letters of Support (Note: Combine multiple files in one pdf before uploading)	
Does your project/program involve one of Rancho Cordova's school districts?	No
Does your project/program involve the Cordova Recreation & Park District?	No
	5 - Applicant Information
Name	Reem Al-Amin
Is this project/program on behalf of an organization?	Yes
What is the name of your organization?	Volunteers of America Northern California and Northern Nevada
What is your title and/or role at your organization?	Funds Grant Manager Development and Marketing
Provide contact phone number:	+[redacted]
Provide contact email:	ral-amin@voa-ncnn.org
Are you the primary point of contact on this project/program?	Yes

If your project/program was awarded the requested funds, are you authorized to sign the contract for your organization?	No, someone else would sign the contract
If selected by the City Council to receive an award, what is the name of the person at your organization who would sign the contract?	Christie Holderegger
What is the title of this individual?	President & CEO
What is the best phone number where we could contact the signatory?	+ [redacted]
What is the best email address to contact the signatory?	cholderegger@voa-ncnn.org
By checking here, I confirm that I am aware that my application materials will become public record.	checked
	Thank you for applying to the Community Enhancement & Investment Fund Fiscal Year 2026-2027 Grant Cycle. Applicants will receive an automated response through the grant portal. Community Enhancement & Investment Fund (CEIF) Staff will follow up with any questions regarding your Fiscal Year 2026-2027 application. For information about the next steps in the CEIF grant process, visit our website for more information. It is anticipated that applications will be reviewed by the City Council starting in April 2026 with adoption in June 2026. Should applicants be awarded by the City Council, funding would not be available to grantees until the start of Fiscal Year 2026-2027 and the completion of a contract. Please send an email to CEIFGrants@cityofranchocordova.org with any questions or comments.

Internal Form

Score n/a

Volunteers of America

Project Budget

Creating Safe and Stable Living Spaces for Families and Children Impacted by Homelessness

Project Revenues	**Foundation Fund CEIF**	**All Non-Foundation Funds**		**Total**
Contributed Income				
Individual contributions			$	-
Corporate contributions			$	-
Foundation grants			$	-
City of Rancho Cordova support	25,000		$	25,000
Primary government funding		748,125	$	748,125
Local government support			$	-
Fundraising			$	-
Special events			$	-
In-kind contributions			$	-
Other *(specify below if any):*			$	-
Total Revenues	**$ 25,000**	**$ 748,125**	**$**	**773,125**

Project Expenses Only	**The City of RC Funds**	**All Non-Foundation Funds**		**Total**
Personnel Costs				
Salaries		545,183	$	545,183
Benefits, taxes, FICA Share, Insurance, Medical Fees		142,592	$	142,592
Staff Training		720	$	720
On-site staff (8-hr/day)	1,000		$	1,000
Program Costs				
Program Professional Services		2,160	$	2,160
Program Supplies		5,688	$	5,688
Client Support		14,400	$	14,400
Cleaning, Linen and Laundry Supplies		4,680	$	4,680
Furniture			$	-
couches	3,870		$	3,870
loveseats	2,580		$	2,580
four-chair dinette sets	3,225		$	3,225
six-chair dinette sets	3,225		$	3,225
dressers	3,010		$	3,010
Cribs & Safe beds	3,870		$	3,870
Study desks	1,720		$	1,720
Occupancy Costs				
Utilities		104,400	$	104,400
Facility (Taxes, Repairs & Maintenance)		7,200	$	7,200
Other Business Expenses				
General Office Supplies Expense		3,600	$	3,600
Telephone & Cell Phones		16,560	$	16,560
Insurance (Liability & Auto)		36,000	$	36,000
Equipment Maintenance, Purchase, Rental		11,160	$	11,160
Outside Painting		144	$	144
Travel (Meetings & Conf.)		1,080	$	1,080
National Dues		16,085	$	16,085
Total Direct Expenses		911,652	$	911,652
Admin Fees		122,004	$	122,004
Admin Fees (10%) of Grant Request	2,500		$	2,500
Project Total	**25,000**	**1,033,656**	**$**	**1,058,656**
Budget Shortage			*$*	*(285,531)*

Rancho Cordova Spring Service Day

On May 16, 2026, community volunteers will join Volunteers of America (VOA) for Rancho Cordova's Spring Service Day to refresh and repaint the railings at our Residential Family Program Building. This hands-on support directly improves safety and comfort for families on our Mather Campus.

Overview
Rancho Cordova's Annual Spring Service Day is a city-led volunteer initiative that mobilizes community groups, civic organizations, and local residents to complete improvement projects that enhance public spaces, nonprofit facilities, and community-serving sites. The event is structured, family-friendly, and designed to support projects that can be completed within a single day through coordinated volunteer labor.

Purpose of Participation
Volunteers of America (VOA) has been encouraged to participate in the 2026 Spring Service Day, with the City identifying VOA's exterior painting needs as a strong fit for this year's volunteer slate. This partnership supports VOA's ongoing efforts to maintain safe, durable, and welcoming environments for families and children residing at the Mather Campus, while aligning with the City's goals of civic engagement and community-led improvement.

Project Description
The approved volunteer activity for May 16, 2026, focuses on repainting approximately 4,300 linear feet of exterior railings at the DHS Family Building on the VOA Mather Campus. Volunteers will assist with cleaning, sanding, and applying finish coats to railing components, improving both safety and appearance for campus residents. The railing-painting scope was determined to be a safer and more manageable volunteer activity and has been approved to move forward.

Reimbursement and Support
The City of Rancho Cordova will fund the project supplies through its Spring Service Day reimbursement structure, offering up to $5,000 in reimbursable expenses for paint, materials, and related supplies. Receipts will be required for reimbursement.

Goals and Community Impact

- Improve the long-term durability and condition of critical exterior infrastructure.
- Enhance safety and aesthetics for the families living at the DHS Family Building.
- Strengthen collaboration between the City of Rancho Cordova and VOA through shared community service initiatives.
- Create an opportunity for civic groups to contribute meaningfully to a program that directly benefits vulnerable families.

Next Steps
VOA will submit an updated Scope of Work and revised budget to the City to support the amendment currently in progress. Final coordination and onsite planning will follow in the lead-up to the May 16 volunteer event.

2024 GRATITUDE REPORT

Volunteers of America®
NORTHERN CALIFORNIA & NORTHERN NEVADA

This report references numbers on a fiscal year from July 1st, 2023 to June 30th, 2024.

YOU HELP US BUILD A HEALTHIER COMMUNITY FOR ALL

As you reflect on the pages of this report, I want to take a moment to express my heartfelt gratitude for your steadfast commitment to our mission. Thanks to your unwavering support, we have been able to make a profound impact on the lives of individuals, veterans, seniors, and families experiencing homelessness. Together, we've provided not only a safe place to call home but also vital resources and a sense of community. Your generosity has been the driving force behind our success, and we are deeply thankful for the lasting difference you've helped create.

Looking ahead to 2025, we are filled with a strong sense of determination to continue advocating for individuals and families who are facing difficult circumstances. We do not take this responsibility lightly and we feel empowered by your love and compassion. With your continued partnership, we are confident that we will not only rise to meet the challenges ahead but also create a future where everyone, regardless of their circumstances, can experience the dignity of stable housing and the support necessary to truly thrive.

Thank you for standing with us in this vital work. Together, we are building a strong foundation of hope and a healthier community for all.

Christie

Christie Holderegger
VOA President and CEO

THOUSANDS OF LIVES TRANSFORMED IN NORTHERN CA & NORTHERN NV

As part of the VOA family, you embody our founders' mission to "go wherever we are needed and do whatever comes to hand." You are providing housing, job training, meals, life skills, school supplies, and more to those who might otherwise go without.

Thank you for meeting the needs of those in your community.

12

foster youth received scholarships and attended college.

61

individuals returned to the workforce in Sacramento & Reno.

2,000

meals served daily.

6,000

kids went back to school fully prepared.

8,531

guests housed or safely sheltered nightly.

To some it's just a donation. To us, you're giving us an opportunity to have a home. I'm just so grateful.

YOU PROVIDED

Housing for **2,232** Individuals & Families

Emergency Shelter for **3,798** Individuals & Families

Recovery Services for **172** Individuals

Employment Services for **61** Individuals

LIVES IMPACTED

6,025 Single Adults

898 Veterans

1,462 Seniors

481 Families

SPREADING HOPE ACROSS NORTHERN CALIFORNIA & NORTHERN NEVADA

Your partnership supports individuals across Northern California and Northern Nevada, allowing them to feel cared for and respected. The generosity you show impacts your local community as well as your surrounding areas. Your impact is far-reaching, helping individuals and families find their own path to purpose. We can't thank you enough!

Serving these Counties

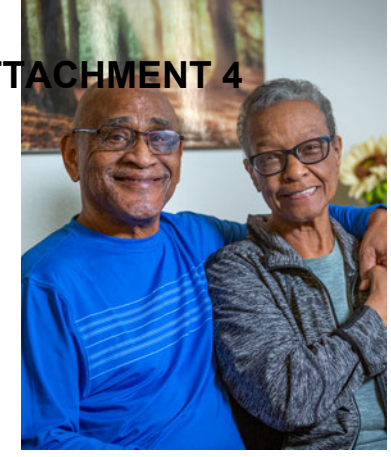
Administration Offices in Sacramento & Reno

California

- Emergency Shelter
- Mental Health Services
- Affordable Housing
- Housing Assistance
- Employment Services
- Transitional Housing
- Substance Abuse Treatment

Nevada

- Emergency Shelter
- Mental Health Services
- Affordable Housing
- Housing Assistance
- Employment Services
- Workforce Housing



TOGETHER WE MADE A DIFFERENCE

As a community we helped move people out of homelessness and into independence. You may never meet them, but thousands of people have the foundation to rebuild their lives, thanks to you. **Your kindness and generosity are what make the change!**

457
Community Volunteers

$788,228
In-Kind Donations

24
Foundations

1,428
Donors

$2,277,920
Financial Contributions

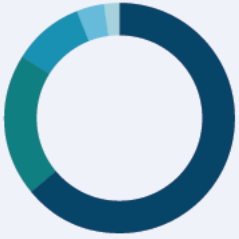
Public funders include: City of Sacramento, Sacramento County, Washoe County, Veterans Administration, Sac Steps Forward, HUD, Placer County. **These numbers include both regions VOA covers.**

YOUR GENEROSITY IN ACTION

Your kind donations, combined with our partnerships with local government, public, and private companies, amplify the impact we make together in our communities. This funding allows us to develop individual support plans that create lasting change and put people back on their feet for life.

REVENUE $ SUPPORT

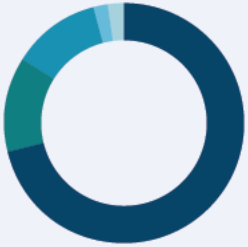
$51.2 M



Total Government Funds	64%
Service Fees and Others	20%
In-Kind Donations	10%
Public Support Contributions	4%
Private & Foundation Grants	2%

OPERATING EXPENSE

$44 M



All Programs	72%
Management/Miscellaneous	13%
In-Kind Offset*	12%
Fundraising	2%
Fees/Miscellaneous	2%

*This percentage represents both revenue and expense and it includes free use of space at County owned locations.

You provide a community of love, kindness, and hope that prepares individuals for sustainable housing and employment. Thank you for creating change.

Volunteers Of America Northern California & Northern Nevada

3434 Marconi Avenue
Sacramento, CA 95821

@voancnn

1095 E Taylor St
Reno, NV 89502

Title

United Way California Capital Region Keep People Housed Rancho Cordova

03/13/2026

id. 53481168

by **Edward King** in **Fiscal Year 2026-2027 Community Enhancement & Investment Fund Grant Application**

10839 Old Placerville Road
Sacramento, California
95827
United States
[redacted]
edward.king@uwccr.org

Original Submission

03/13/2026

Score n/a

	Thank you for your interest in applying to the City of Rancho Cordova's Community Enhancement & Investment Fund. Applications are open from February 9, 2026, to March 13, 2026, Noon (12:00 p.m.) with a specific deadline of March 6th Noon (12:00 p.m.) for certain applications**. Before you begin, please read the notes about deadlines and certain types of grant applications/grants below. **School/Park Application Deadline **Note that projects or programs involving a park or school district have a deadline of March 6 Noon (12:00 p.m.) to allow for the third-party endorsement process by the grant deadline.** A Note about Religious Schools and the Application/Grant Process **Note for grant applications from religious schools. The United States Supreme Court has recently ruled in part that: “denying a generally available benefit [from government] solely on account of religious identity imposes a penalty on the free exercise of religion that can be justified only by a state interest of the highest order.” The City is of the opinion that not all grants to religious schools are prohibited under this and other similar rulings. However, these United States Supreme Court decisions remain in conflict with a section of the California State Constitution that says: “[n]either the Legislature, nor any county, city and county, township, school district, or other municipal corporation, shall ever make an appropriation, or pay from any public fund whatever, or grant anything to or in aid of any religious sect, church, creed, or sectarian purpose, or help to support or sustain any school, college, university, hospital, or other institution controlled by any religious creed, church, or sectarian denomination whatever; nor shall any grant or donation of personal property or real estate ever be made by the state, or any city, city and county, town, or other municipal corporation for any religious creed, church, or sectarian purpose whatever”. The City will accept applications for grants of these City public funds from religious schools, but will have language in the grant agreements to address the possibility and consequences of legal challenges and new court decisions on this and related topics. ** Future Grant Opportunities If you are interested in remaining up-to-date on available grants from the City of Rancho Cordova, click here to sign up for the Grants Interest List. A separate call for programming opportunities with the Rancho Cordova Youth Center is anticipated later in 2026. The list is also used to advertise separate art programs when funds are available. Ongoing Grant Opportunity The City of Rancho Cordova offers a microgrant opportunity. Learn more about those grants online.
Is this your first time applying for grant funding from the City of Rancho Cordova? As a first-time applicant, Community Enhancement & Investment Fund (CEIF) staff will contact you to discuss your project and grant application process.	No: Not a First Time Applicant

	1 - Project/Program Information Note: You can add a collaborator to this form to assist you in completing this application! A collaborator can help you complete this form by filling in fields for you, although only you can submit this form. You can add a collaborator by navigating to the top of the form and clicking on the 'Manage Collaborators' button. Simply enter their email address and click 'invite' to invite them as a collaborator. If you need further assistance, you may consult this Help article for more information.
Project/Program Name. Assign a project name to your project/program.	United Way California Capital Region Keep People Housed Rancho Cordova
Which category does your Project/Program align with?	Community Assistance Programs
Provide a Project/Program Synopsis	Keep People Housed Rancho Cordova prevents homelessness by providing flexible financial assistance, housing stabilization services, and case management for residents facing eviction or housing instability. The program helps households remain safely housed while connecting them to employment, benefits, and supportive services to promote long-term housing stability.
Provide a Project/Program Description	Keep People Housed Rancho Cordova is a homelessness prevention and stabilization initiative designed to help residents remain safely housed and avoid entering the homelessness response system. The program addresses one of the most pressing community challenges facing the Sacramento region, housing instability caused by rising rents, limited housing supply, and short-term financial crises that place families at risk of eviction. By providing targeted financial assistance combined with case management and service navigation, the program will help stabilize households before they lose their housing. Housing instability occurs when households experience financial disruptions such as job loss, medical emergencies, unexpected expenses, or temporary income gaps. In many cases, these financial crises are short-term, but without timely intervention they can quickly escalate into eviction, displacement, and homelessness. Once a household loses housing, recovery becomes significantly more difficult and costly for both families and local governments. The Keep People Housed Rancho Cordova program is designed to address this challenge through a proactive, prevention-focused approach. Rather than responding after households become homeless, the program intervenes early by providing financial stabilization and coordinated services that help residents remain in their homes. Preventing homelessness before it occurs is widely recognized as one of the most effective and cost-efficient strategies for addressing housing insecurity. Research consistently shows that providing targeted financial assistance to households facing eviction can prevent housing loss at a fraction of the cost of emergency shelter or long-term homelessness services. First, participants will receive housing stabilization assessments and

individualized case management. Each household will complete an intake assessment to identify the specific barriers threatening their housing stability. Based on this assessment, staff will develop an Individual Housing Stabilization Plan that outlines immediate needs and long-term goals for maintaining housing. Participants will work with Housing Navigators or case managers who will provide ongoing support services, including budgeting assistance, financial coaching, employment referrals, and assistance applying for public benefits and Supplemental Security Income. Staff will also assist participants with tenant education, landlord communication, and connections to healthcare, childcare, and behavioral health services. Case management will be provided weekly during the initial stabilization period and then transition to periodic follow-up as households achieve stability.

Second, the program will provide flexible financial assistance to address urgent financial barriers to housing stability. Direct financial assistance is often the most effective tool for preventing eviction when households are experiencing temporary financial hardship. Assistance may include rental arrears payments, short-term rental assistance, utility assistance, security deposits, application fees, or relocation support when necessary. Payments will be made directly to landlords or service providers to ensure accountability and rapid resolution of housing crises. Assistance will be tailored based on each household's needs, with an estimated average investment of $3,500 to $5,000 per household. The program will utilize a progressive engagement model, providing only the level of assistance necessary to stabilize housing while maximizing the number of households served.

Third, participants will be connected to wraparound supportive services that help address the underlying factors contributing to housing instability. Program staff will coordinate with local service providers to connect households to resources such as healthcare and behavioral health services, substance use treatment programs, legal assistance for tenant rights and eviction prevention, employment and workforce development programs, food security programs, and childcare support. These partnerships ensure that participants receive comprehensive services that support long-term housing stability.

The program prioritizes residents who are at immediate risk of losing their housing. This includes households facing eviction, residents behind on rent or utilities, individuals experiencing sudden financial hardship, and households at risk of entering the homelessness system.

The Keep People Housed Rancho Cordova program is expected to serve approximately 150 to 200 households annually, depending on the level of financial assistance required. Program outcomes will focus on measurable housing stability indicators. The program aims to ensure that at least 85 to 90 percent of participating households remain stably housed for at least six months after receiving assistance, and that the majority of participants access supportive services that strengthen financial and housing stability.

This initiative aligns strongly with the City of Rancho Cordova's Community Enhancement & Investment Fund goals by providing direct assistance to residents in need, strengthening community stability, and leveraging partnerships with local service providers. By preventing displacement and

	homelessness, the program helps maintain neighborhood stability, supports vulnerable residents, and reduces long-term public costs associated with homelessness services. Through early intervention, targeted financial assistance, and coordinated services, Keep People Housed Rancho Cordova will strengthen housing stability for local residents and create a more resilient and equitable community.
Tell us about your Project/Program Team	The program will be implemented by a multidisciplinary team including a Program Manager and Housing Navigators Housing Navigators will work directly with participants to assess needs, develop housing stabilization plans, and coordinate services. The Program Manager will oversee program implementation, partnerships, reporting, and triage services. Additionally, UWCCR deploys internal staff to screen applicants to ensure thourough review and service alignment with the program.
Provide your Project/Program Goals	1. Prevent homelessness among Rancho Cordova residents experiencing housing instability. • Serve 150–200 Rancho Cordova households annually who are at risk of eviction or housing loss. • At least 90% of enrolled households will avoid entry into the homelessness system during program participation. • Outcomes will be measured through case management records, follow-up housing verification, and HMIS data tracking. 2. Provide flexible financial assistance to households facing eviction or housing loss. • Provide direct rental or utility assistance to at least 150 households per year. • Deliver an average of $3,500–$5,000 in stabilization assistance per household depending on need. • 100% of financial assistance payments will be issued directly to landlords or service providers to resolve immediate housing risks. • Outcomes will be tracked through payment records, landlord verification, and program financial reports. 3. Connect participants to supportive services that address barriers to housing stability. • At least 90% of participating households will access one or more supportive services such as employment assistance, healthcare, childcare, legal aid, or behavioral health services. • At least 75% of participants will complete referrals to at least one external partner organization. • Outcomes will be measured through case management documentation, referral tracking systems, and service provider confirmations. 4. Improve financial resilience through employment services, benefits access, and financial coaching. • At least 70% of participating households will increase their income

	through employment, workforce training, or public benefits enrollment. • At least 80% of participants will receive financial coaching or budgeting support. • At least 60 households annually will enroll in new public benefits (such as CalFresh, CalWORKs, or SSI). • Outcomes will be measured through income verification, benefits enrollment documentation, and participant self-reporting during case management sessions. 5. Ensure long-term housing stability for participating households. • At least 85–90% of participating households will remain stably housed six months after receiving assistance. • At least 75% of households will remain housed 12 months after program exit. • Housing stability will be measured through participant follow-up surveys, landlord confirmation, and housing status tracking in the case management system.
Optional File Upload: Provide any additional records to supplement your program/project application. Note: Combine multiple files in one pdf before uploading.	
	2 - Funding & Costs
Funding Request - Complete this section with total dollar amounts for your project/program's costs	Funds are generally not intended to be used for deferred maintenance and ongoing operational needs. The funds are intended for enhancing and investing in the City of Rancho Cordova. If your project/program is awarded, the costs identified below would be reviewed and potentially open to modification during a contracting phase (if a grant is awarded by the City Council). If awarded, grant funds are not available until a contract is executed during Fiscal Year 2026-2027.
Total project/program cost*	1374580
What is the amount of Community Enhancement & Investment Fund grant monies requested?	991772

Does your project/program involve construction of any facilities or improvements upon any property?	No
What is the total cost of personnel for your project/program?	236780
What is the total cost of supplies for your project/program?	10200
What is the total cost of transportation for your project/program?	7200
What is the total cost of equipment for your project/program?	2400
What is the total cost of any miscellaneous expenses for your project/program?	1118000

Upload your project/program's budget as a .pdf file. Include the categories and their dollar amounts along with information about any other funding sources to demonstrate your project/program's total budget. Note, the sum of all categories must match the total project or program cost, or the amount requested of CEIF if there is no other funding source. Please clearly illustrate any matching funds or funding from other sources in your project/program budget, including in-kind sources. Note: Combine multiple files in one pdf before uploading.

20260313_CEIF_KPH_Rancho_Budget_V2.pdf

Has your organization sought or will seek other funding for this project/program?	Yes, actively seeking funding support or have secured additional funding support for this project/program.
Describe any funding secured or being sought for this project/program.	We will work to braid funding from CalAIMS through the transitional rent program, ECM care management services, and our Adult Reentry program.

Please describe any ongoing operations and maintenance costs beyond Fiscal Year 2026/2027, if applicable.	This is a pilot for a program we have seen promising results from in other jurisdictions. Based on outcome data, we would welcome discussions on ongoing funding for this program. We continue to raise funding to aid as part of these initiatives.
Do you have volunteer or in-kind support for your project? This could include volunteers for an activity/event that is ongoing or a one-time experience.	No
Is this a single year request or a request for funding for multiple years?	Single Year
Has your project/program received funding from the Community Enhancement & Investment Fund previously?	No
	3 - Project/Program Details Grant applications are typically approved to occur between July 2026 through June 2027. What is your plan to complete this project/program within this time frame?
Anticipated Start Date (July 1 is the soonest available start date)	7/1/2026
Anticipated End Date (typically projects/programs end by June 30)	6/30/2027
Please describe your project/program schedule	Program Implementation Timeline (July 1, 2026 – June 30, 2027) The Keep People Housed – Rancho Cordova Program is a housing stabilization and homelessness prevention initiative designed to provide targeted financial assistance, housing navigation, and supportive services to residents experiencing housing instability. The program will launch on July 1, 2026 and operate through June 30, 2027, with a phased implementation approach that ensures strong infrastructure, effective service delivery, and measurable outcomes for the community. Phase 1: Program Start-Up and Infrastructure Development

July 1, 2026 – September 1, 2026

The program will begin with a two-month start-up period focused on building operational capacity and establishing systems necessary for effective program delivery.

Key activities during this phase include staff recruitment and onboarding, including hiring Housing Specialists. Staff will receive training on housing stabilization practices, trauma-informed care, financial assistance protocols, and program reporting requirements.

During the same period, the program will complete software and data system setup, including configuration of our client management platform, financial assistance tracking tools, and reporting dashboards to ensure compliance with funding and performance requirements.

The program will also establish community partnerships and referral pathways with Rancho Cordova service providers, Sacramento County coordinated entry systems, and local housing providers. Program policies, eligibility criteria, and service delivery procedures will be finalized during this phase.

Milestone:

The program will be fully operational and ready to begin serving participants by September 1, 2026.

Phase 2: Program Launch and Initial Service Delivery

September 1, 2026 – December 31, 2026

Participant enrollment will begin on September 1, 2026. During this period, the program will provide housing stabilization services including financial assistance for rental arrears, security deposits, short-term rental assistance, and utility payments. Participants will also receive housing navigation and case management services designed to address barriers to housing stability.

Milestone:

The program will serve 50 Rancho Cordova households by December 31, 2026.

Phase 3: Program Expansion

January 1, 2027 – March 31, 2027

In the second phase of service delivery, the program will expand enrollment and strengthen community partnerships to increase referrals and housing opportunities. Services will continue to focus on rapid stabilization through financial assistance, housing navigation, and landlord engagement.

Program staff will monitor housing outcomes and adjust service strategies to ensure participants remain safely housed.

Milestone:

	The program will serve 100 households by March 31, 2027. Phase 4: Full Implementation and Program Completion April 1, 2027 – June 30, 2027 During the final quarter of the program year, services will continue while staff focus on completing enrollment targets and evaluating program outcomes. Follow-up case management will ensure housing stability, while program staff compile performance data and document community impact. Milestone: The program will serve 150 Rancho Cordova households by June 30, 2027. Program Outcome By the end of the program period, 150 Rancho Cordova households will receive housing stabilization assistance, preventing displacement and reducing entries into the homelessness response system. Through early intervention, targeted financial assistance, and supportive services, the Keep People Housed program will strengthen housing stability and promote long-term community resilience in Rancho Cordova.
What challenges do you anticipate in your project/program's implementation? What is your plan to complete your project/program should those or other challenges arise?	The program has found success in other territories we operate. We do not foresee significant issues with implementation.
How many individuals does your project/program serve?	150
How many Rancho Cordova residents does your project/program serve?	150
	4 - Project/Program Location
Address Verification	If you need to check if your project is in Rancho Cordova, type in your program/project's location in the Assessor Parcel Viewer: https://assessorparcelviewer.saccounty.gov/jsviewer/assessor.html

School and park related applications are due before Noon (12:00 p.m.) on March 6, 2026, to allow for the endorsement process.	Please note that projects or programs that are proposed on property owned or operated by outside agencies or a private party will require coordination with and potentially approvals from outside agencies, organizations, and/or the private party. Include whether you have received a letter of support for the project/program from the property owner. Upload any letters of support with your application. City staff will verify third-party permits have been discussed. In your planning discussions, be sure to discuss any necessary insurance or volunteer requirements that may increase budget costs. School Sites If your project/program is intended to operate at a public K-12 school site, your application is due by March 6 at Noon (12:00 p.m.). City staff will work with the school districts to confirm an endorsement for your project/program. It's the applicant's responsibility to communicate with school site and district representatives before applying so there is clarity during the endorsement process. Districts will only consider endorsement for applications submitted to the Community Enhancement & Investment Fund by the March 6 at Noon (12:00 p.m.). deadline. Each participating school superintendent reserves the right to withhold their endorsement of a project/program. Parks If your project/program is intended to operate at a park or community center site, your application is due by the March 6 at Noon (12:00 p.m.). deadline. City staff will work with the Cordova Recreation & Park District to confirm an endorsement for your project/program. It's the applicant's responsibility to communicate with district representatives before applying so there is clarity during the endorsement process. A special use permit application is required for any program or event planned at a CRPD facility. The special use application can be found at the CRPD website: https://www.cordovarpd.gov/. CRPD will only consider endorsement for applications submitted to the Community Enhancement & Investment Fund by the March 6 at Noon (12:00 p.m.). deadline. The Cordova Recreation & Park District reserves the right to withhold their endorsement of a project/program. Below is the list of staff to communicate with at school and park organizations: Folsom Cordova Unified School District: mwest@fcusd.org Cordova Recreation & Park District: cmichelotti@cordovarpd.gov Elk Grove Unified School District: mgulden@egusd.net Sacramento City Unified School District: Tuan-Duong@scusd.edu for Winn and Carver and Enrique-Flores@scusd.edu for Lincoln.
Primary street address of project/program	10389 Old Placerville Road
List the city location of the project/program.	Sactamento
Select State	CA
Provide the zip code for your project/program's primary location.	95827

If your project/program takes place at multiple locations, please list other or secondary locations.	The program is mobile in nature, meeting participants where they are. This will include at local community centers, libraries, and out-of-office locations.
Third Party Letters of Support (Note: Combine multiple files in one pdf before uploading)	
Does your project/program involve one of Rancho Cordova's school districts?	No
Does your project/program involve the Cordova Recreation & Park District?	No
	5 - Applicant Information
Name	Edward King
Is this project/program on behalf of an organization?	Yes
What is the name of your organization?	United Way California Capital Region
What is your title and/or role at your organization?	Chief Program Officer
Provide contact phone number:	+[redacted]
Provide contact email:	edward.king@uwccr.org
Are you the primary point of contact on this project/program?	Yes

If your project/program was awarded the requested funds, are you authorized to sign the contract for your organization?	No, someone else would sign the contract
If selected by the City Council to receive an award, what is the name of the person at your organization who would sign the contract?	Dawnté Early
What is the title of this individual?	President and CEO
What is the best phone number where we could contact the signatory?	+[redacted]
What is the best email address to contact the signatory?	dawnte.early@uwccr.org
By checking here, I confirm that I am aware that my application materials will become public record.	checked
	Thank you for applying to the Community Enhancement & Investment Fund Fiscal Year 2026-2027 Grant Cycle. Applicants will receive an automated response through the grant portal. Community Enhancement & Investment Fund (CEIF) Staff will follow up with any questions regarding your Fiscal Year 2026-2027 application. For information about the next steps in the CEIF grant process, visit our website for more information. It is anticipated that applications will be reviewed by the City Council starting in April 2026 with adoption in June 2026. Should applicants be awarded by the City Council, funding would not be available to grantees until the start of Fiscal Year 2026-2027 and the completion of a contract. Please send an email to CEIFGrants@cityofranchocordova.org with any questions or comments.

Internal Form

Score n/a

United Way California Capital Region Keep People Housed Rancho

Staffing	Projected	CEIF	Other Funders	In-Kind	Notes
Housing Specialist	$ 145,544.00	$ 145,544.00	$ -	$ -	2 program navigators
Program Manager	$ 91,236.00	$ 22,809.00	$ 68,427.00	$ -	Program manager overseeing the program
Total Staffing	$ 236,780.00	$ 168,353.00	$ 68,427.00	$ -	
Supplies					
Case Management Software	$ 7,200.00	$ 7,200.00	$ -	$ -	Pear suite software $200/month for 3 subscriptions over 12 months
Equipment Subscription	$ 3,000.00	$ 3,000.00			Tablet monitoring software, adobe, etc $125/month for 2 people over 12 months
Total Supplies	$ 10,200.00	$ 10,200.00	$ -	$ -	
Transportation					
Mileage	$ 7,200.00	$ 7,200.00	$ -	$ -	Navigator staff mileage stipend $300/month
Total Transportation	$ 7,200.00	$ 7,200.00	$ -	$ -	
Equipment					
Tablets	$ 2,400.00	$ 2,400.00	$ -	$ -	Primary equipment for housing specialist for 2 staff
Total Equipment	$ 2,400.00	$ 2,400.00	$ -	$ -	
Miscellaneous					
Outreach and Marketing	$ 7,000.00	$ 5,000.00	$ 2,000.00	$ -	Program services marketing, including social media, website, and flyers
Staff Training and Development	$ 1,000.00	$ 1,000.00	$ -		Staff development and training services
Flexible Financial Assistance	$ 1,110,000.00	$ 750,000.00	$ 360,000.00		Flexible assistance to address rent arrears, utility costs, and
Administrative (Indirect)	$ 68,729.00	$ 47,619.00	$ 21,110.00		Pooled costs for backend services like finance, HR, and executive administration
Total Miscellaneous	$ 1,118,000.00	$ 803,619.00	$ 383,110.00	$ -	
TOTAL COSTS	**$ 1,374,580.00**	**$ 991,772.00**	**$ 451,537.00**	**$ -**	

Title

AnchorLine: Senior Scam AI Defense Program

03/13/2026

id. 53474829

by **AnchorLine NA** in **Fiscal Year 2026-2027 Community Enhancement & Investment Fund Grant Application**

[redacted]
Sacramento, California
95827
CA
United States
[redacted]

Original Submission

03/13/2026

Score n/a

	Thank you for your interest in applying to the City of Rancho Cordova's Community Enhancement & Investment Fund. Applications are open from February 9, 2026, to March 13, 2026, Noon (12:00 p.m.) with a specific deadline of March 6th Noon (12:00 p.m.) for certain applications**. Before you begin, please read the notes about deadlines and certain types of grant applications/grants below. **School/Park Application Deadline **Note that projects or programs involving a park or school district have a deadline of March 6 Noon (12:00 p.m.) to allow for the third-party endorsement process by the grant deadline.** A Note about Religious Schools and the Application/Grant Process **Note for grant applications from religious schools. The United States Supreme Court has recently ruled in part that: “denying a generally available benefit [from government] solely on account of religious identity imposes a penalty on the free exercise of religion that can be justified only by a state interest of the highest order.” The City is of the opinion that not all grants to religious schools are prohibited under this and other similar rulings. However, these United States Supreme Court decisions remain in conflict with a section of the California State Constitution that says: “[n]either the Legislature, nor any county, city and county, township, school district, or other municipal corporation, shall ever make an appropriation, or pay from any public fund whatever, or grant anything to or in aid of any religious sect, church, creed, or sectarian purpose, or help to support or sustain any school, college, university, hospital, or other institution controlled by any religious creed, church, or sectarian denomination whatever; nor shall any grant or donation of personal property or real estate ever be made by the state, or any city, city and county, town, or other municipal corporation for any religious creed, church, or sectarian purpose whatever”. The City will accept applications for grants of these City public funds from religious schools, but will have language in the grant agreements to address the possibility and consequences of legal challenges and new court decisions on this and related topics. ** Future Grant Opportunities If you are interested in remaining up-to-date on available grants from the City of Rancho Cordova, click here to sign up for the Grants Interest List. A separate call for programming opportunities with the Rancho Cordova Youth Center is anticipated later in 2026. The list is also used to advertise separate art programs when funds are available. Ongoing Grant Opportunity The City of Rancho Cordova offers a microgrant opportunity. Learn more about those grants online.
Is this your first time applying for grant funding from the City of Rancho Cordova? As a first-time applicant, Community Enhancement & Investment Fund (CEIF) staff will contact you to discuss your project and grant application process.	Yes: First Time Applicant

	1 - Project/Program Information Note: You can add a collaborator to this form to assist you in completing this application! A collaborator can help you complete this form by filling in fields for you, although only you can submit this form. You can add a collaborator by navigating to the top of the form and clicking on the 'Manage Collaborators' button. Simply enter their email address and click 'invite' to invite them as a collaborator. If you need further assistance, you may consult this Help article for more information.
Project/Program Name. Assign a project name to your project/program.	AnchorLine: Senior Scam AI Defense Program
Which category does your Project/Program align with?	Community Assistance Programs
Provide a Project/Program Synopsis	The Senior Scam AI Defense Program equips older adults with AI-powered tools to detect, avoid, and report fraud. Through hands-on training, seniors gain the confidence and skills to protect themselves from today's most sophisticated digital scams.
Provide a Project/Program Description	The Senior Scam AI Defense Program is a community education initiative that teaches older adults how to use modern artificial intelligence (AI) tools and practical digital safety strategies to identify, verify, and avoid financial scams. As scams become more sophisticated using fake emails, impersonation calls, and AI-generated messages many seniors are increasingly targeted by fraudsters. This program empowers seniors with hands-on lessons, real-world examples, and easy-to-use AI tools that can help analyze suspicious messages, verify information, and identify warning signs of fraud before money is lost. Participants will learn how AI can act as a digital assistant for scam detection, helping them: • Analyze suspicious emails, text messages, and social media posts. • Check whether a message or offer sounds like a known scam pattern. • Verify if websites, charities, or investment offers are legitimate. • Generate questions to ask before sending money or sharing personal information. • Translate complex technology warnings into simple explanations. The program will be delivered through interactive workshops at the Neil Orchard Senior Activities Center, where participants will practice identifying scams, learn protective habits, and gain confidence using technology safely. By the end of the program, seniors will have the knowledge and tools needed to recognize fraud attempts early and protect their financial well-being. The Senior Scam AI Defense Program benefits the community by advancing public safety, education, civic engagement, and quality of life for Rancho Cordova residents.

	Financial scams are one of the fastest growing crimes in the United States and older adults are targeted because of retirement savings and less familiarity with rapidly changing technology. This program enhances public safety by teaching residents how to identify fraud, how to use AI tools to help identify scams, and by teaching practical steps to verify requests before taking any action, thereby reducing financial exploitation of vulnerable community members. By preventing fraud before it occurs, the program helps protect seniors' financial security, independence, and personal safety. The program provides hands-on digital literacy education including how to protect personal and financial information online. This education equips seniors with modern technology skills and critical thinking tools needed to navigate the digital world safely. Civic engagement is provided through community participation and shared learning. Interactive workshops at the local senior center will foster group discussions of real world scam examples and encourage participants to share experiences and strategies. This approach strengthens community awareness and cooperation, helping residents look out for one another and report suspicious activity. The Senior Scam AI Defense Program improves quality of life by reducing the risk of financial loss, increasing confidence using technology, and strengthening trust in digital communication tools. Financial scams can have devastating impacts on seniors, including loss of life savings, emotional distress, and reduced independence. Protecting seniors from fraud ensures they can continue participating fully in our community with confidence and security. By empowering seniors with modern tools and knowledge, the Senior Scam AI Defense Program creates long-lasting benefits for the Rancho Cordova community. This program represents a cost-effective, community-based approach to improving public safety and education, which are two of the core priorities of the Community Enhancement & Investment Fund.
Tell us about your Project/Program Team	Our foundation, AnchorLine, is a nonprofit on a mission to equip individuals of all ages with the tools they need to thrive in a rapidly changing world. Through educational programs, volunteer-led workshops, and free community resources, we deliver practical training in artificial intelligence, financial literacy, and career readiness. We meet people where they are by removing barriers and creating pathways to opportunity. Our core team is grounded in diverse professional experience across financial services, local government, marketing, engineering, business development, and real estate, giving AnchorLine the depth and credibility to drive real, measurable change.

Provide your Project/Program Goals	1. **Enroll 100 seniors in the first program cohort.** Metric: Registration records tracked monthly 2. **Achieve 80% course completion rate.** Metric: Attendance logs per session 3. **Teach seniors to recognize 10 most common scam types.** Metric: Quiz scores before and after training 4. **Train seniors to use at least 2 AI tools independently.** Metric: Skills demonstration checklist 5. **Educate seniors on safe password practices.** Metric: Post-training knowledge assessment 6. **Ensure 85% of participants can identify a fraudulent phone call.** Metric: Simulated scenario testing 7. **Teach seniors how to report scams to proper authorities.** Metric: Post-training survey on reporting knowledge 8. **Help participants secure their social media privacy settings.** Metric: In-class guided walk-through completion rates 9. **Distribute fraud prevention resource guides to all participants.** Metric: Distribution logs 10. **Engage 5 volunteer instructors or tech mentors.** Metric: Volunteer roster and hours logged 11. **Collaborate with local banks and credit unions on scam awareness content.** Metric: Number of co-developed materials 12. **Create a program website with scam prevention resources.** Metric: Website traffic analytics monthly 13. **Maintain a scam trend database updated monthly.** Metric: Database update timestamps 14. **Ensure all training materials are accessible in large print and audio.** Metric: Accessibility checklist per material 15. **Provide loaner tablets or devices to participants without technology.** Metric: Device lending log 16. **Conduct quarterly program reviews with the project team.** Metric: Meeting minutes and action items logged

Optional File Upload: Provide any additional records to supplement your program/project application. Note: Combine multiple files in one pdf before uploading.

Senior-Scam-AI-Defense-Program-Overview.pdf

	2 - Funding & Costs
Funding Request - Complete this section with total dollar amounts for your project/program's costs	Funds are generally not intended to be used for deferred maintenance and ongoing operational needs. The funds are intended for enhancing and investing in the City of Rancho Cordova. If your project/program is awarded, the costs identified below would be reviewed and potentially open to modification during a contracting phase (if a grant is awarded by the City Council). If awarded, grant funds are not available until a contract is executed during Fiscal Year 2026-2027.
Total project/program cost*	25000

What is the amount of Community Enhancement & Investment Fund grant monies requested?	25000
Does your project/program involve construction of any facilities or improvements upon any property?	No
What is the total cost of personnel for your project/program?	7000
What is the total cost of supplies for your project/program?	7500
What is the total cost of transportation for your project/program?	1000
What is the total cost of equipment for your project/program?	7500
What is the total cost of any miscellaneous expenses for your project/program?	2000

Upload your project/program's budget as a .pdf file. Include the categories and their dollar amounts along with information about any other funding sources to demonstrate your project/program's total budget. Note, the sum of all categories must match the total project or program cost, or the amount requested of CEIF if there is no other funding source. Please clearly illustrate any matching funds or funding from other sources in your project/program budget, including in-kind sources. Note: Combine multiple files in one pdf before uploading.

Project_Budget.pdf

Has your organization sought or will seek other funding for this project/program?	Yes, actively seeking funding support or have secured additional funding support for this project/program.

Describe any funding secured or being sought for this project/program.	The project is currently self-funded as we build toward our initial milestones. We recently became officially recognized by the federal and state government and plan to actively pursue funding after launching the pilot program.
Please describe any ongoing operations and maintenance costs beyond Fiscal Year 2026/2027, if applicable.	Beyond FY2026/2027, the following ongoing operations and maintenance costs are anticipated: Staffing: The program requires at least one full-time staff member to manage day-to-day operations, community engagement, program delivery, and reporting. Salary, payroll taxes, and benefits (including required California employer contributions) represent the largest ongoing cost. Software & Technology: Continued licensing and subscription fees for operational software, including CRM, communication tools, and any program-specific platforms. Costs will be reviewed annually as needs evolve. Website & Digital Infrastructure: Ongoing website hosting, domain registration, security certificates, and periodic updates or redesigns to ensure functionality, accessibility compliance, and data security. Compliance & Administration: As a California 501(c3), annual costs include state and federal filing fees (Form 990, CA Form 199), registered agent fees if applicable, and any required audits or financial reviews depending on revenue thresholds. Program Delivery: Recurring costs tied to direct program activities such as materials, outreach, events, or participant support, scaling with program growth. These costs will be sustained through a diversified funding strategy including grant funding, individual donations, and any earned revenue generated by the program. We are committed to building long-term financial sustainability beyond initial project funding.
Do you have volunteer or in-kind support for your project? This could include volunteers for an activity/event that is ongoing or a one-time experience.	Yes

Please share the total dollar amount for volunteer/in-kind support using $34.79 as the national rate for a volunteer hour. Source: Value of Volunteer Time	60772.4

Please provide a worksheet explaining your volunteer/in-kind contribution. You may upload a file in the following formats: CSV, DOC, DOCX, or PDF.

Volunteer-Hours.docx

Is this a single year request or a request for funding for multiple years?	Single Year
Has your project/program received funding from the Community Enhancement & Investment Fund previously?	No
	3 - Project/Program Details Grant applications are typically approved to occur between July 2026 through June 2027. What is your plan to complete this project/program within this time frame?
Anticipated Start Date (July 1 is the soonest available start date)	8/1/2026
Anticipated End Date (typically projects/programs end by June 30)	2/28/2027

Please describe your project/program schedule	The program is scheduled to launch in July 2026 with a monthly in-person session at the Neil Orchard Senior Activities Center, where we will provide structured programming directly to the senior community on a recurring monthly basis through February 2027. Simultaneously, we will activate our online training component, offering both self-paced on-demand content and scheduled virtual sessions. This hybrid model ensures that seniors and community members who cannot attend in-person retain full access to programming, and positions the organization for broader regional reach without proportional cost increases. We are focusing on AI for seniors with a focus on scam defense, and using AI as a companion to overcome fraud. Our training will start with very basic information and materials and grow in detail over time. Based on feedback, we can go deeper on any certain subject, or keep the training very basic to explain the ins-and-outs of AI in general. The goal of the Senior Scam Defense Program is to teach seniors how to use AI as a companion in their daily lives to combat fraud and scams and reduce risk.

What challenges do you anticipate in your project/program's implementation? What is your plan to complete your project/program should those or other challenges arise?	We anticipate several challenges in implementing this program and have considered contingency plans for each. Technology Barriers For Seniors: One anticipated challenge is that some participants may have limited experience with smartphones, computers, or AI tools, which could make it difficult for them to follow along with demonstrations. To alleviate this, the program will use simple, step-by-step instruction designed specifically for beginners, with clear language and large-print materials. Workshops will move at a comfortable pace and include time for questions and hands-on practice. Participants will also receive easy-to-follow reference guides they can take home. Rapidly Changing Scam Tactics: Scammers constantly adapt their techniques, including using new technologies such as AI-generated messages and impersonation tactics. This means the types of scams targeting seniors may evolve over time. Rather than focusing only on specific scams, the program teaches core scam-recognition principles, including identifying urgency tactics, impersonation attempts, and suspicious payment requests. These skills help participants recognize new scams even as tactics change. Volunteer Recruitment and Retention: Recruiting and retaining reliable volunteers is a common challenge for nonprofits, particularly for programs requiring consistent monthly commitment. To address this, we will actively cultivate volunteer pipelines through our existing community partnerships in both Rancho Cordova and Madera, leverage volunteer matching platforms, and create a positive, structured volunteer experience to encourage long-term commitment. We will also cross-train volunteers so that no single session is dependent on one individual. Funding Gaps: As a newer program, sustaining funding beyond the initial fiscal year is a real consideration. Our plan is to pursue a diversified funding strategy that includes grants, individual donations, and in-kind support, reducing reliance on any single source. We are committed to beginning the next funding cycle well in advance of the June 30, 2027 program end date. Ensuring Continued Learning After the Program: Participants may need reinforcement after the workshops to continue applying what they learned. To help with this, participants will receive printed reference materials and scam-prevention guides so they can review information later. They will also be encouraged to consult trusted resources, family members, or AI tools when evaluating suspicious messages in the future. Should multiple challenges arise simultaneously, our strong community partnerships in both service areas provide a reliable foundation to adapt, pivot, and problem-solve without losing program momentum. We are committed to completing this program through February 2027 and will proactively communicate with funders should any significant obstacles emerge.

How many individuals does your project/program serve?	400
How many Rancho Cordova residents does your project/program serve?	400
	4 - Project/Program Location
Address Verification	If you need to check if your project is in Rancho Cordova, type in your program/project's location in the Assessor Parcel Viewer: https://assessorparcelviewer.saccounty.gov/jsviewer/assessor.html

School and park related applications are due before Noon (12:00 p.m.) on March 6, 2026, to allow for the endorsement process.	Please note that projects or programs that are proposed on property owned or operated by outside agencies or a private party will require coordination with and potentially approvals from outside agencies, organizations, and/or the private party. Include whether you have received a letter of support for the project/program from the property owner. Upload any letters of support with your application. City staff will verify third-party permits have been discussed. In your planning discussions, be sure to discuss any necessary insurance or volunteer requirements that may increase budget costs. School Sites If your project/program is intended to operate at a public K-12 school site, your application is due by March 6 at Noon (12:00 p.m.). City staff will work with the school districts to confirm an endorsement for your project/program. It's the applicant's responsibility to communicate with school site and district representatives before applying so there is clarity during the endorsement process. Districts will only consider endorsement for applications submitted to the Community Enhancement & Investment Fund by the March 6 at Noon (12:00 p.m.). deadline. Each participating school superintendent reserves the right to withhold their endorsement of a project/program. Parks If your project/program is intended to operate at a park or community center site, your application is due by the March 6 at Noon (12:00 p.m.). deadline. City staff will work with the Cordova Recreation & Park District to confirm an endorsement for your project/program. It's the applicant's responsibility to communicate with district representatives before applying so there is clarity during the endorsement process. A special use permit application is required for any program or event planned at a CRPD facility. The special use application can be found at the CRPD website: https://www.cordovarpd.gov/. CRPD will only consider endorsement for applications submitted to the Community Enhancement & Investment Fund by the March 6 at Noon (12:00 p.m.). deadline. The Cordova Recreation & Park District reserves the right to withhold their endorsement of a project/program. Below is the list of staff to communicate with at school and park organizations: Folsom Cordova Unified School District: mwest@fcusd.org Cordova Recreation & Park District: cmichelotti@cordovarpd.gov Elk Grove Unified School District: mgulden@egusd.net Sacramento City Unified School District: Tuan-Duong@scusd.edu for Winn and Carver and Enrique-Flores@scusd.edu for Lincoln.
Primary street address of project/program	3480 Routier Rd
List the city location of the project/program.	Sacramento
Select State	CA
Provide the zip code for your project/program's primary location.	95827

If your project/program takes place at multiple locations, please list other or secondary locations.	
Third Party Letters of Support (Note: Combine multiple files in one pdf before uploading)	
Does your project/program involve one of Rancho Cordova's school districts?	No
Does your project/program involve the Cordova Recreation & Park District?	Yes
Is the project/program requesting facility use only or is this a request to partner with the Cordova Recreation & Park District?	Facility Use Only. Visit Cordova Recreation & Park District's website for facility use information.
Please select one or more of the Cordova Recreation & Park District facilities which your project/program will involve:	Neil Orchard Senior Activities Center
Have you already discussed your project/program with staff at the Cordova Recreation & Park District?	Yes

What is the name of your point of contact at the Cordova Recreation & Park District?	Lara Nall
What is the email for your point of contact at the Cordova Recreation & Park District?	lnall@cordovarpd.gov
	5 - Applicant Information
Name	Julian Brooks
Is this project/program on behalf of an organization?	Yes
What is the name of your organization?	AnchorLine
What is your title and/or role at your organization?	Executive Director
Provide contact phone number:	+ [redacted]
Provide contact email:	[redacted]
Are you the primary point of contact on this project/program?	Yes
If your project/program was awarded the requested funds, are you authorized to sign the contract for your organization?	Yes, I would be the one to sign the contract
By checking here, I confirm that I am aware that my application materials will become public record.	checked

Thank you for applying to the Community Enhancement & Investment Fund Fiscal Year 2026-2027 Grant Cycle. Applicants will receive an automated response through the grant portal. Community Enhancement & Investment Fund (CEIF) Staff will follow up with any questions regarding your Fiscal Year 2026-2027 application. For information about the next steps in the CEIF grant process, visit our website for more information. It is anticipated that applications will be reviewed by the City Council starting in April 2026 with adoption in June 2026. Should applicants be awarded by the City Council, funding would not be available to grantees until the start of Fiscal Year 2026-2027 and the completion of a contract. Please send an email to CEIFGrants@cityofranchocordova.org with any questions or comments.

Internal Form

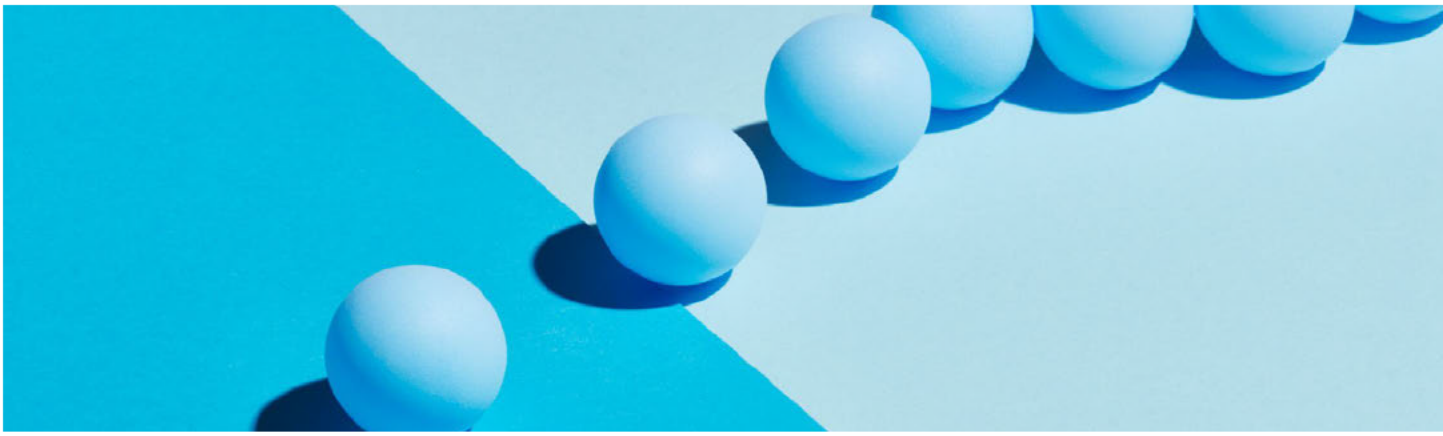
Score	n/a

Project Budget for Community Enhancement & Investment Fund Grant Application

Category	Line Item	Estimated Cost
Personnel	Program Coordinator (Stipend)	$7000
Program Delivery	Large Print Materials + Guides	$1500
	Loaner Devices (5-10 Devices)	$3500
	Venue Setup	$500
	Participant Refreshments (50-100 guests)	$3500
	Transportation (5-10 volunteers)	$1000
Equipment & Tech	Recording Equipment (mic, camera, etc).	$1500
	Website & Scam Database Setup	$1500
	Software Tools (Surveys & Reporting)	$1000
Outreach & Marketing	Flyers	$500
	Social Media Ads	$1500
Misc	Food Provided for Volunteers	$1500
	Ongoing Support	$500

*Costs estimated for full length of program delivery (August 1st, 2026 - February 28, 2027)

Category	Annual Value
Volunteer hours (1,560 hrs x $34.79)	$54,272.40
Donated goods/materials	$1,250.00
Pro bono professional services	$3,000.00
Free/discounted software	$2,250.00
Total	**$60,772.40**



Senior Scam Defense Program

Program Curriculum Outline

AI-based Fraud Prevention Education for Seniors

Program Overview

The Senior Scam Defense Program is a community workshop series designed to help older adults recognize financial scams and use simple AI tools to verify suspicious messages. Through hands-on demonstrations and real-world examples, participants will learn practical strategies to protect their personal information and finances.

The program is delivered as a workshop series hosted at the local community senior center.

Objectives

1. Build awareness of how scams work and why seniors are frequently targeted.
2. Explain how modern technology is used by scammers.
3. Teach seniors how to use AI tools as a verification assistant.
4. Provide clear steps seniors can follow when encountering suspicious requests.
5. Reinforce skills and ensure participants leave with practical resources.

Curriculum Overview

1. Introduction to Modern Scams

- Overview of common scams targeting seniors
- How scammers use urgency and fear
- Real examples of phone, email, and text scams
- Key warning signs of fraud

2. Understanding Digital and AI-Enabled Scams

- Phishing emails and text message scams
- Fake websites and impersonation scams
- AI-generated messages and voice scams
- Social media scams

3. Using AI Tools to Detect Scams

- How AI can analyze suspicious messages
- Asking AI questions about potential scams
- Verifying companies and websites
- Understanding AI limitations

4. Practical Scam Prevention Strategies

- Verifying requests for money
- Safe online behavior
- Protecting passwords and financial accounts
- What to do if you suspect fraud

5. Building Long-Term Scam Awareness

- Reviewing common scam red flags
- Using AI prompts for fraud detection
- Trusted resources for scam reporting
- Sharing knowledge with family and community members

Activities

- Participants review sample messages and identify potential scam indicators.
- Participants examine real examples and discuss red flags.

- Hands-on demonstration where participants practice asking AI whether messages appear suspicious.
- Participants practice a “pause and verify” checklist for evaluating messages.
- Interactive exercise where participants identify red flags in real-world scam scenarios.

Participant Handouts

- AI prompt cheat sheet
- Scam prevention guide
- Resource list for reporting

Evaluation Plan

Senior Scam Defense Program

Goal: Improve seniors' ability to recognize scams and safely evaluate suspicious messages using AI tools.

Evaluation Objectives

The evaluation will measure whether participants:

1. Increase their understanding of common scams targeting seniors
2. Learn how to identify key scam warning signs
3. Gain confidence using AI tools to analyze suspicious messages
4. Improve their ability to verify requests before sending money

Evaluation Methods

1. Pre-workshop survey

   Participants complete a brief questionnaire before the program begins.

   Measures:

   - Baseline knowledge of common scams
   - Confidence using technology
   - Familiarity with AI tools

2. Post-Workshop Survey

   Participants complete the same questionnaire at the end of the program.

   Measures:

   - Increased knowledge of scam warning signs
   - Confidence identifying scams
   - Confidence using AI tools for verification

3. Interactive Exercise Assessment

   During the workshop, participants will analyze sample scam messages and identify red flags.

   Measures:

   - Ability to recognize urgency tactics
   - Ability to identify suspicious payment requests
   - Ability to recognize impersonation attempts

4. Participant Feedback

   Participants will provide feedback on:

   - Clarity of instruction
   - Usefulness of AI tools demonstrated
   - Overall satisfaction with the program

Success Metrics

Program success will be measured using the following indicators:

- Number of participants served
- Increase in scam awareness (measured through pre- and post-surveys)
- Improvement in ability to identify scam messages
- Participant confidence using AI tools

Expected Outcomes

By the end of the program:

- Participants will be able to identify common scam warning signs.
- Participants will understand how to verify suspicious messages using AI tools.
- Participants will gain greater confidence navigating digital communication safely.

The evaluation results will help improve future workshops and demonstrate the program’s impact on financial safety and digital literacy for seniors.

Leadership Team & Instructor Background

Senior Scam Defense Program

Anchorline Foundation Leadership and Curriculum Development Team

Executive Director & Lead Instructor: Julian Brooks

The Executive Director of Anchorline Foundation, Julian Brooks, serves as the lead instructor for the Senior Scam Defense Program. Julian has a professional background in insurance and financial services, with extensive experience working directly with seniors to help them understand financial protection, insurance coverage, and strategies to safeguard their assets.

Throughout his career, Julian worked closely with older adults and retirees, providing education on topics such as financial protection, risk awareness, and safeguarding personal finances. A core part of this work involved educating clients on how to avoid financial risks and make informed decisions, often through one-on-one consultations and educational conversations.

This experience created a deep understanding of the challenges seniors face when navigating financial decisions and increasingly complex digital environments. Julian frequently helped clients recognize warning signs of financial exploitation and scams.

The Executive Director is no longer active in the insurance or financial services industry, ensuring that the educational programming provided through the nonprofit is free from any commercial or financial conflicts of interest. The focus of the organization is solely on public education, scam prevention, and community protection for seniors.

As Executive Director, Julian oversees:

- Program development and instruction
- Community outreach and partnerships
- Workshop facilitation and participant education
- Organizational leadership and program implementation

Treasurer – Senior Advocacy and Community Education: Kim Eiland

The nonprofit’s Treasurer brings more than two decades of experience working in the insurance industry, with a focus on helping seniors understand financial protection options and risk management.

Throughout her career, the Treasurer worked extensively with older adults and retirees, helping them navigate financial planning decisions and understand insurance protections designed to safeguard their long-term security.

After retiring from the industry, she continued to remain passionate about protecting seniors from financial exploitation and scams. In her personal time, she has often helped friends, neighbors, and community members identify suspicious messages and avoid fraud attempts.

Her passion for protecting seniors from financial harm ultimately led her to help found Anchorline Foundation, the nonprofit organization behind the Senior Scam Defense Program. She now serves as Treasurer and plays an active role in program planning and community education efforts.

Her responsibilities include:

- Financial oversight for the nonprofit
- Budget management for educational programs
- Program planning and support
- Community outreach and participant engagement

Secretary – Curriculum Development: Khaesha Brooks

The nonprofit's Secretary, Khaesha, contributes to the development of the program curriculum and educational materials.

The Secretary has a professional background in engineering and currently works in an engineering role where emerging technologies, automation, and artificial intelligence are becoming increasingly integrated into daily workflows. Her employer, Siemens, has implemented initiatives requiring employees to incorporate automation and AI tools into engineering processes, providing hands-on exposure and structured training on how AI systems can assist with analysis, productivity, and decision-making.

This experience provides valuable insight into:

- How AI tools function in practical environments
- Responsible and effective ways to use AI technology
- How to explain complex technology in clear, understandable ways

The Secretary supports the nonprofit by helping design curriculum elements that teach seniors simple and safe ways to use AI tools to analyze suspicious messages and verify information online.

Organizational Mission

Together, the leadership team combines experience in financial protection, engineering and technology, and community education to create practical, accessible programs that help seniors protect themselves from financial scams.

The Senior Scam Defense Program reflects the organization’s mission to:

- Improve scam awareness among older adults
- Provide practical digital safety education
- Teach simple ways to use AI tools responsibly
- Help seniors maintain financial independence and security

The team’s combined experience working with seniors and technology ensures the program is both practical and accessible for the community it serves.

Senior Scam Defense Program

- Using AI to Help Seniors Avoid Fraud and Protect Their Money
- Community Workshop

Why This Program Matters

- • Scams targeting seniors are increasing
- • Fraud can cause major financial losses
- • Many scams now use email, text, and social media
- • Education is the best prevention

How AI Can Help

- • Analyze suspicious emails or text messages
- • Identify scam warning signs
- • Help verify companies and websites
- • Suggest safe next steps

Common Scams Targeting Seniors

- • Impersonation scams (bank, IRS, Social Security)
- • Tech support scams
- • Phishing emails and text messages
- • Investment scams
- • Romance scams
- • Grandparent emergency scams

Real Scam Example #1

- Utility Shutoff Scam

- Caller claims to be from the power company and says your electricity will be shut off today unless you pay immediately.

Real Scam Example #2

- Bank Fraud Text Message

- Text says: 'Suspicious activity on your account. Click this link to verify your information immediately.'

Red Flags of a Scam

- • Urgent requests for money
- • Requests for gift cards or cryptocurrency
- • Messages asking for passwords or banking details
- • Unexpected calls claiming emergencies
- • Pressure to act immediately

Interactive Exercise

- Is This a Scam?

- Message:
- 'Grandma, I’m in trouble and need $1,000 immediately. Please send gift cards and don’t tell mom or dad.'

How to Protect Yourself

- • Pause before acting
- • Verify requests independently
- • Never send money to unknown individuals
- • Do not click suspicious links
- • Ask someone you trust

AI Safety Prompt Cheat Sheet

- Ask AI:
- • 'Does this message look like a scam?'
- • 'What red flags are in this email?'
- • 'How can I verify this company?'
- • 'What should I do if I receive this message?'

Community Impact

- • Greater scam awareness
- • Increased digital confidence
- • Reduced financial losses
- • Stronger community safety

Thank You

- Senior Scam Defense Program
- Helping seniors stay safe in the digital world

Title

Prepared Communities Rancho Cordova (PCRC) Initiative-While the program is open and accessible to all Rancho Cordova residents, it will place special emphasis on reaching refugee and immigrant communities that may face language or cultural barriers to accessing preparedness information.

03/13/2026

id. 53476714

by **Yuliya Kyrylyuk** in **Fiscal Year 2026-2027 Community Enhancement & Investment Fund Grant Application**

[redacted]
Rancho Cordova, California
95670
United States
[redacted]

Original Submission

03/13/2026

Score n/a

	Thank you for your interest in applying to the City of Rancho Cordova's Community Enhancement & Investment Fund. Applications are open from February 9, 2026, to March 13, 2026, Noon (12:00 p.m.) with a specific deadline of March 6th Noon (12:00 p.m.) for certain applications**. Before you begin, please read the notes about deadlines and certain types of grant applications/grants below. **School/Park Application Deadline **Note that projects or programs involving a park or school district have a deadline of March 6 Noon (12:00 p.m.) to allow for the third-party endorsement process by the grant deadline.** A Note about Religious Schools and the Application/Grant Process **Note for grant applications from religious schools. The United States Supreme Court has recently ruled in part that: “denying a generally available benefit [from government] solely on account of religious identity imposes a penalty on the free exercise of religion that can be justified only by a state interest of the highest order.” The City is of the opinion that not all grants to religious schools are prohibited under this and other similar rulings. However, these United States Supreme Court decisions remain in conflict with a section of the California State Constitution that says: “[n]either the Legislature, nor any county, city and county, township, school district, or other municipal corporation, shall ever make an appropriation, or pay from any public fund whatever, or grant anything to or in aid of any religious sect, church, creed, or sectarian purpose, or help to support or sustain any school, college, university, hospital, or other institution controlled by any religious creed, church, or sectarian denomination whatever; nor shall any grant or donation of personal property or real estate ever be made by the state, or any city, city and county, town, or other municipal corporation for any religious creed, church, or sectarian purpose whatever”. The City will accept applications for grants of these City public funds from religious schools, but will have language in the grant agreements to address the possibility and consequences of legal challenges and new court decisions on this and related topics. ** Future Grant Opportunities If you are interested in remaining up-to-date on available grants from the City of Rancho Cordova, click here to sign up for the Grants Interest List. A separate call for programming opportunities with the Rancho Cordova Youth Center is anticipated later in 2026. The list is also used to advertise separate art programs when funds are available. Ongoing Grant Opportunity The City of Rancho Cordova offers a microgrant opportunity. Learn more about those grants online.
Is this your first time applying for grant funding from the City of Rancho Cordova? As a first-time applicant, Community Enhancement & Investment Fund (CEIF) staff will contact you to discuss your project and grant application process.	Yes: First Time Applicant

	1 - Project/Program Information Note: You can add a collaborator to this form to assist you in completing this application! A collaborator can help you complete this form by filling in fields for you, although only you can submit this form. You can add a collaborator by navigating to the top of the form and clicking on the 'Manage Collaborators' button. Simply enter their email address and click 'invite' to invite them as a collaborator. If you need further assistance, you may consult this Help article for more information.
Project/Program Name. Assign a project name to your project/program.	Prepared Communities Rancho Cordova (PCRC) Initiative-While the program is open and accessible to all Rancho Cordova residents, it will place special emphasis on reaching refugee and immigrant communities that may face language or cultural barriers to accessing preparedness information.
Which category does your Project/Program align with?	Community Assistance Programs
Provide a Project/Program Synopsis	The **PCRC Initiative** will provide emergency preparedness education, community outreach events, and safety resources that are **open to all residents of RC**. The program will be implemented in partnership with the Red Cross to help residents learn how to prepare for emergencies, protect their families, and access important safety information.
Provide a Project/Program Description	*The **Prepared Communities Rancho Cordova Initiative** is an established community safety and emergency preparedness program designed to increase disaster readiness, public safety awareness, and community resilience among Rancho Cordova residents. The program provides culturally responsive emergency preparedness education, community outreach, and safety resources, with a special focus on refugee, immigrant, and linguistically diverse communities that may face barriers to accessing emergency information and preparedness services.* *The initiative currently partners with the American Red Cross and community volunteers to provide preparedness education that helps residents understand how to prepare for emergencies, create family disaster plans, and access local safety resources. Through workshops and community outreach activities, the program has already begun building awareness around disaster readiness and strengthening connections between residents and trusted preparedness organizations.* *Support from the Community Enhancement & Investment Fund will allow the Prepared Communities Rancho Cordova Initiative to expand its existing work and reach more residents across the city. The expanded program will focus on increasing access to preparedness education, strengthening community leadership, and providing essential preparedness resources to households that may otherwise lack them.* *A key component of the program is the delivery of **multilingual emergency preparedness workshops** held throughout Rancho Cordova neighborhoods. These workshops provide practical information about disaster readiness, including wildfire preparedness, extreme heat safety, earthquake awareness, and family emergency planning. Participants will learn how to create emergency communication plans, prepare emergency*

supply kits, and understand how to receive local emergency alerts. Workshops will include interactive demonstrations and culturally relevant learning approaches to ensure residents can apply the information in real-life situations.

*To strengthen community engagement, the initiative will expand its **Community Preparedness Ambassador program**. This program trains volunteers from refugee and immigrant communities to serve as trusted outreach leaders who help deliver preparedness education and share information within their communities. Ambassadors are individuals with lived experience who can communicate in multiple languages and understand cultural perspectives related to emergency preparedness. By empowering local residents to serve as preparedness leaders, the program builds trust and ensures that safety information reaches individuals who may otherwise face barriers to participation.*

*The initiative will also organize **Neighborhood Preparedness Pop-Up Events** that bring emergency preparedness education directly into community spaces such as apartment complexes, cultural centers, and neighborhood gatherings. These events will include hands-on demonstrations of emergency preparedness kits, family-friendly safety activities, and informational materials that residents can take home. By meeting residents where they already gather, the program increases accessibility and encourages greater participation in preparedness efforts.*

*In addition to education and outreach, the program will distribute **Preparedness Starter Kits** to participating households. These kits will include basic emergency supplies such as flashlights, emergency blankets, first aid items, and easy-to-follow preparedness guides. Providing these resources helps ensure that families can immediately take action to improve their safety and preparedness at home.*

*The Prepared Communities Rancho Cordova Initiative directly supports several priorities outlined in the City's Community Enhancement & Investment Fund guidelines. The program promotes **public safety** by increasing residents' ability to prepare for and respond to emergencies. It strengthens **civic engagement** by empowering community members to become preparedness ambassadors and actively participate in community safety efforts. The program also enhances **education and quality of life** by providing accessible safety information and resources that help families feel more secure and connected within their community.*

During the grant period, the program expects to reach hundreds of Rancho Cordova residents through workshops, outreach events, and preparedness activities. By expanding an existing and trusted program, this initiative will help ensure that residents across Rancho Cordova—regardless of language, background, or access to resources—have the knowledge and tools needed to prepare for emergencies and support one another during times of crisis.

Ultimately, the Prepared Communities Rancho Cordova Initiative will help build a stronger, safer, and more resilient community by empowering residents with the skills, resources, and connections needed to protect

themselves and their neighbors when emergencies occur.

Tell us about your Project/Program Team	The Prepared Communities Rancho Cordova Initiative is supported by a dedicated team of staff and youth volunteers with experience in community outreach, nonprofit programs, and youth-led initiatives. The team brings strong leadership skills and a shared commitment to strengthening community safety and resilience. Many volunteers have lived experience as members of refugee and underserved communities, allowing the program to provide culturally responsive outreach and build trust with residents. Team members will coordinate workshops, support community preparedness ambassadors, and assist with outreach activities to ensure residents receive accessible emergency preparedness education and resources.
Provide your Project/Program Goals	The goal of the **Prepared Communities Rancho Cordova Initiative** is to increase emergency preparedness, strengthen community resilience, and expand access to culturally responsive safety education for residents of Rancho Cordova. The program focuses particularly on refugee, immigrant, and linguistically diverse communities that may face barriers to accessing emergency preparedness information due to language, cultural differences, or unfamiliarity with local emergency systems. Through partnerships with organizations such as the American Red Cross and community volunteers, the initiative will expand its existing preparedness education efforts while increasing civic engagement and strengthening neighborhood-level preparedness across the city. ***Goal 1: Increase Community Awareness of Emergency Preparedness*** The program will expand access to emergency preparedness education so residents understand how to prepare for disasters, protect their families, and respond safely during emergencies. **Metrics:** • Host **10–12 multilingual emergency preparedness workshops** in Rancho Cordova neighborhoods • Provide preparedness education to **at least 250–300 residents** during the grant period • Distribute **multilingual preparedness materials** to workshop participants and community members Workshops will cover topics such as wildfire preparedness, extreme heat safety, earthquake awareness, emergency communication planning, and how to receive local emergency alerts. **Evaluation Methods:** • Workshop attendance records and participant sign-in sheets • Pre- and post-workshop surveys to measure knowledge gained • Participant feedback on preparedness confidence and understanding ***Goal 2: Strengthen Community Leadership and Civic Engagement***

*The initiative will expand the **Community Preparedness Ambassador program**, which empowers local residents to serve as trusted outreach leaders who share preparedness information within their communities.*

These ambassadors will help increase participation among residents who may not traditionally engage in preparedness programs.

Metrics:

- *Recruit and train **8–12 Community Preparedness Ambassadors***
- *Conduct outreach in **at least 5 neighborhoods or community locations***
- *Support ambassadors in facilitating **community discussions or outreach activities** related to emergency preparedness*

Evaluation Methods:

- *Volunteer participation and training records*
- *Outreach activity reports from ambassadors*
- *Tracking of community interactions and residents reached through ambassador-led activities*

Goal 3: Increase Household Preparedness and Access to Safety Resources

The initiative will provide residents with practical tools and resources that help families take immediate steps to improve their emergency preparedness at home.

Metrics:

- *Distribute **120–150 Preparedness Starter Kits** to participating households*
- *Host **4–6 Neighborhood Preparedness Pop-Up Events** in community gathering spaces such as apartment complexes or cultural centers*

Preparedness starter kits will include basic emergency supplies and simple preparedness guides to help families build their own emergency kits and develop family emergency plans.

Evaluation Methods:

- *Distribution records for preparedness kits*
- *Event attendance tracking*
- *Follow-up participant surveys to assess whether households implemented preparedness steps after receiving training and resources*

Project Focus and Accountability

To ensure the project team remains focused on achieving these goals, the program will maintain consistent coordination among staff, volunteers, and partners. The project team will conduct regular planning meetings,

track program participation, and document outreach activities throughout the grant period.

By monitoring workshop participation, ambassador engagement, and supply distribution, the program will measure progress and ensure that grant resources are used effectively. This structured approach will allow the Prepared Communities Rancho Cordova Initiative to expand its impact while strengthening public safety, civic engagement, and community resilience for Rancho Cordova residents.

Optional File Upload: Provide any additional records to supplement your program/project application. Note: Combine multiple files in one pdf before uploading.

Family_Relief_Project_overview.pdf

	2 - Funding & Costs
Funding Request - Complete this section with total dollar amounts for your project/program's costs	Funds are generally not intended to be used for deferred maintenance and ongoing operational needs. The funds are intended for enhancing and investing in the City of Rancho Cordova. If your project/program is awarded, the costs identified below would be reviewed and potentially open to modification during a contracting phase (if a grant is awarded by the City Council). If awarded, grant funds are not available until a contract is executed during Fiscal Year 2026-2027.
Total project/program cost*	35000
What is the amount of Community Enhancement & Investment Fund grant monies requested?	25000
Does your project/program involve construction of any facilities or improvements upon any property?	No
What is the total cost of personnel for your project/program?	8000
What is the total cost of supplies for your project/program?	10000
What is the total cost of transportation for your project/program?	1500

What is the total cost of equipment for your project/program?	2000
What is the total cost of any miscellaneous expenses for your project/program?	3500

Upload your project/program's budget as a .pdf file. Include the categories and their dollar amounts along with information about any other funding sources to demonstrate your project/program's total budget. Note, the sum of all categories must match the total project or program cost, or the amount requested of CEIF if there is no other funding source. Please clearly illustrate any matching funds or funding from other sources in your project/program budget, including in-kind sources. Note: Combine multiple files in one pdf before uploading.

prepared_communities_budget.xlsx_-_Budget.pdf

Has your organization sought or will seek other funding for this project/program?	Yes, actively seeking funding support or have secured additional funding support for this project/program.
Describe any funding secured or being sought for this project/program.	Yes, our organization actively seeks additional funding and in-kind support to sustain and expand the Prepared Communities Rancho Cordova Initiative. In addition to this request, we continue to pursue funding opportunities through community grants, foundations, and partnerships with local organizations that support emergency preparedness and community resilience. We also leverage in-kind contributions, including volunteer time, community outreach support, donated supplies, and partnerships with organizations such as the American Red Cross. These contributions help expand the reach of the program and allow us to provide preparedness education and safety resources to more Rancho Cordova residents. Our organization remains committed to identifying additional funding sources to sustain and grow this initiative beyond the grant period while ensuring that emergency preparedness education remains accessible to the community.

Please describe any ongoing operations and maintenance costs beyond Fiscal Year 2026/2027, if applicable.	The Prepared Communities Rancho Cordova Initiative does not require significant ongoing operations or maintenance costs beyond Fiscal Year 2026/2027. The program primarily focuses on community education, outreach, and volunteer engagement rather than long-term infrastructure or capital investments. After the grant period, the program will continue through partnerships, volunteer support, and future funding opportunities. Community Preparedness Ambassadors and volunteers will continue sharing preparedness information within their communities, and educational materials developed during the grant period can be reused for future workshops and outreach activities. The organization will also continue seeking additional grants, partnerships, and in-kind support from community organizations and partners such as the American Red Cross to sustain and expand preparedness education efforts for Rancho Cordova residents.
Do you have volunteer or in-kind support for your project? This could include volunteers for an activity/event that is ongoing or a one-time experience.	Yes
Please share the total dollar amount for volunteer/in-kind support using $34.79 as the national rate for a volunteer hour. Source: Value of Volunteer Time	7000

Please provide a worksheet explaining your volunteer/in-kind contribution. You may upload a file in the following formats: CSV, DOC, DOCX, or PDF.

volunteer_in_kind_worksheet.pdf

Is this a single year request or a request for funding for multiple years?	Single Year
Has your project/program received funding from the Community Enhancement & Investment Fund previously?	No

3 - Project/Program Details Grant applications are typically approved to occur between July 2026 through June 2027. What is your plan to complete this project/program within this time frame?	
Anticipated Start Date (July 1 is the soonest available start date)	7/1/2026
Anticipated End Date (typically projects/programs end by June 30)	6/30/2027
Please describe your project/program schedule	The **Prepared Communities Rancho Cordova Initiative** will operate from **July 1, 2026 through June 30, 2027** and will expand emergency preparedness education, community leadership, and access to safety resources for Rancho Cordova residents. Activities will be implemented in phases to ensure the program meets its goals of increasing preparedness awareness, strengthening community leadership, and improving household readiness. **July – August 2026 (Program Launch and Planning)** The project will begin on **July 1, 2026** with program planning and coordination. During this phase, the project team will finalize workshop schedules, outreach locations, and community partnerships. Multilingual preparedness materials and starter kit supplies will be prepared. Recruitment for the **Community Preparedness Ambassador program** will begin, focusing on identifying volunteers who represent diverse communities across Rancho Cordova. Planning meetings with partners such as the American Red Cross will help coordinate preparedness training resources and outreach strategies. **September – October 2026 (Ambassador Training and Initial Workshops)** During this phase, the program will **recruit and train 8–12 Community Preparedness Ambassadors** who will help lead outreach activities and support preparedness education in their communities. Training will focus on emergency preparedness topics, community engagement strategies, and sharing local emergency resource information. The first **2–3 multilingual preparedness workshops** will be launched to begin reaching residents with disaster preparedness education. **November 2026 – February 2027 (Expanded Community Workshops and Outreach)** The program will conduct the majority of its outreach and educational activities during this period. Approximately **5–6 additional preparedness workshops** will be hosted across Rancho Cordova neighborhoods, focusing on topics such as wildfire preparedness, extreme heat safety, earthquake awareness, emergency communication planning, and accessing local emergency alerts. Community Preparedness Ambassadors will assist with outreach and help facilitate discussions with residents. During this phase, the program will also begin hosting **Neighborhood**

Preparedness Pop-Up Events at community gathering spaces such as apartment complexes, cultural centers, and community events. Preparedness Starter Kits will begin to be distributed to participating households.

March – April 2027 (Continued Outreach and Community Engagement)
Additional workshops and **2–3 pop-up preparedness events** will be held to reach additional residents and neighborhoods. Ambassadors will continue outreach activities in at least **five neighborhoods or community locations**, helping to expand the reach of preparedness education and connect residents with safety resources. Preparedness starter kits will continue to be distributed, supporting the goal of providing **120–150 households** with essential preparedness supplies.

May – June 2027 (Program Evaluation and Completion)
During the final months of the program, the project team will complete remaining outreach activities and focus on program evaluation and documentation. Workshop attendance records, ambassador outreach reports, and preparedness kit distribution data will be reviewed to measure program outcomes. Participant surveys will also be collected to evaluate knowledge gained and assess improvements in household preparedness.

The program will conclude on **June 30, 2027**, with final reporting and documentation of outcomes, including the total number of residents served, workshops delivered, and preparedness resources distributed. These results will help guide future community preparedness efforts and support ongoing resilience-building in Rancho Cordova.

What challenges do you anticipate in your project/program's implementation? What is your plan to complete your project/program should those or other challenges arise?	As with any community-based program, the Prepared Communities Rancho Cordova Initiative may encounter several challenges during implementation. One potential challenge is **reaching residents who face language or cultural barriers that may limit participation in preparedness programs**. To address this challenge, the initiative works with multilingual volunteers and Community Preparedness Ambassadors who have lived experience within refugee and immigrant communities. These ambassadors help ensure information is delivered in culturally relevant and accessible ways. Another potential challenge is **scheduling conflicts or limited availability for community members to attend workshops**. To mitigate this, the program will offer workshops at different times and locations and will provide outreach through neighborhood pop-up events that allow residents to participate in shorter, informal preparedness activities. A third potential challenge is **logistical coordination for community events and volunteer participation**. The program will address this by maintaining a clear planning schedule, coordinating closely with community partners, and providing volunteers with training and ongoing support. By planning ahead, maintaining strong community partnerships, and using flexible outreach strategies, the project team is confident it can successfully deliver the program and meet its goals during the grant period.
How many individuals does your project/program serve?	The Prepared Communities Rancho Cordova Initiative is expected to serve approximately 300 residents through a combination of multilingual emergency preparedness workshops, neighborhood outreach activities, and community preparedness pop-up events during the grant period. Through 10–12 workshops, ambassador-led outreach in multiple neighborhoods, and 4–6 preparedness pop-up events, the program will provide residents with practical knowledge and resources to help families prepare for emergencies and improve household preparedness across Rancho Cordova
How many Rancho Cordova residents does your project/program serve?	The program will primarily focus on serving residents within Rancho Cordova and is expected to serve approximately 250 Rancho Cordova residents through workshops, outreach events, and preparedness resource distribution.This effort supports public safety and enhances the overall quality of life for Rancho Cordova residents by ensuring more households are informed, prepared, and able to respond during emergencies.
	4 - Project/Program Location
Address Verification	If you need to check if your project is in Rancho Cordova, type in your program/project's location in the Assessor Parcel Viewer: https://assessorparcelviewer.saccounty.gov/jsviewer/assessor.html

School and park related applications are due before Noon (12:00 p.m.) on March 6, 2026, to allow for the endorsement process.	Please note that projects or programs that are proposed on property owned or operated by outside agencies or a private party will require coordination with and potentially approvals from outside agencies, organizations, and/or the private party. Include whether you have received a letter of support for the project/program from the property owner. Upload any letters of support with your application. City staff will verify third-party permits have been discussed. In your planning discussions, be sure to discuss any necessary insurance or volunteer requirements that may increase budget costs. School Sites If your project/program is intended to operate at a public K-12 school site, your application is due by March 6 at Noon (12:00 p.m.). City staff will work with the school districts to confirm an endorsement for your project/program. It's the applicant's responsibility to communicate with school site and district representatives before applying so there is clarity during the endorsement process. Districts will only consider endorsement for applications submitted to the Community Enhancement & Investment Fund by the March 6 at Noon (12:00 p.m.). deadline. Each participating school superintendent reserves the right to withhold their endorsement of a project/program. Parks If your project/program is intended to operate at a park or community center site, your application is due by the March 6 at Noon (12:00 p.m.). deadline. City staff will work with the Cordova Recreation & Park District to confirm an endorsement for your project/program. It's the applicant's responsibility to communicate with district representatives before applying so there is clarity during the endorsement process. A special use permit application is required for any program or event planned at a CRPD facility. The special use application can be found at the CRPD website: https://www.cordovarpd.gov/. CRPD will only consider endorsement for applications submitted to the Community Enhancement & Investment Fund by the March 6 at Noon (12:00 p.m.). deadline. The Cordova Recreation & Park District reserves the right to withhold their endorsement of a project/program. Below is the list of staff to communicate with at school and park organizations: Folsom Cordova Unified School District: mwest@fcusd.org Cordova Recreation & Park District: cmichelotti@cordovarpd.gov Elk Grove Unified School District: mgulden@egusd.net Sacramento City Unified School District: Tuan-Duong@scusd.edu for Winn and Carver and Enrique-Flores@scusd.edu for Lincoln.
Primary street address of project/program	[redacted]
List the city location of the project/program.	Rancho Cordova
Select State	CA
Provide the zip code for your project/program's primary location.	95670

If your project/program takes place at multiple locations, please list other or secondary locations.	Additional program support locations include: • 5948 Pecan Avenue, Orangevale, CA 95662 • 3843 Thornwood Dr., Sacramento, CA 95821 • 11064 Fair Oaks Blvd, Fair Oaks, CA 95628 These locations support organizational operations, planning, and community partnerships. However, **the Prepared Communities Rancho Cordova Initiative will primarily serve Rancho Cordova residents, and workshops, outreach events, and preparedness activities funded through this grant will be conducted within Rancho Cordova neighborhoods and community locations whenever possible.**

Third Party Letters of Support (Note: Combine multiple files in one pdf before uploading)

Letter_of_Recommendations.pptx.pdf

Does your project/program involve one of Rancho Cordova's school districts?	No
Does your project/program involve the Cordova Recreation & Park District?	No
	5 - Applicant Information
Name	Yuliya Kyrylyuk
Is this project/program on behalf of an organization?	Yes
What is the name of your organization?	Family Relief Project
What is your title and/or role at your organization?	CEO
Provide contact phone number:	+[redacted]
Provide contact email:	[redacted]
Are you the primary point of contact on this project/program?	Yes

If your project/program was awarded the requested funds, are you authorized to sign the contract for your organization?	Yes, I would be the one to sign the contract
By checking here, I confirm that I am aware that my application materials will become public record.	checked
	Thank you for applying to the Community Enhancement & Investment Fund Fiscal Year 2026-2027 Grant Cycle. Applicants will receive an automated response through the grant portal. Community Enhancement & Investment Fund (CEIF) Staff will follow up with any questions regarding your Fiscal Year 2026-2027 application. For information about the next steps in the CEIF grant process, visit our website for more information. It is anticipated that applications will be reviewed by the City Council starting in April 2026 with adoption in June 2026. Should applicants be awarded by the City Council, funding would not be available to grantees until the start of Fiscal Year 2026-2027 and the completion of a contract. Please send an email to CEIFGrants@cityofranchocordova.org with any questions or comments.

Internal Form

Score	n/a

Prepared Communities Rancho Cordova Initiative Budget (July 1, 2026 – June 30, 2027)				
Budget Category	**CEIF Grant Request ($)**	**Matching Funds / Other Sources ($)**	**Source of Match or In-Kind Support**	**Total Project Cost ($)**
Personnel (Program Coordination & Outreach)	$8,000.00	$5,000.00	Organization staff time and volunteer leadership support	$13,000.00
Supplies (Preparedness Kits, Workshop Materials, Printed Guides)	$10,000.00	$3,000.00	Donated preparedness materials and community supply contributions	$13,000.00
Transportation (Mileage, travel to outreach sites)	$1,500.00	$500.00	Volunteer mileage and partner transportation support	$2,000.00
Equipment (tables, outreach display materials, demonstration kits)	$2,000.00	$500.00	Existing organizational equipment and partner loaned equipment	$2,500.00
Miscellaneous (translation, interpretation, insurance, event costs)	$3,500.00	$1,000.00	In-kind interpretation support and community partner event space	$4,500.00
TOTAL	**$25,000.00**	**$10,000.00**		**$35,000.00**

Prepared Communities Rancho Cordova Initiative

Volunteer / In-Kind Contribution Worksheet

Grant Period: July 1, 2026 – June 30, 2027

Volunteer and in-kind contributions support outreach, workshop facilitation, translation assistance, and community engagement activities. The estimated volunteer rate of $34.79 per hour reflects the value of skilled volunteer time contributing to preparedness education and outreach.

Volunteer Activity	Estimated Hours	Hourly Rate	Total Value
Community Preparedness Ambassador outreach	80	$34.79	$2,783
Workshop support and event volunteers	60	$34.79	$2,087
Translation and multilingual community outreach	30	$34.79	$1,044
Preparedness kit assembly and distribution	31	$34.79	$1,086
Total Volunteer Contribution	201 hours	$34.79	$7,000

Recommendations from our partners

MISI Community Solutions

03.11.2026

City of Rancho Cordova Community Enhancement & Investment Fund Grant Program
To Whom It May Concern,

On behalf of MISI Community Solutions, we are pleased to provide this letter of support for Family Relief Project and their application to the City of Rancho Cordova Community Enhancement & Investment Fund.

MISI Community Solutions is a California-based organization providing Enhanced Care Management, housing navigation, and community health services for vulnerable populations, including those experiencing homelessness.

Family Relief Project has shown a strong commitment to supporting families and fostering positive community engagement. Their programs help connect residents with valuable information, promote preparedness and education, and create meaningful opportunities for youth and families to participate in activities that enhance community safety and resilience. Efforts such as those proposed by Family Relief Project play an important role in building stronger communities and ensuring families have access to the support and resources they need. We commend their dedication to community service and their ongoing efforts to create positive opportunities for local residents.

We are happy to express our support for their grant application and look forward to the continued impact of their work within the Rancho Cordova and greater Sacramento community.
Sincerely,

Milana Archakova
Roseville Office Manager
[redacted]

Recommendations from our partners

American Red Cross

Sierra Delta Chapter
1565 Exposition Blvd.
Sacramento, CA 95815

Wednesday, March 11, 2026

City of Rancho Cordova
Community Enhancement & Investment Fund Grant Program

To Whom It May Concern,

The American Red Cross is pleased to provide this letter of support for the Family Relief Project and their application to the City of Rancho Cordova Community Enhancement and Investment Fund.

Family Relief Project has been a valued partner in our community, and we have had the opportunity to collaborate on several events that promote preparedness, education, and community engagement. Through these initiatives, the Family Relief Project has shown a strong commitment to serving families and enhancing community resilience.

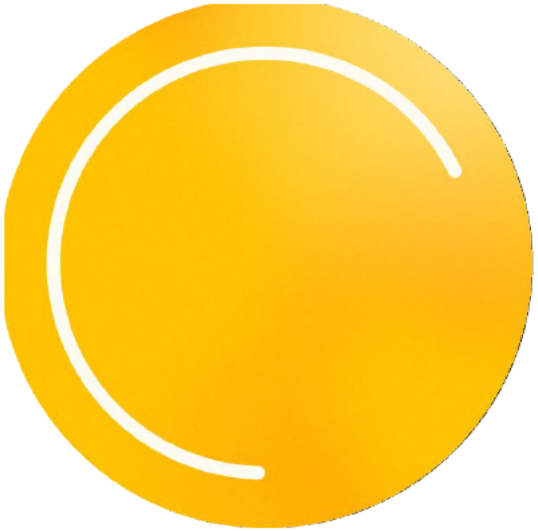
The proposed project aims to create more opportunities for community members, particularly youth and families, to participate in programs that foster preparedness, leadership, and overall community well-being. Initiatives like these play a crucial role in helping communities become better informed and prepared.

We appreciate the dedication of the Family Relief Project to supporting the Rancho Cordova community, and we look forward to continuing our collaboration on efforts that promote safety, disaster preparedness, and community engagement.

Sincerely,

Francis Huezo

Francis Huezo, Community Disaster Program Manager
American Red Cross| **CA Gold Country Region**
[redacted]
www.redcross.org/GoldCountry



FAMILY RELIEF PROJECT

FamilyReliefProject.com

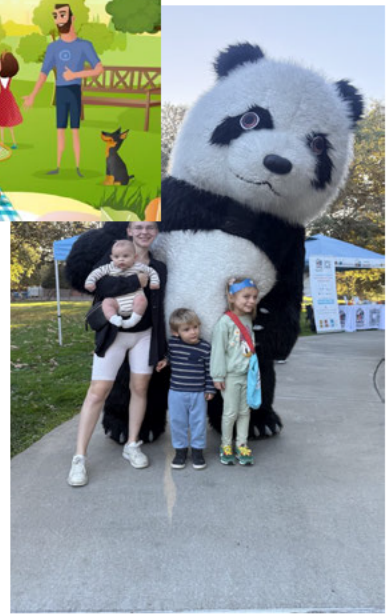
WE SERVE TO EMPOWER FAMILIES TOWARDS THE BEST POSSIBLE FUTURE

The Family Relief Project is a nonprofit organization established in 2022, dedicated to help families overcome challenges and improve their lives.

WHAT WE DO

- Counseling
- Support
- Education
- Recovery Programs
- Emergency Relief for Families

Hosted free community events, including the **Seeds of Strength Family Resource Fair**, made possible through funding from the City of Rancho Cordova Community Micro Grant program.



Educational workshops for youth

Stress Management Workshops

Marijuana Prevention Youth Project through PRO Youth & Families grant

Effective Communication Workshops

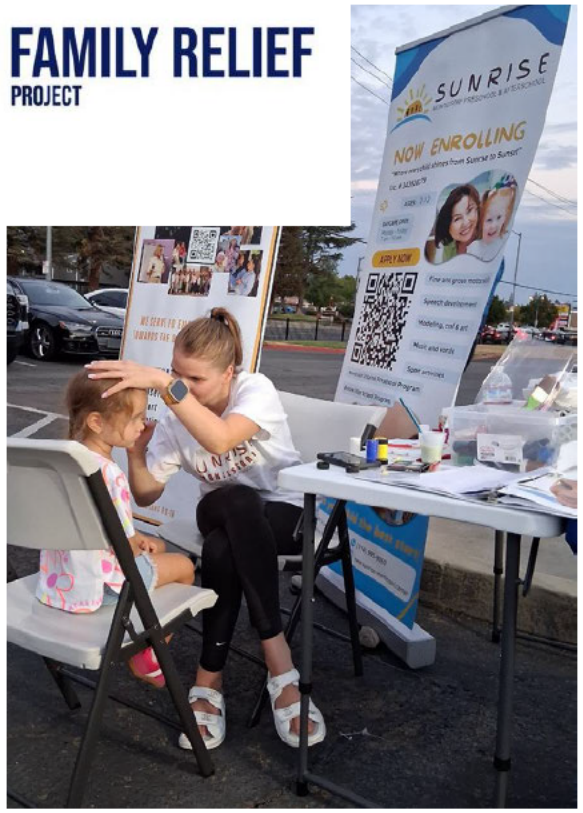
Weekly based workshops for families

Collaborating with partners

Prepare with Pedro!

American Red Cross

FAMILY RELIEF PROJECT



FAMILY RELIEF PROJECT

LS

PARASOLKA

SLAV YOUTH

AQUA STAR California

U DREAM SHOW

BBQ KEBAB SIZZLE

MISI Community Solutions

CRNR

Dignity Memorial

Erica's Cakes

SUNRISE MONTESSORI

UA UKRAINIAN AMERICAN HOUSE

Recommendations from our partners

American Red Cross

Sierra Delta Chapter
1565 Exposition Blvd.
Sacramento, CA 95815

Wednesday, March 11, 2026

City of Rancho Cordova
Community Enhancement & Investment Fund Grant Program

To Whom It May Concern,

The American Red Cross is pleased to provide this letter of support for the Family Relief Project and their application to the City of Rancho Cordova Community Enhancement and Investment Fund.

Family Relief Project has been a valued partner in our community, and we have had the opportunity to collaborate on several events that promote preparedness, education, and community engagement. Through these initiatives, the Family Relief Project has shown a strong commitment to serving families and enhancing community resilience.

The proposed project aims to create more opportunities for community members, particularly youth and families, to participate in programs that foster preparedness, leadership, and overall community well-being. Initiatives like these play a crucial role in helping communities become better informed and prepared.

We appreciate the dedication of the Family Relief Project to supporting the Rancho Cordova community, and we look forward to continuing our collaboration on efforts that promote safety, disaster preparedness, and community engagement.

Sincerely,

Francis Huezo

Francis Huezo, Community Disaster Program Manager
American Red Cross| **CA Gold Country Region**
[redacted]
www.redcross.org/GoldCountry

MISI Community Solutions

03.11.2026

City of Rancho Cordova Community Enhancement & Investment Fund Grant Program
To Whom It May Concern,

On behalf of MISI Community Solutions, we are pleased to provide this letter of support for Family Relief Project and their application to the City of Rancho Cordova Community Enhancement & Investment Fund.

MISI Community Solutions is a California-based organization providing Enhanced Care Management, housing navigation, and community health services for vulnerable populations, including those experiencing homelessness.

Family Relief Project has shown a strong commitment to supporting families and fostering positive community engagement. Their programs help connect residents with valuable information, promote preparedness and education, and create meaningful opportunities for youth and families to participate in activities that enhance community safety and resilience. Efforts such as those proposed by Family Relief Project play an important role in building stronger communities and ensuring families have access to the support and resources they need. We commend their dedication to community service and their ongoing efforts to create positive opportunities for local residents.

We are happy to express our support for their grant application and look forward to the continued impact of their work within the Rancho Cordova and greater Sacramento community.
Sincerely,

Milana Archakova
Roseville Office Manager
[redacted]

Impact Summary

Family Relief Project is dedicated to strengthening communities through education, support services, and humanitarian assistance. Our programs address critical needs including mental health awareness, trauma-informed education, parenting and relationship support, refugee integration, workforce development, and emergency assistance.

To date, we have educated more than **2,700 individuals** on mental health and family well-being and supported over **1,050 women** through trauma-healing and empowerment programs. Our refugee integration initiatives have assisted **2,000+ individuals** in adapting to new cultural environments and accessing essential community resources. In addition, we have provided **food and essential support to more than 14,000 families**, helping stabilize households during times of crisis.

Building on this experience, the **Prepared Communities Initiative** focuses on strengthening disaster readiness and community safety through culturally responsive preparedness education and outreach. The program provides workshops, community events, and practical tools that help families create emergency plans, prepare supply kits, and understand how to respond during disasters. By training community ambassadors and partnering with local organizations, the initiative expands access to life-saving information for diverse and underserved communities.

Together, these efforts help build **stronger, safer, and more resilient communities** where individuals and families have the knowledge, resources, and support needed to thrive.

Thank you!

FamilyReliefProject.com

FAMILY RELIEF PROJECT

Title

"4 Paws 2 Freedom" Service and Facility/Peer Support Canine Programs

03/13/2026

id. 53480996

by **Amy Wolfe** in **Fiscal Year 2026-2027 Community Enhancement & Investment Fund Grant Application**

[redacted]
TRL
Rancho Cordova, California
95670
United States
[redacted]
amy.wolfe1@4paws2freedom.org

Original Submission

03/13/2026

Score n/a

	Thank you for your interest in applying to the City of Rancho Cordova's Community Enhancement & Investment Fund. Applications are open from February 9, 2026, to March 13, 2026, Noon (12:00 p.m.) with a specific deadline of March 6th Noon (12:00 p.m.) for certain applications**. Before you begin, please read the notes about deadlines and certain types of grant applications/grants below. **School/Park Application Deadline **Note that projects or programs involving a park or school district have a deadline of March 6 Noon (12:00 p.m.) to allow for the third-party endorsement process by the grant deadline.** A Note about Religious Schools and the Application/Grant Process **Note for grant applications from religious schools. The United States Supreme Court has recently ruled in part that: “denying a generally available benefit [from government] solely on account of religious identity imposes a penalty on the free exercise of religion that can be justified only by a state interest of the highest order.” The City is of the opinion that not all grants to religious schools are prohibited under this and other similar rulings. However, these United States Supreme Court decisions remain in conflict with a section of the California State Constitution that says: “[n]either the Legislature, nor any county, city and county, township, school district, or other municipal corporation, shall ever make an appropriation, or pay from any public fund whatever, or grant anything to or in aid of any religious sect, church, creed, or sectarian purpose, or help to support or sustain any school, college, university, hospital, or other institution controlled by any religious creed, church, or sectarian denomination whatever; nor shall any grant or donation of personal property or real estate ever be made by the state, or any city, city and county, town, or other municipal corporation for any religious creed, church, or sectarian purpose whatever”. The City will accept applications for grants of these City public funds from religious schools, but will have language in the grant agreements to address the possibility and consequences of legal challenges and new court decisions on this and related topics. ** Future Grant Opportunities If you are interested in remaining up-to-date on available grants from the City of Rancho Cordova, click here to sign up for the Grants Interest List. A separate call for programming opportunities with the Rancho Cordova Youth Center is anticipated later in 2026. The list is also used to advertise separate art programs when funds are available. Ongoing Grant Opportunity The City of Rancho Cordova offers a microgrant opportunity. Learn more about those grants online.
Is this your first time applying for grant funding from the City of Rancho Cordova? As a first-time applicant, Community Enhancement & Investment Fund (CEIF) staff will contact you to discuss your project and grant application process.	Yes: First Time Applicant

	1 - Project/Program Information Note: You can add a collaborator to this form to assist you in completing this application! A collaborator can help you complete this form by filling in fields for you, although only you can submit this form. You can add a collaborator by navigating to the top of the form and clicking on the 'Manage Collaborators' button. Simply enter their email address and click 'invite' to invite them as a collaborator. If you need further assistance, you may consult this Help article for more information.
Project/Program Name. Assign a project name to your project/program.	"4 Paws 2 Freedom" Service and Facility/Peer Support Canine Programs
Which category does your Project/Program align with?	Community Assistance Programs
Provide a Project/Program Synopsis	Our program focuses on Veterans and First Responders who have mental health disabilities in training their own service dogs at no cost. We also have a Peer Support Canine program for public safety agencies to support mental wellness to officers, staff and civilians.

Provide a Project/Program Description	Our service dog training program consists of multiple classes a week, each with no more than 6 teams for a 12-18 month-long course covering 3 levels of training. The first level consists of basic obedience training, the second level consists of introducing the start of cues for task work, and our last level is team specific task work to assist the handler in navigating their disability. After the first level, our trainers, every other wee,k accompany our teams to various public spaces to support them in a real-world environment, such as Home Depot, Lowe's, pet-friendly stores, Target, Walmart, Coscto etc. Our teams are required to attend classes weekly for approximately 1 hour, complete weekly homework, and submit monthly progress reports. After each level, teams are tested on our benchmark criteria and the appropriate level of the American Kennel Club tests, where they earn an AKC certificate, ribbon, and patch celebrating their teamwork in training. Our entire program is at **no cost** to the Veteran or First Responder, as most do not have the resources to pay for a service dog and all that goes into caring for one. We receive many applications from students who go to Mather VA Hospital in Rancho Cordova and the Vet Center. Our Facility/Peer Support Canine program focuses on training a canine for a specific public safety agency. That could be a Fire Department, Law Enforcement, or District Attorney's office. These canines work to support the officers, firefighters, and all of their staff in Critical Incident Debriefings in their overall mental wellness. The canines also participate in school events, visit hospitals, and community events to bring education and engagement to the community they serve. Our Peer Support Canines have their own curriculum they are taught, including fun tricks to engage all they serve. They learn "high-five", "sunny side up" (belly rubs), "wave", "stop, drop, roll", to name a few. They also learn how to recognize someone who might be having a difficult time by the behavior that person is exhibiting. With this program, our trainers go to the team's agency (site visit) in place of public access. They train the team where they spend most of their time. The program is approximately 9 months long and very closely mirrors our service dog program. The Peer support program's testing is all 3 of the AKC Canine Good Citizen tests. Once a team graduates, we hold a graduation ceremony where they receive a Certificate of Completion, and the community, along with friends and family, is invited to congratulate them on their success. Our graduation for last year's teams is being held at the Rancho Cordova Elk's Club. We, as an organization, feel it is important to promote and support within our community. Both of our programs also have lifetime support available for our teams and have a requirement to be recertified at 6 months, 1 year, and every 3 years.

Tell us about your Project/Program Team	**Jeramy Buckman**- President works for El Dorado County Sheriff going into his 23rd year and graduated with his service dog Anna in 2022. **Randy Smith**- VP Vietnam Vet also graduated with his service dog in 2021Director of Training- **Amy Wolfe** who is a retired 9-1-1 EMS/Fire Dispatcher in Rancho Cordova off of Systems Parkway for 20 years. Our apprentice trainer/Facility Canine Liaison- **Doug Wolfe** Navy Veteran, was an EMT in the greater Sac Area including Rancho Cordova and retired from the Sheriff Department after 23 years. Sarah Cooper-treasure is with Roseville Animal Control. Her husband is retired RSVL PD
Provide your Project/Program Goals	4 Paws 2 Freedoms goal for our service and facility canine program is to have all teams enrolled successful. How we assist them in being successful is after each of our levels the teams are tested on our internal benchmarks and the corresponding American Kennel Club test. While we as an organization make every attempt to have all of our teams succeed; anytime canine's are involved and as they move forward into more complex tasks they might not all be service dog material. Our trainers make every attempt to work with said team if that becomes apparent through training and meet with the handler to discuss different paths that might work for both the canine and handler.
Optional File Upload: Provide any additional records to supplement your program/project application. Note: Combine multiple files in one pdf before uploading.	
	2 - Funding & Costs
Funding Request - Complete this section with total dollar amounts for your project/program's costs	Funds are generally not intended to be used for deferred maintenance and ongoing operational needs. The funds are intended for enhancing and investing in the City of Rancho Cordova. If your project/program is awarded, the costs identified below would be reviewed and potentially open to modification during a contracting phase (if a grant is awarded by the City Council). If awarded, grant funds are not available until a contract is executed during Fiscal Year 2026-2027.
Total project/program cost*	10000
What is the amount of Community Enhancement & Investment Fund grant monies requested?	10000

Does your project/program involve construction of any facilities or improvements upon any property?	No
What is the total cost of personnel for your project/program?	5338
What is the total cost of supplies for your project/program?	1062
What is the total cost of transportation for your project/program?	0
What is the total cost of equipment for your project/program?	0
What is the total cost of any miscellaneous expenses for your project/program?	3600

Upload your project/program's budget as a .pdf file. Include the categories and their dollar amounts along with information about any other funding sources to demonstrate your project/program's total budget. Note, the sum of all categories must match the total project or program cost, or the amount requested of CEIF if there is no other funding source. Please clearly illustrate any matching funds or funding from other sources in your project/program budget, including in-kind sources. Note: Combine multiple files in one pdf before uploading.

4Paws2Freedom_Volunteer_InKind_Worksheet_-_4Paws2Freedom_Volunteer_InKind_Worksheet-combined_1.pdf

Has your organization sought or will seek other funding for this project/program?	Yes, actively seeking funding support or have secured additional funding support for this project/program.
Describe any funding secured or being sought for this project/program.	As a non-profit organization along with not charging our students for the program, we are always seeking funding to assist with not only class cost, but also training space, treats, mileage reimbursement, office cost and supplies and sometimes assisting in the purchase of a rescue or other canine for a student. Currently, we are still seeking other grants and donations to assist in funding other classes.

Please describe any ongoing operations and maintenance costs beyond Fiscal Year 2026/2027, if applicable.	Rent, utilities, office supplies ie: copier, binders, folders. Payroll for trainers, their continuing education along with staff training and our Office Coordinator position.
Do you have volunteer or in-kind support for your project? This could include volunteers for an activity/event that is ongoing or a one-time experience.	Yes
Please share the total dollar amount for volunteer/in-kind support using $34.79 as the national rate for a volunteer hour. Source: Value of Volunteer Time	17325

Please provide a worksheet explaining your volunteer/in-kind contribution. You may upload a file in the following formats: CSV, DOC, DOCX, or PDF.

4Paws2Freedom_Volunteer_InKind_Worksheet_-_4Paws2Freedom_Volunteer_InKind_Worksheet-combined_1.pdf

Is this a single year request or a request for funding for multiple years?	Single Year
Has your project/program received funding from the Community Enhancement & Investment Fund previously?	No
	3 - Project/Program Details Grant applications are typically approved to occur between July 2026 through June 2027. What is your plan to complete this project/program within this time frame?
Anticipated Start Date (July 1 is the soonest available start date)	7/1/2026

Anticipated End Date (typically projects/programs end by June 30)	6/30/2027
Please describe your project/program schedule	Our classes are typically 10-18months long. Each team that enters the program can progress quicker or slower depending on their pace/learning ability. Most teams complete the program within 10-12 months.
What challenges do you anticipate in your project/program's implementation? What is your plan to complete your project/program should those or other challenges arise?	Challenges can always occur when working with our student population. Those can include missed classes due to their mental health as well as taking longer to learn concepts. We have always held our students accountable for their participation in class and have a policy for missed classes. We also offer them to come to another class that is open to do make up lessons and offer phone or zoom review. They are also given a workbook for each level explaining how to train their canine on that week's lesson if they do miss a class.
How many individuals does your project/program serve?	6
How many Rancho Cordova residents does your project/program serve?	Depends on their home address.
	4 - Project/Program Location
Address Verification	If you need to check if your project is in Rancho Cordova, type in your program/project's location in the Assessor Parcel Viewer: https://assessorparcelviewer.saccounty.gov/jsviewer/assessor.html

School and park related applications are due before Noon (12:00 p.m.) on March 6, 2026, to allow for the endorsement process.	Please note that projects or programs that are proposed on property owned or operated by outside agencies or a private party will require coordination with and potentially approvals from outside agencies, organizations, and/or the private party. Include whether you have received a letter of support for the project/program from the property owner. Upload any letters of support with your application. City staff will verify third-party permits have been discussed. In your planning discussions, be sure to discuss any necessary insurance or volunteer requirements that may increase budget costs. School Sites If your project/program is intended to operate at a public K-12 school site, your application is due by March 6 at Noon (12:00 p.m.). City staff will work with the school districts to confirm an endorsement for your project/program. It's the applicant's responsibility to communicate with school site and district representatives before applying so there is clarity during the endorsement process. Districts will only consider endorsement for applications submitted to the Community Enhancement & Investment Fund by the March 6 at Noon (12:00 p.m.). deadline. Each participating school superintendent reserves the right to withhold their endorsement of a project/program. Parks If your project/program is intended to operate at a park or community center site, your application is due by the March 6 at Noon (12:00 p.m.). deadline. City staff will work with the Cordova Recreation & Park District to confirm an endorsement for your project/program. It's the applicant's responsibility to communicate with district representatives before applying so there is clarity during the endorsement process. A special use permit application is required for any program or event planned at a CRPD facility. The special use application can be found at the CRPD website: https://www.cordovarpd.gov/. CRPD will only consider endorsement for applications submitted to the Community Enhancement & Investment Fund by the March 6 at Noon (12:00 p.m.). deadline. The Cordova Recreation & Park District reserves the right to withhold their endorsement of a project/program. Below is the list of staff to communicate with at school and park organizations: Folsom Cordova Unified School District: mwest@fcusd.org Cordova Recreation & Park District: cmichelotti@cordovarpd.gov Elk Grove Unified School District: mgulden@egusd.net Sacramento City Unified School District: Tuan-Duong@scusd.edu for Winn and Carver and Enrique-Flores@scusd.edu for Lincoln.
Primary street address of project/program	[redacted]
List the city location of the project/program.	Rancho Cordova
Select State	CA
Provide the zip code for your project/program's primary location.	95670

If your project/program takes place at multiple locations, please list other or secondary locations.	The secondary locations would be our public access classes. All of those locations we train at are open to the public.
Third Party Letters of Support (Note: Combine multiple files in one pdf before uploading)	
Does your project/program involve one of Rancho Cordova's school districts?	No
Does your project/program involve the Cordova Recreation & Park District?	No
	5 - Applicant Information
Name	Jeramy Buckman
Is this project/program on behalf of an organization?	Yes
What is the name of your organization?	Four Paws To Freedom
What is your title and/or role at your organization?	President
Provide contact phone number:	[redacted]
Provide contact email:	jeramy.buckman@4paws2freedom.org
Are you the primary point of contact on this project/program?	No

What is the name of this project or program's primary contact if not the person submitting this application?	Amy Wolfe
What is the email of the primary contact?	amy.wolfe1@4paws2freedom.org
If your project/program was awarded the requested funds, are you authorized to sign the contract for your organization?	Yes, I would be the one to sign the contract
By checking here, I confirm that I am aware that my application materials will become public record.	checked
	Thank you for applying to the Community Enhancement & Investment Fund Fiscal Year 2026-2027 Grant Cycle. Applicants will receive an automated response through the grant portal. Community Enhancement & Investment Fund (CEIF) Staff will follow up with any questions regarding your Fiscal Year 2026-2027 application. For information about the next steps in the CEIF grant process, visit our website for more information. It is anticipated that applications will be reviewed by the City Council starting in April 2026 with adoption in June 2026. Should applicants be awarded by the City Council, funding would not be available to grantees until the start of Fiscal Year 2026-2027 and the completion of a contract. Please send an email to CEIFGrants@cityofranchocordova.org with any questions or comments.

Internal Form

Score	n/a

Volunteer Role	Description	Annual Hours	Hourly Rate ($)	Total Value ($)	
Service Dog Trainers	Apprentice instructor assisting with service dog training sessions	288	34.79	10019.52	
Board Members	Governance, planning, and organizational oversight	90	34.79	3131.1	
Event & Outreach Volunteers	Community events promoting service dog awareness	120	34.79	4174.8	
TOTAL		**498**		**17,325.42**	

4 Paws 2 Freedom

201.xx Payroll	Service Dog Trainer	5,338.00
Expenses for classes		$1,062
Expense for training space		$3,600

TOTAL EXPENSES	$ 10,000.00	$ -

Title

UCP's Odyssey Day Program's Accessible Man Cave!

03/12/2026

id. 53470398

by **Megan Laurie** in **Fiscal Year 2026-2027 Community Enhancement & Investment Fund Grant Application**

4350 Auburn Boulevard
Sacramento , California
95841
United States
[redacted]
donate@ucpsacto.org

Original Submission

03/12/2026

Score n/a

	Thank you for your interest in applying to the City of Rancho Cordova's Community Enhancement & Investment Fund. Applications are open from February 9, 2026, to March 13, 2026, Noon (12:00 p.m.) with a specific deadline of March 6th Noon (12:00 p.m.) for certain applications**. Before you begin, please read the notes about deadlines and certain types of grant applications/grants below. **School/Park Application Deadline **Note that projects or programs involving a park or school district have a deadline of March 6 Noon (12:00 p.m.) to allow for the third-party endorsement process by the grant deadline.** A Note about Religious Schools and the Application/Grant Process **Note for grant applications from religious schools. The United States Supreme Court has recently ruled in part that: “denying a generally available benefit [from government] solely on account of religious identity imposes a penalty on the free exercise of religion that can be justified only by a state interest of the highest order.” The City is of the opinion that not all grants to religious schools are prohibited under this and other similar rulings. However, these United States Supreme Court decisions remain in conflict with a section of the California State Constitution that says: “[n]either the Legislature, nor any county, city and county, township, school district, or other municipal corporation, shall ever make an appropriation, or pay from any public fund whatever, or grant anything to or in aid of any religious sect, church, creed, or sectarian purpose, or help to support or sustain any school, college, university, hospital, or other institution controlled by any religious creed, church, or sectarian denomination whatever; nor shall any grant or donation of personal property or real estate ever be made by the state, or any city, city and county, town, or other municipal corporation for any religious creed, church, or sectarian purpose whatever”. The City will accept applications for grants of these City public funds from religious schools, but will have language in the grant agreements to address the possibility and consequences of legal challenges and new court decisions on this and related topics. ** Future Grant Opportunities If you are interested in remaining up-to-date on available grants from the City of Rancho Cordova, click here to sign up for the Grants Interest List. A separate call for programming opportunities with the Rancho Cordova Youth Center is anticipated later in 2026. The list is also used to advertise separate art programs when funds are available. Ongoing Grant Opportunity The City of Rancho Cordova offers a microgrant opportunity. Learn more about those grants online.
Is this your first time applying for grant funding from the City of Rancho Cordova? As a first-time applicant, Community Enhancement & Investment Fund (CEIF) staff will contact you to discuss your project and grant application process.	Yes: First Time Applicant

	1 - Project/Program Information Note: You can add a collaborator to this form to assist you in completing this application! A collaborator can help you complete this form by filling in fields for you, although only you can submit this form. You can add a collaborator by navigating to the top of the form and clicking on the 'Manage Collaborators' button. Simply enter their email address and click 'invite' to invite them as a collaborator. If you need further assistance, you may consult this Help article for more information.
Project/Program Name. Assign a project name to your project/program.	UCP's Odyssey Day Program's Accessible Man Cave!
Which category does your Project/Program align with?	Community Assistance Programs
Provide a Project/Program Synopsis	UCP’s Odyssey Adult Day Program, located in Rancho Cordova, gives developmentally disabled adults the chance to increase their independent living skills and reduce their feelings of isolation. Activities include basic instruction in computer skills, practical math and reading, functional living skills, and self-advocacy.
Provide a Project/Program Description	UCP's Odyssey Man Cave idea started with a few guys, some devices, and tons of laughter. Our participants were sitting around chatting and enjoying each other's company. UCP's Odyssey Program Manager, Chris, overheard the participants talking about sports, fixing cars, fire trucks, and more cars. Then music came up and someone said, "We need a place to hang out." Chris laughed and said, "What, like a man cave?" And in perfect unison, they all shouted, "YES!" That moment sparked something. Since then, we've been dreaming together -- a space that is theirs! It's more than a room. It is a symbol of what happens when people are heard. When they're given space to imagine, connect, to belong. When you give someone a voice, they start to dream out loud. And here at UCP's Odyssey program, we're working to make those dreams come true. But we need your help. This project will benefit the Rancho Cordova community, and our Odyssey program participants, by supporting entertainment, youth services, arts and culture. UCP is seeking funding to construct and furnish the "man cave." Items needed include projectors, wall pieces, wall partition, a gaming system and more!
Tell us about your Project/Program Team	Our project team includes the Odyssey Program Manager, Chris Dorsey, Odyssey Program participants, Chief Marketing and Development Officer, Megan Laurie with the support of UCP volunteers.

Provide your Project/Program Goals	Goals to build the man cave include the set up and completion of the room. The room is planned to be furnished with gaming system(s), four to six projectors, computers, curtains, and a new couch. Odyssey will ensure the space is ADA accessible and compliant with all safety standards. Short term goals include: Increasing independent living and communication skills, building self-advocacy, and improving social interactions within UCP's Odyssey program. Long term goals include: Tracking the long-term progress of our program participant engagement. Receiving ongoing analysis of participant feedback that will help evaluate the effectiveness of the "man cave" area and ensure continuous quality improvement. Attendance logs tracking participant engagement throughout the program, highlighting consistent participation and potential areas for improvement.

Optional File Upload: Provide any additional records to supplement your program/project application. Note: Combine multiple files in one pdf before uploading.

Odyssey_Mancave_Wishlist.pdf

	2 - Funding & Costs
Funding Request - Complete this section with total dollar amounts for your project/program's costs	Funds are generally not intended to be used for deferred maintenance and ongoing operational needs. The funds are intended for enhancing and investing in the City of Rancho Cordova. If your project/program is awarded, the costs identified below would be reviewed and potentially open to modification during a contracting phase (if a grant is awarded by the City Council). If awarded, grant funds are not available until a contract is executed during Fiscal Year 2026-2027.
Total project/program cost*	6950
What is the amount of Community Enhancement & Investment Fund grant monies requested?	6950
Does your project/program involve construction of any facilities or improvements upon any property?	No
What is the total cost of personnel for your project/program?	1200

What is the total cost of supplies for your project/program?	750
What is the total cost of transportation for your project/program?	0
What is the total cost of equipment for your project/program?	4900
What is the total cost of any miscellaneous expenses for your project/program?	100

Upload your project/program's budget as a .pdf file. Include the categories and their dollar amounts along with information about any other funding sources to demonstrate your project/program's total budget. Note, the sum of all categories must match the total project or program cost, or the amount requested of CEIF if there is no other funding source. Please clearly illustrate any matching funds or funding from other sources in your project/program budget, including in-kind sources. Note: Combine multiple files in one pdf before uploading.

UCP_Odyssey_Man_Cave_Budget.pdf

Has your organization sought or will seek other funding for this project/program?	Yes, actively seeking funding support or have secured additional funding support for this project/program.
Describe any funding secured or being sought for this project/program.	Potential donors and sponsorships.
Please describe any ongoing operations and maintenance costs beyond Fiscal Year 2026/2027, if applicable.	Ongoing costs include the regular maintenance and cleaning of the "man cave."
Do you have volunteer or in-kind support for your project? This could include volunteers for an activity/event that is ongoing or a one-time experience.	Yes

Please share the total dollar amount for volunteer/in-kind support using $34.79 as the national rate for a volunteer hour. Source: Value of Volunteer Time	521.85

Please provide a worksheet explaining your volunteer/in-kind contribution. You may upload a file in the following formats: CSV, DOC, DOCX, or PDF.

UCP_Odyssey_Man_Cave_Volunteer_Contribution.pdf

Is this a single year request or a request for funding for multiple years?	Single Year
Has your project/program received funding from the Community Enhancement & Investment Fund previously?	No
	3 - Project/Program Details Grant applications are typically approved to occur between July 2026 through June 2027. What is your plan to complete this project/program within this time frame?
Anticipated Start Date (July 1 is the soonest available start date)	7/1/2026
Anticipated End Date (typically projects/programs end by June 30)	9/30/2026

Please describe your project/program schedule	July 2026- Begin the process of furnishing the Odyssey "man cave" by ordering necessary supplies and equipment. Recruit a project team of volunteers, staff, and program participants to help with the set up and furnishing of the "man cave". August 2026- Receive supplies and equipment and schedule a "Man Cave Team Building Day" for the assembly and furnishment of the new "man cave." September 2026- Schedule a ribbon cutting (for mid-September) of the new "Odyssey Man Cave." Invite partners, UCP staff, and media members to the event for light breakfast. September 2026 and beyond-Track participant feedback and ongoing progress to ensure alignment of both short-term and long-term project goals.
What challenges do you anticipate in your project/program's implementation? What is your plan to complete your project/program should those or other challenges arise?	Limited funding and/or budgetary restraints. Our plan to complete the program is to identify additional cost-saving measures, heavily solicit in-kind donations, and maintaining open communication amongst our staff and community members.
How many individuals does your project/program serve?	45
How many Rancho Cordova residents does your project/program serve?	45
	4 - Project/Program Location
Address Verification	If you need to check if your project is in Rancho Cordova, type in your program/project's location in the Assessor Parcel Viewer: https://assessorparcelviewer.saccounty.gov/jsviewer/assessor.html

School and park related applications are due before Noon (12:00 p.m.) on March 6, 2026, to allow for the endorsement process.	Please note that projects or programs that are proposed on property owned or operated by outside agencies or a private party will require coordination with and potentially approvals from outside agencies, organizations, and/or the private party. Include whether you have received a letter of support for the project/program from the property owner. Upload any letters of support with your application. City staff will verify third-party permits have been discussed. In your planning discussions, be sure to discuss any necessary insurance or volunteer requirements that may increase budget costs. School Sites If your project/program is intended to operate at a public K-12 school site, your application is due by March 6 at Noon (12:00 p.m.). City staff will work with the school districts to confirm an endorsement for your project/program. It's the applicant's responsibility to communicate with school site and district representatives before applying so there is clarity during the endorsement process. Districts will only consider endorsement for applications submitted to the Community Enhancement & Investment Fund by the March 6 at Noon (12:00 p.m.). deadline. Each participating school superintendent reserves the right to withhold their endorsement of a project/program. Parks If your project/program is intended to operate at a park or community center site, your application is due by the March 6 at Noon (12:00 p.m.). deadline. City staff will work with the Cordova Recreation & Park District to confirm an endorsement for your project/program. It's the applicant's responsibility to communicate with district representatives before applying so there is clarity during the endorsement process. A special use permit application is required for any program or event planned at a CRPD facility. The special use application can be found at the CRPD website: https://www.cordovarpd.gov/. CRPD will only consider endorsement for applications submitted to the Community Enhancement & Investment Fund by the March 6 at Noon (12:00 p.m.). deadline. The Cordova Recreation & Park District reserves the right to withhold their endorsement of a project/program. Below is the list of staff to communicate with at school and park organizations: Folsom Cordova Unified School District: mwest@fcusd.org Cordova Recreation & Park District: cmichelotti@cordovarpd.gov Elk Grove Unified School District: mgulden@egusd.net Sacramento City Unified School District: Tuan-Duong@scusd.edu for Winn and Carver and Enrique-Flores@scusd.edu for Lincoln.
Primary street address of project/program	3164 Gold Camp Dr #240 and #250
List the city location of the project/program.	Rancho Cordova
Select State	CA
Provide the zip code for your project/program's primary location.	95670

If your project/program takes place at multiple locations, please list other or secondary locations.	
Third Party Letters of Support (Note: Combine multiple files in one pdf before uploading)	
Does your project/program involve one of Rancho Cordova's school districts?	No
Does your project/program involve the Cordova Recreation & Park District?	No
	5 - Applicant Information
Name	Megan Laurie
Is this project/program on behalf of an organization?	Yes
What is the name of your organization?	UCP of Sacramento and Northern California
What is your title and/or role at your organization?	Chief Marketing & Development Officer
Provide contact phone number:	[redacted]
Provide contact email:	donate@ucpsacto.org
Are you the primary point of contact on this project/program?	Yes

If your project/program was awarded the requested funds, are you authorized to sign the contract for your organization?	Yes, I would be the one to sign the contract
By checking here, I confirm that I am aware that my application materials will become public record.	checked
	Thank you for applying to the Community Enhancement & Investment Fund Fiscal Year 2026-2027 Grant Cycle. Applicants will receive an automated response through the grant portal. Community Enhancement & Investment Fund (CEIF) Staff will follow up with any questions regarding your Fiscal Year 2026-2027 application. For information about the next steps in the CEIF grant process, visit our website for more information. It is anticipated that applications will be reviewed by the City Council starting in April 2026 with adoption in June 2026. Should applicants be awarded by the City Council, funding would not be available to grantees until the start of Fiscal Year 2026-2027 and the completion of a contract. Please send an email to CEIFGrants@cityofranchocordova.org with any questions or comments.

Internal Form

Score	n/a

UCP of Sacramento and Northern California
Life without limits for people with disabilities

UCP of Sacramento and Northern California
Volunteer Contributions
Odyssey Adult Day Program – Man Cave Project

Listed below is the detailed budget for UCP's Odyssey Adult Day program's Man Cave with costs necessary to complete to the project.

UCP Odyssey Man Cave Budget FY 2025-2026

	Current Yr Budget
EMPLOYEE EXPENSES	1,200
OPERATING EXPENSES	
SUPPLIES	
Metal Wall Pieces/Wall Décor	500
Trim	200
Surge Protectors	50
EQUIPMENT	
Curtains	400
Projectors	1,000
Computers	1,500
Gaming Consoles	1,500
Couch	500
MISCELLANEOUS	100
TOTAL	**6,950**

UCP of Sacramento and Northern California – Odyssey Man Cave Budget

UCP of Sacramento and Northern California
Volunteer Contributions
Odyssey Program – Man Cave Project

UCP is committed to obtaining volunteers within the Rancho Cordova community to bring this amazing project to life. Currently, UCP's Odyssey program does not have volunteers to help with the construction of the Man Cave. Our volunteer plan is to solicit help from friends and cohorts that reside within the Rancho Cordova area. Various channels to recruit volunteer support include networking, social media groups, and volunteer enlistment platforms (i.e. Idealist).

UCP of Sacramento and Northern California
70 YEARS OF LIFE WITHOUT LIMITS

Odyssey's Man Cave

How did the man cave idea come about at Odyssey …

It started with a few guys, some devices, and a lot of laughter.

They were hanging out, chatting, and just enjoying each other's company. A few more joined in—no devices, just conversation. Soon, the room was buzzing. Everyone talking at once, topics bouncing around like a pinball machine.

They called me over to help make sense of it all.

As I listened, I realized what they were really doing: **bonding over "guy stuff."**

Cars. Food. Sports.

Fast cars. Fixing cars. Fire trucks. More cars.

Then came the debate—what's the best sport to watch? Who are the best teams? (Spoiler: the Kings and Giants were clear favorites.)

Then music came up. Then someone said, "We need a place to hang out."

I laughed and asked, "What, like a man cave?"

And in perfect unison, they all shouted, "YES!"

That moment sparked something.

Since then, we've been dreaming together—**a space that's theirs.**

Two TVs—one for sports, one for racing. Big, comfy chairs. Cool posters on the walls. Maybe even some video games.

It's more than a room. It's a symbol of what happens when people are heard. When they're given space to imagine, to connect, to belong. **When you give someone a voice, they start to dream out loud.** And here at UCP, we're working to make those dreams come true.

- Chris Dorsey, UCP Odyssey Program Manager

ATTACHMENT 4

Odyssey Adult Day Program

About UCP:

The mission of UCP of Sacramento and Northern California is to provide programs and services that improve the independence, productivity, and quality of life for people with developmental disabilities and their families. UCP provides over 3,100 individuals throughout the Greater Sacramento Region through four program departments: Transportation, Adult Growth and Independent Living, Family Respite Care, and Recreation.

About Odyssey:

UCP's Odyssey Adult Day Program gives developmentally disabled adults the chance to increase their independent living skills and reduce their feelings of isolation. Activities include basic instruction in computer skills, practical math and reading, functional living skills, and self-advocacy.

Location: 3164 Gold Camp Dr Rancho Cordova, CA, 95670

Top Two "Man Cave" Wish List Items:

- Finish the "mancave"
- Set up a virtual reality (VR room)

Odyssey Wish List Items:

- Gaming system(s)
- Four to six projectors
- Computers compatible with projectors
- Two (75-foot) surge protectors with long cords included
- Theater curtains (fireproof)
- Metal corrugated wall pieces and trim for wainscot (wall partition)

Volunteer Opportunities:

- Group activities – salon day, reading, park adventures and more
- Help with completing the new "man cave" and VR Room
- Contact: Cameron Moore at (916) 283-8317 or email cmoore@ucpsacto.org

Title

United Way California Capital Region Rancho Cordova SparkPoint

03/06/2026

id. 53410897

by **Edward King** in **Fiscal Year 2026-2027 Community Enhancement & Investment Fund Grant Application**

[redacted]
Sacramento, California
95827
United States
[redacted]
edward.king@uwccr.org

Original Submission

03/06/2026

Score n/a

	Thank you for your interest in applying to the City of Rancho Cordova's Community Enhancement & Investment Fund. Applications are open from February 9, 2026, to March 13, 2026, Noon (12:00 p.m.) with a specific deadline of March 6th Noon (12:00 p.m.) for certain applications**. Before you begin, please read the notes about deadlines and certain types of grant applications/grants below. **School/Park Application Deadline **Note that projects or programs involving a park or school district have a deadline of March 6 Noon (12:00 p.m.) to allow for the third-party endorsement process by the grant deadline.** A Note about Religious Schools and the Application/Grant Process **Note for grant applications from religious schools. The United States Supreme Court has recently ruled in part that: “denying a generally available benefit [from government] solely on account of religious identity imposes a penalty on the free exercise of religion that can be justified only by a state interest of the highest order.” The City is of the opinion that not all grants to religious schools are prohibited under this and other similar rulings. However, these United States Supreme Court decisions remain in conflict with a section of the California State Constitution that says: “[n]either the Legislature, nor any county, city and county, township, school district, or other municipal corporation, shall ever make an appropriation, or pay from any public fund whatever, or grant anything to or in aid of any religious sect, church, creed, or sectarian purpose, or help to support or sustain any school, college, university, hospital, or other institution controlled by any religious creed, church, or sectarian denomination whatever; nor shall any grant or donation of personal property or real estate ever be made by the state, or any city, city and county, town, or other municipal corporation for any religious creed, church, or sectarian purpose whatever”. The City will accept applications for grants of these City public funds from religious schools, but will have language in the grant agreements to address the possibility and consequences of legal challenges and new court decisions on this and related topics. ** Future Grant Opportunities If you are interested in remaining up-to-date on available grants from the City of Rancho Cordova, click here to sign up for the Grants Interest List. A separate call for programming opportunities with the Rancho Cordova Youth Center is anticipated later in 2026. The list is also used to advertise separate art programs when funds are available. Ongoing Grant Opportunity The City of Rancho Cordova offers a microgrant opportunity. Learn more about those grants online.
Is this your first time applying for grant funding from the City of Rancho Cordova? As a first-time applicant, Community Enhancement & Investment Fund (CEIF) staff will contact you to discuss your project and grant application process.	No: Not a First Time Applicant

	1 - Project/Program Information Note: You can add a collaborator to this form to assist you in completing this application! A collaborator can help you complete this form by filling in fields for you, although only you can submit this form. You can add a collaborator by navigating to the top of the form and clicking on the 'Manage Collaborators' button. Simply enter their email address and click 'invite' to invite them as a collaborator. If you need further assistance, you may consult this Help article for more information.
Project/Program Name. Assign a project name to your project/program.	United Way California Capital Region Rancho Cordova SparkPoint
Which category does your Project/Program align with?	Community Assistance Programs
Provide a Project/Program Synopsis	The Rancho Cordova SparkPoint Program will provide campus-based financial coaching, workforce support, and resource navigation for parents of local students. By helping families stabilize finances, increase income, reduce debt, and build savings, the program strengthens household stability, improves student outcomes, and enhances long-term economic mobility for Rancho Cordova families.
Provide a Project/Program Description	The Rancho Cordova SparkPoint Program will establish a campus-based financial capability and family stabilization initiative designed to support parents and caregivers of students attending schools in the Rancho Cordova area. Located directly on school campuses, the program will provide accessible, integrated financial coaching, workforce support, and resource navigation services that strengthen household financial stability and improve long-term economic mobility for Rancho Cordova families. By situating services within trusted school environments, the program reduces barriers to participation, increases civic engagement with local institutions, and strengthens the connection between family stability, student success, and overall community well-being. The program responds to growing financial pressures affecting many Rancho Cordova households. Rising housing costs, transportation expenses, and the increasing cost of living across the Sacramento region continue to place strain on working families. Median rents in the region approach $1,800 per month, and many households spend a significant share of their income on housing, leaving limited resources for savings or unexpected expenses. The city’s median household income is approximately $89,000, many individual earners make substantially less and rely on multiple incomes to maintain stability. Approximately 11 percent of residents live below the poverty line, and many more experience financial precarity due to fluctuating wages, limited savings, and barriers to accessing safe and affordable financial services. These challenges are visible in neighborhoods served by schools, where families frequently live paycheck to paycheck and lack the financial buffers necessary to absorb unexpected expenses such as medical bills, car repairs, or temporary job loss. For parents raising school-aged children,

financial instability can directly affect housing stability, food security, and their ability to support their children's educational success. Research consistently shows that financial stress within households can negatively impact student attendance, concentration, and academic outcomes.

The Rancho Cordova SparkPoint Program addresses these challenges by providing a coordinated set of services designed to stabilize household finances while building long-term financial resilience. The program is rooted in the nationally recognized Working Families Success model, which integrates financial coaching, employment advancement, income supports, and access to essential services within a coordinated service framework.

Financial coaching will support families creating practical household budgets, reducing non-mortgage debt, building emergency savings, and improving credit. Coaches will also guide participants in identifying safe, low-cost banking products and savings tools that reduce reliance on high-cost financial services such as payday lenders or check-cashing services. Through consistent coaching sessions, families will track progress toward measurable financial goals while building the skills necessary to sustain those gains over time.

Workforce development is another key component of the program. Many parents in the target communities experience underemployment or limited access to structured career advancement opportunities. The program will provide employment support services including resume development, job search assistance, digital literacy support, and connections to regional workforce development partners. Participants will receive assistance developing professional resumes and LinkedIn profiles, strengthening their competitiveness in the labor market and supporting long-term income growth.

In addition to financial coaching and employment services, the program will provide resource navigation to address immediate household stabilization needs. Staff will assist families in connecting with public benefits, food assistance programs, housing stabilization resources, and other community services that relieve financial pressure and allow families to redirect income toward savings and debt reduction. Housing navigation services will help families facing rental instability connect with local assistance programs and financial planning strategies that prioritize housing security.

Delivering services directly on school campuses is a central feature of the program's design and a key strategy for increasing access and participation. Schools serve as trusted community institutions and natural gathering points for families. By locating services within the school environment, the program reduces transportation barriers, minimizes stigma associated with seeking financial assistance, and increases opportunities for engagement during parent meetings, school events, and community gatherings. This approach promotes civic engagement by strengthening partnerships between families, schools, and community organizations working to support student success.

The campus-based model also reinforces the connection between family financial stability and educational outcomes for Rancho Cordova students. When parents experience financial stability, children are more likely to

	have consistent housing, improved nutrition, and reduced exposure to financial stress in the home. These factors contribute to improved school attendance, stronger academic performance, and healthier social-emotional development. The Rancho Cordova SparkPoint Program will be implemented in collaboration with local schools and community partners, leveraging existing community resources and strengthening coordination among organizations that support families. This collaborative approach allows the program to maximize community impact while ensuring families can access multiple services through a single trusted entry point.
Tell us about your Project/Program Team	The program will be delivered by a dedicated team consisting of two full-time coaches providing direct services to families. Coaches conduct financial assessments, develop individualized financial action plans, provide ongoing coaching, and connect families to employment opportunities, public benefits, and community resources. A Program Manager responsible for oversight of program operations, partnership coordination with school sites, performance monitoring, and outcome tracking. The program will be overseen by Kirt Lewis, a seasoned leader in financial empowerment with prior experience helping build income-improvement strategies through the Sacramento Financial Empowerment Center. His experience will guide program strategy and ensure effective implementation.

Provide your Project/Program Goals	Our program will serve more than 400 low-income households within the focus area and is designed to produce measurable financial stabilization and resilience outcomes. **Outputs:** Through structured coaching and integrated service delivery, at least 70% of participants will achieve three or more individualized service milestones aligned with their financial goals. All participants (100%) will complete a household budget to establish a clear understanding of income, expenses, and debt obligations. Participants will engage in a minimum of three coaching sessions to ensure sufficient support, accountability, and progress toward stabilization goals. **Outcomes:** As a result of these interventions, participating households will demonstrate measurable improvements in financial stability. - 70% will complete a financial literacy workshop series, with 60% demonstrating improved financial knowledge as measured through pre- and post-assessments. - 70% will develop a written financial action plan outlining concrete steps toward debt reduction, savings growth, and income stabilization. Financial resilience indicators will include a greater. - 10% increase in emergency savings for participating households - 10% reduction in non-mortgage debt. - 60% of participants will open or maintain a safe, low-cost savings account to reduce reliance on high-cost financial products - 35% will build at least $500 in emergency savings to strengthen their ability to withstand unexpected financial shocks. To support income growth and employment readiness. - 50% of participants will complete a professional resume and develop a LinkedIn profile, strengthening their competitiveness in the labor market. Together, these outputs and outcomes reflect a coordinated approach that moves households beyond short-term crisis management toward measurable, sustained financial resilience.

Optional File Upload: Provide any additional records to supplement your program/project application. Note: Combine multiple files in one pdf before uploading.	
	2 - Funding & Costs
Funding Request - Complete this section with total dollar amounts for your project/program's costs	Funds are generally not intended to be used for deferred maintenance and ongoing operational needs. The funds are intended for enhancing and investing in the City of Rancho Cordova. If your project/program is awarded, the costs identified below would be reviewed and potentially open to modification during a contracting phase (if a grant is awarded by the City Council). If awarded, grant funds are not available until a contract is executed during Fiscal Year 2026-2027.
Total project/program cost*	1104250
What is the amount of Community Enhancement & Investment Fund grant monies requested?	1104250
Does your project/program involve construction of any facilities or improvements upon any property?	No
What is the total cost of personnel for your project/program?	372086
What is the total cost of supplies for your project/program?	6600
What is the total cost of transportation for your project/program?	3480
What is the total cost of equipment for your project/program?	2400

What is the total cost of any miscellaneous expenses for your project/program?	719684

Upload your project/program's budget as a .pdf file. Include the categories and their dollar amounts along with information about any other funding sources to demonstrate your project/program's total budget. Note, the sum of all categories must match the total project or program cost, or the amount requested of CEIF if there is no other funding source. Please clearly illustrate any matching funds or funding from other sources in your project/program budget, including in-kind sources. Note: Combine multiple files in one pdf before uploading.

20260306_-_Budget_Draft_-_Rancho_Cordova_Sparkpoint_-_V2.pdf

Has your organization sought or will seek other funding for this project/program?	Yes, actively seeking funding support or have secured additional funding support for this project/program.
Describe any funding secured or being sought for this project/program.	We are submitting for federally directed funds that can support half of the associated program costs. At this time the full request is being made from CEIF, but budget adjustments would be made if federal resources become available.
Please describe any ongoing operations and maintenance costs beyond Fiscal Year 2026/2027, if applicable.	Through our resource development work we would work to sustain program activities, including incoporating into broader service offerings through UWCCR that may be eligible to fee revenues.
Do you have volunteer or in-kind support for your project? This could include volunteers for an activity/event that is ongoing or a one-time experience.	No
Is this a single year request or a request for funding for multiple years?	Multiple Years
If requesting CEIF grant funding for multiple years, please share how many years?	2

For requests spanning multiple years, share the dollar amount requested per year.	FY26-27 - $553,325 FY 27-28 - $550,925
For projects/programs that span multiple years, please describe your sustainability plan and whether it is viable as a single year request.	The program is viable as a single year program; however, the service numbers and budget would need to be adjusted accordingly. Should funding be for a single year, we would continue to seek the additional federal resources, and other supports to address long-term sustainability of the services.
Has your project/program received funding from the Community Enhancement & Investment Fund previously?	No
	3 - Project/Program Details Grant applications are typically approved to occur between July 2026 through June 2027. What is your plan to complete this project/program within this time frame?
Anticipated Start Date (July 1 is the soonest available start date)	7/1/2026
Anticipated End Date (typically projects/programs end by June 30)	6/30/2028
Please describe your project/program schedule	*Phase 1: Program Startup & Infrastructure* *July – August 2026 (Months 1–2)* *Key Activities* *Program infrastructure and partnership setup to ensure services can begin smoothly.* *Operational Setup* *· Finalize CEIF grant contract and insurance requirements* *· Confirm school campus site(s) and facility access agreements*

· *Furnish and equip SparkPoint office and counseling spaces*

· *Install secure data tracking systems and intake forms*

Staffing

· *Hire and onboard:*

· *Financial Coach*

· *Staff training in:*

· *Financial coaching methodology*

· *case management systems*

· *trauma-informed service delivery*

Partnership Development

· *Formalize referral partnerships with:*

· *School administrators and family resource centers*

· *Workforce development providers*

· *Financial institutions*

· *housing stabilization programs*

Community Outreach Preparation

· *Develop outreach materials*

· *Parent orientation session planning*

· *Schedule school-based outreach events*

Outputs

· *Program infrastructure operational*

· *Staff fully trained*

· *Outreach materials completed*

· *Referral network established*

Phase 2: Program Launch & Initial Enrollment

September – December 2026 (Months 3–6)

Key Activities

Program Launch

· *Begin SparkPoint services on participating school campus(es)*

· *Conduct parent outreach through:*

· *school newsletters*

· *back-to-school events*

· *parent-teacher meetings*

· *community partner referrals*

Service Delivery

Participants begin receiving integrated services:

· *Financial coaching*

· *employment and career support*

· *benefits navigation*

· *credit building*

· *savings strategies*

· *resource coordination*

Case Management

Participants complete:

· *financial capability assessment*

· *goal setting and stabilization plan*

· *individualized coaching sessions*

Target Enrollment

· *100 participants enrolled by December 2026*

Outputs

· *Monthly financial coaching sessions*

· *Workforce readiness workshops*

· *Resource navigation services*

Phase 3: Full Program Implementation

January – June 2027 (Months 7–12)

Key Activities

Program Expansion

· Increase outreach across additional schools or community referral partners

· Deliver group workshops:

· budgeting

· debt reduction

· credit repair

· career advancement

Family Stabilization Services

· Housing resource navigation

· emergency resource referrals

· employment advancement planning

Participant Engagement

· *Ongoing case management*

· *financial goal tracking*

· *credit monitoring*

Target Enrollment

· *200 cumulative participants served*

Evaluation & Reporting

· *Internal progress review*

· *Mid-year CEIF reporting*

Phase 4: Program Year 2 Expansion

July – December 2027 (Months 13–18)

Service Continuation

· *Continue financial coaching cycles*

· *Expand outreach to additional school communities if capacity allows*

Advanced Financial Coaching

Participants focus on:

· *debt reduction*

· *credit score improvement*

· *savings accumulation*

· *long-term financial planning*

Workforce Advancement

· *career coaching*

· *job placement support*

· *wage growth strategies*

Target Enrollment

· *300 cumulative participants served*

Community Engagement

· Host family financial empowerment events

· Collaborate with schools on parent engagement activities

Phase 5: Program Completion & Sustainability

January – June 2028 (Months 19–24)

Key Activities

Final Participant Cohort

· Enroll and serve final group of families

· Ensure all participants complete financial action plans

Outcome Measurement

Track program metrics such as:

	· increased household savings *· improved credit scores* *· employment gains* *· reduced financial stress* *Target Enrollment* *· 400 cumulative participants served* *Evaluation* *· Conduct program impact analysis* *· Collect participant success stories* *· Prepare final CEIF outcomes report* *Sustainability Planning* *· Identify additional funding sources* *· Strengthen partnerships with school districts and community partners* *· Develop long-term service model*
What challenges do you anticipate in your project/program's implementation? What is your plan to complete your project/program should those or other challenges arise?	There are no implmentation challenges, but we are seeking additional funding through federal appropriations, which may be difficult. We will continue to look at braided funding models that would allow the standing up and continued operations of this service.

How many individuals does your project/program serve?	400
How many Rancho Cordova residents does your project/program serve?	400
	4 - Project/Program Location
Address Verification	If you need to check if your project is in Rancho Cordova, type in your program/project's location in the Assessor Parcel Viewer: https://assessorparcelviewer.saccounty.gov/jsviewer/assessor.html

School and park related applications are due before Noon (12:00 p.m.) on March 6, 2026, to allow for the endorsement process.	Please note that projects or programs that are proposed on property owned or operated by outside agencies or a private party will require coordination with and potentially approvals from outside agencies, organizations, and/or the private party. Include whether you have received a letter of support for the project/program from the property owner. Upload any letters of support with your application. City staff will verify third-party permits have been discussed. In your planning discussions, be sure to discuss any necessary insurance or volunteer requirements that may increase budget costs. School Sites If your project/program is intended to operate at a public K-12 school site, your application is due by March 6 at Noon (12:00 p.m.). City staff will work with the school districts to confirm an endorsement for your project/program. It's the applicant's responsibility to communicate with school site and district representatives before applying so there is clarity during the endorsement process. Districts will only consider endorsement for applications submitted to the Community Enhancement & Investment Fund by the March 6 at Noon (12:00 p.m.). deadline. Each participating school superintendent reserves the right to withhold their endorsement of a project/program. Parks If your project/program is intended to operate at a park or community center site, your application is due by the March 6 at Noon (12:00 p.m.). deadline. City staff will work with the Cordova Recreation & Park District to confirm an endorsement for your project/program. It's the applicant's responsibility to communicate with district representatives before applying so there is clarity during the endorsement process. A special use permit application is required for any program or event planned at a CRPD facility. The special use application can be found at the CRPD website: https://www.cordovarpd.gov/. CRPD will only consider endorsement for applications submitted to the Community Enhancement & Investment Fund by the March 6 at Noon (12:00 p.m.). deadline. The Cordova Recreation & Park District reserves the right to withhold their endorsement of a project/program. Below is the list of staff to communicate with at school and park organizations: Folsom Cordova Unified School District: mwest@fcusd.org Cordova Recreation & Park District: cmichelotti@cordovarpd.gov Elk Grove Unified School District: mgulden@egusd.net Sacramento City Unified School District: Tuan-Duong@scusd.edu for Winn and Carver and Enrique-Flores@scusd.edu for Lincoln.
Primary street address of project/program	[redacted]
List the city location of the project/program.	Sactamento
Select State	CA
Provide the zip code for your project/program's primary location.	95827

If your project/program takes place at multiple locations, please list other or secondary locations.	Pending school site approvale

Third Party Letters of Support (Note: Combine multiple files in one pdf before uploading)

printuserfcusd.org_20260305_140455.pdf

Does your project/program involve one of Rancho Cordova's school districts?	Yes
Is the project/program requesting facility use only or is this a request to partner with the school district?	Partner with school on project/program
Please select all the school districts which your project/program intends to involve:	Folsom Cordova USD
Please select one or more of the Folsom Cordova Unified School District school facilities which your project/program will involve:	Other (Please explain in your project/program description)
Have you reached out to a contact at the school(s) you indicated above?	Yes
Please provide the names of your contacts at the school(s) or district(s) who are familiar with your project/program.	Channa Pitt

Does your project/program involve the Cordova Recreation & Park District?	No
	5 - Applicant Information
Name	Edward King
Is this project/program on behalf of an organization?	Yes
What is the name of your organization?	United Way California Capital Region
What is your title and/or role at your organization?	Chief Program Officer
Provide contact phone number:	[redacted]
Provide contact email:	edward.king@uwccr.org
Are you the primary point of contact on this project/program?	Yes
If your project/program was awarded the requested funds, are you authorized to sign the contract for your organization?	No, someone else would sign the contract
If selected by the City Council to receive an award, what is the name of the person at your organization who would sign the contract?	Dawnte Early
What is the title of this individual?	President and CEO

What is the best phone number where we could contact the signatory?	[redacted]
What is the best email address to contact the signatory?	dawnte.early@uwccr.org
By checking here, I confirm that I am aware that my application materials will become public record.	checked
	Thank you for applying to the Community Enhancement & Investment Fund Fiscal Year 2026-2027 Grant Cycle. Applicants will receive an automated response through the grant portal. Community Enhancement & Investment Fund (CEIF) Staff will follow up with any questions regarding your Fiscal Year 2026-2027 application. For information about the next steps in the CEIF grant process, visit our website for more information. It is anticipated that applications will be reviewed by the City Council starting in April 2026 with adoption in June 2026. Should applicants be awarded by the City Council, funding would not be available to grantees until the start of Fiscal Year 2026-2027 and the completion of a contract. Please send an email to CEIFGrants@cityofranchocordova.org with any questions or comments.

Internal Form

Score	n/a

United Way California Capital Region Racho Cordova SparkPoint Budget

Staffing	Projected	CEIF	Other Funders	IN-Kind	Notes
Coaching Staff	$ 320,736.00	$ 320,736.00	$ -	$ -	Direct program staff with partipant interface
Program Manager	$ 51,350.00	$ 51,350.00		$ -	Program administration provided by UWCCR
Total Staffing	$ 372,086.00	$ 372,086.00	$ -	$ -	
		$ -			
SUPPLIES		$ -			
Program Supplies	$ 6,600.00	$ 6,600.00	$ -	$ -	Office supplies and related materials
Total Supplies	$ 6,600.00	$ 6,600.00	$ -	$ -	
		$ -			
Transportation		$ -			
Mileage	$ 3,480.00	$ 3,480.00		$ -	100 miles per month per staff @ $0.725 per mile for 2 years.
Total Transportation	$ 3,480.00	$ 3,480.00	$ -	$ -	
Equipment		$ -			
Computers	$ 2,400.00	$ 2,400.00		$ -	Printed materials for distribution at outreach events
Total Equipment	$ 2,400.00	$ 2,400.00	$ -	$ -	
Miscellaneous		$ -			
Staff Training	$ 8,000.00	$ 8,000.00		$ -	Esnures maintenance of current in field processes related to services.
Communications	$ 7,680.00	$ 7,680.00		$ -	Costs of internet and phone use pertinent to program needs
Database Fees	$ 3,400.00	$ 3,400.00			Mainteance of client related database
Supportive Services	$ 600,000.00	$ 600,000.00	$ -	$ -	Capstone of $1500 provided to partipant at completion of program
Pooled Admistrative Services	$ 100,604.00	$ 100,604.00	$ -	$ -	Backend resources for fiscal, HR, and Executive staffing not direclty allocated to program but needed for support of program operations.
Total Miscellaneous	$ 719,684.00	$ 719,684.00	$ -	$ -	
TOTAL COSTS	**$ 1,104,250.00**	**$ 1,104,250.00**	**$ -**	**$ -**	

FCUSD

Department of Student Services

Folsom Cordova Unified School District

March 5, 2026

FY 27 Community Project Funding Request
SparkPoint Financial Empowerment and Workforce Resource Hub

Dear Congressional and Appropriations Committee Staff,

I am writing on behalf of Folsom Cordova Unified School District to express our dedicated support for the invaluable work being done by United Way California Capital Region (UWCCR) and their work to launch a SparkPoint Financial Empowerment and Workforce Resource Hub in Rancho Cordova, California. Funding this project would allow for the renovation and scale up of a one-stop resource hub, providing financial literacy, and employment resources meeting residents where they are in their neighborhood.

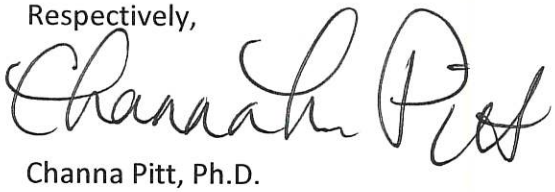
Since 1923, UWCCR has brought people together so that all can thrive. A key pillar of their work includes providing financial security and stability to families with the goal of providing ladders out of generational poverty. Through programs such as their VITA Free Tax Preparation Program, and Guaranteed Income Program in partnership with Safe Credit Union, UWCCR has provided tools for families to address debt, save, and plan for the education of the children and much more.

SparkPoint services include job search support, career coaching, education and training referrals, and financial aid guidance, helping parents connect employment and education opportunities to family-sustaining wages - strengthening both household stability and the local workforce. Paring this with SparkPoint's, one-on-one financial coaching helps residents increase income, reduce debt, improve credit, and build savings. This individualized, strengths-based approach supports long-term behavior change rather than short-term fixes, helping families weather emergencies and plan for the future. For Rancho Cordova—home to working families, students, veterans, and first-generation households—the model offers several key benefits including improved financial stability for families, access to essential basic needs such as housing referrals and tax preparation services.

We are excited to partner with UWCCR in completing this work by identifying space for the SparkPoint Center to operate, partnering to host events and sharing workforce and financial empowerment resources. Operating at a school site allows the SparkPoint Center to act as a bridge between families, schools, nonprofits, and local government services, aligning resources and creating a coordinated, community-wide approach to reducing poverty and financial stress.

Please contact me if you need more information or clarification. Thank you for your consideration of this important work.

Respectively,



Channa Pitt, Ph.D.
Assistant Superintendent, Student Services
Folsom Cordova Unified School District

Title

Professional Education Series Event Program

03/13/2026

id. 53481626

by **Marcella Samuel** in **Fiscal Year 2026-2027 Community Enhancement & Investment Fund Grant Application**

[redacted]
Rancho Cordova, Arizona
95742
United States
[redacted]

Original Submission

03/13/2026

Score n/a

	Thank you for your interest in applying to the City of Rancho Cordova's Community Enhancement & Investment Fund. Applications are open from February 9, 2026, to March 13, 2026, Noon (12:00 p.m.) with a specific deadline of March 6th Noon (12:00 p.m.) for certain applications**. Before you begin, please read the notes about deadlines and certain types of grant applications/grants below. **School/Park Application Deadline **Note that projects or programs involving a park or school district have a deadline of March 6 Noon (12:00 p.m.) to allow for the third-party endorsement process by the grant deadline.** A Note about Religious Schools and the Application/Grant Process **Note for grant applications from religious schools. The United States Supreme Court has recently ruled in part that: “denying a generally available benefit [from government] solely on account of religious identity imposes a penalty on the free exercise of religion that can be justified only by a state interest of the highest order.” The City is of the opinion that not all grants to religious schools are prohibited under this and other similar rulings. However, these United States Supreme Court decisions remain in conflict with a section of the California State Constitution that says: “[n]either the Legislature, nor any county, city and county, township, school district, or other municipal corporation, shall ever make an appropriation, or pay from any public fund whatever, or grant anything to or in aid of any religious sect, church, creed, or sectarian purpose, or help to support or sustain any school, college, university, hospital, or other institution controlled by any religious creed, church, or sectarian denomination whatever; nor shall any grant or donation of personal property or real estate ever be made by the state, or any city, city and county, town, or other municipal corporation for any religious creed, church, or sectarian purpose whatever”. The City will accept applications for grants of these City public funds from religious schools, but will have language in the grant agreements to address the possibility and consequences of legal challenges and new court decisions on this and related topics. ** Future Grant Opportunities If you are interested in remaining up-to-date on available grants from the City of Rancho Cordova, click here to sign up for the Grants Interest List. A separate call for programming opportunities with the Rancho Cordova Youth Center is anticipated later in 2026. The list is also used to advertise separate art programs when funds are available. Ongoing Grant Opportunity The City of Rancho Cordova offers a microgrant opportunity. Learn more about those grants online.
Is this your first time applying for grant funding from the City of Rancho Cordova? As a first-time applicant, Community Enhancement & Investment Fund (CEIF) staff will contact you to discuss your project and grant application process.	Yes: First Time Applicant

	1 - Project/Program Information Note: You can add a collaborator to this form to assist you in completing this application! A collaborator can help you complete this form by filling in fields for you, although only you can submit this form. You can add a collaborator by navigating to the top of the form and clicking on the 'Manage Collaborators' button. Simply enter their email address and click 'invite' to invite them as a collaborator. If you need further assistance, you may consult this Help article for more information.
Project/Program Name. Assign a project name to your project/program.	Professional Education Series Event Program
Which category does your Project/Program align with?	Community Assistance Programs
Provide a Project/Program Synopsis	Village Rising's (VR) Professional Education Event convenes families, experienced financial educators, and local community partners to deliver practical, personalized, culturally responsive workshops that focus on: • Household budgeting and financial planning • Credit-building and debt reduction • Homeownership • Banking and financial systems navigation • Connecting families with finance professional and community partners
Provide a Project/Program Description	Village Rising hosts our Financial Empowerment Series two times per year as a pop-up event held in various locations around Sacramento, California. This series offers free round table financial education and wealth resource navigation to underserved and working families who live and work in Racho Cordova and are striving for long-term stability and economic independence. This program and the other full service programs that Village Rising offers aim serve Rancho Cordova and Sacramento families who do not qualify for or have transitioned out of California low-income programs but have not yet achieved full financial independence by helping them phase into a more advantageous and sustainable socio and economic stability. The goal of our Professional Education Series Program is to support two types of families. The first type is low- and middle-income families who have graduated from low-income assistance programs but remain financially vulnerable due to the “benefits cliff.” As households increase their income and transition off California Works (CalWorks) programs, California’s public assistance programs often lose access to critical programs and support before their earnings are sufficient to achieve financial stability. As a result, many families find themselves earning too much to qualify for childcare, housing, food and financial assistance, yet not enough to build savings, reduce debt, or invest in long-term financial security that would yield to an increased quality of life. The second demographic served by this workshop includes middle-income families who have never qualified for CalWorks low-income assistance programs and often fall through the proverbial cracks of existing support systems.

Although these households may not meet eligibility thresholds for assistance, many continue to face significant financial pressures, including rising living costs, debt obligations, limited access to financial education, and barriers to building long-term financial security. The Financial Empowerment Series will provide practical financial education, coaching, and access to trusted financial resource professionals to help families stabilize their finances and move toward socio-economic mobility.

The first semi-annual Financial Empowerment Series event will be held on May 26, 2026 at the Frequency Coworking Event space in Rancho Cordova. Future events scheduled for program year 2026 and program year 2027 will also be held at the Frequency Coworking Event Space in Rancho Cordova but these worshop are contigent upon funding. The four sessions will serve 50 - 60 individuals and families in Rancho Cordova and neighboring Sacramento communities from age 16 and up. Working youth and adults will have seperate workshops and youth will be afforded the option to learn and plan with their families. All participants will attend at no cost, eliminating financial barriers to access. Each participant will leave with a personalized short-and long-term financial action plan and follow-up access to assigned industry professionals who donate their time to support measurable financial outcomes.

To elaborate on the synopsis provided above, our event workshops focus on providing families and individuals with the following services:

- Budgeting and financial planning

- Credit building and debt reduction

- Homeownership and real estate acquisition

- Estate planning navigation

- Business structure development (for-profit and nonprofit)

- Banking systems and financial resource navigation

- Veteran financial planning

Tell us about your Project/Program Team	The individuals responsible for the development and delivery of the Professional Education Series are VR's full Board of Directors, and the boards direct contributors are Shyreese Tyiska, Village Rising's Executive Director, Paskael Tyiska Jr. Village Rising's, Chief Operating Officer (COO), and Kristina Phillips, Village Rising's Program Advisor.
Provide your Project/Program Goals	Goals/ Metrics **Goal 1: Increase Financial Knowledge and Confidence** Families will gain practical skills in budgeting, credit building, debt management, banking systems, and long-term financial planning. **Metrics** · Serve 100 – 120 families annually through workshops and coaching.

· 80% - 90% of enrolled families complete the full program series.

· Pre-and post-assessments demonstrate a minimum 25 – 30% increase in financial knowledge.

· 85% of participants report improved confidence in managing their finances.

Goal 2: Strengthen Financial Behaviors and Stability
Families will apply program knowledge to improve their financial position

Metrics

· 60% - 80% of participants create a household budget or financial plan.

· 50% increase savings or open a savings account and checking's account.

· 40% demonstrate measurable progress toward reducing debt or improving credit.

Goal 3: Goal: Increase Access to Homeownership and Real Estate Knowledge

Families will engage in workshops led by housing professionals, lenders, and real estate experts who will guide them through the steps necessary to prepare for homeownership or real estate investment**.**

Metrics

· 60% - 80% participants annually complete the Real Estate and Homeownership workshop series.

· 80%- 98% of participants demonstrate increased understanding of the homebuying process through pre- and post-workshop assessments.

· 50% of participants complete a homeownership readiness plan, including credit improvement goals, savings targets, and financing preparation.

· 40% of participants are referred to housing counseling, first-time homebuyer programs, or mortgage readiness services.

· 25% of participants take a measurable step toward homeownership within 12 months, such as improving credit scores, increasing savings for a down payment, or beginning mortgage prequalification.

Maintaining Team Focus and Accountability
VR's project team will maintain focus through structured implementation and performance monitoring. Monthly team meetings will review participant engagement, program completion rates, and outcome metrics. Participant data will be tracked through attendance records, surveys, and follow-up assessments to measure behavioral and financial outcomes. Quarterly program reviews will allow the team to evaluate progress toward goals, identify challenges, and refine program strategies to ensure the project remains aligned with measurable impact objectives.

Optional File Upload: Provide any additional records to supplement your program/project application. Note: Combine multiple files in one pdf before uploading.	
	2 - Funding & Costs
Funding Request - Complete this section with total dollar amounts for your project/program's costs	Funds are generally not intended to be used for deferred maintenance and ongoing operational needs. The funds are intended for enhancing and investing in the City of Rancho Cordova. If your project/program is awarded, the costs identified below would be reviewed and potentially open to modification during a contracting phase (if a grant is awarded by the City Council). If awarded, grant funds are not available until a contract is executed during Fiscal Year 2026-2027.
Total project/program cost*	81252
What is the amount of Community Enhancement & Investment Fund grant monies requested?	81252
Does your project/program involve construction of any facilities or improvements upon any property?	No
What is the total cost of personnel for your project/program?	32640
What is the total cost of supplies for your project/program?	42613.99
What is the total cost of transportation for your project/program?	0
What is the total cost of equipment for your project/program?	0

What is the total cost of any miscellaneous expenses for your project/program?	9000

Upload your project/program's budget as a .pdf file. Include the categories and their dollar amounts along with information about any other funding sources to demonstrate your project/program's total budget. Note, the sum of all categories must match the total project or program cost, or the amount requested of CEIF if there is no other funding source. Please clearly illustrate any matching funds or funding from other sources in your project/program budget, including in-kind sources. Note: Combine multiple files in one pdf before uploading.

Attachment_1_Financial_Empowerment_Series_Event_line_item_budget.pdf

Has your organization sought or will seek other funding for this project/program?	Yes, actively seeking funding support or have secured additional funding support for this project/program.
Describe any funding secured or being sought for this project/program.	Red Hawk Casino Sponsorship Grant SAFE Grant
Please describe any ongoing operations and maintenance costs beyond Fiscal Year 2026/2027, if applicable.	N/A
Do you have volunteer or in-kind support for your project? This could include volunteers for an activity/event that is ongoing or a one-time experience.	Yes
Please share the total dollar amount for volunteer/in-kind support using $34.79 as the national rate for a volunteer hour. Source: Value of Volunteer Time	3055.26

Please provide a worksheet explaining your volunteer/in-kind contribution. You may upload a file in the following formats: CSV, DOC, DOCX, or PDF.

Attachment_2_-_Copy.pdf

Is this a single year request or a request for funding for multiple years?	Multiple Years
If requesting CEIF grant funding for multiple years, please share how many years?	2 years; 2026 and 2027
For requests spanning multiple years, share the dollar amount requested per year.	FY 2026, $69,000 FY 2027, $69,000

For projects/programs that span multiple years, please describe your sustainability plan and whether it is viable as a single year request.	The Financial Empowerment Series is designed to be sustainable over multiple years while remaining fully viable as a single-year investment. The program operates in modular workshop cycles, allowing indiviuals and families to complete a full financial education series within a single grant period while creating the infrastructure for long-term program continuation and expansion. The need for programs that promote financial stability and wealth-building remains significant across California. According to statewide data, "approximately 19% of California children live in poverty, reflecting the persistent economic challenges facing many families." Additionally, children make up more than three-quarters of recipients in California's CalWORKs welfare program, illustrating how economic hardship often affects families across generations. At the same time, the cost of living in California places many working households in financial distress even when they are employed. Research on the state's "real cost of living" shows that nearly half of California families with children earn less than what is required to meet basic needs without assistance, highlighting the growing gap between wages and the actual cost of stability. The Financial Empowerment Series addresses this gap by providing practical financial education, real estate and homeownership knowledge, and connections to trusted financial resources that help families move beyond cycles of financial instability. Even within a single year of funding, participants receive a complete educational series that produces measurable outcomes including increased financial knowledge, budgeting practices, improved credit awareness, and pathways toward savings and homeownership. Over time, the program will strengthen sustainability through partnerships with financial institutions, housing organizations, and community agencies that contribute expertise, referrals, and in-kind resources. Village Rising will also pursue diversified funding sources including foundation grants, corporate partnerships, and community investments to support future program cycles and expand services to additional families. VR has already identified strong community demand for the Financial Empowerment Series. Fifty participants are confirmed to attend the May 26, 2026 workshop, with more than 50 additional applicants expressing interest in the October 2026 workshop scheduled in Rancho Cordova. This early enrollment reflects the significant need for accessible financial education and homeownership readiness programming among families who often fall outside traditional assistance programs but continue to face financial barriers.
Has your project/program received funding from the Community Enhancement & Investment Fund previously?	No
	3 - Project/Program Details Grant applications are typically approved to occur between July 2026 through June 2027. What is your plan to complete this project/program within this time frame?

Anticipated Start Date (July 1 is the soonest available start date)	7/1/2026
Anticipated End Date (typically projects/programs end by June 30)	10/31/2026
Please describe your project/program schedule	This semi-annual workshop is held twice per calendar year in May and in October. This event is promoted all year long. January - March 2026 - During this time, the education workshop is promoted, finance professionals and voulnteers confirmed participant applications are accepted, event sites are booked. April - May 2026 - This time is dedicated to event preparation, workbooks and supplies are acquired within the budget that was created and approved in October of 2025. May 26, 2026 - The workshop will take place at the Frequency Coworking event space in Racho Cordova. June - August 2026 - After Action review is conducted following the completion the work shop to evaluate program effectiveness, participant outcomes, and opportunities for improvement for the October 2026 workshop and 2027 program years. August 2026 - September 2026 - Prepare for upcoming workshop October 2026 - Second workshop of 2026 will be held in Racho Cordova at the Frequency Coworking event space.

What challenges do you anticipate in your project/program's implementation? What is your plan to complete your project/program should those or other challenges arise?	As with many community-based education programs, the Financial Empowerment Series anticipates several potential challenges during implementation, including participant scheduling conflicts, varying levels of financial literacy, and maintaining consistent engagement throughout the workshop series. Many participants are working families balancing employment, childcare responsibilities, and other obligations, which can impact attendance and completion rates. In addition, financial constraints related to venue and program delivery costs can present operational challenges for nonprofit programs. To address these challenges, Village Rising will implement several strategies to support participant engagement and program completion. Workshops will be scheduled at accessible times and locations, including evening and weekend options when possible, to accommodate working families. The program will also offer a flexible workshop structure that allows participants to attend individual sessions if they miss a class, ensuring they can still complete the full series. Another anticipated challenge is the wide range of financial knowledge among participants. To address this, the curriculum is designed to be accessible to individuals with limited financial literacy while still providing meaningful value to those with more advanced knowledge. Facilitators will incorporate interactive discussions, real-world scenarios, and practical financial tools that participants can immediately apply to their financial situations. To manage program costs, Village Rising will host workshops at the Frequency Workspace in Rancho Cordova, which provides nonprofit organizations with significantly reduced rental rates compared to traditional hotel conference venues. Utilizing this community-based workspace allows the program to maintain a professional learning environment while ensuring responsible use of grant funds and reducing overall program expenses. Participant engagement will also be strengthened through partnerships with financial institutions, housing counselors, and community organizations that provide guest speakers and additional resources. These partnerships enhance program credibility while connecting participants with trusted professionals who can support their financial goals beyond the workshop. Village Rising will monitor program implementation through attendance tracking, participant surveys, and outcome evaluations. This continuous feedback process allows the team to quickly identify barriers and make adjustments to program delivery as needed. Through these proactive strategies, the Financial Empowerment Series is well positioned to adapt to challenges while maintaining program quality and achieving its intended outcomes of increased financial knowledge, improved financial behaviors, and expanded pathways to homeownership and long-term

How many individuals does your project/program serve?	100 families per year
How many Rancho Cordova residents does your project/program serve?	All families living and working in Rancho Cordova are given preference.
	4 - Project/Program Location
Address Verification	If you need to check if your project is in Rancho Cordova, type in your program/project's location in the Assessor Parcel Viewer: https://assessorparcelviewer.saccounty.gov/jsviewer/assessor.html

School and park related applications are due before Noon (12:00 p.m.) on March 6, 2026, to allow for the endorsement process.	Please note that projects or programs that are proposed on property owned or operated by outside agencies or a private party will require coordination with and potentially approvals from outside agencies, organizations, and/or the private party. Include whether you have received a letter of support for the project/program from the property owner. Upload any letters of support with your application. City staff will verify third-party permits have been discussed. In your planning discussions, be sure to discuss any necessary insurance or volunteer requirements that may increase budget costs. School Sites If your project/program is intended to operate at a public K-12 school site, your application is due by March 6 at Noon (12:00 p.m.). City staff will work with the school districts to confirm an endorsement for your project/program. It's the applicant's responsibility to communicate with school site and district representatives before applying so there is clarity during the endorsement process. Districts will only consider endorsement for applications submitted to the Community Enhancement & Investment Fund by the March 6 at Noon (12:00 p.m.). deadline. Each participating school superintendent reserves the right to withhold their endorsement of a project/program. Parks If your project/program is intended to operate at a park or community center site, your application is due by the March 6 at Noon (12:00 p.m.). deadline. City staff will work with the Cordova Recreation & Park District to confirm an endorsement for your project/program. It's the applicant's responsibility to communicate with district representatives before applying so there is clarity during the endorsement process. A special use permit application is required for any program or event planned at a CRPD facility. The special use application can be found at the CRPD website: https://www.cordovarpd.gov/. CRPD will only consider endorsement for applications submitted to the Community Enhancement & Investment Fund by the March 6 at Noon (12:00 p.m.). deadline. The Cordova Recreation & Park District reserves the right to withhold their endorsement of a project/program. Below is the list of staff to communicate with at school and park organizations: Folsom Cordova Unified School District: mwest@fcusd.org Cordova Recreation & Park District: cmichelotti@cordovarpd.gov Elk Grove Unified School District: mgulden@egusd.net Sacramento City Unified School District: Tuan-Duong@scusd.edu for Winn and Carver and Enrique-Flores@scusd.edu for Lincoln.
Primary street address of project/program	3249 Quality Drive
List the city location of the project/program.	Racho Cordova
Select State	CA
Provide the zip code for your project/program's primary location.	95670

If your project/program takes place at multiple locations, please list other or secondary locations.	The event will only be held in Racho Cordova, Ca for FY 2026 and FY 2027
Third Party Letters of Support (Note: Combine multiple files in one pdf before uploading)	
Does your project/program involve one of Rancho Cordova's school districts?	No
Does your project/program involve the Cordova Recreation & Park District?	No
	5 - Applicant Information
Name	Shyreese Tyiska
Is this project/program on behalf of an organization?	No
Provide contact phone number:	[redacted]
Provide contact email:	info@ourvillagerising.org
Are you the primary point of contact on this project/program?	Yes
If your project/program was awarded the requested funds, are you authorized to sign the contract for your organization?	Yes, I would be the one to sign the contract

By checking here, I confirm that I am aware that my application materials will become public record.	checked

Thank you for applying to the Community Enhancement & Investment Fund Fiscal Year 2026-2027 Grant Cycle. Applicants will receive an automated response through the grant portal. Community Enhancement & Investment Fund (CEIF) Staff will follow up with any questions regarding your Fiscal Year 2026-2027 application. For information about the next steps in the CEIF grant process, visit our website for more information. It is anticipated that applications will be reviewed by the City Council starting in April 2026 with adoption in June 2026. Should applicants be awarded by the City Council, funding would not be available to grantees until the start of Fiscal Year 2026-2027 and the completion of a contract. Please send an email to CEIFGrants@cityofranchocordova.org with any questions or comments.

Internal Form

Score	n/a

VILLAGE RISING

Financial Empowerment Series Event

Semiannual Program Budget (Two Workshops Annually)
Program Delivery: May and October workshop
Participants Served: Approximately 50 per workshop (100 annually)

Items	Description	Cost per Workshop	Annual Total
Program Director/ program Oversight	Program and event oversight, partnerships, grant reporting, surveys, participant tracking, reporting and outcome analysis. 32,640 annual salary (17/hr.)	$	$32,640
Workshop Facilitators & Guest Experts	12-month one-on-one optional family participant support from 4 financial educators, real estate professionals, credit counselors for 50 participants per workshop.	$8,000	$16,000
Venue & Technology	Frequency Coworking & Events Space includes four break-out rooms, a kid's center, commencement lounge, executive rooms (weekend rate)	$2,106	$4,212
Participant Materials	Design and creation of participant workshop workbooks, pens and highlighters (estimate)	$4,500	$9,000
Marketing & Community Outreach	Digital marketing, flyers, outreach to community partners	$1,500	$3,000
Event Photographer	Photographer for event records and future program promotions - 3 hrs. per event	$1,500	$3,000
Volunteer Support	volunteers - Kids center, participant assistance, staff and guest support. (8 persons) $25 thank you gift cards	$200	$400
Participants support	Light Refreshments	$2,000	$4,000

Attachment #1
VR FY 26/27Program Budget

Items	Description	Cost per Workshop	Annual Total
Grant Writer (Contractor)	Grant writers will conduct funding research, develop grant narratives, and assist with reporting and close out documents (onetime fee per grant)	$6,000	$6,000
Administrative / Operating Costs	Insurance, accounting services, gas for local travel, children finance activities	$1,500	$3,000

Total Program Cost (salaried, employee included)	**$81,252.00**
Annual Program Budget:	**$58,611.44**
Total Supply Budget:	**$42,613.99**

Attachment 2:
VR Volunteer/ In-Kind Donation Contribution

VILLAGE RISING

Volunteer / In-Kind Contribution Worksheet
Program: Financial Empowerment Series
Volunteer Value Rate: $34.79 per hour
Volunteer Contributions

Volunteer Contributions

Role	Activity	Hours	Rate	Total Value
1 Financial Professionals (Banking Partners)	Financial literacy & credit education workshops	4	$34.79	$139.16
1 Real Estate Professionals	Homeownership readiness & real estate education	4	$34.79	$139.16
1 Mortgage / Lending Experts	Mortgage readiness & financing education	4	$34.79	$139.16
8 Event Support Volunteers	Registration, participant support, event setup	4	$34.79	$1,113.28

Total Volunteer Service Value: $1527.76 * 2 times per year = $3,055.52

Total Leveraged Community Support

Category	Total Value
Volunteer Services	**$3,055.52**

Title

HANDY Workforce Initiative

03/12/2026

by **Ithopia Mckinney** in **Fiscal Year 2026-2027 Community Enhancement & Investment Fund Grant Application**

id. 53470539

[redacted]
Rancho Cordova, California
95670
CA
United States
[redacted]

Original Submission

03/12/2026

Score n/a

	Thank you for your interest in applying to the City of Rancho Cordova's Community Enhancement & Investment Fund. Applications are open from February 9, 2026, to March 13, 2026, Noon (12:00 p.m.) with a specific deadline of March 6th Noon (12:00 p.m.) for certain applications**. Before you begin, please read the notes about deadlines and certain types of grant applications/grants below. **School/Park Application Deadline **Note that projects or programs involving a park or school district have a deadline of March 6 Noon (12:00 p.m.) to allow for the third-party endorsement process by the grant deadline.** A Note about Religious Schools and the Application/Grant Process **Note for grant applications from religious schools. The United States Supreme Court has recently ruled in part that: “denying a generally available benefit [from government] solely on account of religious identity imposes a penalty on the free exercise of religion that can be justified only by a state interest of the highest order.” The City is of the opinion that not all grants to religious schools are prohibited under this and other similar rulings. However, these United States Supreme Court decisions remain in conflict with a section of the California State Constitution that says: “[n]either the Legislature, nor any county, city and county, township, school district, or other municipal corporation, shall ever make an appropriation, or pay from any public fund whatever, or grant anything to or in aid of any religious sect, church, creed, or sectarian purpose, or help to support or sustain any school, college, university, hospital, or other institution controlled by any religious creed, church, or sectarian denomination whatever; nor shall any grant or donation of personal property or real estate ever be made by the state, or any city, city and county, town, or other municipal corporation for any religious creed, church, or sectarian purpose whatever”. The City will accept applications for grants of these City public funds from religious schools, but will have language in the grant agreements to address the possibility and consequences of legal challenges and new court decisions on this and related topics. ** Future Grant Opportunities If you are interested in remaining up-to-date on available grants from the City of Rancho Cordova, click here to sign up for the Grants Interest List. A separate call for programming opportunities with the Rancho Cordova Youth Center is anticipated later in 2026. The list is also used to advertise separate art programs when funds are available. Ongoing Grant Opportunity The City of Rancho Cordova offers a microgrant opportunity. Learn more about those grants online.
Is this your first time applying for grant funding from the City of Rancho Cordova? As a first-time applicant, Community Enhancement & Investment Fund (CEIF) staff will contact you to discuss your project and grant application process.	No: Not a First Time Applicant

	1 - Project/Program Information Note: You can add a collaborator to this form to assist you in completing this application! A collaborator can help you complete this form by filling in fields for you, although only you can submit this form. You can add a collaborator by navigating to the top of the form and clicking on the 'Manage Collaborators' button. Simply enter their email address and click 'invite' to invite them as a collaborator. If you need further assistance, you may consult this Help article for more information.
Project/Program Name. Assign a project name to your project/program.	HANDY Workforce Initiative
Which category does your Project/Program align with?	Community Assistance Programs
Provide a Project/Program Synopsis	COMMUNi T's "Handy" Initiative will train Rancho Cordova at risk residents in practical trade skills such as tiling, drywall, and flooring. Through hands-on instruction and mentorship, the program prepares participants for entry-level construction jobs, apprenticeships, and entrepreneurship while creating pathways to economic mobility and strengthening the local skilled trades workforce.
Provide a Project/Program Description	**COMMUNi T Construction and Design Workforce Initiative – Project Description** The COMMUNi T Construction and Design Workforce Initiative is a community-based workforce development program designed to equip Rancho Cordova residents with practical construction and home improvement skills that lead to employment, entrepreneurship, and long-term economic stability. The program responds directly to the growing demand for skilled labor in the construction and housing sectors while creating accessible pathways for community members who may face barriers to traditional employment or formal training opportunities. The project will provide hands-on training in foundational construction trades including **tiling, drywall installation and repair, flooring installation, basic carpentry, and interior finishing techniques**. Participants will receive structured instruction from experienced construction professionals and trainers who will guide them through both classroom learning and applied practice. Training will take place through workshop-style sessions that simulate real job site conditions, allowing participants to develop practical competencies that can be immediately applied in the workforce. The program will prioritize recruitment of **Rancho Cordova residents who are low-income, underemployed, unemployed, young adults entering the workforce, and individuals seeking new career pathways**. By focusing on residents who face barriers to employment, the initiative aligns with the City of Rancho Cordova's Community Enhancement & Investment Fund goals of promoting economic opportunity, workforce development, and community improvement.

Participants will complete a structured training cycle that includes:

- Introduction to construction safety and basic tools
- Drywall installation and repair techniques
- Tile layout, cutting, and installation
- Flooring installation, including laminate and vinyl systems
- Basic carpentry and finishing work
- Workplace readiness and jobsite communication skills
- Exposure to contractor and apprenticeship opportunities

In addition to technical skills training, the program will provide **workforce readiness support**, including resume development, interview preparation, and guidance on pathways into construction apprenticeships, contractor employment, or independent handyman services. Participants will also learn about professional conduct, safety standards, and project management basics, which are essential for long-term success in the construction field.

A key component of the initiative is its focus on **community impact and neighborhood improvement**. As participants develop their skills, the program will incorporate small community-based projects that allow trainees to practice their trades while contributing to local improvement efforts. These may include minor repair or beautification projects for community spaces, nonprofit facilities, or neighborhood improvements in Rancho Cordova. This approach ensures that the training program not only builds workforce capacity but also produces visible benefits for the broader community.

The construction sector continues to face significant labor shortages throughout California. At the same time, many residents in communities like Rancho Cordova seek accessible job training that does not require long-term academic commitments. The COMMUNi T Construction and Design Workforce Initiative bridges this gap by offering **short-term, practical training that leads to real employment opportunities**. By preparing residents with entry-level trade skills, the program strengthens the local labor pipeline and supports the city's economic vitality.

This initiative also promotes **economic mobility and self-sufficiency**. Skilled trades offer sustainable wages and career advancement opportunities without requiring a four-year degree. Participants who complete the training may pursue employment with local contractors, continue into formal apprenticeships, or begin small service-based businesses that provide home repair and improvement services. These opportunities help increase household income, reduce unemployment, and strengthen financial stability for Rancho Cordova families.

Beyond individual benefits, the program contributes to the broader goals of community resilience and neighborhood improvement. When residents possess the skills to maintain and improve housing, the entire community benefits from safer, more attractive neighborhoods and a stronger local economy. The program encourages pride in craftsmanship and community engagement while empowering residents to contribute positively to the physical environment of Rancho Cordova.

The Community Enhancement & Investment Fund support will help COMMUNi T cover key program costs such as training materials, tools, instructor stipends, safety equipment, and outreach to Rancho Cordova residents. Funding will ensure that participation remains **accessible and low-cost**, removing financial barriers that often prevent community members from accessing workforce training programs.

COMMUNi T has a strong history of delivering community-based programs that support economic opportunity, workforce development, and social well-being. This new workforce initiative builds on that foundation by creating practical training opportunities that align with local workforce needs and the City of Rancho Cordova's commitment to strengthening communities.

Through hands-on education, workforce preparation, and community-focused projects, the COMMUNi T Construction and Design Workforce Initiative will empower residents with valuable skills, create pathways to employment, and contribute to the long-term economic and community vitality of Rancho Cordova.

Tell us about your Project/Program Team

Ithiopia McKinney, Executive Director oversee program implementation, financial management, partnership development, and grant compliance

Chima Ariguzo, Program Manager and Trainer
Manage operations of the program and serve as the lead trainer. He will coordinate training schedules, oversee participant progress, and deliver hands-on instruction in skills such as tiling, drywall installation, flooring, and basic finishing techniques.

Abigail Ticha, Administrative Coordinator
Responsibilities will include participant enrollment support, scheduling, recordkeeping, supply coordination, and assisting with program documentation and reporting

Sara Johnson, Outreach Coordinator will lead community outreach and recruitment efforts, focusing on engaging Rancho Cordova residents who can benefit from the training program.

Provide your Project/Program Goals

Project Goals and Performance Metrics

The goal of the **COMMUNi T Construction and Design Workforce Initiative** is to increase economic opportunity for Rancho Cordova residents by providing accessible, hands-on training in practical construction and home improvement skills. The program is designed to equip participants with marketable trade skills, prepare them for employment in the construction sector, and strengthen the local workforce pipeline while contributing to neighborhood improvement and community resilience.

Goal 1: Provide Workforce Training in Skilled Trades

COMMUNi T will deliver structured training programs that teach residents practical construction skills such as drywall installation, tiling, flooring installation, and basic carpentry. The objective is to equip participants with the foundational skills necessary to pursue entry-level employment in the

construction industry or related fields.

Metrics for Success:

- Train **at least 40 Rancho Cordova residents annually** through the program.
- Achieve a **minimum 80% training completion rate** among enrolled participants.
- Provide **at least 60 hours of hands-on training per participant**.

Progress will be tracked through participant enrollment records, attendance logs, and completion certificates issued at the end of each training cohort.

Goal 2: Improve Employment and Economic Mobility for Participants

The program aims to connect participants to employment opportunities, apprenticeships, or pathways toward self-employment in the construction and home improvement sectors.

Metrics for Success:

- At least **60% of program graduates secure employment, apprenticeships, or paid contract work within six months of completion**.
- At least **10 participants pursue additional trade certifications or apprenticeship programs** annually.
- Provide **career readiness workshops for all participants**, including resume building and jobsite professionalism.

COMMUNi T will track employment outcomes through follow-up surveys, employer partnerships, and participant check-ins at three- and six-month intervals.

Goal 3: Strengthen Community Capacity Through Local Skill Development

The program will help develop a local pool of skilled residents who can contribute to housing maintenance, neighborhood revitalization, and community improvement.

Metrics for Success:

- Complete **at least 3 community improvement or demonstration projects annually** where trainees apply their skills.
- Engage **at least 5 local contractors or construction professionals** as mentors, trainers, or program partners.
- Provide **hands-on project experience to 100% of program participants**.

These activities will be documented through project reports, photographs, and community partner feedback.

Goal 4: Increase Access to Workforce Training for Underserved Residents

The initiative prioritizes participation from residents who may face barriers to employment, including low-income individuals, underemployed adults, and young people entering the workforce.

Metrics for Success:

- At least **70% of participants will be low-income or individuals facing employment barriers**.
- Conduct **community outreach events and recruitment activities in Rancho Cordova** to ensure equitable access to the program.
- Maintain **low or no-cost participation** to reduce financial barriers.

Participant demographic data and outreach tracking will help measure the program's ability to reach target populations.

Maintaining Focus and Accountability

To ensure the project team remains focused on achieving these goals, COMMUNi T will implement a structured program management and evaluation approach. The project team will conduct **quarterly program reviews** to assess participant enrollment, completion rates, employment outcomes, and community engagement activities. These reviews will allow the team to identify areas for improvement and adjust training methods or outreach strategies as needed.

Additionally, program staff will maintain detailed **training records, participant progress tracking, and outcome reporting** to ensure transparency and accountability. Regular communication with local workforce partners, contractors, and community stakeholders will help ensure the program continues to meet the needs of Rancho Cordova residents and the local labor market.

Through clear goals, measurable outcomes, and continuous evaluation, the COMMUNi T Construction and Design Workforce Initiative will remain focused on delivering meaningful workforce training while creating lasting economic and community benefits for Rancho Cordova.

Optional File Upload: Provide any additional records to supplement your program/project application. Note: Combine multiple files in one pdf before uploading.	

2 - Funding & Costs

Funding Request - Complete this section with total dollar amounts for your project/program's costs	Funds are generally not intended to be used for deferred maintenance and ongoing operational needs. The funds are intended for enhancing and investing in the City of Rancho Cordova. If your project/program is awarded, the costs identified below would be reviewed and potentially open to modification during a contracting phase (if a grant is awarded by the City Council). If awarded, grant funds are not available until a contract is executed during Fiscal Year 2026-2027.
Total project/program cost*	50000
What is the amount of Community Enhancement & Investment Fund grant monies requested?	50000
Does your project/program involve construction of any facilities or improvements upon any property?	No
What is the total cost of personnel for your project/program?	25000
What is the total cost of supplies for your project/program?	11000
What is the total cost of transportation for your project/program?	3000
What is the total cost of equipment for your project/program?	10000
What is the total cost of any miscellaneous expenses for your project/program?	1000

Upload your project/program's budget as a .pdf file. Include the categories and their dollar amounts along with information about any other funding sources to demonstrate your project/program's total budget. Note, the sum of all categories must match the total project or program cost, or the amount requested of CEIF if there is no other funding source. Please clearly illustrate any matching funds or funding from other sources in your project/program budget, including in-kind sources. Note: Combine multiple files in one pdf before uploading.

Has your organization sought or will seek other funding for this project/program?	Yes, actively seeking funding support or have secured additional funding support for this project/program.
Describe any funding secured or being sought for this project/program.	We are seeking funding from other workforce grants
Please describe any ongoing operations and maintenance costs beyond Fiscal Year 2026/2027, if applicable.	N/A
Do you have volunteer or in-kind support for your project? This could include volunteers for an activity/event that is ongoing or a one-time experience.	No
Is this a single year request or a request for funding for multiple years?	Single Year
Has your project/program received funding from the Community Enhancement & Investment Fund previously?	No
	3 - Project/Program Details Grant applications are typically approved to occur between July 2026 through June 2027. What is your plan to complete this project/program within this time frame?
Anticipated Start Date (July 1 is the soonest available start date)	7/1/2026

Anticipated End Date (typically projects/programs end by June 30)	6/30/2027
Please describe your project/program schedule	**Program Preparation and Outreach (July – August 2026)** During the first two months, COMMUNi T will finalize program logistics, purchase equipment and materials. Outreach will focus on Rancho Cordova residents through community partners, local organizations, social media, and community events. Participant applications will be collected and screened to form the first training cohort. **Training Cohort 1 (September – November 2026)** The first training cohort will begin in September. Participants will receive approximately **60 hours of hands-on training** covering construction safety, drywall installation, tiling, flooring installation, and basic carpentry. Workforce readiness workshops, including resume development and jobsite professionalism, will also be provided. Participants will complete a small demonstration project to apply their newly learned skills. **Training Cohort 2 (January – March 2027)** A second training cohort will be recruited and trained using the same curriculum model. This phase will expand community participation and continue partnerships with local contractors and tradespeople who may provide mentorship and potential employment opportunities for graduates. **Community Projects, Job Placement Support, and Program Evaluation (April – June 2027)** During the final phase, participants will assist with small community improvement or demonstration projects that allow them to apply their skills while benefiting local community spaces. COMMUNi T will also provide employment navigation support, connecting graduates to construction companies, apprenticeship programs, and contract work opportunities. The project team will evaluate program outcomes, track participant employment progress, and prepare a final report documenting training completion, community impact, and workforce outcomes. This schedule ensures the program delivers **two training cohorts within the grant year**, provides meaningful hands-on experience, and allows sufficient time for program evaluation and community engagement.
What challenges do you anticipate in your project/program's implementation? What is your plan to complete your project/program should those or other challenges arise?	**Anticipated Challenges and Mitigation Plan** As with any community-based workforce development initiative, COMMUNi T anticipates several potential challenges during the implementation of the Construction and Design Workforce Initiative. However, the program team has developed proactive strategies to address these challenges and ensure successful project completion. One anticipated challenge is **participant recruitment and retention**. Some residents who could benefit from the program may face barriers such as work schedules, family responsibilities, transportation limitations, or uncertainty about entering the construction field. To address this,

COMMUNi T will conduct targeted outreach through community partners, social media, and local organizations within Rancho Cordova. The program will also offer flexible training schedules where possible and provide clear communication about the benefits of skilled trades careers. Maintaining an engaging, hands-on learning environment will help keep participants motivated and committed to completing the training.

Another potential challenge is **ensuring consistent participation throughout the training cycle**. Workforce training programs can sometimes experience participant drop-off due to competing life demands. To mitigate this risk, COMMUNi T will maintain regular communication with participants, provide mentorship and encouragement, and create a supportive learning environment that emphasizes teamwork and peer support. Progress milestones and completion recognition will also be incorporated to keep participants engaged.

The program may also encounter **logistical challenges related to materials, equipment, or training space availability**. To prepare for this, COMMUNi T will secure training locations and purchase essential tools and materials during the initial planning phase of the project. Establishing relationships with local contractors and suppliers will help ensure timely access to additional materials if needed.

Another consideration is **connecting graduates to employment opportunities**. While the construction industry currently faces labor shortages, participants may still need guidance transitioning from training into employment. COMMUNi T will work to build relationships with local contractors, construction businesses, and apprenticeship programs to create clear pathways for participants to enter the workforce. Career readiness workshops and job placement support will help participants present their skills confidently to potential employers.

Finally, unexpected challenges such as economic fluctuations or scheduling disruptions may occur during the project period. To address these possibilities, the project team will conduct **regular program check-ins and quarterly reviews** to monitor progress and identify any issues early. This flexible management approach allows the team to adjust schedules, training methods, or outreach strategies as needed to keep the program on track.

Through proactive planning, strong community partnerships, and ongoing evaluation, COMMUNi T is well positioned to successfully implement the Construction and Design Workforce Initiative and ensure that Rancho Cordova residents receive valuable skills training and pathways to employment.

How many individuals does your project/program serve?	50

How many Rancho Cordova residents does your project/program serve?	50
	4 - Project/Program Location
Address Verification	If you need to check if your project is in Rancho Cordova, type in your program/project's location in the Assessor Parcel Viewer: https://assessorparcelviewer.saccounty.gov/jsviewer/assessor.html
School and park related applications are due before Noon (12:00 p.m.) on March 6, 2026, to allow for the endorsement process.	Please note that projects or programs that are proposed on property owned or operated by outside agencies or a private party will require coordination with and potentially approvals from outside agencies, organizations, and/or the private party. Include whether you have received a letter of support for the project/program from the property owner. Upload any letters of support with your application. City staff will verify third-party permits have been discussed. In your planning discussions, be sure to discuss any necessary insurance or volunteer requirements that may increase budget costs. School Sites If your project/program is intended to operate at a public K-12 school site, your application is due by March 6 at Noon (12:00 p.m.). City staff will work with the school districts to confirm an endorsement for your project/program. It's the applicant's responsibility to communicate with school site and district representatives before applying so there is clarity during the endorsement process. Districts will only consider endorsement for applications submitted to the Community Enhancement & Investment Fund by the March 6 at Noon (12:00 p.m.). deadline. Each participating school superintendent reserves the right to withhold their endorsement of a project/program. Parks If your project/program is intended to operate at a park or community center site, your application is due by the March 6 at Noon (12:00 p.m.). deadline. City staff will work with the Cordova Recreation & Park District to confirm an endorsement for your project/program. It's the applicant's responsibility to communicate with district representatives before applying so there is clarity during the endorsement process. A special use permit application is required for any program or event planned at a CRPD facility. The special use application can be found at the CRPD website: https://www.cordovarpd.gov/. CRPD will only consider endorsement for applications submitted to the Community Enhancement & Investment Fund by the March 6 at Noon (12:00 p.m.). deadline. The Cordova Recreation & Park District reserves the right to withhold their endorsement of a project/program. Below is the list of staff to communicate with at school and park organizations: Folsom Cordova Unified School District: mwest@fcusd.org Cordova Recreation & Park District: cmichelotti@cordovarpd.gov Elk Grove Unified School District: mgulden@egusd.net Sacramento City Unified School District: Tuan-Duong@scusd.edu for Winn and Carver and Enrique-Flores@scusd.edu for Lincoln.

Primary street address of project/program	[redacted]
List the city location of the project/program.	rancho cordova
Select State	CA
Provide the zip code for your project/program's primary location.	95670
If your project/program takes place at multiple locations, please list other or secondary locations.	
Third Party Letters of Support (Note: Combine multiple files in one pdf before uploading)	
Does your project/program involve one of Rancho Cordova's school districts?	No
Does your project/program involve the Cordova Recreation & Park District?	No
	5 - Applicant Information
Name	Ithiopia Mckinney
Is this project/program on behalf of an organization?	Yes
What is the name of your organization?	COMMUNi T

What is your title and/or role at your organization?	Executive Director
Provide contact phone number:	[redacted]
Provide contact email:	ithiopia@ocommunitydoulas.org
Are you the primary point of contact on this project/program?	Yes
If your project/program was awarded the requested funds, are you authorized to sign the contract for your organization?	Yes, I would be the one to sign the contract
By checking here, I confirm that I am aware that my application materials will become public record.	checked
	Thank you for applying to the Community Enhancement & Investment Fund Fiscal Year 2026-2027 Grant Cycle. Applicants will receive an automated response through the grant portal. Community Enhancement & Investment Fund (CEIF) Staff will follow up with any questions regarding your Fiscal Year 2026-2027 application. For information about the next steps in the CEIF grant process, visit our website for more information. It is anticipated that applications will be reviewed by the City Council starting in April 2026 with adoption in June 2026. Should applicants be awarded by the City Council, funding would not be available to grantees until the start of Fiscal Year 2026-2027 and the completion of a contract. Please send an email to CEIFGrants@cityofranchocordova.org with any questions or comments.

Internal Form

Score	n/a

HANDY Workforce Initiative Budget

Budget Category	Description	Amount (USD)
Personnel	Instructor stipends, program coordination, and staff support for training workshops and participant supervision.	$25,000
Supplies	Training materials including drywall, tile, flooring samples, adhesives, safety gear, gloves, work aprons, and instructional materials.	$11,000
Transportation	Transportation costs for staff, trainers, and transport of materials and tools to training and community project sites.	$3,000
Equipment	Construction training equipment including power tools, tile cutters, drywall tools, flooring installation tools, ladders, and safety equipment.	$10,000
Miscellaneous	Outreach materials, printing, participant certificates, and small program support costs.	$1,000
Total Project Budget		**$50,000**

Title

Creative Pathways: Arts, Wellness & Workforce Development for Rancho Cordova

03/04/2026

id. 53385157

by **Sandra Richardson** in **Fiscal Year 2026-2027 Community Enhancement & Investment Fund Grant Application**

[redacted]
ROSEVILLE, California
95747
CA
United States
[redacted]

Original Submission

03/04/2026

Score n/a

	Thank you for your interest in applying to the City of Rancho Cordova's Community Enhancement & Investment Fund. Applications are open from February 9, 2026, to March 13, 2026, Noon (12:00 p.m.) with a specific deadline of March 6th Noon (12:00 p.m.) for certain applications**. Before you begin, please read the notes about deadlines and certain types of grant applications/grants below. **School/Park Application Deadline **Note that projects or programs involving a park or school district have a deadline of March 6 Noon (12:00 p.m.) to allow for the third-party endorsement process by the grant deadline.** A Note about Religious Schools and the Application/Grant Process **Note for grant applications from religious schools. The United States Supreme Court has recently ruled in part that: “denying a generally available benefit [from government] solely on account of religious identity imposes a penalty on the free exercise of religion that can be justified only by a state interest of the highest order.” The City is of the opinion that not all grants to religious schools are prohibited under this and other similar rulings. However, these United States Supreme Court decisions remain in conflict with a section of the California State Constitution that says: “[n]either the Legislature, nor any county, city and county, township, school district, or other municipal corporation, shall ever make an appropriation, or pay from any public fund whatever, or grant anything to or in aid of any religious sect, church, creed, or sectarian purpose, or help to support or sustain any school, college, university, hospital, or other institution controlled by any religious creed, church, or sectarian denomination whatever; nor shall any grant or donation of personal property or real estate ever be made by the state, or any city, city and county, town, or other municipal corporation for any religious creed, church, or sectarian purpose whatever”. The City will accept applications for grants of these City public funds from religious schools, but will have language in the grant agreements to address the possibility and consequences of legal challenges and new court decisions on this and related topics. ** Future Grant Opportunities If you are interested in remaining up-to-date on available grants from the City of Rancho Cordova, click here to sign up for the Grants Interest List. A separate call for programming opportunities with the Rancho Cordova Youth Center is anticipated later in 2026. The list is also used to advertise separate art programs when funds are available. Ongoing Grant Opportunity The City of Rancho Cordova offers a microgrant opportunity. Learn more about those grants online.
Is this your first time applying for grant funding from the City of Rancho Cordova? As a first-time applicant, Community Enhancement & Investment Fund (CEIF) staff will contact you to discuss your project and grant application process.	Yes: First Time Applicant

	1 - Project/Program Information Note: You can add a collaborator to this form to assist you in completing this application! A collaborator can help you complete this form by filling in fields for you, although only you can submit this form. You can add a collaborator by navigating to the top of the form and clicking on the 'Manage Collaborators' button. Simply enter their email address and click 'invite' to invite them as a collaborator. If you need further assistance, you may consult this Help article for more information.
Project/Program Name. Assign a project name to your project/program.	Creative Pathways: Arts, Wellness & Workforce Development for Rancho Cordova
Which category does your Project/Program align with?	Arts, Culture, History, & Entertainment
Provide a Project/Program Synopsis	Creative Pathways is a 12.week arts and workforce program using storytelling, acting, and digital media to build confidence, wellness, and career skills for Rancho Cordova youth and families, culminating in a community showcase that uplifts local voices and strengthens creative opportunity.
Provide a Project/Program Description	Creative Pathways is a community.centered arts, wellness, and workforce development initiative designed by Rich Empire Business Consulting and The Dramatic Arts Institute to expand access to creative education, emotional resilience, and career.aligned skill.building for youth, young adults, and families in Rancho Cordova. The program responds to a clear and growing need for safe, structured, and empowering spaces where residents—particularly those from underserved neighborhoods—can explore their creativity, strengthen their confidence, and gain exposure to emerging career pathways in digital media, communication, and the creative economy. Through a 12.week sequence of workshops, production labs, and leadership sessions, Creative Pathways provides a holistic learning experience that blends artistic expression with practical workforce readiness. Rancho Cordova continues to experience disparities in access to arts programming and youth enrichment opportunities. Many families face barriers such as cost, transportation, and limited availability of culturally responsive programs that support both emotional wellness and skill development. At the same time, the Sacramento region is experiencing rapid growth in media, technology, and creative industries, yet local youth often lack exposure to these fields or the foundational skills needed to pursue them. Educators, community partners, and local service providers consistently highlight the need for programs that build communication skills, support mental and emotional well.being, and prepare young people for future academic and career success. Creative Pathways directly addresses these gaps by offering a free, accessible, and community.rooted program that integrates arts education with leadership development and digital media training. The program is structured into four interconnected components. The first

phase, Creative Expression Workshops, introduces participants to acting, storytelling, improvisation, and ensemble.based activities that build confidence, communication, and emotional expression. These sessions are facilitated using trauma.informed practices that help participants process experiences, develop self.awareness, and strengthen interpersonal skills. The Dramatic Arts Institute brings decades of experience in performance training and narrative.based healing, ensuring that workshops are both engaging and supportive.

The second phase, Digital Media & Production Labs, provides hands.on training in smartphone filmmaking, lighting, sound, interviewing, and basic editing. Participants work in small teams to create short films, monologues, or digital stories that reflect their lived experiences and community identity. This phase introduces practical, transferable skills that align with real career pathways in media, communications, and creative entrepreneurship. Rich Empire Business Consulting contributes strategic oversight, curriculum alignment, and workforce.oriented framing to ensure participants understand how these skills translate into future opportunities.

Throughout the program, participants engage in Leadership & Wellness Sessions that focus on public speaking, goal.setting, resilience, and career exploration. These sessions emphasize self.advocacy, emotional regulation, and long.term planning, helping participants build the confidence and clarity needed to pursue academic, creative, or professional goals.

The program culminates in a Community Showcase & Screening, where participants present their creative work to families, neighbors, and local leaders. This event strengthens civic pride, builds community connection, and highlights the talent and resilience within Rancho Cordova. It also provides participants with a meaningful sense of accomplishment and public recognition for their efforts.

Creative Pathways is designed to produce both immediate and long.term outcomes. In the short term, participants will demonstrate increased confidence, improved communication skills, stronger emotional expression, and greater familiarity with digital media tools. The program anticipates serving at least 60 residents and producing 10–15 completed creative projects. In the long term, the initiative aims to increase interest in creative and communication.based careers, strengthen community engagement, and establish a sustainable model for annual arts.based workforce development in Rancho Cordova.

Rich Empire Business Consulting and The Dramatic Arts Institute bring a powerful combination of operational expertise, creative leadership, and community engagement experience. Rich Empire provides project management, partnership development, compliance oversight, and strategic planning to ensure the program is well.structured, measurable, and sustainable. The Dramatic Arts Institute contributes deep expertise in acting, film production, trauma.informed arts education, and youth mentorship. Together, the organizations create a program that is both artistically rich and operationally sound.

The requested $10,000 will support instruction, equipment, participant resources, venue costs, and the culminating showcase. The budget

	prioritizes direct community benefit, ensuring that funds are used to maximize access, quality, and impact. Evaluation will include pre. and post.program surveys, attendance tracking, review of completed creative projects, and feedback from participants and families. A final report will summarize outcomes, lessons learned, and recommendations for future expansion. Creative Pathways offers Rancho Cordova a meaningful, accessible, and forward.looking program that nurtures creativity, strengthens wellness, and builds pathways to future opportunity. It is designed not only to enrich participants today but to contribute to a stronger, more connected, and more creatively empowered community.
Tell us about your Project/Program Team	The Creative Pathways project is led by a highly skilled multidisciplinary team. Sandra Dee Richardson brings four decades of experience as an actor, producer, director, casting director, and business and acting consultant, providing both creative leadership and operational strategy. Rick Richardson, a seasoned actor, contributes performance expertise and mentorship. Lamondo Hill adds strong creative insight and community engagement. Aaron Leong, an accomplished producer and director, strengthens the program's cinematic quality and technical execution. Together, this team offers a powerful blend of artistic mastery, industry knowledge, and community.centered leadership to ensure a high.impact program for Rancho Cordova.
Provide your Project/Program Goals	The Creative Pathways project/program goals are as follows: 1. Expand Access to Arts Education Provide free, high.quality acting, storytelling, and digital media training to youth, young adults, and families in Rancho Cordova. Metrics: • Minimum of 60 participants enrolled across the 12.week program • At least 75% attendance rate across all sessions • Participant demographics tracked to ensure outreach to underserved communities Focus Mechanism: Weekly enrollment/attendance review and targeted outreach adjustments. 2. Strengthen Emotional Wellness and Resilience Use trauma.informed creative practices to help participants build confidence, communication skills, and emotional expression. Metrics: • Pre. and post.surveys showing 20% improvement in self.confidence and emotional expression • Facilitator observations documented weekly

• Participant reflections collected at mid.point and program end

Focus Mechanism:

Team check.ins to review participant needs and adjust activities to maintain a supportive environment.

3. Build Workforce.Aligned Creative Skills

Introduce practical skills in filmmaking, digital content creation, production, and communication.

Metrics:

• Completion of 10–15 creative projects (short films, monologues, digital stories)

• At least 70% of participants demonstrate proficiency in basic filming and editing tasks

• Portfolio materials created for each participant

Focus Mechanism:

Structured curriculum milestones and skill.tracking rubrics reviewed bi.weekly.

4. Develop Leadership and Public Speaking Skills

Support participants in building leadership capacity through collaboration, presentation, and self.advocacy.

Metrics:

• 100% of participants complete at least one leadership or public speaking activity

• Measurable improvement in communication scores on post.program surveys

• Facilitator evaluations of teamwork and leadership engagement

Focus Mechanism:

Leadership moments embedded into every session with rotating participant roles.

5. Foster Community Connection and Civic Pride

Create opportunities for residents to share their stories publicly through a community showcase.

Metrics:

• Showcase attendance of 100+ community members

• At least 80% of participants present work publicly

• Audience feedback collected and analyzed

Focus Mechanism:

Showcase planning timeline with clear responsibilities for each team member.

6. Support Career Exploration and Mentorship

Connect participants with working actors, producers, directors, and creative professionals.

Metrics:

• Minimum of 4 guest mentors engaged

• At least 2 career.focused sessions delivered

• Participant surveys showing increased awareness of creative career pathways

Focus Mechanism:

Mentor scheduling calendar and post.session debriefs to ensure alignment with program goals.

7. Produce Meaningful Creative Work

Guide participants in creating original content that reflects their lived experiences and community identity.

Metrics:

• Each participant completes one polished creative piece

• Creative work archived for future program use and community visibility

• Quality review by program team using a standardized rubric

Focus Mechanism:

Weekly production checkpoints and editing labs to keep projects on track.

8. Establish a Sustainable Creative Pathway

Build a replicable model that can continue annually and expand through partnerships.

Metrics:

• At least 3 new partnerships established with schools, nonprofits, or city programs

• Post.program sustainability plan drafted and approved

• Identification of two future funding sources

Focus Mechanism:

	Monthly strategy meetings led by Sandra to track partnership development and sustainability milestones.

Optional File Upload: Provide any additional records to supplement your program/project application. Note: Combine multiple files in one pdf before uploading.

Presentation_-_LIFE_Empowerment_Program_SDR_World_Relief_Foundation_1.pdf

	2 - Funding & Costs
Funding Request - Complete this section with total dollar amounts for your project/program's costs	Funds are generally not intended to be used for deferred maintenance and ongoing operational needs. The funds are intended for enhancing and investing in the City of Rancho Cordova. If your project/program is awarded, the costs identified below would be reviewed and potentially open to modification during a contracting phase (if a grant is awarded by the City Council). If awarded, grant funds are not available until a contract is executed during Fiscal Year 2026-2027.
Total project/program cost*	10000
What is the amount of Community Enhancement & Investment Fund grant monies requested?	10000
Does your project/program involve construction of any facilities or improvements upon any property?	No
What is the total cost of personnel for your project/program?	4000
What is the total cost of supplies for your project/program?	2000
What is the total cost of transportation for your project/program?	1500
What is the total cost of equipment for your project/program?	2000

What is the total cost of any miscellaneous expenses for your project/program?	500

Upload your project/program's budget as a .pdf file. Include the categories and their dollar amounts along with information about any other funding sources to demonstrate your project/program's total budget. Note, the sum of all categories must match the total project or program cost, or the amount requested of CEIF if there is no other funding source. Please clearly illustrate any matching funds or funding from other sources in your project/program budget, including in-kind sources. Note: Combine multiple files in one pdf before uploading.

Rich_Empire_Budget_Breakdown.pdf

Has your organization sought or will seek other funding for this project/program?	Yes, actively seeking funding support or have secured additional funding support for this project/program.
Describe any funding secured or being sought for this project/program.	We are seeking federal grants from Sacramento and SAM.gov
Please describe any ongoing operations and maintenance costs beyond Fiscal Year 2026/2027, if applicable.	I cannot foresee any at this time.
Do you have volunteer or in-kind support for your project? This could include volunteers for an activity/event that is ongoing or a one-time experience.	No
Is this a single year request or a request for funding for multiple years?	Single Year
Has your project/program received funding from the Community Enhancement & Investment Fund previously?	No

3 - Project/Program Details Grant applications are typically approved to occur between July 2026 through June 2027. What is your plan to complete this project/program within this time frame?	
Anticipated Start Date (July 1 is the soonest available start date)	8/15/2026
Anticipated End Date (typically projects/programs end by June 30)	11/15/2026
Please describe your project/program schedule	• Production checkpoint #1 Week 5 (Sept 12–18) — Filming Week 1 • Hands-on filming sessions • Leadership/public speaking micro-activities • Facilitator observations documented • Bi-weekly skill rubric review #2 • Partnership outreach for sustainability (Goal 8) Week 6 (Sept 19–25) — Filming Week 2 + Mid-Point Evaluation • Continued filming and directing practice • Mid-point participant reflections collected • Attendance review + outreach • Mentor Session #1 (career pathways) • Production checkpoint #2 Week 7 (Sept 26–Oct 2) — Editing & Post-Production Basics • Editing labs: cutting, sound, basic effects • Emotional resilience workshop • Leadership roles rotate • Bi-weekly skill rubric review #3 • Showcase planning team formed Week 8 (Oct 3–9) — Creative Project Finalization • Editing labs continue • Facilitator observations documented • Attendance review + outreach • Mentor Session #2 (industry Q&A) • Production checkpoint #3 Week 9 (Oct 10–16) — Public Speaking & Showcase Prep • Public speaking coaching + presentation practice • Showcase run-throughs begin • Bi-weekly skill rubric review #4 • Partnership development meeting #2 • Leadership roles rotate Week 10 (Oct 17–23) — Community Engagement & Marketing • Showcase marketing: flyers, social media, outreach • Emotional wellness check-ins • Attendance review + outreach • Mentor Session #3 (optional) • Production checkpoint #4 Week 11 (Oct 24–30) — Final Edits & Showcase Rehearsals • Final editing and polishing of creative pieces • Full showcase rehearsal • Facilitator evaluations of teamwork & leadership • Sustainability planning meeting #3 • Post-program survey prep Week 12 (Oct 31–Nov 6) — Community Showcase & Program Close • Community Showcase (Goal: 100+ attendees; 80%+ participant presentations) • Audience feedback collected • Post-program surveys administered • Creative work archived • Final partnership/funding strategy meeting • Program debrief + next-year recommendations Post-Program (Nov 7–15) — Reporting & Sustainability • Data analysis: attendance, demographics, survey outcomes • Final report drafted for funder • Sustainability plan finalized • Partnership follow-ups and next-year planning

What challenges do you anticipate in your project/program's implementation? What is your plan to complete your project/program should those or other challenges arise?	Finding a location. I am hoping that the city could provide facilities.We will have to open it online making it more convenient for the community specific to Rancho Cordova.
How many individuals does your project/program serve?	60 at one time
How many Rancho Cordova residents does your project/program serve?	The will be many classes and each class can accommodate 60 individuals.
	4 - Project/Program Location
Address Verification	If you need to check if your project is in Rancho Cordova, type in your program/project's location in the Assessor Parcel Viewer: https://assessorparcelviewer.saccounty.gov/jsviewer/assessor.html

School and park related applications are due before Noon (12:00 p.m.) on March 6, 2026, to allow for the endorsement process.	Please note that projects or programs that are proposed on property owned or operated by outside agencies or a private party will require coordination with and potentially approvals from outside agencies, organizations, and/or the private party. Include whether you have received a letter of support for the project/program from the property owner. Upload any letters of support with your application. City staff will verify third-party permits have been discussed. In your planning discussions, be sure to discuss any necessary insurance or volunteer requirements that may increase budget costs. School Sites If your project/program is intended to operate at a public K-12 school site, your application is due by March 6 at Noon (12:00 p.m.). City staff will work with the school districts to confirm an endorsement for your project/program. It's the applicant's responsibility to communicate with school site and district representatives before applying so there is clarity during the endorsement process. Districts will only consider endorsement for applications submitted to the Community Enhancement & Investment Fund by the March 6 at Noon (12:00 p.m.). deadline. Each participating school superintendent reserves the right to withhold their endorsement of a project/program. Parks If your project/program is intended to operate at a park or community center site, your application is due by the March 6 at Noon (12:00 p.m.). deadline. City staff will work with the Cordova Recreation & Park District to confirm an endorsement for your project/program. It's the applicant's responsibility to communicate with district representatives before applying so there is clarity during the endorsement process. A special use permit application is required for any program or event planned at a CRPD facility. The special use application can be found at the CRPD website: https://www.cordovarpd.gov/. CRPD will only consider endorsement for applications submitted to the Community Enhancement & Investment Fund by the March 6 at Noon (12:00 p.m.). deadline. The Cordova Recreation & Park District reserves the right to withhold their endorsement of a project/program. Below is the list of staff to communicate with at school and park organizations: Folsom Cordova Unified School District: mwest@fcusd.org Cordova Recreation & Park District: cmichelotti@cordovarpd.gov Elk Grove Unified School District: mgulden@egusd.net Sacramento City Unified School District: Tuan-Duong@scusd.edu for Winn and Carver and Enrique-Flores@scusd.edu for Lincoln.
Primary street address of project/program	I am requesting that the city provides a location. I recently heard the mayor speak about helping small businesses getting small locations for doing business in Rancho Cordova.
List the city location of the project/program.	Rancho Cordova
Select State	CA
Provide the zip code for your project/program's primary location.	95670

If your project/program takes place at multiple locations, please list other or secondary locations.	Some classes can be held online open only to Rancho Cordova residents.
Third Party Letters of Support (Note: Combine multiple files in one pdf before uploading)	
Does your project/program involve one of Rancho Cordova's school districts?	No
Does your project/program involve the Cordova Recreation & Park District?	No
	5 - Applicant Information
Name	Sandra Richardson
Is this project/program on behalf of an organization?	Yes
What is the name of your organization?	Rich Empire Business Consulting, Inc.
What is your title and/or role at your organization?	CEO, owner
Provide contact phone number:	[redacted]
Provide contact email:	[redacted]
Are you the primary point of contact on this project/program?	Yes

If your project/program was awarded the requested funds, are you authorized to sign the contract for your organization?	Yes, I would be the one to sign the contract
By checking here, I confirm that I am aware that my application materials will become public record.	checked
	Thank you for applying to the Community Enhancement & Investment Fund Fiscal Year 2026-2027 Grant Cycle. Applicants will receive an automated response through the grant portal. Community Enhancement & Investment Fund (CEIF) Staff will follow up with any questions regarding your Fiscal Year 2026-2027 application. For information about the next steps in the CEIF grant process, visit our website for more information. It is anticipated that applications will be reviewed by the City Council starting in April 2026 with adoption in June 2026. Should applicants be awarded by the City Council, funding would not be available to grantees until the start of Fiscal Year 2026-2027 and the completion of a contract. Please send an email to CEIFGrants@cityofranchocordova.org with any questions or comments.

Internal Form

Score	n/a

Rich Empire Business Consulting DBA: The Dramatic Arts Institute

LIFE Empowerment Program & Skills Training Program

Effective 8/26 - 10/26 (12 Weeks)

Budget Breakdown:

1. Personnel - $4,000

Covers staffing and instructional labor including instructor stipends, mentor honorariums, administrative coordination, and program oversight.

2. Supplies - $2,000

Includes office supplies, participant materials, printing, binders, and production-related consumables.

3. Transportation - $1,500

Supports participant access through bus passes, transit vouchers, rideshare assistance, and transportation stipends.

4. Equipment - $2,000

Funds cameras, lighting kits, microphones, tripods, stabilizers, and editing accessories.

5. Miscellaneous - $500

Covers venue usage, showcase materials, participant support items, insurance, permits, and documentation needs.

Total Budget Request: $10,000

SANDRA DEE RICHARDSON
BIO

Sandra Dee Richardson is an accomplished filmmaker and seasoned business executive whose career spans directing, producing, casting, and organizational leadership. As the founder and CEO of multiple enterprises, she has led large-scale programs, managed complex operations, and built sustainable initiatives across the creative, education, and consulting sectors. Her business expertise includes strategic planning, budget oversight, contract negotiation, partnership development, and program design.

In the film industry, Sandra is recognized for her disciplined production management, strong creative vision, and ability to guide diverse teams from concept to completion. Her casting and directing work reflect her talent for identifying potential, developing talent, and delivering high-quality, emotionally resonant projects. Her combined strengths as a filmmaker and businesswoman make her a trusted leader capable of driving both artistic excellence and organizational impact.

2023 Annual Report

LIFE Empowerment Program RICH EMPIRE BUSINESS CONSULTING

Presented by Sandra Richardson

Executive Summary

Transformative Support for Participants

Empowerment and Skill Development

In 2023, the program provided transformative support to 98 participants, focusing on empowerment, skill development, and personal growth to foster self-sufficiency and resilience in their lives.

Program Mission

Empowering Individuals and Families Together

Commitment to Uplift

The LIFE Empowerment Program is dedicated to uplifting individuals through **wrap-around services** that promote independence, empowerment, and long-term self-sufficiency for all participants, fostering resilience and hope.

Program Overview

Skills Training

Our program offers comprehensive skills training in acting and film production, equipping participants with essential creative capabilities to excel in dynamic artistic environments.

Nutrition Programs

Nutrition and healthy living programs teach participants valuable skills in meal preparation and healthy choices, encouraging sustainable practices that enhance overall physical health and wellness within the community.

Youth Mentoring

Youth mentoring provides academic support and personal development, fostering resilience and confidence in at-risk youth while promoting positive relationships and mentorship opportunities within the community.

Emergency Services

Our emergency food and safety-net services provide critical assistance to families in need, ensuring access to nutritious food and essential supplies during times of crisis or hardship.

Veteran Support

We deliver specialized services for veterans, assisting with benefits navigation, documentation, and tailored resources to ensure a smooth transition into civilian life and promote overall well-being.

Workshops

Personal development workshops focus on building life skills, promoting self-esteem, and enhancing communication abilities, empowering participants to navigate challenges and achieve their goals with confidence.

2023 Participant Outcomes

Total Participants

In 2023, a total of **98 participants** engaged in the LIFE Empowerment and SDR World Relief programs, receiving transformative support tailored to their unique needs and circumstances.

Skills Training

Remarkably, **100% of participants** actively engaged in skills training sessions, honing their abilities in creative arts and production, which are crucial for their personal and professional growth.

Increased Confidence

An impressive **99% of participants** reported increased confidence and communication skills, vital for their social interactions and future opportunities in various fields and industries.

Family Support

The program successfully ensured that **100% of families** received essential youth support and mentoring, helping to strengthen family units and foster a supportive community environment.

Veteran Assistance

All enrolled veterans, 100%, received assistance in navigating benefits and gaining access to vital services, affirming the program's commitment to supporting those who served our country.

Emergency Supplies

Furthermore, **100% of participants** received emergency food and essential supplies, addressing immediate needs and ensuring stability as they work toward long-term self-sufficiency and empowerment.

Community & Veteran Support

Youth Mentoring

Participants receive personalized guidance and academic support from mentors.

Veteran Navigation

Assistance provided for veterans to access benefits and documentation.

Nutrition Education

Programs offered to promote healthy living and nutrition awareness.

Skills Training

Free Professional Training Program

Theory and Hands-On Practice

Participants receive comprehensive training that combines theoretical knowledge with practical experience, ensuring they are equipped with the necessary skills for success in the creative industries.

Program Purpose

Skills Training Program Overview

Equip Participants

The program equips participants with essential creative and technical skills, emphasizing mastery demonstrated through real production experiences, ensuring they are prepared for the industry.

Target Participant Groups

Supporting Vulnerable Communities Effectively

Who the Program Serves

The program focuses on **at-risk youth** and homeless individuals, providing essential resources and support to help them navigate challenges and build a stable and self-sufficient future.

Program Benefits

Skills and Confidence Development

Marketable Skills

Participants gain **marketable skills** in creative industries, enhancing their employability. This training leads to increased confidence, resilience, and opportunities for future employment or entrepreneurship.

Core Skill Areas Developed

Goal Setting

Participants establish clear personal and professional objectives.

Theory

Understanding the fundamentals of acting and production processes.

Hands-On

Real productions provide valuable practical experience and collaboration.

Contact Us

We're here to help

Phone

916-705-9519

Email

[redacted]

Website

www.rebcinc.com

29. Application Withdrawn

Title

Logo Legacy: L.I.T.

03/06/2026

by **MFYSL Village** in **Fiscal Year 2026-2027 Community Enhancement & Investment Fund Grant Application**

id. 53411025

[redacted]
10
SACRAMENTO california, California
95838
United States
[redacted]

Original Submission

03/06/2026

Score n/a

	Thank you for your interest in applying to the City of Rancho Cordova's Community Enhancement & Investment Fund. Applications are open from February 9, 2026, to March 13, 2026, Noon (12:00 p.m.) with a specific deadline of March 6th Noon (12:00 p.m.) for certain applications**. Before you begin, please read the notes about deadlines and certain types of grant applications/grants below. **School/Park Application Deadline **Note that projects or programs involving a park or school district have a deadline of March 6 Noon (12:00 p.m.) to allow for the third-party endorsement process by the grant deadline.** A Note about Religious Schools and the Application/Grant Process **Note for grant applications from religious schools. The United States Supreme Court has recently ruled in part that: “denying a generally available benefit [from government] solely on account of religious identity imposes a penalty on the free exercise of religion that can be justified only by a state interest of the highest order.” The City is of the opinion that not all grants to religious schools are prohibited under this and other similar rulings. However, these United States Supreme Court decisions remain in conflict with a section of the California State Constitution that says: “[n]either the Legislature, nor any county, city and county, township, school district, or other municipal corporation, shall ever make an appropriation, or pay from any public fund whatever, or grant anything to or in aid of any religious sect, church, creed, or sectarian purpose, or help to support or sustain any school, college, university, hospital, or other institution controlled by any religious creed, church, or sectarian denomination whatever; nor shall any grant or donation of personal property or real estate ever be made by the state, or any city, city and county, town, or other municipal corporation for any religious creed, church, or sectarian purpose whatever”. The City will accept applications for grants of these City public funds from religious schools, but will have language in the grant agreements to address the possibility and consequences of legal challenges and new court decisions on this and related topics. ** Future Grant Opportunities If you are interested in remaining up-to-date on available grants from the City of Rancho Cordova, click here to sign up for the Grants Interest List. A separate call for programming opportunities with the Rancho Cordova Youth Center is anticipated later in 2026. The list is also used to advertise separate art programs when funds are available. Ongoing Grant Opportunity The City of Rancho Cordova offers a microgrant opportunity. Learn more about those grants online.
Is this your first time applying for grant funding from the City of Rancho Cordova? As a first-time applicant, Community Enhancement & Investment Fund (CEIF) staff will contact you to discuss your project and grant application process.	No: Not a First Time Applicant

	1 - Project/Program Information Note: You can add a collaborator to this form to assist you in completing this application! A collaborator can help you complete this form by filling in fields for you, although only you can submit this form. You can add a collaborator by navigating to the top of the form and clicking on the 'Manage Collaborators' button. Simply enter their email address and click 'invite' to invite them as a collaborator. If you need further assistance, you may consult this Help article for more information.
Project/Program Name. Assign a project name to your project/program.	Logo Legacy: L.I.T.
Which category does your Project/Program align with?	Youth Programs & Services
Provide a Project/Program Synopsis	***L.I.T (LEADERS IN TRAINING)***LIT is a collaborative program of husband and wife tandem Will***(BUMP)*** and Dawneshia Logo***(QOP)*** The Logos. LIT is a professional development program created for leaders of the next generation! This program is designed to provide Rancho teens REAL occupational experience while learning to lead within their community.

Provide a Project/Program Description

L.I.T (LEADERS IN TRAINING)

LIT is a collaborative program of husband and wife tandem Will***(BUMP)*** and Dawneshia Logo***(QOP)*** The Logos).

B.U.M.P (Big Uce Mentorship Program) is a character development mentorship program tailored for Youth Sports, Student Athletes & boys from underserved communities. This initiative is headed by Will Logo.

Q.O.P(Queens Of Purpose)est. 2013 is a girls mentorship program est. 2013

Rancho Cordova teens will gain an authentic work experience while being provided the opportunity to LEARN and LEAD within their community. Teens will go through an entire hiring & professional development process. They will be required to fill out a job application, Interview, provide reference with reference letter.

LIT will be a vendor for ***Mayes Freeman Youth Sports League(MFYSL)*** a youth recreation league in based in Rancho Cordova founded by Will Logo.

LIT will provide ***MFYSL*** with the following positions: Coaches, Referees & Food Handlers.

Teens will be trained by professionals of each field.

TRAINERS

-Coaches: Coaches will be trained by Will Logo current Natomas Basketball Frosh/JV Asst. Coach & Natomas Varsity Basketball Character Development Coach/Chaplain. Will Logo was also character development/ Offensive lineman coach for Cordova 2025 Will has 15 years of experience in coaching youth throughout the Sacramento area and is currently serving as vendor with MFYSL at Rancho Cordova Youth Center.

Food Handlers: Food Handlers Will be trained by experienced caterer Mabel Logo. Mabel has 30 years of experience catering weddings, banquets, retirement parties and much more. Mabel also served as a parent in the snack bar while her son attended Cordova High.

Referees: Referees will be trained by Lincoln Village native Emmanuel Kelly who is currently serving and has 7 years of experience officiating at the High School level with Northern California Officials Association (NCOA).

Tell us about your Project/Program Team	***Dawneshia Logo***:18 years of dedicated service to youth and families. Mrs Logo has established herself as a cornerstone of community empowerment in Sacramento. Program Director for Queens of Purpose, Dawneshia focuses on the holistic development of teen girls. She provides a sanctuary where young women can bridge the gap between their current circumstances and their highest potential, fostering resilience and goal-oriented leadership. ***Will Logo*** *Founder Of Mayes Freeman Youth Sports League(MFYSL) Will has 15 years of experience in coaching youth throughout the Sacramento area and is currently serving as vendor with Rancho Cordova Youth Center.*
Provide your Project/Program Goals	LIT's Goals ***overall mission & vision for goals*** Providing an opportunity for Rancho Cordova Teens a headstart on balancing school and work life preparing them for college. Time management, prioritization and self-regulation "Stress Management" Project Goals 1.) Provide Employment Experience for teens in Rancho Cordova 2.) Provide Professional Development & Training
Optional File Upload: Provide any additional records to supplement your program/project application. Note: Combine multiple files in one pdf before uploading.	
	2 - Funding & Costs
Funding Request - Complete this section with total dollar amounts for your project/program's costs	Funds are generally not intended to be used for deferred maintenance and ongoing operational needs. The funds are intended for enhancing and investing in the City of Rancho Cordova. If your project/program is awarded, the costs identified below would be reviewed and potentially open to modification during a contracting phase (if a grant is awarded by the City Council). If awarded, grant funds are not available until a contract is executed during Fiscal Year 2026-2027.
Total project/program cost*	14120

What is the amount of Community Enhancement & Investment Fund grant monies requested?	28240
Does your project/program involve construction of any facilities or improvements upon any property?	No
What is the total cost of personnel for your project/program?	23600
What is the total cost of supplies for your project/program?	720
What is the total cost of transportation for your project/program?	720
What is the total cost of equipment for your project/program?	720
What is the total cost of any miscellaneous expenses for your project/program?	0

Upload your project/program's budget as a .pdf file. Include the categories and their dollar amounts along with information about any other funding sources to demonstrate your project/program's total budget. Note, the sum of all categories must match the total project or program cost, or the amount requested of CEIF if there is no other funding source. Please clearly illustrate any matching funds or funding from other sources in your project/program budget, including in-kind sources. Note: Combine multiple files in one pdf before uploading.

L.I.T.pdf

Has your organization sought or will seek other funding for this project/program?	No, not seeking any other funding support.

Please explain why you are not seeking any other funding support for your project/program.	Looking to create a partnership with city to annually provide teens of Rancho Cordova with employment opportunities.
Please describe any ongoing operations and maintenance costs beyond Fiscal Year 2026/2027, if applicable.	
Do you have volunteer or in-kind support for your project? This could include volunteers for an activity/event that is ongoing or a one-time experience.	No
Is this a single year request or a request for funding for multiple years?	Multiple Years
If requesting CEIF grant funding for multiple years, please share how many years?	2
For requests spanning multiple years, share the dollar amount requested per year.	FY 2026-2027 $14,120 FY 2027-2028 $14,120
For projects/programs that span multiple years, please describe your sustainability plan and whether it is viable as a single year request.	The LIT program will create an economic IMPACT in the community while developing the city of rancho future adult citizens.

Has your project/program received funding from the Community Enhancement & Investment Fund previously?	No
	3 - Project/Program Details Grant applications are typically approved to occur between July 2026 through June 2027. What is your plan to complete this project/program within this time frame?
Anticipated Start Date (July 1 is the soonest available start date)	4/19/2026
Anticipated End Date (typically projects/programs end by June 30)	5/30/2027
Please describe your project/program schedule	**Spring 2026** Sundays April 19th-May 31st Interview Date at City Hall: Fri March 20th Training Date: April 4th **Spring 2027** Sundays April 18th-30th Interview Date at City Hall:Fri March 19th Training Date: April 3rd
What challenges do you anticipate in your project/program's implementation? What is your plan to complete your project/program should those or other challenges arise?	N/A

How many individuals does your project/program serve?	9
How many Rancho Cordova residents does your project/program serve?	200
	4 - Project/Program Location
Address Verification	If you need to check if your project is in Rancho Cordova, type in your program/project's location in the Assessor Parcel Viewer: https://assessorparcelviewer.saccounty.gov/jsviewer/assessor.html

School and park related applications are due before Noon (12:00 p.m.) on March 6, 2026, to allow for the endorsement process.	Please note that projects or programs that are proposed on property owned or operated by outside agencies or a private party will require coordination with and potentially approvals from outside agencies, organizations, and/or the private party. Include whether you have received a letter of support for the project/program from the property owner. Upload any letters of support with your application. City staff will verify third-party permits have been discussed. In your planning discussions, be sure to discuss any necessary insurance or volunteer requirements that may increase budget costs. School Sites If your project/program is intended to operate at a public K-12 school site, your application is due by March 6 at Noon (12:00 p.m.). City staff will work with the school districts to confirm an endorsement for your project/program. It's the applicant's responsibility to communicate with school site and district representatives before applying so there is clarity during the endorsement process. Districts will only consider endorsement for applications submitted to the Community Enhancement & Investment Fund by the March 6 at Noon (12:00 p.m.). deadline. Each participating school superintendent reserves the right to withhold their endorsement of a project/program. Parks If your project/program is intended to operate at a park or community center site, your application is due by the March 6 at Noon (12:00 p.m.). deadline. City staff will work with the Cordova Recreation & Park District to confirm an endorsement for your project/program. It's the applicant's responsibility to communicate with district representatives before applying so there is clarity during the endorsement process. A special use permit application is required for any program or event planned at a CRPD facility. The special use application can be found at the CRPD website: https://www.cordovarpd.gov/. CRPD will only consider endorsement for applications submitted to the Community Enhancement & Investment Fund by the March 6 at Noon (12:00 p.m.). deadline. The Cordova Recreation & Park District reserves the right to withhold their endorsement of a project/program. Below is the list of staff to communicate with at school and park organizations: Folsom Cordova Unified School District: mwest@fcusd.org Cordova Recreation & Park District: cmichelotti@cordovarpd.gov Elk Grove Unified School District: mgulden@egusd.net Sacramento City Unified School District: Tuan-Duong@scusd.edu for Winn and Carver and Enrique-Flores@scusd.edu for Lincoln.
Primary street address of project/program	2239 Chase Dr. Rancho Cordova Ca
List the city location of the project/program.	Rancho Cordova
Select State	CA
Provide the zip code for your project/program's primary location.	95670

If your project/program takes place at multiple locations, please list other or secondary locations.	City Hall Of Rancho Cordova 2729 Prospect Park Drive. Rancho Cordova Ca
Third Party Letters of Support (Note: Combine multiple files in one pdf before uploading)	
Does your project/program involve one of Rancho Cordova's school districts?	Yes
Is the project/program requesting facility use only or is this a request to partner with the school district?	Facility Use Only. Visit the school district website for facility use information.
Please select all the school districts which your project/program intends to involve:	Folsom Cordova USD
Please select one or more of the Folsom Cordova Unified School District school facilities which your project/program will involve:	Cordova High School
Have you reached out to a contact at the school(s) you indicated above?	Yes
Please provide the names of your contacts at the school(s) or district(s) who are familiar with your project/program.	FCUSD Board Member Jennifer Laret

Does your project/program involve the Cordova Recreation & Park District?	No
	5 - Applicant Information
Name	Will Logo
Is this project/program on behalf of an organization?	Yes
What is the name of your organization?	Logo Legacy LLC.
What is your title and/or role at your organization?	Founder Director
Provide contact phone number:	[redacted]
Provide contact email:	[redacted]
Are you the primary point of contact on this project/program?	Yes
If your project/program was awarded the requested funds, are you authorized to sign the contract for your organization?	Yes, I would be the one to sign the contract
By checking here, I confirm that I am aware that my application materials will become public record.	checked

Thank you for applying to the Community Enhancement & Investment Fund Fiscal Year 2026-2027 Grant Cycle. Applicants will receive an automated response through the grant portal. Community Enhancement & Investment Fund (CEIF) Staff will follow up with any questions regarding your Fiscal Year 2026-2027 application. For information about the next steps in the CEIF grant process, visit our website for more information. It is anticipated that applications will be reviewed by the City Council starting in April 2026 with adoption in June 2026. Should applicants be awarded by the City Council, funding would not be available to grantees until the start of Fiscal Year 2026-2027 and the completion of a contract. Please send an email to CEIFGrants@cityofranchocordova.org with any questions or comments.

Internal Form

Score	n/a

(L.I.T) Leaders In Training (Budget)

Operations

	Staff	Annual Cost	2 Year Total
Student Stipend:	x3 Coaches	$4,500	$9,000
	X3 Food Handler	$2,400	$4,800
	X3 Referees	$3,000	$6,000
Sub Total		**$9,900**	**19,800**

APPAREL & EQUIPMENT

Item	Unit Cost	Annual Total	2 year Total
Shirts	$30 x12	$360	$720
Badges	$30 x12	$360	$720
Sub Total		**$720**	**$1,440**

Professional Services	Trainers	Annual Total	2 Year Total
Trainer Stipend:	x7	**$3,500**	**$7,000**

Program Cost	**Annual Total**	**2 year Total**
	$14,120	**28,240**

Title

Cypress Grove Elementary VEX IQ Robotics Program

03/06/2026

id. 53405873

by **Ashwin Thirunahari** in **Fiscal Year 2026-2027 Community Enhancement & Investment Fund Grant Application**

Falkon Academy
[redacted]
Folsom, California
95630
CA
United States
[redacted]

Original Submission

03/06/2026

Score n/a

	Thank you for your interest in applying to the City of Rancho Cordova's Community Enhancement & Investment Fund. Applications are open from February 9, 2026, to March 13, 2026, Noon (12:00 p.m.) with a specific deadline of March 6th Noon (12:00 p.m.) for certain applications**. Before you begin, please read the notes about deadlines and certain types of grant applications/grants below. **School/Park Application Deadline **Note that projects or programs involving a park or school district have a deadline of March 6 Noon (12:00 p.m.) to allow for the third-party endorsement process by the grant deadline.** A Note about Religious Schools and the Application/Grant Process **Note for grant applications from religious schools. The United States Supreme Court has recently ruled in part that: “denying a generally available benefit [from government] solely on account of religious identity imposes a penalty on the free exercise of religion that can be justified only by a state interest of the highest order.” The City is of the opinion that not all grants to religious schools are prohibited under this and other similar rulings. However, these United States Supreme Court decisions remain in conflict with a section of the California State Constitution that says: “[n]either the Legislature, nor any county, city and county, township, school district, or other municipal corporation, shall ever make an appropriation, or pay from any public fund whatever, or grant anything to or in aid of any religious sect, church, creed, or sectarian purpose, or help to support or sustain any school, college, university, hospital, or other institution controlled by any religious creed, church, or sectarian denomination whatever; nor shall any grant or donation of personal property or real estate ever be made by the state, or any city, city and county, town, or other municipal corporation for any religious creed, church, or sectarian purpose whatever”. The City will accept applications for grants of these City public funds from religious schools, but will have language in the grant agreements to address the possibility and consequences of legal challenges and new court decisions on this and related topics. ** Future Grant Opportunities If you are interested in remaining up-to-date on available grants from the City of Rancho Cordova, click here to sign up for the Grants Interest List. A separate call for programming opportunities with the Rancho Cordova Youth Center is anticipated later in 2026. The list is also used to advertise separate art programs when funds are available. Ongoing Grant Opportunity The City of Rancho Cordova offers a microgrant opportunity. Learn more about those grants online.
Is this your first time applying for grant funding from the City of Rancho Cordova? As a first-time applicant, Community Enhancement & Investment Fund (CEIF) staff will contact you to discuss your project and grant application process.	No: Not a First Time Applicant

	1 - Project/Program Information Note: You can add a collaborator to this form to assist you in completing this application! A collaborator can help you complete this form by filling in fields for you, although only you can submit this form. You can add a collaborator by navigating to the top of the form and clicking on the 'Manage Collaborators' button. Simply enter their email address and click 'invite' to invite them as a collaborator. If you need further assistance, you may consult this Help article for more information.
Project/Program Name. Assign a project name to your project/program.	Cypress Grove Elementary VEX IQ Robotics Program
Which category does your Project/Program align with?	Youth Programs & Services
Provide a Project/Program Synopsis	**Falkon Academy** will provide a **VEX IQ Robotics program** for 3rd–8th grade students at Cypress Grove Elementary School, Introductory program and a Recreational robotics league Program. Students will build, code, and **compete** while developing problem-solving, teamwork, and STEM skills, expanding access to engaging, hands-on learning opportunities in Rancho Cordova.
Provide a Project/Program Description	Falkon Academy proposes to implement two structured VEX IQ Robotics programs at Cypress Grove Elementary School serving up to 50 students in grades 3–8. The project includes (1) a Robotics Beginners Program focused on foundational STEM learning and (2) a Recreational Robotics League centered on collaborative team challenges and friendly inter-school competition. Both programs aim to cultivate awareness, confidence, and long-term interest in technology and engineering among students in the Rancho Cordova community. Elk Grove Unified School District demonstrates its commitment to STEM education through robotics competitions hosted at Florin High School, organized by engineering and science teacher Mike Rosales. These events include VEX IQ, VEX V5, and FIRST LEGO League (FLL) competitions and attract robotics teams from across Northern California. However, there is currently limited representation from EGUSD elementary and middle schools and Rancho Cordova in these competitions, with many participating teams coming from Folsom, Roseville, and the Bay Area. This proposed program is designed to strengthen the local STEM pipeline by introducing structured robotics, coding, and engineering experiences at the elementary and middle school levels. By building early exposure and progressive skill development, the program creates a pathway toward future participation in district-hosted robotics competitions and advanced STEM coursework within EGUSD. VEX IQ Robotics was selected as the instructional platform because it provides an accessible, hands-on entry point into science, technology, engineering, and mathematics. Using snap-together robotics components and age-appropriate coding software, students learn mechanical design, structural stability, gear systems, sensors, drivetrain concepts, and block-

based programming. Participants build functional robots, test improvements, solve design challenges, and apply coding logic to real-world scenarios. The goal is to demonstrate that technology is engaging, creative, and achievable—not intimidating.

The Robotics Beginners Program introduces core engineering principles through guided instruction and small-team collaboration. Students learn the fundamentals of robot construction, motion systems, and programming logic while developing problem-solving skills and confidence working with technology.

The Recreational Robotics League extends this learning through structured challenges and friendly competitions that simulate official robotics competitions using scaled-down games. This approach preserves the excitement and strategic elements of robotics competition while keeping participation manageable for younger students. Traditional robotics teams often require significant time commitments and weekend travel for tournaments, which can limit access for many families. By offering a local recreational league with approximately two hours of weekly participation, this program provides a more accessible pathway for students to experience robotics while emphasizing teamwork, sportsmanship, strategic thinking, and iterative problem-solving. The league format creates an inclusive, low-barrier environment where students can explore robotics in a supportive setting where every participant has the opportunity to succeed.

The program will be offered on campus at Cypress Grove Elementary School and will be open to students from neighboring Rancho Cordova schools to increase community access. Each season will run approximately two hours per week and will be divided into two segments to maintain engagement and improve attendance consistency:

• **Fall Season (September–December):** Recreational Robotics League
• **Spring Season (March–May):** Robotics Beginners Program

The VEX IQ robotics platform, developed by Innovation First International, is widely used in classrooms across the United States and internationally. The system is specifically designed for elementary and middle school students, using durable snap-together components and plug-and-play electronics that make engineering concepts approachable while maintaining academic rigor.

Falkon Academy, established in 2022, has served more than 500 students through robotics and STEM programs across the Sacramento region. Several teams have advanced to state-level competitions, and one team has qualified for the VEX World Championship. Programs are currently offered at schools including Folsom Middle School, Marina Village Middle School, Pleasant Grove Middle School, and through partnerships with local parks and recreation departments.

A central component of this project is equitable access. CEIF funding will help reduce financial barriers and allow underserved youth to participate. Funding will support instructor staffing, classroom and facility use, and scholarship opportunities for students who may otherwise be unable to participate. Students who maintain at least 80% attendance will receive a

	$40 STEM kit upon completion to encourage continued hands-on learning beyond the program. Website: https://www.falkonacademy.com Facebook: https://www.facebook.com/falkonacademy
Tell us about your Project/Program Team	Director/Coach Ashwin Thirunahari Coach Maurice Velandia **Ashwin Thirunahari** Ashwin Thirunahari has master's in electrical engineering. And has patents on drone technology. Besides Robotics he taught Drone Programming, RC Airplanes, 3D CAD, 3D Printing and other programming classes. **Maurice Velandia** has a degree in electrical engineering, and retired working as computer engineer. He has previously coached underwater robotics team and took them to worlds.
Provide your Project/Program Goals	**1. Increase STEM Awareness and Engagement** Enhance interest and confidence in STEM among grades 4–8 students through hands-on robotics learning. Success will be measured by enrollment of up to 50 students, completion rates of at least 80%, and post-program surveys indicating increased interest and confidence in STEM concepts. **2. Engage Underserved Students** Increase access to robotics and engineering education for underserved students in Rancho Cordova. Measurable outcomes include the number of participating students from underserved backgrounds and scholarship participation rates. **3. Encourage Parental and Community Involvement** Strengthen family engagement through outreach at school events, informational sessions, and end-of-season robotics showcases. Success will be measured by parent attendance, volunteer participation, and positive parent feedback surveys. **4. Improve Program Retention and Participation** Provide structured two-hour weekly sessions designed to maintain student focus and sustained engagement. Success will be measured by maintaining at least 80% average attendance and high satisfaction ratings in student feedback. **5. Expand Community Access to Robotics** Open enrollment to students from neighboring Rancho Cordova schools to broaden participation in STEM learning. Success will be measured by participation from multiple schools and increased enrollment each season.

Optional File Upload: Provide any additional records to supplement your program/project application. Note: Combine multiple files in one pdf before uploading.

	2 - Funding & Costs
Funding Request - Complete this section with total dollar amounts for your project/program's costs	Funds are generally not intended to be used for deferred maintenance and ongoing operational needs. The funds are intended for enhancing and investing in the City of Rancho Cordova. If your project/program is awarded, the costs identified below would be reviewed and potentially open to modification during a contracting phase (if a grant is awarded by the City Council). If awarded, grant funds are not available until a contract is executed during Fiscal Year 2026-2027.
Total project/program cost*	11550
What is the amount of Community Enhancement & Investment Fund grant monies requested?	11550
Does your project/program involve construction of any facilities or improvements upon any property?	No
What is the total cost of personnel for your project/program?	6100
What is the total cost of supplies for your project/program?	2050
What is the total cost of transportation for your project/program?	0
What is the total cost of equipment for your project/program?	2800
What is the total cost of any miscellaneous expenses for your project/program?	600

Upload your project/program's budget as a .pdf file. Include the categories and their dollar amounts along with information about any other funding sources to demonstrate your project/program's total budget. Note, the sum of all categories must match the total project or program cost, or the amount requested of CEIF if there is no other funding source. Please clearly illustrate any matching funds or funding from other sources in your project/program budget, including in-kind sources. Note: Combine multiple files in one pdf before uploading.

RANCHO_Proposal_Falkon_Cypress_IQ_26_27_Budget.pdf

Has your organization sought or will seek other funding for this project/program?	No, not seeking any other funding support.
Please explain why you are not seeking any other funding support for your project/program.	At this time, we are not actively pursuing additional funding sources for this project to ensure clarity in program administration and reporting. This proposal is being submitted as a direct partnership opportunity with Cypress Grove Elementary School to support local STEM education and expand robotics access within the Rancho Cordova community. While Falkon Academy continues to explore future partnerships and district-level opportunities for STEM programming, this specific project is being proposed independently to avoid overlapping funding requests. If additional funding opportunities arise in the future that support the same program, we will fully disclose and coordinate with CEIF to ensure transparency and avoid duplication of funding.
Please describe any ongoing operations and maintenance costs beyond Fiscal Year 2026/2027, if applicable.	NONE
Do you have volunteer or in-kind support for your project? This could include volunteers for an activity/event that is ongoing or a one-time experience.	No
Is this a single year request or a request for funding for multiple years?	Single Year

Has your project/program received funding from the Community Enhancement & Investment Fund previously?	No
	3 - Project/Program Details Grant applications are typically approved to occur between July 2026 through June 2027. What is your plan to complete this project/program within this time frame?
Anticipated Start Date (July 1 is the soonest available start date)	8/10/2026
Anticipated End Date (typically projects/programs end by June 30)	5/15/2027
Please describe your project/program schedule	August – September Marketing to parents/kids at Cypress Grove Elementary – through Parent nights. September Start Recreation League January Run league competition. 1st program completes. March Start Beginners Program April Run in class competition and conclude the program.

What challenges do you anticipate in your project/program's implementation? What is your plan to complete your project/program should those or other challenges arise?	One anticipated challenge is achieving sufficient enrollment. While interest has grown significantly in recent years, after-school programs can experience fluctuations in participation due to competing activities, transportation constraints, or family schedules. To address this, Falkon Academy will continue multi-channel outreach including flyers, school announcements, parent information nights, science events, and social media promotion. We will also work closely with school administration and counselors to identify students who would benefit from STEM enrichment. If enrollment is lower than expected, we will expand outreach to neighboring schools within Rancho Cordova and offer targeted scholarship placements to increase accessibility. A second challenge is staffing availability. Because the program begins at 3:30 p.m. immediately after school dismissal, it can be difficult to secure qualified instructors who are available during those hours. To mitigate this, Falkon Academy maintains a roster of trained robotics instructors and assistant coaches who can rotate schedules as needed. We also recruit from local colleges and STEM graduates seeking part-time teaching experience. When necessary, we adjust instructor-to-student ratios while maintaining safety and instructional quality. Through proactive recruitment strategies, flexible staffing models, and strong collaboration with school leadership, Falkon Academy is prepared to navigate these challenges and ensure successful implementation of the program.
How many individuals does your project/program serve?	50
How many Rancho Cordova residents does your project/program serve?	50
	4 - Project/Program Location
Address Verification	If you need to check if your project is in Rancho Cordova, type in your program/project's location in the Assessor Parcel Viewer: https://assessorparcelviewer.saccounty.gov/jsviewer/assessor.html

School and park related applications are due before Noon (12:00 p.m.) on March 6, 2026, to allow for the endorsement process.	Please note that projects or programs that are proposed on property owned or operated by outside agencies or a private party will require coordination with and potentially approvals from outside agencies, organizations, and/or the private party. Include whether you have received a letter of support for the project/program from the property owner. Upload any letters of support with your application. City staff will verify third-party permits have been discussed. In your planning discussions, be sure to discuss any necessary insurance or volunteer requirements that may increase budget costs. School Sites If your project/program is intended to operate at a public K-12 school site, your application is due by March 6 at Noon (12:00 p.m.). City staff will work with the school districts to confirm an endorsement for your project/program. It's the applicant's responsibility to communicate with school site and district representatives before applying so there is clarity during the endorsement process. Districts will only consider endorsement for applications submitted to the Community Enhancement & Investment Fund by the March 6 at Noon (12:00 p.m.). deadline. Each participating school superintendent reserves the right to withhold their endorsement of a project/program. Parks If your project/program is intended to operate at a park or community center site, your application is due by the March 6 at Noon (12:00 p.m.). deadline. City staff will work with the Cordova Recreation & Park District to confirm an endorsement for your project/program. It's the applicant's responsibility to communicate with district representatives before applying so there is clarity during the endorsement process. A special use permit application is required for any program or event planned at a CRPD facility. The special use application can be found at the CRPD website: https://www.cordovarpd.gov/. CRPD will only consider endorsement for applications submitted to the Community Enhancement & Investment Fund by the March 6 at Noon (12:00 p.m.). deadline. The Cordova Recreation & Park District reserves the right to withhold their endorsement of a project/program. Below is the list of staff to communicate with at school and park organizations: Folsom Cordova Unified School District: mwest@fcusd.org Cordova Recreation & Park District: cmichelotti@cordovarpd.gov Elk Grove Unified School District: mgulden@egusd.net Sacramento City Unified School District: Tuan-Duong@scusd.edu for Winn and Carver and Enrique-Flores@scusd.edu for Lincoln.
Primary street address of project/program	Cypress Grove Elementary School - 4189 Cypress Grove Drive, Rancho Cordova, CA 9574
List the city location of the project/program.	Rancho Cordova
Select State	CA
Provide the zip code for your project/program's primary location.	95742

If your project/program takes place at multiple locations, please list other or secondary locations.	NONE
Third Party Letters of Support (Note: Combine multiple files in one pdf before uploading)	
Does your project/program involve one of Rancho Cordova's school districts?	Yes
Is the project/program requesting facility use only or is this a request to partner with the school district?	Partner with school on project/program
Please select all the school districts which your project/program intends to involve:	Elk Grove USD
Please select one or more Elk Grove USD school facilities which your project/program will involve:	Sunrise Elementary School
Have you reached out to a contact at the school(s) you indicated above?	Yes
Please provide the names of your contacts at the school(s) or district(s) who are familiar with your project/program.	Cypress Grove Elementary School 4189 Cypress Grove Drive, Rancho Cordova, CA 95742 Principal: Martin Hock III Email: mhockiii@egusd.net Phone: 916.687.6121 ext. 11401

Does your project/program involve the Cordova Recreation & Park District?	No
	5 - Applicant Information
Name	Ashwin Thirunahari
Is this project/program on behalf of an organization?	Yes
What is the name of your organization?	Falkon Academy
What is your title and/or role at your organization?	Name: Ashwin Thirunahari Title: Director [redacted] Organization's Legal Name (if applicable): Falkon Academy [redacted]
Provide contact phone number:	[redacted]
Provide contact email:	[redacted]
Are you the primary point of contact on this project/program?	Yes
If your project/program was awarded the requested funds, are you authorized to sign the contract for your organization?	Yes, I would be the one to sign the contract
By checking here, I confirm that I am aware that my application materials will become public record.	checked

Thank you for applying to the Community Enhancement & Investment Fund Fiscal Year 2026-2027 Grant Cycle. Applicants will receive an automated response through the grant portal. Community Enhancement & Investment Fund (CEIF) Staff will follow up with any questions regarding your Fiscal Year 2026-2027 application. For information about the next steps in the CEIF grant process, visit our website for more information. It is anticipated that applications will be reviewed by the City Council starting in April 2026 with adoption in June 2026. Should applicants be awarded by the City Council, funding would not be available to grantees until the start of Fiscal Year 2026-2027 and the completion of a contract. Please send an email to CEIFGrants@cityofranchocordova.org with any questions or comments.

Internal Form

Score	n/a

Open enrollment to students from neighboring Rancho Cordova schools to broaden participation in STEM learning. Success will be measured by participation from multiple schools and increased enrollment each season.

Metrics for Progress Measurement:

Enrollment Rates: Track the number of students enrolled in each session, comparing the enrollment figures between the two sessions.

Student Retention: Monitor the number of students completing the program and returning for subsequent sessions, identifying any drop-offs and addressing reasons for discontinuation.

Participant Feedback: Gather feedback from both students and parents regarding their experience, satisfaction, and suggestions for improvement.

CITY OF RANCHO CORDOVA
FISCAL YEAR 2026/2027 GRANT APPLICATION
COMMUNITY ENHANCEMENT & INVESTMENT FUND

"Bring STEM Education to the community in need."

Project Name : Cypress Grove Elementary VEX IQ Robotics Program

Contact: Falkon Academy
Director, Ashwin Thirunahari

[redacted]

[redacted]

Project Synopsis:

Falkon Academy will provide a **VEX IQ Robotics program** for 3rd–8th grade students at Cypress Grove Elementary School, Introductory program and a Recreational robotics league Program. Students will build, code, and **compete** while developing problem-solving, teamwork, and STEM skills, expanding access to engaging, hands-on learning opportunities in Rancho Cordova.

Project Description:

Falkon Academy proposes to implement two structured VEX IQ Robotics programs at Cypress Grove Elementary School serving up to 50 students in grades 3–8. The project includes (1) a Robotics Beginners Program focused on foundational STEM learning and (2) a Recreational Robotics League centered on collaborative team challenges and friendly inter-school competition. Both programs aim to cultivate awareness, confidence, and long-term interest in technology and engineering among students in the Rancho Cordova community.

Elk Grove Unified School District demonstrates its commitment to STEM education through robotics competitions hosted at Florin High School, organized by engineering and science teacher Mike Rosales. These events include VEX IQ, VEX V5, and FIRST LEGO League (FLL) competitions and attract robotics teams from across Northern California. However, there is currently limited representation from EGUSD elementary and middle schools and Rancho Cordova in these competitions, with many participating teams coming from Folsom, Roseville, and the Bay Area. This proposed program is designed to strengthen the local STEM pipeline by introducing structured robotics, coding, and engineering experiences at the elementary and middle school levels. By building early exposure and progressive skill development, the program creates a pathway toward future participation in district-hosted robotics competitions and advanced STEM coursework within EGUSD.

VEX IQ Robotics was selected as the instructional platform because it provides an accessible, hands-on entry point into science, technology, engineering, and mathematics. Using snap-together robotics components and age-appropriate coding software, students learn mechanical design, structural stability, gear systems, sensors, drivetrain concepts, and block-based programming. Participants build functional robots, test improvements, solve design challenges, and apply coding logic to real-world scenarios. The goal is to demonstrate that technology is engaging, creative, and achievable—not intimidating.

The Robotics Beginners Program introduces core engineering principles through guided instruction and small-team collaboration. Students learn the fundamentals of robot construction, motion systems, and programming logic while developing problem-solving skills and confidence working with technology.

The Recreational Robotics League extends this learning through structured challenges and friendly competitions that simulate official robotics competitions using scaled-down games. This approach preserves the excitement and strategic elements of robotics competition while keeping participation manageable for younger students. Traditional robotics teams often require significant time commitments and weekend travel for tournaments, which can limit access for many families. By offering a local recreational league with approximately two hours of weekly participation, this program provides a more accessible pathway for students to experience robotics while emphasizing teamwork, sportsmanship, strategic thinking, and iterative problem-solving. The league format creates an inclusive, low-barrier environment where students can explore robotics in a supportive setting where every participant has the opportunity to succeed.

The program will be offered on campus at Cypress Grove Elementary School and will be open to students from neighboring Rancho Cordova schools to increase community access. Each season will run approximately two hours per week and will be divided into two segments to maintain engagement and improve attendance consistency:

- **Fall Season (September–December):** Recreational Robotics League
- **Spring Season (March–May):** Robotics Beginners Program

The VEX IQ robotics platform, developed by Innovation First International, is widely used in classrooms across the United States and internationally. The system is specifically designed for elementary and middle school students, using durable snap-together components and plug-and-play electronics that make engineering concepts approachable while maintaining academic rigor.

Falkon Academy, established in 2022, has served more than 500 students through robotics and STEM programs across the Sacramento region. Several teams have advanced to state-level competitions, and one team has qualified for the VEX World Championship. Programs are currently offered at schools including Folsom Middle School, Marina Village Middle School, Pleasant Grove Middle School, and through partnerships with local parks and recreation departments.

A central component of this project is equitable access. CEIF funding will help reduce financial barriers and allow underserved youth to participate. Funding will support instructor staffing, classroom and facility use, and scholarship opportunities for students who may otherwise be unable to participate. Students who maintain at least 80% attendance will receive a $40 STEM kit upon completion to encourage continued hands-on learning beyond the program.

Website: https://www.falkonacademy.com
Facebook: https://www.facebook.com/falkonacademy

Below is a description of VEX IQ kits:

	VEX IQ is a snap-together **robotics** system, making it fast and easy to build an endless variety of robots. Watch code come alive on a physical robot and apply key STEM skills. Organized parts storage reduces classroom clutter **IQ** Electronics are Simple, Flexible and Powerful Students can build and change their robots fast. This is for kids from 4th grade to 7th grade.

Recreational League: Accessible Robotics Competition Model

Traditional VEX IQ competitive robotics teams often require significant time commitments—frequently 6 to 10 hours per week, including weekend travel across Northern California for full-day competitions. This level of commitment can be challenging for many students and families, particularly those balancing other activities such as sports, academics, and family responsibilities.

This program introduces a more accessible model by offering a scaled-down local robotics league. Students participate in structured challenges inspired by official competitions but designed for approximately two hours per week of participation. The emphasis is on learning, collaboration, and creativity rather than high-pressure tournament outcomes. All participating students are recognized for their efforts and accomplishments, ensuring that the experience remains encouraging, inclusive, and fun while still building meaningful STEM skills.

Falkon Robotics Project Team:

Organization Name	Falkon Academy
Some of the key members are:	
Director/Coach	Ashwin Thirunahari
Coach	Maurice Velandia

About Falkon Academy: Founded by Ashwin Thirunahari**,** has offered VEX IQ and VEX V5 Robotics classes in Folsom Middle School, Marina Village Middle School and Pleasant Grove Middle School. This organization has taught robotics to more than 500kids since yr 2022. We had representation from Mangini Ranch Elementary, Russell Ranch Elementary, Mather Heights Elementary, Lake Forest Elementary in this program.

Ashwin Thirunahari Ashwin Thirunahari has master's in electrical engineering. And has patents on drone technology. Besides Robotics he taught Drone Programming, RC Airplanes, 3D CAD, 3D Printing and other programming classes.

Maurice Velandia has a degree in electrical engineering, and retired working as computer engineer. He has previously coached underwater robotics team and took them to worlds. This year he coached kids at Mitchell Middle School and Rolling Hills Middle School.

Project Timeline:

August – September	Marketing to parents/kids at Cypress Grove Elementary – through Parent nights. Build 5 teams. With 5 members each.
September	Start Recreation League
January	Run league competition. 1st program completes.
March	Start Beginners Program
April	Run in class competition and conclude the program.

Project Goals:

1. Increase STEM Awareness and Engagement

Enhance interest and confidence in STEM among grades 4–8 students through hands-on robotics learning. Success will be measured by enrollment of up to 50 students, completion rates of at least 80%, and post-program surveys indicating increased interest and confidence in STEM concepts.

2. Engage Underserved Students

Increase access to robotics and engineering education for underserved students in Rancho Cordova. Measurable outcomes include the number of participating students from underserved backgrounds and scholarship participation rates.

3. Encourage Parental and Community Involvement

Strengthen family engagement through outreach at school events, informational sessions, and end-of-season robotics showcases. Success will be measured by parent attendance, volunteer participation, and positive parent feedback surveys.

4. Improve Program Retention and Participation

Provide structured two-hour weekly sessions designed to maintain student focus and sustained engagement. Success will be measured by maintaining at least 80% average attendance and high satisfaction ratings in student feedback.

5. Expand Community Access to Robotics

Open enrollment to students from neighboring Rancho Cordova schools to broaden participation in STEM learning. Success will be measured by participation from multiple schools and increased enrollment each season.

Metrics for Progress Measurement:

Enrollment Rates: Track the number of students enrolled in each session, comparing the enrollment figures between the two sessions.

Student Retention: Monitor the number of students completing the program and returning for subsequent sessions, identifying any drop-offs and addressing reasons for discontinuation.

Participant Feedback: Gather feedback from both students and parents regarding their experience, satisfaction, and suggestions for improvement.

Expenses Outline:

Equipment Costs	Cost
Rental of 5 VEX IQ Competition Kit (Purchase Price $750)	$1,500
1 VEX IQ Pitching Field.	$50
2 VEX IQ Field Elements	$200
Mini Competition Costs	$0
Total Cost of Equipment	**$1750**

Execution Costs	Cost
Cost of Coaching: 2hrs a week Three coaches and a manager. One coach per 12kids.	
Session 1 (Sep to Jan)	$4600
Session 2 (Mar to May)	$1500
School Room Rental for 150hrs payment to FCUSD	$800
Insurance and overhead	$600
Marketing Costs (Flyers)	$300
Incentives/Rewards for 80% attendance. $40 each for 50kids	**$2000**
Total cost of Execution	**$9,800**

Total Cost of the program: $11,550

Is this a multiyear request? NO

How many years have you received funding for this project? 1

Do you plan to ask annually for funding?

Yes. To pay for the facilities and coaching.

What other funding will you seek to support your project? None

Please explain why you are not seeking any other funding support for your project/program.(required)

At this time, we are not actively pursuing additional funding sources for this project to ensure clarity in program administration and reporting. This proposal is being submitted as a direct partnership opportunity with Cypress Grove Elementary School to support local STEM education and expand robotics access within the Rancho Cordova community.

While Falkon Academy continues to explore future partnerships and district-level opportunities for STEM programming, this specific project is being proposed independently to avoid overlapping funding requests. If additional funding opportunities arise in the future that support the same program, we will fully disclose and coordinate with CEIF to ensure transparency and avoid duplication of funding.

Adaptability

Although Robotics Programs are better experienced at a central location in a classroom setting. But we can still run the programs virtually.

We can run Virtual Reality Robotics Programs. This is another great learning experience. This builds a different set of programming skills and is very innovative.

What challenges do you anticipate in your project/program's implementation? What is your plan to complete your project/program should those or other challenges arise?(required)

One anticipated challenge is achieving sufficient enrollment. While interest has grown significantly in recent years, after-school programs can experience fluctuations in participation due to competing activities, transportation constraints, or family schedules. To address this, Falkon Academy will continue multi-channel outreach including flyers, school announcements, parent information nights, science events, and social media promotion. We will also work closely with school administration and counselors to identify students who would benefit from STEM enrichment. If enrollment is lower than

expected, we will expand outreach to neighboring schools within Rancho Cordova and offer targeted scholarship placements to increase accessibility.

A second challenge is staffing availability. Because the program begins at 3:30 p.m. immediately after school dismissal, it can be difficult to secure qualified instructors who are available during those hours. To mitigate this, Falkon Academy maintains a roster of trained robotics instructors and assistant coaches who can rotate schedules as needed. We also recruit from local colleges and STEM graduates seeking part-time teaching experience. When necessary, we adjust instructor-to-student ratios while maintaining safety and instructional quality.

Through proactive recruitment strategies, flexible staffing models, and strong collaboration with school leadership, Falkon Academy is prepared to navigate these challenges and ensure successful implementation of the program.

Physical Address/School District

The program will be run at “Cypress Grove Elementary, **4189 Cypress Grove Drive, Rancho Cordova, CA 9574** ” in Rancho Cordova. We have already discussed the possibility of running this program with the principal.

School Partner:

Cypress Grove Elementary School
4189 Cypress Grove Drive, Rancho Cordova, CA 95742
Principal: Martin Hock III
Email: mhockiii@egusd.net

Phone: 916.687.6121 ext. 11401

Application Submitted by

Name: Ashwin Thirunahari
Title: Director
[redacted]
Organization’s Legal Name (if applicable): Falkon Academy
[redacted]

Signatory (Same as above)

Signatory’s Name: Ashwin Thirunahari
Title: Director
[redacted]

Closing Comments:

As outlined in this proposal, there is a growing need for accessible STEM programs such as robotics within our community. With rapid advancements in autonomous vehicles, robotics in agriculture, and artificial intelligence applications, exposure to technology and engineering concepts is more critical than ever. Preparing students for tomorrow's workforce requires more than traditional classroom instruction—it requires hands-on, applied learning experiences.

However, high-quality technology programs come with significant costs, including specialized equipment and trained instructional staff. Without grant support, these opportunities can remain out of reach for many families, particularly those facing financial hardship.

CEIF funding plays a vital role in bridging this gap. By supporting this initiative, we can expand equitable access to robotics education, inspire innovation, and strengthen Rancho Cordova's position as a forward-thinking community invested in preparing its youth for the future.

Together, we can build the next generation of problem-solvers, engineers, and technology leaders.

Below are some of the pictures from similar program at Mitchell Middle School:

	The Robotics competition day event.. the kids who participated in the program and competed. No winners announced. Everyone wins. All robots worked perfectly. Dr. Garcia – Principal of Mitchell Middle School , Siri Pulipati – Rancho Cordova City Mayor, Chris Clark FCUSD Board Member, Mr. Eric Swanson FCUSD Superintendent – Parents and all the wonderful coaches were present at the event.

	On the competition day with Mr. Eric Swanson FCUSD Superintendent.

FALKON

Title

Cypress Grove Elementary, Afterschool Enrichment Program

03/05/2026

id. 53393742

by **Ashwin Thirunahari** in **Fiscal Year 2026-2027 Community Enhancement & Investment Fund Grant Application**

Falkon Academy
[redacted]
Folsom, California
95630
CA
United States
[redacted]

Original Submission

03/05/2026

Score n/a

	Thank you for your interest in applying to the City of Rancho Cordova's Community Enhancement & Investment Fund. Applications are open from February 9, 2026, to March 13, 2026, Noon (12:00 p.m.) with a specific deadline of March 6th Noon (12:00 p.m.) for certain applications**. Before you begin, please read the notes about deadlines and certain types of grant applications/grants below. **School/Park Application Deadline **Note that projects or programs involving a park or school district have a deadline of March 6 Noon (12:00 p.m.) to allow for the third-party endorsement process by the grant deadline.** A Note about Religious Schools and the Application/Grant Process **Note for grant applications from religious schools. The United States Supreme Court has recently ruled in part that: “denying a generally available benefit [from government] solely on account of religious identity imposes a penalty on the free exercise of religion that can be justified only by a state interest of the highest order.” The City is of the opinion that not all grants to religious schools are prohibited under this and other similar rulings. However, these United States Supreme Court decisions remain in conflict with a section of the California State Constitution that says: “[n]either the Legislature, nor any county, city and county, township, school district, or other municipal corporation, shall ever make an appropriation, or pay from any public fund whatever, or grant anything to or in aid of any religious sect, church, creed, or sectarian purpose, or help to support or sustain any school, college, university, hospital, or other institution controlled by any religious creed, church, or sectarian denomination whatever; nor shall any grant or donation of personal property or real estate ever be made by the state, or any city, city and county, town, or other municipal corporation for any religious creed, church, or sectarian purpose whatever”. The City will accept applications for grants of these City public funds from religious schools, but will have language in the grant agreements to address the possibility and consequences of legal challenges and new court decisions on this and related topics. ** Future Grant Opportunities If you are interested in remaining up-to-date on available grants from the City of Rancho Cordova, click here to sign up for the Grants Interest List. A separate call for programming opportunities with the Rancho Cordova Youth Center is anticipated later in 2026. The list is also used to advertise separate art programs when funds are available. Ongoing Grant Opportunity The City of Rancho Cordova offers a microgrant opportunity. Learn more about those grants online.
Is this your first time applying for grant funding from the City of Rancho Cordova? As a first-time applicant, Community Enhancement & Investment Fund (CEIF) staff will contact you to discuss your project and grant application process.	Yes: First Time Applicant

	1 - Project/Program Information Note: You can add a collaborator to this form to assist you in completing this application! A collaborator can help you complete this form by filling in fields for you, although only you can submit this form. You can add a collaborator by navigating to the top of the form and clicking on the 'Manage Collaborators' button. Simply enter their email address and click 'invite' to invite them as a collaborator. If you need further assistance, you may consult this Help article for more information.
Project/Program Name. Assign a project name to your project/program.	Cypress Grove Elementary, Afterschool Enrichment Program
Which category does your Project/Program align with?	Youth Programs & Services
Provide a Project/Program Synopsis	Falkon Academy and Skyhawks Sports Sacramento propose a comprehensive After-School Enrichment Program for Cypress Grove Elementary School serving 30 students, PreK–Grade 6. The program integrates robotics, drone engineering, academic support, strategic thinking, and multi-sport development, aligning with Expanded Learning goals to promote engagement, confidence, collaboration, and whole-child growth.
Provide a Project/Program Description	**Project Description** The Cypress Grove Elementary After-School Enrichment Program is a structured, year-long expanded learning initiative operating Monday through Friday from 3:30 p.m. to 5:30 p.m., August through May, with select components optionally delivered during recess periods. Designed to serve approximately 25 students daily in two cohorts of up to 15 students, the program provides balanced academic support, STEM enrichment, strategic thinking development, and structured physical activity in a safe and engaging environment. The program is operated by Falkon Academy and Skyhawks Sports Sacramento, programs of Greater Sacramento Investments LLC. The proposed enrichment model has been reviewed with Principal Lari Powell and aligns with River View's academic priorities and Expanded Learning Opportunities Program (ELO-P) goals. **Program Structure and Daily Flow** Each day begins with a structured transition and attendance check-in to ensure safety and readiness. The two-hour enrichment block is divided into focused segments that balance academic reinforcement with hands-on learning and physical activity. Homework Support sessions are integrated twice weekly, providing guided assistance with assignments, organization, and study skills. This ensures participation enhances classroom learning rather than competing with it. Students build responsibility, confidence, and stronger homework completion habits.

Students then rotate into grade-appropriate enrichment modules. Small cohort sizes and a 1:15 staff-to-student ratio ensure individualized attention, effective classroom management, and meaningful engagement. Operating five days per week provides consistency, routine, and diverse learning opportunities.

Academic Enrichment and Strategic Thinking

Academic growth remains central to program design.

- **Homework Support (Twice Weekly):** Structured academic assistance in a supervised, focused setting.
- **Kangaroo Math Club:** Multi-step problem-solving activities that develop reasoning, perseverance, and mathematical confidence.
- **Board Game Strategy League (Fridays):** Structured league-style competitions using games such as Blokus (spatial reasoning), Dixit (creative thinking), Qwirkle or Rummikub (patterns and math), Battleship (logic and coordinates), and Sushi Go! (quick strategy and probability).

These components strengthen analytical thinking, communication skills, and classroom readiness in an engaging and low-pressure format.

STEM and Innovation Programming

Hands-on STEM modules encourage curiosity, collaboration, and real-world problem solving.

- **Drone Engineering Lab (Grades 3–6):** Students explore aerodynamics, basic coding, navigation challenges, and math-integrated flight tasks. Real-world applications such as agriculture and environmental monitoring are discussed.
- **Pop-Up Book Mechanical Engineering (Grades 1–5):** Students design interactive paper mechanisms using levers, sliders, and linkages, combining storytelling with engineering principles.
- **LEGO Imagineering & Innovation Lab (PreK–5):** Each session begins with a real-world theme such as sustainability or inclusive design. Students brainstorm solutions, prototype with LEGO bricks, test structural integrity, and present their innovations while applying engineering concepts such as balance and stability.
- **VEX GO Robotics (Grades 1–3):** Students build and program robots using the VEX Robotics GO system, learning gears, motion, sensors, and introductory coding through collaborative team challenges.
- **Special STEM Days:** 3D Printing workshops, Physics Experiment Days, and Quiz Bowl competitions.

Sports: Physical Development and Social-Emotional Learning

The physical enrichment component includes rotating sports modules such as soccer, basketball, baseball, volleyball, and seasonal offerings including track & field and cheer. Sessions emphasize skill progression, teamwork, coordination, and sportsmanship.

Short reflective discussions and **integrated worksheets** reinforce vocabulary, math concepts such as measurement and scoring, and social-

	emotional skills including leadership, inclusion, and respect. This integrated model ensures athletics complement academic enrichment and whole-child development. **Program Flexibility & School-Day Integration** In coordination with school leadership, select components such as the Board Game Strategy League and structured sports skill sessions may also be implemented during recess or designated activity periods. This flexible model supports positive student engagement during unstructured times while reinforcing teamwork, inclusion, and campus culture beyond traditional after-school hours. **Program Impact and Sustainability** Operating daily from August through May provides consistency and reliable support for families. The balanced combination of academics, STEM innovation, strategic thinking, and physical activity promotes increased student engagement, improved confidence, collaboration skills, and long-term interest in learning. Maintaining a 1:15 staff-to-student ratio ensures safety, instructional quality, and mentorship. This initiative is not simply after-school supervision; it is a structured enrichment ecosystem designed to build curiosity, resilience, academic growth, and foundational skills for future success. Websites: https://www.falkonacademy.com https://skyhawks.com/sacramento-east-ca/ Facebook: https://www.facebook.com/falkonacademy https://www.facebook.com/SkyhawksSAC/
Tell us about your Project/Program Team	**Ashwin Thirunahari** serves as Director of Falkon Academy and Skyhawks Sports Sacramento. Since 2021, he has overseen youth enrichment and sports programs across the Sacramento region in partnership with local schools and park districts including including at Rancho Cordova Youth Club and W.E. Mitchell Middle School. He holds a Master's degree in Electrical Engineering. Additional coaches will be hired based on enrollment and will maintain a 1:15 student-to-coach ratio. All staff will complete Live Scan fingerprinting, background checks, Mandated Reporter training, First Aid/CPR certification, and youth development training to ensure safety and high-quality instruction.
Provide your Project/Program Goals	**1. Increase Student Engagement in Expanded Learning** The primary goal is to provide structured, meaningful after-school enrichment that integrates STEM innovation, academic reinforcement, and physical development.

Metrics for Success:

- 85% or higher average attendance
- Positive student engagement survey results

2. Strengthen Academic Reinforcement Through Integrated Learning

The program integrates academic elements across both STEM and sports modules. Structured Homework Support sessions assist with assignment completion, organization skills, and study habits.

Additionally, sports sessions incorporate short, age-appropriate workbooks and reflection sheets that reinforce vocabulary, basic math concepts (scoring, measurement, counting), and social-emotional learning principles.

Metrics for Success:

- 80% of students demonstrate improved homework completion habits
- Completion of sports reflection worksheets in each seasonal module

3. Expand Access to STEM and Innovation Opportunities

Provide equitable access to robotics, drone engineering, mechanical design, and LEGO-based real-world problem-solving experiences that may not be available during the regular school day.

Metrics for Success:

- Completion of at least one major STEM project per student per term
- Pre/post surveys indicating increased interest in STEM
- Participation across multiple grade levels

4. Promote Social-Emotional Growth and Teamwork

Develop leadership, collaboration, communication, and resilience through team-based STEM projects, strategic thinking activities, and structured sports participation.

Sports workbook activities - reinforce lessons on respect, sportsmanship, and leadership, math, logic and problem solving through sports.

Metrics for Success:

- Student self-assessments reflecting growth in teamwork and confidence
- Positive behavioral feedback during program hours

5. Maintain High-Quality, Safe Programming

Operate under a 1:15 staff-to-student ratio with trained, fingerprinted instructors to ensure safety and instructional quality.

Metrics for Success:

- 100% compliance with safety and background requirements
- Parent satisfaction surveys

Strong retention between Fall and Spring sessions

Optional File Upload: Provide any additional records to supplement your program/project application. Note: Combine multiple files in one pdf before uploading.

RANCHO_Proposal_Cypress_Grove_Enrichment_26_27_Merge_Offering_Menu.pdf

	2 - Funding & Costs
Funding Request - Complete this section with total dollar amounts for your project/program's costs	Funds are generally not intended to be used for deferred maintenance and ongoing operational needs. The funds are intended for enhancing and investing in the City of Rancho Cordova. If your project/program is awarded, the costs identified below would be reviewed and potentially open to modification during a contracting phase (if a grant is awarded by the City Council). If awarded, grant funds are not available until a contract is executed during Fiscal Year 2026-2027.
Total project/program cost*	41441.26
What is the amount of Community Enhancement & Investment Fund grant monies requested?	41441.26
Does your project/program involve construction of any facilities or improvements upon any property?	No
What is the total cost of personnel for your project/program?	25625
What is the total cost of supplies for your project/program?	6400
What is the total cost of transportation for your project/program?	0
What is the total cost of equipment for your project/program?	5000

What is the total cost of any miscellaneous expenses for your project/program?	4416.26

Upload your project/program's budget as a .pdf file. Include the categories and their dollar amounts along with information about any other funding sources to demonstrate your project/program's total budget. Note, the sum of all categories must match the total project or program cost, or the amount requested of CEIF if there is no other funding source. Please clearly illustrate any matching funds or funding from other sources in your project/program budget, including in-kind sources. Note: Combine multiple files in one pdf before uploading.

RANCHO_Proposal_Cypress_Grove_Enrichment_26_27_Budget.pdf

Has your organization sought or will seek other funding for this project/program?	Yes, actively seeking funding support or have secured additional funding support for this project/program.
Describe any funding secured or being sought for this project/program.	Skyhawks Sports Sacramento has previously been approved through Elk Grove Unified School District (EGUSD) RFQ processes to provide enrichment programming at EGUSD school sites. The specific funding amounts and allocations for upcoming school years have not yet been disclosed. Additionally, Skyhawks Sports Sacramento and Falkon Academy have submitted a proposal under EGUSD RFQ 829, which is currently under district review. The principal at Cypress Grove Elementary has expressed strong interest in implementing this program. For the purposes of this application, we are proceeding under the assumption that EGUSD funding may be limited or unavailable. If EGUSD funding is later awarded, we will disclose this to Rancho Cordova CIEF and coordinate appropriately to ensure transparency and avoid duplication of funding.
Please describe any ongoing operations and maintenance costs beyond Fiscal Year 2026/2027, if applicable.	NONE
Do you have volunteer or in-kind support for your project? This could include volunteers for an activity/event that is ongoing or a one-time experience.	No

Is this a single year request or a request for funding for multiple years?	Single Year
Has your project/program received funding from the Community Enhancement & Investment Fund previously?	No
	3 - Project/Program Details Grant applications are typically approved to occur between July 2026 through June 2027. What is your plan to complete this project/program within this time frame?
Anticipated Start Date (July 1 is the soonest available start date)	8/9/2026
Anticipated End Date (typically projects/programs end by June 30)	5/15/2027
Please describe your project/program schedule	**Program Timeline/Schedule as Bullets:** The following schedule outlines the full school-year enrichment program (August through May). Based on approved funding, programming will be delivered five days per week, with most enrichment activities conducted after school (3:30–5:30 p.m.). Select components, such as sports skill sessions and Board Game Strategy League, may be be implemented during recess or designated activity periods in coordination with school administration. **STEM Enrichment Programs** The STEM Enrichment Program provides hands-on innovation, academic reinforcement, and strategic thinking opportunities designed to build curiosity, collaboration, and real-world problem-solving skills. **Drone Engineering Lab (Grades 3–6)** • Tuesday | 1.5 hours, Season: August–December **Pop-Up Book Engineering (Grades 3–6)** • Wednesday | 1.5 hours, Season: August–December **LEGO Imagination World (PreK–5)** • Wednesday | 1.5 hours, Season: January–May

VEX GO Robotics (Grades 1–3)

- Tuesday | 1.5 hours, Season: January–May

Homework Help Block (PreK–6) (Highly valued by principal)

- Tuesday & Thursday | 1 hour, Season: September–May

Kangaroo Math Club (Grades 1–5)

- Friday | 1 hour, Season: September–May

Board Game Strategy League (Grades 1–5) (High interest for Recess)

- Friday | 1 hour, Season: September–May

Seasonal STEM Rotations

- 3D Printing, Quiz Bowl, Art & Design Weeks, , Introduced/rotated periodically to maintain engagement and introduce diverse skills

Sports Enrichment Programs

The Sports Enrichment Program promotes physical development, teamwork, character building, and social-emotional learning while integrating short academic reflection workbooks into each session.

Soccer Skills Program (PreK–5)

- Tuesday | 45 minutes, Season: September–December

Basketball Skills Program (PreK–5)

- Tuesday | 45 minutes, Season: September–December

Baseball Skills Program (PreK–5)

- Thursday | 45 minutes, Season: January–May

Volleyball Skills Program (PreK–5)

- Thursday | 45 minutes, Season: January–May

Seasonal Sports Rotation

- Cheer, Track & Field, Football, Field Hockey, Introduced/rotated periodically to maintain engagement and introduce diverse athletic skills

What challenges do you anticipate in your project/program's implementation? What is your plan to complete your project/program should those or other challenges arise?	Several potential challenges may arise during implementation. The primary challenge is maintaining consistent enrollment and attendance across the full August–May program year. After-school participation can fluctuate due to competing activities, transportation limitations, or family scheduling conflicts. To address this, we will conduct early outreach, provide clear communication to families, offer flexible program modules, and coordinate closely with school administration to align schedules with campus priorities. Staffing for a 3:30–5:30 p.m. daily program may also present challenges. We will maintain a qualified substitute pool and staggered staffing model to ensure consistent 1:15 supervision ratios. All instructors will be pre-screened and trained prior to program launch.
How many individuals does your project/program serve?	250
How many Rancho Cordova residents does your project/program serve?	250
	4 - Project/Program Location
Address Verification	If you need to check if your project is in Rancho Cordova, type in your program/project's location in the Assessor Parcel Viewer: https://assessorparcelviewer.saccounty.gov/jsviewer/assessor.html

School and park related applications are due before Noon (12:00 p.m.) on March 6, 2026, to allow for the endorsement process.	Please note that projects or programs that are proposed on property owned or operated by outside agencies or a private party will require coordination with and potentially approvals from outside agencies, organizations, and/or the private party. Include whether you have received a letter of support for the project/program from the property owner. Upload any letters of support with your application. City staff will verify third-party permits have been discussed. In your planning discussions, be sure to discuss any necessary insurance or volunteer requirements that may increase budget costs. School Sites If your project/program is intended to operate at a public K-12 school site, your application is due by March 6 at Noon (12:00 p.m.). City staff will work with the school districts to confirm an endorsement for your project/program. It's the applicant's responsibility to communicate with school site and district representatives before applying so there is clarity during the endorsement process. Districts will only consider endorsement for applications submitted to the Community Enhancement & Investment Fund by the March 6 at Noon (12:00 p.m.). deadline. Each participating school superintendent reserves the right to withhold their endorsement of a project/program. Parks If your project/program is intended to operate at a park or community center site, your application is due by the March 6 at Noon (12:00 p.m.). deadline. City staff will work with the Cordova Recreation & Park District to confirm an endorsement for your project/program. It's the applicant's responsibility to communicate with district representatives before applying so there is clarity during the endorsement process. A special use permit application is required for any program or event planned at a CRPD facility. The special use application can be found at the CRPD website: https://www.cordovarpd.gov/. CRPD will only consider endorsement for applications submitted to the Community Enhancement & Investment Fund by the March 6 at Noon (12:00 p.m.). deadline. The Cordova Recreation & Park District reserves the right to withhold their endorsement of a project/program. Below is the list of staff to communicate with at school and park organizations: Folsom Cordova Unified School District: mwest@fcusd.org Cordova Recreation & Park District: cmichelotti@cordovarpd.gov Elk Grove Unified School District: mgulden@egusd.net Sacramento City Unified School District: Tuan-Duong@scusd.edu for Winn and Carver and Enrique-Flores@scusd.edu for Lincoln.
Primary street address of project/program	Cypress Grove Elementary, 4189 Cypress Grove Dr. Rancho Cordova, CA
List the city location of the project/program.	Rancho Cordova
Select State	CA
Provide the zip code for your project/program's primary location.	95742

If your project/program takes place at multiple locations, please list other or secondary locations.	NONE

Third Party Letters of Support (Note: Combine multiple files in one pdf before uploading)

Approval__RFP_Q_805-25_26_Request_for_Flyer.pdf

Does your project/program involve one of Rancho Cordova's school districts?	Yes
Is the project/program requesting facility use only or is this a request to partner with the school district?	Partner with school on project/program
Please select all the school districts which your project/program intends to involve:	Elk Grove USD
Please select one or more Elk Grove USD school facilities which your project/program will involve:	Sunrise Elementary School
Have you reached out to a contact at the school(s) you indicated above?	Yes
Please provide the names of your contacts at the school(s) or district(s) who are familiar with your project/program.	Martin Hock – Cypress Grove Elementary, Principal Elkgrove Unified School District Email: mhockiii@egusd.net **916.687.6121 ext. 11401**

Does your project/program involve the Cordova Recreation & Park District?	No
	5 - Applicant Information
Name	Ashwin Thirunahari
Is this project/program on behalf of an organization?	Yes
What is the name of your organization?	Falkon Academy
What is your title and/or role at your organization?	Director, Falkon Academy Director, Skyhawks Sports
Provide contact phone number:	[redacted]
Provide contact email:	[redacted]
Are you the primary point of contact on this project/program?	Yes
If your project/program was awarded the requested funds, are you authorized to sign the contract for your organization?	Yes, I would be the one to sign the contract
By checking here, I confirm that I am aware that my application materials will become public record.	checked

Thank you for applying to the Community Enhancement & Investment Fund Fiscal Year 2026-2027 Grant Cycle. Applicants will receive an automated response through the grant portal. Community Enhancement & Investment Fund (CEIF) Staff will follow up with any questions regarding your Fiscal Year 2026-2027 application. For information about the next steps in the CEIF grant process, visit our website for more information. It is anticipated that applications will be reviewed by the City Council starting in April 2026 with adoption in June 2026. Should applicants be awarded by the City Council, funding would not be available to grantees until the start of Fiscal Year 2026-2027 and the completion of a contract. Please send an email to CEIFGrants@cityofranchocordova.org with any questions or comments.

Internal Form

Score	n/a

Funding and Costs:

Funding Flexibility:

The proposed program is modular and scalable. If full funding is not available, the program may be partially implemented based on the funding awarded. In collaboration with the school principal, priority programs will be selected and executed to align with campus goals, student needs, and available budget.

If needed, a **modest optional parent contribution**—up to approximately 25% of program costs—may be explored to supplement funding and sustain program delivery. Any parent contribution structure would be coordinated with school administration and include scholarship or waiver options to ensure equitable access for all students.

School Site Rental: School site facility rental costs may also be discussed and negotiated with the school if needed to support successful program implementation.

Additional Funding:

Skyhawks Sports Sacramento has previously been approved through Elk Grove Unified School District (EGUSD) RFQ processes to provide enrichment programming at EGUSD school sites. The specific funding amounts and allocations for upcoming school years have not yet been disclosed.

Additionally, Skyhawks Sports Sacramento and Falkon Academy have submitted a proposal under EGUSD RFQ 829, which is currently under district review.

The principal at Cypress Grove Elementary has expressed strong interest in implementing this program. For the purposes of this application, we are proceeding under the assumption that EGUSD funding may be limited or unavailable. If EGUSD funding is later awarded, we will disclose this to Rancho Cordova CIEF and coordinate appropriately to ensure transparency and avoid duplication of funding.

Costs:

- **Rate:** $4.85 per student per hour
- **25 students**
- **Hourly Value:** $121.25 (for 25 students per hour)
- **Jan–May = 18 weeks**
- **Aug–Dec = 16 weeks**
- **Sept–May = 34 weeks**

Program	Season	Weeks	Sessions/Week	Total Hours	Calculation	School Site Rental	Total Cost
Homework Support	Aug–May	34	2 × 1 hr	68 hrs	68 × $121.25	$1,600	$9,845.00

TOTAL COST							$9,845.00

Program	Season	Weeks	Duration	Total Hours	Calculation	School Site Rental	Total Cost
Kangaroo Math	Aug–May	34	1 hr	34 hrs	34 × $121.25	$800	$4,922.50
Board Game Leagues	Aug–May	34	1 hr	34 hrs	34 × $121.25	$800	$4,922.50
TOTAL COST							$9,845.00

Program	Season	Weeks	Duration	Total Hours	Calculation	School Site Rental	Total Cost
Drone Engineering	Aug–Dec	16	1.5 hr	24 hrs	24 × $121.25	$400	$3,310.00
Pop-Up Book STEM Art	Aug–Dec	16	1.5 hr	24 hrs	24 × $121.25	$400	$3,310.00
LEGO Engineering	Jan–May	18	1.5 hr	27 hrs	27 × $121.25	$400	$3,673.75
VEX GO Robotics	Jan–May	18	1.5 hr	27 hrs	27 × $121.25	$400	$3,673.75
TOTAL COST							$13,967.50

Program	Season	Weeks	Duration	Total Hours	Calculation	School Site Rental	Total Cost
Soccer	Aug–Dec	16	0.75 hr	12 hrs	12 × $121.25	$400	$1,855.00
Basketball	Aug–Dec	16	0.75 hr	12 hrs	12 × $121.25	$400	$1,855.00
Baseball	Jan–May	18	0.75 hr	13.5 hrs	13.5 × $121.25	$400	$2,036.88
Volleyball	Jan–May	18	0.75 hr	13.5 hrs	13.5 × $121.25	$400	$2,036.88
TOTAL COST							$7,783.76

COMPLETE PROGRAM COST: $41,441.26 (if all programs are funded and executed)

Cost Break Down:

Type	Season
Wages	$25,625.00
Supplies	$5000.00
Facility Rental	$6,400.00
Insurance, Overhead	$4,416.26
TOTAL COST	**$41,441.26**

Is this a multiyear request? NO

How many years have you received funding for this project? 1

Do you plan to ask annually for funding?

Yes. To pay for the facilities and coaching.

What other funding will you seek to support your project? None

Please explain why you are not seeking any other funding support for your project/program.(required)

This proposal is being submitted as a direct partnership opportunity with Cypress Grove Elementary School to ensure alignment with campus priorities, scheduling, and student needs. At this time, we are not pursuing additional funding sources to avoid duplicating requests or creating overlapping reporting requirements that may complicate implementation.

If partial funding is awarded, the program's modular structure allows **for prioritization of key components**, and supplemental support—such as **optional parent contributions** or negotiated facility arrangements—may be explored in coordination with school leadership. Our goal is to maintain flexibility while ensuring the program remains sustainable and aligned with school expectations.

What challenges do you anticipate in your project/program's implementation? What is your plan to complete your project/program should those or other challenges arise?(required)

Several potential challenges may arise during implementation. The primary challenge is maintaining consistent enrollment and attendance across the full August–May program year. After-school participation can fluctuate due to competing activities, transportation limitations, or family scheduling conflicts. To address this, we will conduct early outreach, provide clear communication to families, offer flexible program modules, and coordinate closely with school administration to align schedules with campus priorities.

Staffing for a 3:30–5:30 p.m. daily program may also present challenges. We will maintain a qualified substitute pool and staggered staffing model to ensure consistent

CITY OF RANCHO CORDOVA
FISCAL YEAR 2026/2027 GRANT APPLICATION
COMMUNITY ENHANCEMENT & INVESTMENT FUND

"Bring STEM Education to the community in need."

Project Name : Cypress Grove Elementary, Afterschool Enrichment Program

Contact: Falkon Academy,
Director, Ashwin Thirunahari

[redacted]

[redacted]

Project Synopsis:

Falkon Academy and Skyhawks Sports Sacramento propose a comprehensive After-School Enrichment Program for Cypress Grove Elementary School serving 30 students, PreK–Grade 6. The program integrates robotics, drone engineering, academic support, strategic thinking, and multi-sport development, aligning with Expanded Learning goals to promote engagement, confidence, collaboration, and whole-child growth.

Project Description

The Cypress Grove Elementary After-School Enrichment Program is a structured, year-long expanded learning initiative operating Monday through Friday from 3:30 p.m. to 5:30 p.m., August through May, with select components optionally delivered during recess periods. Designed to serve approximately 25 students daily in two cohorts of up to 15 students, the program provides balanced academic support, STEM enrichment, strategic thinking development, and structured physical activity in a safe and engaging environment.

The program is operated by Falkon Academy and Skyhawks Sports Sacramento, programs of Greater Sacramento Investments LLC. The proposed enrichment model has been reviewed with Principal Lari Powell and aligns with River View's academic priorities and Expanded Learning Opportunities Program (ELO-P) goals.

Program Structure and Daily Flow

Each day begins with a structured transition and attendance check-in to ensure safety and readiness. The two-hour enrichment block is divided into focused segments that balance academic reinforcement with hands-on learning and physical activity.

Homework Support sessions are integrated twice weekly, providing guided assistance with assignments, organization, and study skills. This ensures participation enhances classroom learning rather than competing with it. Students build responsibility, confidence, and stronger homework completion habits.

Students then rotate into grade-appropriate enrichment modules. Small cohort sizes and a 1:15 staff-to-student ratio ensure individualized attention, effective classroom management, and meaningful engagement. Operating five days per week provides consistency, routine, and diverse learning opportunities.

Academic Enrichment and Strategic Thinking

Academic growth remains central to program design.

- **Homework Support (Twice Weekly):** Structured academic assistance in a supervised, focused setting.
- **Kangaroo Math Club:** Multi-step problem-solving activities that develop reasoning, perseverance, and mathematical confidence.
- **Board Game Strategy League (Fridays):** Structured league-style competitions using games such as Blokus (spatial reasoning), Dixit (creative thinking), Qwirkle or Rummikub (patterns and math), Battleship (logic and coordinates), and Sushi Go! (quick strategy and probability).

These components strengthen analytical thinking, communication skills, and classroom readiness in an engaging and low-pressure format.

STEM and Innovation Programming

Hands-on STEM modules encourage curiosity, collaboration, and real-world problem solving.

- **Drone Engineering Lab (Grades 3–6):** Students explore aerodynamics, basic coding, navigation challenges, and math-integrated flight tasks. Real-world applications such as agriculture and environmental monitoring are discussed.
- **Pop-Up Book Mechanical Engineering (Grades 1–5):** Students design interactive paper mechanisms using levers, sliders, and linkages, combining storytelling with engineering principles.
- **LEGO Imagineering & Innovation Lab (PreK–5):** Each session begins with a real-world theme such as sustainability or inclusive design. Students brainstorm solutions, prototype with LEGO bricks, test structural integrity, and present their innovations while applying engineering concepts such as balance and stability.
- **VEX GO Robotics (Grades 1–3):** Students build and program robots using the VEX Robotics GO system, learning gears, motion, sensors, and introductory coding through collaborative team challenges.
- **Special STEM Days:** 3D Printing workshops, Physics Experiment Days, and Quiz Bowl competitions.

Sports: Physical Development and Social-Emotional Learning

The physical enrichment component includes rotating sports modules such as soccer, basketball, baseball, volleyball, and seasonal offerings including track & field and cheer. Sessions emphasize skill progression, teamwork, coordination, and sportsmanship.

Short reflective discussions and **integrated worksheets** reinforce vocabulary, math concepts such as measurement and scoring, and social-emotional skills including leadership, inclusion, and respect. This integrated model ensures athletics complement academic enrichment and whole-child development.

Program Flexibility & School-Day Integration

In coordination with school leadership, select components such as the Board Game Strategy League and structured sports skill sessions may also be implemented during recess or designated activity periods. This flexible model supports positive student engagement during unstructured times while reinforcing teamwork, inclusion, and campus culture beyond traditional after-school hours.

Program Impact and Sustainability

Operating daily from August through May provides consistency and reliable support for families. The balanced combination of academics, STEM innovation, strategic thinking,

and physical activity promotes increased student engagement, improved confidence, collaboration skills, and long-term interest in learning.

Maintaining a 1:15 staff-to-student ratio ensures safety, instructional quality, and mentorship. This initiative is not simply after-school supervision; it is a structured enrichment ecosystem designed to build curiosity, resilience, academic growth, and foundational skills for future success.

Websites:
https://www.falkonacademy.com
https://skyhawks.com/sacramento-east-ca/

Facebook:
https://www.facebook.com/falkonacademy
https://www.facebook.com/SkyhawksSAC/

Project Team:

Ashwin Thirunahari serves as Director of Falkon Academy and Skyhawks Sports Sacramento. Since 2021, he has overseen youth enrichment and sports programs across the Sacramento region in partnership with local schools and park districts including including at Rancho Cordova Youth Club and W.E. Mitchell Middle School. He holds a Master's degree in Electrical Engineering.

Additional coaches will be hired based on enrollment and will maintain a 1:15 student-to-coach ratio. All staff will complete Live Scan fingerprinting, background checks, Mandated Reporter training, First Aid/CPR certification, and youth development training to ensure safety and high-quality instruction.

Project Timeline:

Academic Enrichment and Strategic Thinking

Program	Grades	Day	Duration	Season	Focus Area
Homework Help Block	PreK-6	Tuesday & Thursday	1hr	Sept-May	Academic Support & Assignment Completion
Kangaroo Math Club	1–5	Friday	1hr	Sept-May	Problem Solving & Critical Thinking
Board Game League	1–5	Fridays OR Everyday Recess	1hr	Sept-May	Logic, Strategy, Collaboration

STEM Enrichment Programs

Program	Grades	Day	Duration	Season	Focus Area
Drone Engineering Lab	3-6	Tuesday	1.5hrs	Aug-Dec	Flight, Automation, Aerospace STEM
Pop-Up Book Engineering	3-6	Wednesday	1.5hrs	Aug-Dec	Mechanical Motion, Paper Engineering
LEGO Imagineering	PreK-5	Wednesday	1.5hrs	Jan-May	Structural Design, Creativity, Teamwork
VEX GO Robotics	1-3	Tuesday	1.5hrs	Jan-May	Robotics, Coding, Engineering Design

Seasonal STEM Rotation: 3D Printing, Quiz Bowl, Art & Design Weeks, ,
Introduced/rotated periodically to maintain engagement and introduce diverse skills

SPORTS PROGRAMS (Recess or After School)

Program	Grades	Day	Duration	Season	Focus Area
Soccer Skills	PreK–5	Tuesday	45min	Sept–Dec	Footwork, Team Play, SEL Integration
Basketball Skills	PreK–5	Tuesday	45min	Sept–Dec	Dribbling, Passing, Coordination
Baseball Skills	PreK–5	Thursday	45min	Jan-May	Throwing, Catching, Motor Skills
Volleyball Skills	PreK-5	Thursday	45min	Jan-May	Passing, Serving, Teamwork

Seasonal Sports Rotation: Cheer / Track & Field / Football / Field Hockey are rotated into the above sports schedule to keep the programs new and interesting.

Project Goals:

1. Increase Student Engagement in Expanded Learning

The primary goal is to provide structured, meaningful after-school enrichment that integrates STEM innovation, academic reinforcement, and physical development.

Metrics for Success:

- 85% or higher average attendance
- Positive student engagement survey results

2. Strengthen Academic Reinforcement Through Integrated Learning

The program integrates academic elements across both STEM and sports modules. Structured Homework Support sessions assist with assignment completion, organization skills, and study habits.

Additionally, sports sessions incorporate short, age-appropriate workbooks and reflection sheets that reinforce vocabulary, basic math concepts (scoring, measurement, counting), and social-emotional learning principles.

Metrics for Success:

- 80% of students demonstrate improved homework completion habits
- Completion of sports reflection worksheets in each seasonal module

3. Expand Access to STEM and Innovation Opportunities

Provide equitable access to robotics, drone engineering, mechanical design, and LEGO-based real-world problem-solving experiences that may not be available during the regular school day.

Metrics for Success:

- Completion of at least one major STEM project per student per term
- Pre/post surveys indicating increased interest in STEM
- Participation across multiple grade levels

4. Promote Social-Emotional Growth and Teamwork

Develop leadership, collaboration, communication, and resilience through team-based STEM projects, strategic thinking activities, and structured sports participation.

Sports workbook activities - reinforce lessons on respect, sportsmanship, and leadership, math, logic and problem solving through sports.

Metrics for Success:

- Student self-assessments reflecting growth in teamwork and confidence
- Positive behavioral feedback during program hours

5. Maintain High-Quality, Safe Programming

Operate under a 1:15 staff-to-student ratio with trained, fingerprinted instructors to ensure safety and instructional quality.

Metrics for Success:

- 100% compliance with safety and background requirements
- Parent satisfaction surveys
- Strong retention between Fall and Spring sessions

Metrics for Progress Measurement:

Enrollment Rates: Track the number of students enrolled in each session, comparing the enrollment figures between the two sessions.

Student Retention: Monitor the number of students completing the program and returning for subsequent sessions, identifying any drop-offs and addressing reasons for discontinuation.

Participant Feedback: Gather feedback from both students and parents regarding their experience, satisfaction, and suggestions for improvement.

Funding and Costs:

Funding Flexibility:

The proposed program is modular and scalable. If full funding is not available, the program may be partially implemented based on the funding awarded. In collaboration with the school principal, priority programs will be selected and executed to align with campus goals, student needs, and available budget.

If needed, a **modest optional parent contribution**—up to approximately 25% of program costs—may be explored to supplement funding and sustain program delivery. Any parent contribution structure would be coordinated with school administration and include scholarship or waiver options to ensure equitable access for all students.

School Site Rental: School site facility rental costs may also be discussed and negotiated with the school if needed to support successful program implementation.

Additional Funding:

Skyhawks Sports Sacramento has previously been approved through Elk Grove Unified School District (EGUSD) RFQ processes to provide enrichment programming at EGUSD school sites. The specific funding amounts and allocations for upcoming school years have not yet been disclosed.

Additionally, Skyhawks Sports Sacramento and Falkon Academy have submitted a proposal under EGUSD RFQ 829, which is currently under district review.

The principal at Cypress Grove Elementary has expressed strong interest in implementing this program. For the purposes of this application, we are proceeding under the assumption that EGUSD funding may be limited or unavailable. If EGUSD funding is later awarded, we will disclose this to Rancho Cordova CIEF and coordinate appropriately to ensure transparency and avoid duplication of funding.

Costs:

- **Rate:** $4.85 per student per hour
- **25 students**
- **Hourly Value:** $121.25 (for 25 students per hour)
- **Jan–May = 18 weeks**
- **Aug–Dec = 16 weeks**
- **Sept–May = 34 weeks**

Program	Season	Weeks	Sessions/Week	Total Hours	Calculation	School Site Rental	Total Cost
Homework Support	Aug–May	34	2 × 1 hr	68 hrs	68 × $121.25	$1,600	$9,845.00

TOTAL COST							$9,845.00

Program	Season	Weeks	Duration	Total Hours	Calculation	School Site Rental	Total Cost
Kangaroo Math	Aug–May	34	1 hr	34 hrs	34 × $121.25	$800	$4,922.50
Board Game Leagues	Aug–May	34	1 hr	34 hrs	34 × $121.25	$800	$4,922.50
TOTAL COST							$9,845.00

Program	Season	Weeks	Duration	Total Hours	Calculation	School Site Rental	Total Cost
Drone Engineering	Aug–Dec	16	1.5 hr	24 hrs	24 × $121.25	$400	$3,310.00
Pop-Up Book STEM Art	Aug–Dec	16	1.5 hr	24 hrs	24 × $121.25	$400	$3,310.00
LEGO Engineering	Jan–May	18	1.5 hr	27 hrs	27 × $121.25	$400	$3,673.75
VEX GO Robotics	Jan–May	18	1.5 hr	27 hrs	27 × $121.25	$400	$3,673.75
TOTAL COST							$13,967.50

Program	Season	Weeks	Duration	Total Hours	Calculation	School Site Rental	Total Cost
Soccer	Aug–Dec	16	0.75 hr	12 hrs	12 × $121.25	$400	$1,855.00
Basketball	Aug–Dec	16	0.75 hr	12 hrs	12 × $121.25	$400	$1,855.00
Baseball	Jan–May	18	0.75 hr	13.5 hrs	13.5 × $121.25	$400	$2,036.88
Volleyball	Jan–May	18	0.75 hr	13.5 hrs	13.5 × $121.25	$400	$2,036.88
TOTAL COST							$7,783.76

COMPLETE PROGRAM COST: $41,441.26 (if all programs are funded and executed)

Cost Break Down:

Type	Season
Wages	$25,625.00
Supplies	$5000.00
Facility Rental	$6,400.00
Insurance, Overhead	$4,416.26
TOTAL COST	**$41,441.26**

Is this a multiyear request? NO

How many years have you received funding for this project? 1

Do you plan to ask annually for funding?

Yes. To pay for the facilities and coaching.

What other funding will you seek to support your project? None

Please explain why you are not seeking any other funding support for your project/program.(required)

This proposal is being submitted as a direct partnership opportunity with Cypress Grove Elementary School to ensure alignment with campus priorities, scheduling, and student needs. At this time, we are not pursuing additional funding sources to avoid duplicating requests or creating overlapping reporting requirements that may complicate implementation.

If partial funding is awarded, the program's modular structure allows **for prioritization of key components**, and supplemental support—such as **optional parent contributions** or negotiated facility arrangements—may be explored in coordination with school leadership. Our goal is to maintain flexibility while ensuring the program remains sustainable and aligned with school expectations.

What challenges do you anticipate in your project/program's implementation? What is your plan to complete your project/program should those or other challenges arise?(required)

Several potential challenges may arise during implementation. The primary challenge is maintaining consistent enrollment and attendance across the full August–May program year. After-school participation can fluctuate due to competing activities, transportation limitations, or family scheduling conflicts. To address this, we will conduct early outreach, provide clear communication to families, offer flexible program modules, and coordinate closely with school administration to align schedules with campus priorities.

Staffing for a 3:30–5:30 p.m. daily program may also present challenges. We will maintain a qualified substitute pool and staggered staffing model to ensure consistent

1:15 supervision ratios. All instructors will be pre-screened and trained prior to program launch.

How many individuals does your project/program serve?(required)

The program will serve approximately 25 students per module, resulting in over 250 total enrichment participation opportunities across STEM, academic, and sports programs during the school year. (Homework help could have two different groups)

(That's 10 major modules × 25 students = 250 participant-slots.)

How many Rancho Cordova residents does your project/program serve?(required)

Its only open to Rancho Cordova residents.

Please provide the names of your contacts at the school(s) or district(s) who are familiar with your project/program.(required)

Martin Hock – Cypress Grove Elementary, Principal
Elkgrove Unified School District

Email: mhockiii@egusd.net
916.687.6121 ext. 11401

Physical Address/School District

The program will be run at "Cypress Grove Elementary, 4189 Cypress Grove Dr. Rancho Cordova, CA,". We have already discussed the possibility of running this program with the principal.

Application Submitted by

Name: Ashwin Thirunahari
Title: Director
[redacted]
Organization's Legal Name (if applicable): Falkon Academy
[redacted]

Signatory (Same as above)

Signatory's Name: Ashwin Thirunahari
Title: Director
[redacted]

[redacted] [redacted]

Closing Comments:

There is a growing need for structured, high-quality after-school enrichment programs that extend learning beyond the traditional classroom. As technology advances—from artificial intelligence and automation to emerging STEM industries—students must be equipped not only with technical knowledge, but also with critical thinking, collaboration, resilience, and leadership skills.

At the same time, academic reinforcement and physical wellness remain essential components of student success. Many families do not have access to comprehensive enrichment programs that combine STEM innovation, homework support, strategic thinking, and structured athletics in one coordinated model.

This proposal represents more than an after-school program; it is a structured enrichment ecosystem designed to build curiosity, confidence, academic growth, and healthy development. With thoughtful implementation and partnership, Cypress Grove Elementary School can become a model campus for integrated expanded learning.

Together, we can strengthen academic achievement, inspire innovation, and prepare students with the foundational skills needed for future success.

Past Pictures:

The Robotics class with, Dr. Garcia – Principal of Mitchell Middle School , Siri Pulipati – Rancho Cordova City Mayor, Chris Clark FCUSD Board Member – Parents and all the wonderful coaches and most importantly the kids who participated in the program and competed.

On the competition day with Mr. Eric Swanson FCUSD Superintendent.

Cheer Program

Drone Program

Volleyball Program

Basketball Program

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ACADEMY

Skyhawks SPORTS

Program Timeline/Schedule as Bullets:

The following schedule outlines the full school-year enrichment program (August through May). Based on approved funding, programming will be delivered five days per week, with most enrichment activities conducted after school (3:30–5:30 p.m.). Select components, such as sports skill sessions and Board Game Strategy League, may be be implemented during recess or designated activity periods in coordination with school administration.

STEM Enrichment Programs

The STEM Enrichment Program provides hands-on innovation, academic reinforcement, and strategic thinking opportunities designed to build curiosity, collaboration, and real-world problem-solving skills.

Drone Engineering Lab (Grades 3–6)

- Tuesday | 1.5 hours, Season: August–December

Pop-Up Book Engineering (Grades 3–6)

- Wednesday | 1.5 hours, Season: August–December

LEGO Imagination World (PreK–5)

- Wednesday | 1.5 hours, Season: January–May

VEX GO Robotics (Grades 1–3)

- Tuesday | 1.5 hours, Season: January–May

Homework Help Block (PreK–6) (Highly valued by principal)

- Tuesday & Thursday | 1 hour, Season: September–May

Kangaroo Math Club (Grades 1–5)

- Friday | 1 hour, Season: September–May

Board Game Strategy League (Grades 1–5) (High interest for Recess)

- Friday | 1 hour, Season: September–May

Seasonal STEM Rotations

- 3D Printing, Quiz Bowl, Art & Design Weeks, , Introduced/rotated periodically to maintain engagement and introduce diverse skills

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Sports Enrichment Programs

The Sports Enrichment Program promotes physical development, teamwork, character building, and social-emotional learning while integrating short academic reflection workbooks into each session.

Soccer Skills Program (PreK–5)

- Tuesday | 45 minutes, Season: September–December

Basketball Skills Program (PreK–5)

- Tuesday | 45 minutes, Season: September–December

Baseball Skills Program (PreK–5)

- Thursday | 45 minutes, Season: January–May

Volleyball Skills Program (PreK–5)

- Thursday | 45 minutes, Season: January–May

Seasonal Sports Rotation

- Cheer, Track & Field, Football, Field Hockey, Introduced/rotated periodically to maintain engagement and introduce diverse athletic skills

Program Offering Menu

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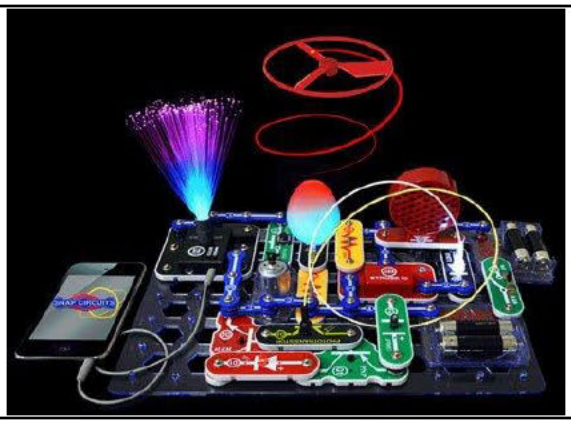
Fun and exciting after-school programs! Explore robotics, unleash creativity in art, craft with Cricut, build with Legos, strategize in board games and many other programs. Each program offers engaging activities over two-hour sessions planned for once a week for 4 to 5 weeks - perfect for students in 1st to 8th grade.

Circuit Creators Lab – Grades 3 to 8

In the Circuit Creators Lab, budding engineers and innovators will delve into the exciting world of electronics and circuitry. Through hands-on activities and guided experiments, students will learn the fundamentals of circuit design, component functionality, and basic electronics principles. From building simple circuits to exploring more complex projects, participants will gain valuable STEM skills while fostering creativity and problem-solving abilities. Join us for an electrifying journey of discovery and innovation!



Engineering STEM Art – Grades 2 to 6

A hands-on, imaginative camp where kids design and build moving creations using paper, levers, linkages, cams and simple mechanisms. They'll explore basic automation concepts while bringing their characters and inventions to life through motion. Combines **art, storytelling, and engineering in a fun and approachable way**. Projects include animal movements, themed scenes, and student-designed contraptions. Encourages teamwork, iteration, and playful experimentation. No screens—just creativity, motion, and hands-on learning! **A great early introduction to engineering** through art and mechanics.

Pop-Up Book STEM Art – Gr 2 to 6

Bring Stories to Life. 2 to 6 In this imaginative, hands-on program, students combine **engineering and storytelling** to design and build their own interactive pop-up books. Using paper, scissors, and creativity, they'll explore the mechanics behind folds, levers, and motion to create moving scenes that leap off the page. Along the way, they'll learn about geometry, symmetry, and simple mechanical principles—all while crafting meaningful, original stories. It's the perfect blend of **art, design, and engineering**, giving kids a unique and playful way to explore STEM through visual storytelling.

Program Offering Menu

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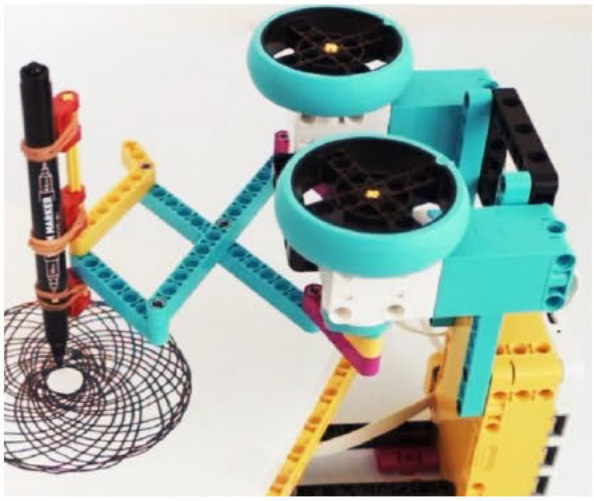
Lego Robotics Lab – Grades 3 to 8

Perfect for young creators, this program introduces students to essential STEM and engineering concepts through **hands-on building with LEGO bricks and simple motors**. Using intuitive, kid-friendly tools, students learn how gears, pulleys, levers, and sensors work by constructing **interactive, mechanical models**. From spinning animals to themed machines, each session offers a fun opportunity to explore real-world mechanisms in a playful and engaging way. This is a fantastic starting point for kids to develop curiosity, creativity, and confidence in STEM—**all while building with the bricks they love!**



VEX Robotics Lab – Grades 3 to 8

Step into the world of robotics with VEX GO! Designed for aspiring young engineers, VEX GO offers an exciting introduction to STEM concepts through hands-on building and programming activities. With easy-to-use snap-together pieces and intuitive coding software, students can unleash their creativity and problem-solving skills as they **design and build their own robots**. From **navigating obstacle courses to completing challenges**, participants will gain valuable insights into engineering and technology while having fun along the way. Join us on an unforgettable journey of discovery with VEX GO!

Drone Lab – Grades 3 to 12

Take flight in this action-packed STEM program where students explore the exciting world of drones! Campers will **build and test fly drones**, learn the fundamentals of **aerial robotics**, and use **block-based coding** to complete in-class flight challenges such as obstacle navigation and precision landing. Students in **grades 7 and above** will take their learning to the next level by **coding drones in Python**, gaining real-world programming skills used in professional applications. From design and control to automation and teamwork, Drone Lab is the perfect mix of **engineering, coding, and airborne fun!**

Program Offering Menu

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NeuroExplorer Lab – Grades 4–12

Dive into the world of **neuroscience** with **hands-on experiments**! Students explore how the **brain** sends signals, how **muscles** respond, and how **neurons** communicate. They'll conduct experiments using **muscle sensors** and **neuroscience tools**. Learn how the brain controls **movement** and **reactions** through live **demos** and **recordings**. Projects include viewing their own **EMG signals**, creating a **neuron simulator**, and building **circuits** that mimic **reflexes**. Perfect for curious students who love **biology**, **STEM**, or exploring how the **body works**. No experience needed—just a love for **learning**!

Cricut Digital Design & Art – Gr 1 to 5

Cricut Art Class - offers an engaging after-school program designed for students from Pre-K to 5th grade. In this dynamic course, participants **delve into the realm of digital design**, learning how to **create captivating artwork using computer software**. From custom graphics and intricate patterns to personalized decorations and more, students explore the limitless possibilities of design. They then bring their creations to life using the innovative Cricut machine, mastering the art of precision cutting and assembly. Join us for an inspiring journey where imagination meets technology, and every project becomes a unique masterpiece!

E-Sports Jr. Grades 1 to 12

Falkon E-Sports Jr. introduces students to the world of gaming with a focus on **teamwork, problem-solving, and digital skills**. This fun, after-school program uses kid-friendly games to teach strategic thinking, communication, and good digital habits. Students learn to **work together**, practice **good sportsmanship**, and develop basic **reflex and coordination skills** in safe, monitored play sessions. We include activities like **creative Minecraft building**, **Rocket League teamwork**, and **Mario Kart time trials**. Perfect for beginners, casual players, or curious kids who want to play and learn in a positive, supervised environment.

Program Offering Menu

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FRIDAY FUN DAY PROGRAMS

Art in Action – Grades Pre K to 8

Each of Art in Action's age-appropriate themed lessons provide a high-quality visual art curriculum. As an example, "Around the world, where students learn to draw shapes, patterns, faces and landscapes by studying Persian miniatures, Japanese prints and Byzantine mosaics". The multifaceted lessons develop students' critical-thinking skills, creative confidence, hands-on skills, visual literacy, self-esteem, and an appreciation of other cultures.

Board Game League – After School Fun!

Grades Pre K-12 Join our exciting after-school **Board Game League**, where strategy, teamwork, and fun collide! Each week, students compete in classic and modern games like **Qwirkle, Blokus, Sleeping Queens, Dragonwood and others**. Kids build skills in **logic, planning, and friendly competition** while making new friends. Perfect for grades 1–12—no screens, just face-to-face fun! Games rotate weekly with a running scoreboard and mini-prizes. No experience needed—just a love for games and a great attitude! Spots are limited. Come play, compete, and have a blast!

Lego Imagination Station – PreK to 5

where creativity knows no bounds! In this innovative after-school class, children are **empowered to tackle real-world challenges through the lens of imaginative play.** Each session begins with an inspiring theme, such as "**Clean Oceans from Pollution,**" sparking curiosity and environmental awareness. Armed with Lego bricks and boundless imagination, young builders embark on a journey of innovation, designing and constructing solutions to address the issue at hand. Join us as we transform imagination into action, one Lego brick at a time!

Program Offering Menu

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Physics Explorers – Grades 4–8

Unlock the secrets of motion, energy, and forces—through hands-on experiments! From catapults to circuits, kids explore physics in a fun, engaging way. Build real projects like rubber band cars, balloon rockets, and pendulums. Learn Newton's Laws, Gravity, magnetism, Sound Waves, Fricton etc. Perfect for curious minds who love building, testing, and asking "Why?" Open to Grades 4–8 | No prior experience needed—just a love for science!

Build and Fly Airplane – Gr 6 - 9

Take to the skies with this exciting hands-on aviation camp! Campers will explore the **history of flight**, learn the basics of **aerodynamics**, and discover how airplanes are engineered to fly. Each student will **assemble a foam RC airplane**, **practice flying with a simulator**, and then take their creation to the **field for real flight** using a remote controller. Perfect for future pilots, tinkerers, and curious minds who want to experience the thrill of aviation—on the ground and in the air! Summer Camp Only

Falkon Homework Help & Learning Lab

A supportive space where students get help with **Math, English, and Science homework**. Tutors guide students through tough concepts and build academic confidence. When kids done with homework, they get to participate in other enriching activities. We make learning fun with **spelling bees**, **quiz bowls**, and **reading incentives**. We use tools like **Kahoot**, **Blooket**, and **Gimkit** to enhance enrichment . A perfect balance of study and interactive learning tools. Great for building motivation, consistency, and core skills!

Program Offering Menu

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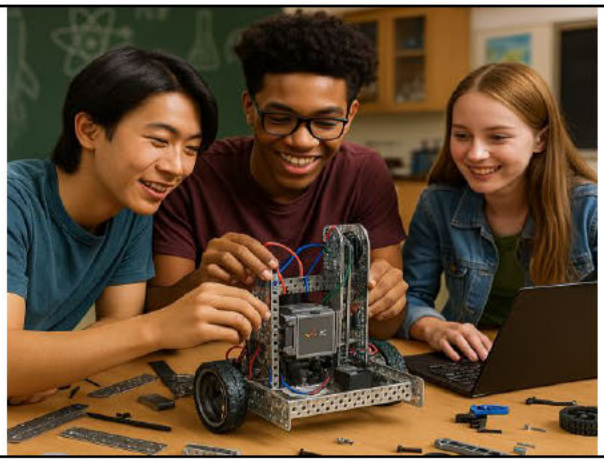
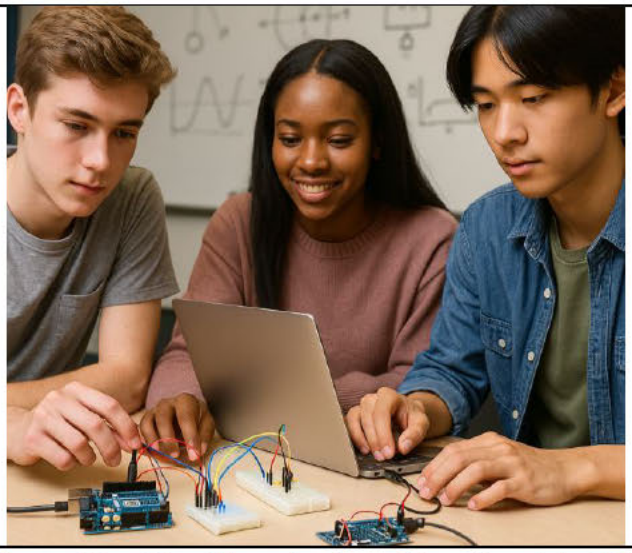


VEX V5 Robotics Lab6–12

Designed for middle and high school students ready for advanced robotics. Students build metal-frame robots using the VEX V5 platform. Learn coding, engineering, and design thinking through hands-on challenges. Collaborate in teams to solve real-world problems and strategize for competitions. Gain experience with autonomous programming and competition scoring systems. Perfect for students aiming to compete in official VEX tournaments and beyond

Audrino Python Engr. Lab – Gr 6 - 12

In this engineering and coding lab, students explore the intersection of hardware and software using **Arduino microcontrollers** and the **Python programming language**. Participants learn how to wire circuits, connect sensors, and write Python code to collect data, control LEDs, motors, and more. Each session challenges students to build real-world tech projects—from weather stations to motion detectors. This program builds critical thinking, logical reasoning, and tech fluency, for future engineers or anyone curious about how smart devices work!



AI & Agentic Coding Lab – Grades 7–12

Step into the future with this cutting-edge course that teaches **Python**, **AI fundamentals**, and how to build your own **AI agents**. Students will learn to write intelligent programs that can plan, respond, and adapt to changing tasks. Explore real-world tools like **LangChain**, **OpenAI APIs**, and basic neural networks. Work on exciting challenges like building chatbots, game-playing agents, and task-solving AI systems. No advanced coding experience required—just a desire to think big and build smart. Perfect for future coders, engineers, and innovators shaping tomorrow's tech!

Program Offering Menu

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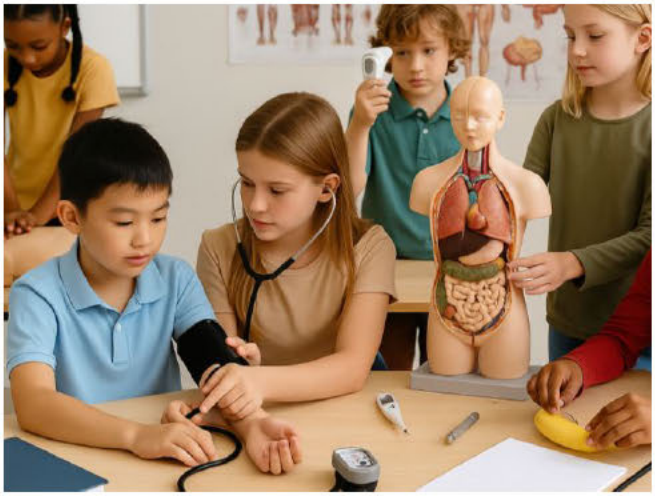
Kangaroo & Math Counts Pre K–8

Boost your child's math skills with engaging, hands-on coaching for **Grades Pre K–8**. Topics—problem solving, logic, number sense, geometry, algebra, and more. Weekly sessions blend **concept coaching** with practice on real competition-style problems. Students participate in **mock tests** to build confidence and test-taking strategies. Accredited **Kangaroo Math** and **MathCounts** testing included. Top performers are celebrated with **awards, medals, and certificates**. A fun, structured pathway to sharpen math skills and excel in national competitions!

Jurassic Park Ranger – Gr 1 - 8

Step into the prehistoric world as a **Junior Jurassic Park Ranger**! Students will **learn about different types of dinosaurs**, their habitats, diets, and survival skills. Hands-on activities include **digging for fossils**, identifying bones, and simulating real paleontology fieldwork. Rangers will also design safe dinosaur enclosures, solve "park emergencies," and explore how ecosystems worked millions of years ago. Each week brings new challenges that blend **STEM, problem-solving, and creativity**. The program concludes with the **Ranger Badge & Certificate Ceremony.**



STEM Medical / STEM VET – Gr 1-8

Step into the world of healthcare with our **STEM Medical** program! Students will explore **human and animal anatomy**, learn life-saving skills like **CPR**, and practice using real medical tools such as **blood pressure cuffs, thermometers, and oxygen monitors**. Through exciting class experiments, kids will model how the **lungs and digestive system work**, and even practice safe **suturing skills on bananas**. Participant receives a workbook for guided practice and reflection. The program also introduces careers and paths ways in healthcare—inspiring the next generation of doctors, nurses, and vets.

Program Offering Menu

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[redacted] | www.falkonacademy.com | facebook.com/falkonacademy | [redacted]

Summer Only Programs (PreK - 8)

3D Printing & Design – Learn Simple CAD + print their own tokens, keychains, etc.

Rocketry (Paper & Water Rockets) – Engineering, launch competitions.

Coding Adventures – Scratch, Minecraft Education, or simple Python intro.

Maker Tinkering Labs – Circuits, LED art, cardboard automata.

Film & Media Studio – Storyboarding, green screen, safe video editing.

Music & Rhythm Lab – Percussion circles, beat-making, sound experiments. (3rd Party)

Cultural Arts Weeks – Rotating focus (African Arts, Indian rangoli, Japanese water painting)

Quiz Bowls – Science, Math, History, Literature, Todays news, Culture, Art, Geography

Escape Rooms / Puzzle Hunts – Collaborative problem-solving.

Space Station Ranger -

American Doll Adventures -

Talent Show Fridays – Student-driven performances

Board Games & Competitions (great for afternoons & SEL)

Elementary (K–5):

- Candy Land, Guess Who?, Jenga, Uno, Connect 4, Zingo!, Sequence for Kids.

Upper Elementary & Middle (2–8):

- Chess & Checkers(strategy), Ticket to Ride (geography/strategy), Codenames (language/logic)
- Blokus (spatial reasoning), Dixit (creativity), Quirkle or Rummikub (patterns, math)
- Battleship (logic, coordinates), Sushi Go! (quick strategy, math-friendly)

Competition-Friendly: Chess Ladder Tournament, Uno Knockout, Connect 4 Brackets, Puzzle Races, Cooperative "Escape the Room" style board games

RESPECT TEAMWORK INCLUSION LEADERSHIP SPORTSMANSHIP

Skyhawks SPORTS™

Program Offering Menu

www.skyhawks.com

Who is Skyhawks?

"Teaching Life Skills through Sports"

Skyhawks was founded in 1979 with a profound vision that all children, regardless of their athletic abilities, should have the opportunity to experience the joy and benefits of sports. The founders recognized there was a gap in opportunities for children who were not elite athletes but still aspired to improve their sports skills. Skyhawks' commitment was, and always will be, to create a nurturing environment where all children learn, have fun, are safe, and apply new skills to their everyday lives.

Skyhawks stands as a testament to the belief that sports are a powerful tool for development, offering more than just physical benefits but also fostering crucial life skills. Skyhawks is dedicated to making sports accessible and enjoyable for all children, helping them grow both on and off the field.

Skyhawks Sports

Skyhawks program offerings include over a dozen sports. Serving ages 4 to 14, these programs feature skill-based sports instruction with a focus on teaching life skills through sports.

Programs Offered: *Camps, year-round classes, clinics, after-school enrichment, and instructional leagues*

SuperTots Sports

SuperTots classes offer children ages 18 months to 5 years one-of-a-kind development opportunities across eight different sports. These game-based programs promote childhood development, improve physical literacy, and instill a love for sports.

Programs Offered: *Year-round classes*

Skyhawks - Serving Ages 4 to 14

Multi-Sport

Gear up for Skyhawks Multi-Sport! Perfect for kids eager to try multiple sports, this program teaches essential skills and rules across different games. Beyond skill development, participants learn sportsmanship and teamwork, making new friends and memories. Each day is a new and exciting adventure!

Mini-Hawk

Embark on an adventure with Skyhawks Mini-Hawk where younger children can explore a variety of sports. Mini-Hawk programs offer a fun, structured learning environment while enhancing balance and coordination. Campers improve athletically while learning sportsmanship and teamwork. Perfect for a playful introduction to athletics!

Soccer

Kickstart a soccer journey with Skyhawks Soccer! This program boosts young athletes by teaching key skills like dribbling, passing, shooting, and ball control. Each session focuses on enhancing core skills while instilling teamwork and sportsmanship. Participants will improve their soccer abilities and embrace the game's spirit. Grow and score with Skyhawks Soccer!

Basketball

Dribble, shoot, score with Skyhawks Basketball! Perfect for developing athletes, this program sharpens passing, shooting, and dribbling skills, emphasizing sportsmanship and teamwork. Participants develop defensive and rebounding abilities in a dynamic setting that promotes personal and athletic growth. Get involved and make a difference on and off the court!

Flag Football

Score a touchdown with Skyhawks Flag Football! This program teaches passing, receiving, kicking, and flag pulling, all while emphasizing heart and spirit. Participants gain confidence and learn life lessons like teamwork and leadership in a fun, supportive environment. Suit up and get in the game with Skyhawks Flag Football!

Volleyball

Dig deep with Skyhawks Volleyball! This program combines the thrill of volleyball with fun while focusing on passing, setting, spiking, hitting, and serving. Beyond skills, volleyball programs emphasize leadership and teamwork, fostering growth as players and team members.

Tennis

Serve up fun with Skyhawks Tennis! This program elevates tennis skills by focusing on the techniques of forehand, backhand and scoring while utilizing practice sessions and match play to develop consistent, well-rounded players. Each session also fosters personal growth, emphasizing sportsmanship and perseverance.

Baseball

Swing for the stars with Skyhawks Baseball! This program teaches young sluggers essential skills like fielding, catching, and hitting, all while fostering teamwork and responsibility. Each fun-packed session aims to develop athletic prowess and character. Step up to the plate and become a star on and off the field!

Skyhawks - Serving Ages 4 to 14

Beginning Golf

Swing into Skyhawks Beginning Golf, powered by Payne Stewart Golf Experiences. This beginning program focuses on fun and repetition with a games-based approach that can be played on any surface. Specialized equipment is used to ensure early success for young players. Key skills like putting and chipping are taught through engaging activities. Ideal for beginners and those improving, join Skyhawks for rewarding progress with every shot!

Field Hockey

Join Skyhawks for an exciting introduction to Field Hockey, a sport with a global appeal! Developed with USA Field Hockey, this program teaches basics like stick-handling and passing in a game-based environment. Perfect for young athletes looking for a fast-paced sport that focuses on teamwork. Come discover Field Hockey!

Flag Rugby

Crouch, bind, set into a thrilling Skyhawks Flag Rugby experience, in partnership with Imagine Rugby and Major League Rugby! This program focuses on fun, safety, and fundamental skills like passing and flag-pulling. Skyhawks Flag Rugby also teaches life skills while emphasizing teamwork and sportsmanship. It's an exciting mix of sport and character development for memorable flag rugby moments.

Pickleball

Get in the game with Skyhawks Pickleball, gateway to the fastest-growing paddle sport! This program develops and sharpens pickleball skills like groundstrokes, volleys, and serves in a fun environment while focusing on teamwork, sportsmanship, and respect. Come experience this lively sport while building confidence and appreciation for pickleball!

Track and Field

Dash, jump, and throw with Skyhawks Track & Field! This program teaches young athletes track and field essentials, from body positioning and stride to stretching and cool-downs. Participants try events like javelin, discus, and hurdles (events vary by location). Each session builds skills, discipline, and sportsmanship. Get on track with Skyhawks for athletic and personal growth!

Cheerleading

Get ready to rally with Skyhawks Cheerleading! This fun-filled program teaches a variety of cheers, hand and body movements, and jumping techniques, all stunt-free. Participants will also learn valuable teamwork and leadership skills. The program ends with a performance where each cheerleader shines. Become a cheer champion with Skyhawks!

Lacrosse

Charge into a thrilling experience with Skyhawks Lacrosse! This program teaches young athletes essential lacrosse skills like stick-handling and shooting in a supportive, non-contact setting. All equipment is provided (although personal sticks are welcome). Lacrosse programs foster a sense of teamwork while participating in this fun and fast-paced sport.

STEM & Play

Unlock the power of play and learning with STEM & Play! This program blends sports skills with cognitive challenges through sports like basketball and soccer. Each session enhances STEM literacy and fosters a love for learning and sports. Join STEM & Play for an adventure into the world of STEM, where every game is a learning opportunity!

Explore SuperTots: A Foundation for Young Athletes

SuperTots was founded in 2002 with the goal of introducing young children to sports in a fun and engaging way for each stage of childhood development. SuperTots fills a crucial gap of sports programming for young children by providing programs that teach sports skills while enhancing motor development and emotional growth.

At a SuperTots program, young kids learn through play in fun and structured environments. These classes let children explore the importance of taking turns and following directions in a sports setting. Through age-appropriate games and activities, focus is placed on enhancing motor skills to support physical development. Social interaction is also encouraged by helping kids communicate and collaborate with their peers. These classes are designed to build athletic abilities, foster listening skills and boost self-confidence to help lay the foundation for well-rounded growth.

Aligned with Skyhawks Sports, SuperTots serves as the foundational stage for young athletes, setting them on a path to discover and develop their abilities. Together, SuperTots and Skyhawks offer a seamless transition in sports education, supporting children from their first steps into sports up to their early teens, fostering lifelong skills and a love for active play.

SuperTots - Serving Ages 18 Months to 5 Years

Multi-SportTots

Begin an athletic journey with Multi-SportTots! This program offers a variety of sports through fun, age-appropriate activities, enhancing balance, coordination, and fitness. This engaging introduction to multiple sports is packed with learning and teamwork! Parent participation is required with children 3.5 years and younger.

SoccerTots

Kickstart a passion for soccer with SoccerTots, an active, game-based introduction for young athletes. This program enhances motor skills and self-confidence with engaging activities that focus on developing core soccer skills and introducing friendly competition. Parent participation is required with children 3.5 years and younger.

HoopsterTots

Discover the joy of basketball with HoopsterTots! This fun program focuses on dribbling, shooting, passing, and teamwork using adjustable hoops for age-appropriate challenges. Join HoopsterTots to shoot and score foundational skills! Parent participation is required with children 3.5 years and younger.

1stDownTots

Get ready to huddle up with 1stDownTots and learn about football in a safe, non-contact environment. This program is focused on enhancing fitness, coordination, and fundamental skills while fostering a love for the game. Each session is packed with excitement and learning, perfect for kickstarting a lifelong passion for football where teamwork and fun rule the field!

BaseballTots

Step up to the plate with BaseballTots! These classes focus on developing motor skills and baseball basics like throwing, catching, hitting, and running. It's all about fun, skill development, and creating memorable moments. BaseballTots is a great way to introduce baseball to young kids! Parent participation is required with children 3.5 years and younger.

CheerTots

Get ready to jump and cheer with CheerTots! This vibrant program enhances cheerleading skills, personal expression, agility, and teamwork by boosting self-confidence and promoting joy. Young cheerleaders will shine in routines and life. Parent participation is required with children 3.5 years and younger.

HockeyTots

Slide into fun with HockeyTots! Learn hockey fundamentals in a safe environment, focusing on passing, puck handling, and shooting. Safety is prioritized by using appropriately-sized equipment in a non-contact setting. HockeyTots ignites a passion for hockey and develops teamwork and sportsmanship! Parent participation is required with children 3.5 years and younger.

VolleyKats

Jump into volleyball with VolleyKats! Tailored for young learners, this program offers a supportive environment to work on challenging skills like bumping, setting, and spiking. Participants also develop agility, reaction time, and speed, while learning about teamwork in a fun group setting. Parent participation is required with children 3.5 years and younger.

Skyhawks SPORTS™

Get in touch.

1826 E Sprague Ave
Spokane, WA 99202

(800) 804-3509

www.skyhawks.com
skyhawks@skyhawks.com

ITEM 3.1.

ATTACHMENT 4

stack sports

Ashwin Thirunahari <ashwin@skyhawks.com>

RE: RFP/Q #805-25/26 Request for Flyer

Susan Stewart in Expanded Learning <smstewar@egusd.net> Fri, Jan 23, 2026 at 1:59 PM
To: [redacted]

From: Susan Stewart in Expanded Learning
Sent: Friday, January 23, 2026 1:23 PM
To: [redacted]
Subject: RFP/Q #805-25/26 Request for Flyer

Good afternoon,

The results were approved by the board in October. Skyhawk Sports was approved.

Might you be able to put together a quick one page overview that we could share out with principals who may be looking for enrichment services?

Thank you,

Susan Stewart

Administrative Assistant III

Expanded Learning

(916)831-2277 x67551

smstewar@egusd.net

9510 Elk Grove- Florin Road Room #214

ITEM 3.1

Elk Grove, CA 95624

ATTACHMENT 4

Title

Sly Park Transportation

03/06/2026

by **Kellie Cabral** in **Fiscal Year 2026-2027 Community Enhancement & Investment Fund Grant Application**

id. 53410914

kcabral@egusd.net

Original Submission

03/09/2026

Score n/a

	Thank you for your interest in applying to the City of Rancho Cordova's Community Enhancement & Investment Fund. Applications are open from February 9, 2026, to March 13, 2026, Noon (12:00 p.m.) with a specific deadline of March 6th Noon (12:00 p.m.) for certain applications**. Before you begin, please read the notes about deadlines and certain types of grant applications/grants below. **School/Park Application Deadline **Note that projects or programs involving a park or school district have a deadline of March 6 Noon (12:00 p.m.) to allow for the third-party endorsement process by the grant deadline.** A Note about Religious Schools and the Application/Grant Process **Note for grant applications from religious schools. The United States Supreme Court has recently ruled in part that: “denying a generally available benefit [from government] solely on account of religious identity imposes a penalty on the free exercise of religion that can be justified only by a state interest of the highest order.” The City is of the opinion that not all grants to religious schools are prohibited under this and other similar rulings. However, these United States Supreme Court decisions remain in conflict with a section of the California State Constitution that says: “[n]either the Legislature, nor any county, city and county, township, school district, or other municipal corporation, shall ever make an appropriation, or pay from any public fund whatever, or grant anything to or in aid of any religious sect, church, creed, or sectarian purpose, or help to support or sustain any school, college, university, hospital, or other institution controlled by any religious creed, church, or sectarian denomination whatever; nor shall any grant or donation of personal property or real estate ever be made by the state, or any city, city and county, town, or other municipal corporation for any religious creed, church, or sectarian purpose whatever”. The City will accept applications for grants of these City public funds from religious schools, but will have language in the grant agreements to address the possibility and consequences of legal challenges and new court decisions on this and related topics. ** Future Grant Opportunities If you are interested in remaining up-to-date on available grants from the City of Rancho Cordova, click here to sign up for the Grants Interest List. A separate call for programming opportunities with the Rancho Cordova Youth Center is anticipated later in 2026. The list is also used to advertise separate art programs when funds are available. Ongoing Grant Opportunity The City of Rancho Cordova offers a microgrant opportunity. Learn more about those grants online.
Is this your first time applying for grant funding from the City of Rancho Cordova? As a first-time applicant, Community Enhancement & Investment Fund (CEIF) staff will contact you to discuss your project and grant application process.	Yes: First Time Applicant

	1 - Project/Program Information Note: You can add a collaborator to this form to assist you in completing this application! A collaborator can help you complete this form by filling in fields for you, although only you can submit this form. You can add a collaborator by navigating to the top of the form and clicking on the 'Manage Collaborators' button. Simply enter their email address and click 'invite' to invite them as a collaborator. If you need further assistance, you may consult this Help article for more information.
Project/Program Name. Assign a project name to your project/program.	Sly Park Transportation
Which category does your Project/Program align with?	Youth Programs & Services
Provide a Project/Program Synopsis	Sunrise Elementary is asking for support in transportation costs to send our 6th grade students to Sly Park.
Provide a Project/Program Description	The Sly Park Overnight camp includes a customized set of lessons and activities from 6th grade standards correlated curriculum. Some of these lessons include engineering, pond and forest ecology, astronomy, geology, storytelling and night hikes. Students will learn about trusting each other, building confidence and creating teamwork which occurs at each phase of the lessons and challenges.
Tell us about your Project/Program Team	Our team entails 6h grade teachers, parent volunteers, students.
Provide your Project/Program Goals	Our proposed overnight science camp for 6th grade students will provide an immersive learning experience that blends environmental science education with meaningful social-emotional development. The program's primary goal is to deepen students' understanding of ecological systems through hands-on field investigations, nature exploration, and collaborative scientific inquiry. Students will study local ecosystems, practice observation and data collection, and learn how human actions affect the environment, helping them develop a sense of environmental stewardship. Equally important, the overnight setting encourages social-emotional growth by fostering teamwork, resilience, independence, and positive peer relationships. Through group challenges, reflection activities, and shared responsibilities, students will build confidence, communication skills, and empathy for others. By integrating scientific discovery with personal growth, the camp will inspire curiosity about the natural world while strengthening the collaboration and self-awareness skills students need for success in school and beyond.

Optional File Upload: Provide any additional records to supplement your program/project application. Note: Combine multiple files in one pdf before uploading.	
	2 - Funding & Costs
Funding Request - Complete this section with total dollar amounts for your project/program's costs	Funds are generally not intended to be used for deferred maintenance and ongoing operational needs. The funds are intended for enhancing and investing in the City of Rancho Cordova. If your project/program is awarded, the costs identified below would be reviewed and potentially open to modification during a contracting phase (if a grant is awarded by the City Council). If awarded, grant funds are not available until a contract is executed during Fiscal Year 2026-2027.
Total project/program cost*	54267.50
What is the amount of Community Enhancement & Investment Fund grant monies requested?	20000
Does your project/program involve construction of any facilities or improvements upon any property?	No
What is the total cost of personnel for your project/program?	2359
What is the total cost of supplies for your project/program?	48908
What is the total cost of transportation for your project/program?	3000
What is the total cost of equipment for your project/program?	0

What is the total cost of any miscellaneous expenses for your project/program?	0

Upload your project/program's budget as a .pdf file. Include the categories and their dollar amounts along with information about any other funding sources to demonstrate your project/program's total budget. Note, the sum of all categories must match the total project or program cost, or the amount requested of CEIF if there is no other funding source. Please clearly illustrate any matching funds or funding from other sources in your project/program budget, including in-kind sources. Note: Combine multiple files in one pdf before uploading.

26_27_6TH_Grade_Sly_Park_Science_Camp_Budget_-_Sheet1_3.pdf

Has your organization sought or will seek other funding for this project/program?	Yes, actively seeking funding support or have secured additional funding support for this project/program.
Describe any funding secured or being sought for this project/program.	In previous years, our school has been granted funding for transportation and support for scholarships for our overnight camp.
Please describe any ongoing operations and maintenance costs beyond Fiscal Year 2026/2027, if applicable.	N/A
Do you have volunteer or in-kind support for your project? This could include volunteers for an activity/event that is ongoing or a one-time experience.	No
Is this a single year request or a request for funding for multiple years?	Single Year
Has your project/program received funding from the Community Enhancement & Investment Fund previously?	No

	3 - Project/Program Details Grant applications are typically approved to occur between July 2026 through June 2027. What is your plan to complete this project/program within this time frame?
Anticipated Start Date (July 1 is the soonest available start date)	8/10/2026
Anticipated End Date (typically projects/programs end by June 30)	3/26/2027
Please describe your project/program schedule	We take two separate overnight trips, each a week long. A&D Track 9/14-9/18/2026; B&C Track 3/22-3/26/2027
What challenges do you anticipate in your project/program's implementation? What is your plan to complete your project/program should those or other challenges arise?	The cost for the camp itself and responding to specific children's medical and social-emotional needs. Lower income students needing scholarships to be able to attend with their piers.
How many individuals does your project/program serve?	110
How many Rancho Cordova residents does your project/program serve?	110
	4 - Project/Program Location
Address Verification	If you need to check if your project is in Rancho Cordova, type in your program/project's location in the Assessor Parcel Viewer: https://assessorparcelviewer.saccounty.gov/jsviewer/assessor.html

School and park related applications are due before Noon (12:00 p.m.) on March 6, 2026, to allow for the endorsement process.	Please note that projects or programs that are proposed on property owned or operated by outside agencies or a private party will require coordination with and potentially approvals from outside agencies, organizations, and/or the private party. Include whether you have received a letter of support for the project/program from the property owner. Upload any letters of support with your application. City staff will verify third-party permits have been discussed. In your planning discussions, be sure to discuss any necessary insurance or volunteer requirements that may increase budget costs. School Sites If your project/program is intended to operate at a public K-12 school site, your application is due by March 6 at Noon (12:00 p.m.). City staff will work with the school districts to confirm an endorsement for your project/program. It's the applicant's responsibility to communicate with school site and district representatives before applying so there is clarity during the endorsement process. Districts will only consider endorsement for applications submitted to the Community Enhancement & Investment Fund by the March 6 at Noon (12:00 p.m.). deadline. Each participating school superintendent reserves the right to withhold their endorsement of a project/program. Parks If your project/program is intended to operate at a park or community center site, your application is due by the March 6 at Noon (12:00 p.m.). deadline. City staff will work with the Cordova Recreation & Park District to confirm an endorsement for your project/program. It's the applicant's responsibility to communicate with district representatives before applying so there is clarity during the endorsement process. A special use permit application is required for any program or event planned at a CRPD facility. The special use application can be found at the CRPD website: https://www.cordovarpd.gov/. CRPD will only consider endorsement for applications submitted to the Community Enhancement & Investment Fund by the March 6 at Noon (12:00 p.m.). deadline. The Cordova Recreation & Park District reserves the right to withhold their endorsement of a project/program. Below is the list of staff to communicate with at school and park organizations: Folsom Cordova Unified School District: mwest@fcusd.org Cordova Recreation & Park District: cmichelotti@cordovarpd.gov Elk Grove Unified School District: mgulden@egusd.net Sacramento City Unified School District: Tuan-Duong@scusd.edu for Winn and Carver and Enrique-Flores@scusd.edu for Lincoln.
Primary street address of project/program	11821 Cobblebrook dr. Rancho Cordova Ca 95742
List the city location of the project/program.	Rancho Cordova
Select State	CA
Provide the zip code for your project/program's primary location.	95742

If your project/program takes place at multiple locations, please list other or secondary locations.	Sly Park Conservation and Environmental Educational Center 5600 Sly Park road Pollock Pines, Ca 95726
Third Party Letters of Support (Note: Combine multiple files in one pdf before uploading)	
Does your project/program involve one of Rancho Cordova's school districts?	Yes
Is the project/program requesting facility use only or is this a request to partner with the school district?	Partner with school on project/program
Please select all the school districts which your project/program intends to involve:	Elk Grove USD
Please select one or more Elk Grove USD school facilities which your project/program will involve:	Sunrise Elementary School
Have you reached out to a contact at the school(s) you indicated above?	Yes
Please provide the names of your contacts at the school(s) or district(s) who are familiar with your project/program.	Kellie Cabral Susan Landon Mark Hogge [redacted]

Does your project/program involve the Cordova Recreation & Park District?	No
	5 - Applicant Information
Name	Summer Holtz
Is this project/program on behalf of an organization?	Yes
What is the name of your organization?	Sunrise Elementary/ Elk Grove Unified School District
What is your title and/or role at your organization?	6th Grade Teacher
Provide contact phone number:	[redacted]
Provide contact email:	sholtz@egusd.net
Are you the primary point of contact on this project/program?	Yes
If your project/program was awarded the requested funds, are you authorized to sign the contract for your organization?	No, someone else would sign the contract
If selected by the City Council to receive an award, what is the name of the person at your organization who would sign the contract?	Susan Landon
What is the title of this individual?	Principal

What is the best phone number where we could contact the signatory?	[redacted]
What is the best email address to contact the signatory?	slandon@egusd.net
By checking here, I confirm that I am aware that my application materials will become public record.	checked
	Thank you for applying to the Community Enhancement & Investment Fund Fiscal Year 2026-2027 Grant Cycle. Applicants will receive an automated response through the grant portal. Community Enhancement & Investment Fund (CEIF) Staff will follow up with any questions regarding your Fiscal Year 2026-2027 application. For information about the next steps in the CEIF grant process, visit our website for more information. It is anticipated that applications will be reviewed by the City Council starting in April 2026 with adoption in June 2026. Should applicants be awarded by the City Council, funding would not be available to grantees until the start of Fiscal Year 2026-2027 and the completion of a contract. Please send an email to CEIFGrants@cityofranchocordova.org with any questions or comments.

Internal Form

Score	n/a

Sunrise 26-27 Sly Park Science Camp

A&D Track 9/14-9/18/2026	Number of students	Cost per student	TOTAL per
Transportation	65	$32.00	$2,080.00
Camp cost	65	$354.20	$23,023.00
Camp Deposit	65	$50.00	$3,250.00
Total Cost for student		$436.20	
Chaperone cost	7	$181.50	$1,270.50
Scholarships	9	$386.00	$3,474.00
		TOTAL	$33,097.50

B&C Track 3/22-3/26/2027	Number of students	Cost per student	TOTAL per
Transportation	45	$32.00	$1,440.00
Camp cost	45	$354.20	$15,939.00
Camp Deposit	45	$50.00	$2,250.00
Total Cost for student		$436.20	
Chaperone cost	6	$181.50	$1,089.00
Scholarships	7	$386.00	$2,702.00
		TOTAL	$23,420.00

TRIP A&D TOTAL	$33,097.50
TRIP B&C TOTAL	$23,420.00
TOTAL TRIP	$56,517.50
REQUEST FROM RANCHO CORDOVA	$20,000.00
PARENTS TO FUND	$36,517.50

Title

American River Bike Patrol Velo Lancer Program at Cordova High School

03/02/2026

id. 53362353

by **Glenn Fowler** in **Fiscal Year 2026-2027 Community Enhancement & Investment Fund Grant Application**

[redacted]
Sacramento, California
95831-4454
NA
United States
[redacted]

Original Submission

03/04/2026

Score n/a

	Thank you for your interest in applying to the City of Rancho Cordova's Community Enhancement & Investment Fund. Applications are open from February 9, 2026, to March 13, 2026, Noon (12:00 p.m.) with a specific deadline of March 6th Noon (12:00 p.m.) for certain applications**. Before you begin, please read the notes about deadlines and certain types of grant applications/grants below. **School/Park Application Deadline **Note that projects or programs involving a park or school district have a deadline of March 6 Noon (12:00 p.m.) to allow for the third-party endorsement process by the grant deadline.** A Note about Religious Schools and the Application/Grant Process **Note for grant applications from religious schools. The United States Supreme Court has recently ruled in part that: “denying a generally available benefit [from government] solely on account of religious identity imposes a penalty on the free exercise of religion that can be justified only by a state interest of the highest order.” The City is of the opinion that not all grants to religious schools are prohibited under this and other similar rulings. However, these United States Supreme Court decisions remain in conflict with a section of the California State Constitution that says: “[n]either the Legislature, nor any county, city and county, township, school district, or other municipal corporation, shall ever make an appropriation, or pay from any public fund whatever, or grant anything to or in aid of any religious sect, church, creed, or sectarian purpose, or help to support or sustain any school, college, university, hospital, or other institution controlled by any religious creed, church, or sectarian denomination whatever; nor shall any grant or donation of personal property or real estate ever be made by the state, or any city, city and county, town, or other municipal corporation for any religious creed, church, or sectarian purpose whatever”. The City will accept applications for grants of these City public funds from religious schools, but will have language in the grant agreements to address the possibility and consequences of legal challenges and new court decisions on this and related topics. ** Future Grant Opportunities If you are interested in remaining up-to-date on available grants from the City of Rancho Cordova, click here to sign up for the Grants Interest List. A separate call for programming opportunities with the Rancho Cordova Youth Center is anticipated later in 2026. The list is also used to advertise separate art programs when funds are available. Ongoing Grant Opportunity The City of Rancho Cordova offers a microgrant opportunity. Learn more about those grants online.
Is this your first time applying for grant funding from the City of Rancho Cordova? As a first-time applicant, Community Enhancement & Investment Fund (CEIF) staff will contact you to discuss your project and grant application process.	No: Not a First Time Applicant

	1 - Project/Program Information Note: You can add a collaborator to this form to assist you in completing this application! A collaborator can help you complete this form by filling in fields for you, although only you can submit this form. You can add a collaborator by navigating to the top of the form and clicking on the 'Manage Collaborators' button. Simply enter their email address and click 'invite' to invite them as a collaborator. If you need further assistance, you may consult this Help article for more information.
Project/Program Name. Assign a project name to your project/program.	American River Bike Patrol Velo Lancer Program at Cordova High School
Which category does your Project/Program align with?	Youth Programs & Services
Provide a Project/Program Synopsis	Up to 30 students at Cordova High School will learn safe riding skills, bike maitenance, first aid, persistence, and team work. The ten-week program's grand finale is a 32 mile ride down the entire length of the American River Trail where each student will recieve a brand new Trek bicycle.
Provide a Project/Program Description	For the fourth year in a row, the American River Bike Patrol will offer an incredibly successful biking program aimed at providing safe riding skills, basic bike maintence and mechanics, first aid, and an introduction to the American River Trail, River and Parkway. Done in collaboration with Cordova High School, the program makes use of fifty Trek Bikes that the school had kept in storage for many years before this program began. Named after the school mascot, the Velo Lancers (Biking Lancers) start a ten week program mid-August and continue each Saturday until completion in early November. The program includes the following requirements: The students are told up front, that they have an opportunity to EARN a brand new Trek FX-1 bicycle. There are certain skills they must demonstrate before they will earn that bike. Skills include: a. Bicycle safe riding ability. Before the riders go on the trail, they must demonstrate the ability to ride in a straight line, start and stop safely, shift gears, avoiid trail hazzards, and ride up and down grades. Students are required to become proficient riders before they join others on the American River Parkway. b. Bicycle care and maintenance. Before students even get on their bikes, they are taught to use the ABCD acronym to make sure their bike is ready to ride. A-- is their enough air in the tires? B--do the brakes work well? C: is the chain oiled properly? Is it rusty? D--students DROP their bike from one foot to listen for loose parts. In addition, they are taught how to set the saddles at the appropriate height for safe riding. c. Trail Riding: Once basic skills are learned, the program participants are assigned to a groups of 5-7 students and are assigned to American River Bike Patrol mentors who become their "on trail teachers". Many of the students have never ridden their bikes more than a mile or two. Most have never ridden on the American River Trail. Several were surprised that the

	trail and river existed so close to their school. The trail is often crowded with Saturday morning walkers and runners. It is very important for the students to have some riding skills before the begin riding there. d. Riding Distances: The secondt week, the students ride six miles, a distance most never thought possible. They come back to the school exhausted, but excited that they have alreay done the "impossible". But then miles are added. Each week they ride more miles.On the ninth week, students are challenged to ride from the school up around Lake Natomas,and back to the school--26 miles. If they can do that ride, they are ready for the finale, a ride of 32 miles from Folsom Lake to Discovery Park. Mentors cheer as students gain confidence, skill, and joy from riding. They grow also in their understanding, knowledge and enjoyment of the American River Parkway. They learn how to watch out for themselves, each other, and other trail users. They observe as their mentors assist injured riders or bikers with flat tires. They are becoming responsible cyclists in evey sense of the word. e. Relationships with mentors: In a recent survey, 2025 students were asked what they most liked about the program. Several mentioned "relationships with mentors" high on their lists. Almost twenty men and women volunteer their time to be with the youth each Saturday morning. Over the weeks, connections are made that are deep and lasting. Mentors are there when students think they cannot go one more mile. They stop, rest, drink more water, eat a protein bar, and then finish the ride. Relationships with mentors are a key aspect of this program. f. First Aid Skills: Each student must participate in a half day of learning basic first aid skills. How to stop bleeding, bandage wounds, and how to call for assistance are important first aid skills provided to these young riders. The grand finale happens on the tenth Saturday. They gather at Folsom Lake and ride the entire length of the American River Trail...32 miles. Students are welcomed by parents, friends, school officials, city administrators, and members of the American River Bike Patrol. Trek store employees are present with new bikes for each finisher. The presentation is followed by a barbeque and words of appreciation by students, donors, patrollers, parents, and friends. The program has ended, but not before many lives, including mentors, are changed forever.
Tell us about your Project/Program Team	The team is made up of twenty men and women who happen to love cycling and want to share that love with young people who otherwise might not have that opportunity. The American River Bike Patrol supplies many, but not all of the mentors. These mentors work along side a number of Cordova High School officials, Principal, Amy Strawn, staff person, Heidi Niles, teachers, Lina Washabaugh and Jon Tees have all been curical. Former teacher, Lary Bucher has provided program leadership for the last two years, but the program thrives due to a sharing of responsibility, duties and responsibilities.

Provide your Project/Program Goals	1. To successfully enroll and engage up to 30 Cordova High School students in this program of safe cycling. 2. To recruit and train up to 20 mentors who will work with students during the 2026 program. 3. To provide a specific Smart Cycling Training program for student and adult mentors provided by the League of American Bicyclists. 4. To assist 25 students beyond this program by providing bike maintennce safety checks for students who ride their bikes to school each day. 5. To provide brand new Trek FX 1 bicycles to at least 25 CHS students after they ride the length of the American River Trail.

Optional File Upload: Provide any additional records to supplement your program/project application. Note: Combine multiple files in one pdf before uploading.

Image_11-2-25_at_8.15_AM.jpeg

Press_Links.pdf

IMG_5730.jpeg

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	2 - Funding & Costs
Funding Request - Complete this section with total dollar amounts for your project/program's costs	Funds are generally not intended to be used for deferred maintenance and ongoing operational needs. The funds are intended for enhancing and investing in the City of Rancho Cordova. If your project/program is awarded, the costs identified below would be reviewed and potentially open to modification during a contracting phase (if a grant is awarded by the City Council). If awarded, grant funds are not available until a contract is executed during Fiscal Year 2026-2027.
Total project/program cost*	47000
What is the amount of Community Enhancement & Investment Fund grant monies requested?	35000

Does your project/program involve construction of any facilities or improvements upon any property?	No
What is the total cost of personnel for your project/program?	0
What is the total cost of supplies for your project/program?	2800
What is the total cost of transportation for your project/program?	0
What is the total cost of equipment for your project/program?	30500
What is the total cost of any miscellaneous expenses for your project/program?	1700

Upload your project/program's budget as a .pdf file. Include the categories and their dollar amounts along with information about any other funding sources to demonstrate your project/program's total budget. Note, the sum of all categories must match the total project or program cost, or the amount requested of CEIF if there is no other funding source. Please clearly illustrate any matching funds or funding from other sources in your project/program budget, including in-kind sources. Note: Combine multiple files in one pdf before uploading.

2026_Velo_Lancer_CEIF_Grant_Request_Budget_Summary_2.pdf

Has your organization sought or will seek other funding for this project/program?	Yes, actively seeking funding support or have secured additional funding support for this project/program.
Describe any funding secured or being sought for this project/program.	Outside donors have provided $25,000,

Please describe any ongoing operations and maintenance costs beyond Fiscal Year 2026/2027, if applicable.	A major maintenance cost is to upgrade and repair the practice bikes being provided by Cordova High School. Many of the bikes need new saddles, tires, chains and other repairs. Labor for these repairs will be provided by volunteers, but the equipment and parts will be purchased from funds raised for the program.
Do you have volunteer or in-kind support for your project? This could include volunteers for an activity/event that is ongoing or a one-time experience.	Yes
Please share the total dollar amount for volunteer/in-kind support using $34.79 as the national rate for a volunteer hour. Source: Value of Volunteer Time	26092

Please provide a worksheet explaining your volunteer/in-kind contribution. You may upload a file in the following formats: CSV, DOC, DOCX, or PDF.

Work_Sheet.docx

Is this a single year request or a request for funding for multiple years?	Single Year
Has your project/program received funding from the Community Enhancement & Investment Fund previously?	Yes
How many years has your project/program received funding from the Community Enhancement & Investment Fund?	2

How much funding has your organization received from the Community Enhancement & Investment Fund through our traditional grants (not including microgrants)?	$40,000.00
	3 - Project/Program Details Grant applications are typically approved to occur between July 2026 through June 2027. What is your plan to complete this project/program within this time frame?
Anticipated Start Date (July 1 is the soonest available start date)	8/3/2026
Anticipated End Date (typically projects/programs end by June 30)	5/28/2027
Please describe your project/program schedule	Recruiting students for program April/May of 2026 (costs of this portion of the program would be covered by existing funds) Mentor Training in June of 2026 (costs of this portion of the program would be covered by existing funds) Parent and student orientation (August of 2026) Ten-week Program from August 15-Octoberi 31, 2026 (October 3 off for Homecoming) Bike Safety Repair Day for Student Bike Commuters (May 2027)
What challenges do you anticipate in your project/program's implementation? What is your plan to complete your project/program should those or other challenges arise?	Staff changes and budget reductions at Cordova High School means working with new liaisons and building new relationships. Recruiting and training mentors and volunteers is an ongoing challenge Upgrading of present practice bikes is a crucial off-year task. Teaching students safe riding skills on community streets will demand more on street training rides Relying on the best practices of what we have been doing while adding new responses to challenges will be necessary.

How many individuals does your project/program serve?	30 students, 25 mentors, 30 families with 125 family members, 100 bike patrollers equals 310 plus engaged in this project
How many Rancho Cordova residents does your project/program serve?	Hard to estimate...but no less than 500.
	4 - Project/Program Location
Address Verification	If you need to check if your project is in Rancho Cordova, type in your program/project's location in the Assessor Parcel Viewer: https://assessorparcelviewer.saccounty.gov/jsviewer/assessor.html

School and park related applications are due before Noon (12:00 p.m.) on March 6, 2026, to allow for the endorsement process.	Please note that projects or programs that are proposed on property owned or operated by outside agencies or a private party will require coordination with and potentially approvals from outside agencies, organizations, and/or the private party. Include whether you have received a letter of support for the project/program from the property owner. Upload any letters of support with your application. City staff will verify third-party permits have been discussed. In your planning discussions, be sure to discuss any necessary insurance or volunteer requirements that may increase budget costs. School Sites If your project/program is intended to operate at a public K-12 school site, your application is due by March 6 at Noon (12:00 p.m.). City staff will work with the school districts to confirm an endorsement for your project/program. It's the applicant's responsibility to communicate with school site and district representatives before applying so there is clarity during the endorsement process. Districts will only consider endorsement for applications submitted to the Community Enhancement & Investment Fund by the March 6 at Noon (12:00 p.m.). deadline. Each participating school superintendent reserves the right to withhold their endorsement of a project/program. Parks If your project/program is intended to operate at a park or community center site, your application is due by the March 6 at Noon (12:00 p.m.). deadline. City staff will work with the Cordova Recreation & Park District to confirm an endorsement for your project/program. It's the applicant's responsibility to communicate with district representatives before applying so there is clarity during the endorsement process. A special use permit application is required for any program or event planned at a CRPD facility. The special use application can be found at the CRPD website: https://www.cordovarpd.gov/. CRPD will only consider endorsement for applications submitted to the Community Enhancement & Investment Fund by the March 6 at Noon (12:00 p.m.). deadline. The Cordova Recreation & Park District reserves the right to withhold their endorsement of a project/program. Below is the list of staff to communicate with at school and park organizations: Folsom Cordova Unified School District: mwest@fcusd.org Cordova Recreation & Park District: cmichelotti@cordovarpd.gov Elk Grove Unified School District: mgulden@egusd.net Sacramento City Unified School District: Tuan-Duong@scusd.edu for Winn and Carver and Enrique-Flores@scusd.edu for Lincoln.
Primary street address of project/program	Cordova High School. 2239 Chase Drive. Rancho Cordova, CA 95670
List the city location of the project/program.	Cordova High School. 2239 Chase Drive, Rancho Cordova, CA 95679
Select State	CA
Provide the zip code for your project/program's primary location.	95670

If your project/program takes place at multiple locations, please list other or secondary locations.	Cordova High School American River Parkway Streets of Rancho Cordova

Third Party Letters of Support (Note: Combine multiple files in one pdf before uploading)

AmyLetter_2026.pdf

Does your project/program involve one of Rancho Cordova's school districts?	Yes
Is the project/program requesting facility use only or is this a request to partner with the school district?	Partner with school on project/program
Please select all the school districts which your project/program intends to involve:	Folsom Cordova USD
Please select one or more of the Folsom Cordova Unified School District school facilities which your project/program will involve:	Cordova High School
Have you reached out to a contact at the school(s) you indicated above?	Yes
Please provide the names of your contacts at the school(s) or district(s) who are familiar with your project/program.	Amy Strawn, Principal, Cordova High School. Heidi Niles, Staff at Cordova High School

Does your project/program involve the Cordova Recreation & Park District?	No
	5 - Applicant Information
Name	Richard Fowler
Is this project/program on behalf of an organization?	Yes
What is the name of your organization?	American River Bike Patrol
What is your title and/or role at your organization?	Bike Academy Advisor, Bike Repair and Mechanics' Advisor American River Bike Patrol
Provide contact phone number:	[redacted]
Provide contact email:	[redacted]
Are you the primary point of contact on this project/program?	Yes
If your project/program was awarded the requested funds, are you authorized to sign the contract for your organization?	No, someone else would sign the contract
If selected by the City Council to receive an award, what is the name of the person at your organization who would sign the contract?	John Poimiroo
What is the title of this individual?	Patrol Director, American River Bike Patrol

What is the best phone number where we could contact the signatory?	+[redacted]
What is the best email address to contact the signatory?	[redacted]
By checking here, I confirm that I am aware that my application materials will become public record.	checked
	Thank you for applying to the Community Enhancement & Investment Fund Fiscal Year 2026-2027 Grant Cycle. Applicants will receive an automated response through the grant portal. Community Enhancement & Investment Fund (CEIF) Staff will follow up with any questions regarding your Fiscal Year 2026-2027 application. For information about the next steps in the CEIF grant process, visit our website for more information. It is anticipated that applications will be reviewed by the City Council starting in April 2026 with adoption in June 2026. Should applicants be awarded by the City Council, funding would not be available to grantees until the start of Fiscal Year 2026-2027 and the completion of a contract. Please send an email to CEIFGrants@cityofranchocordova.org with any questions or comments.

Internal Form

Score	n/a

2026 Velo Lancer CEIF Grant Request Budget Summary					
		TOTAL		CEIF	ARBP
EQUIPMENT					
Bicycles		$27,305		$27,305	-
Cycle Repairs & Preparation		$3,195		$3,195	-
SUPPLIES					
Apparel		$1,750		$1,750	-
Miscellaneous Expenses		$1,050		$1,050	-
ADMINISTRATIVE EXPENSES		$4,200		-	$4,200
OPERATING EXPENSES		$4,500		$1,700	$2,800
TRANSPORTATION		$1,000		-	$1,000
PERSONNEL (STIPEND)		$4,000		-	$4,000
PROGRAM EXPENSE TOTALS		$47,000		$35,000	$12,000

CORDOVA HIGH SCHOOL

2239 Chase Drive, Rancho Cordova, CA 95670

Principal, Amy Strawn
Assistant Principal, Dr. Carrie Jackson
Assistant Principal, Dr. Eric F. Evans
Assistant Principal, Erin Kaluza
Assistant Principal, Yvonne Thornton
Assistant Principal, Debra Zwicker-Sobrepena

27 February 2026

To Whom it May Concern,

I am writing to express my enthusiasm and continued support for the Cordova High School Velo Lancers Program and to advocate for the allocation of Community Enhancement and Investment Funds toward this impactful and growing initiative.

The Cordova High Velo Lancers program remains a vital resource for our Rancho Cordova community, providing students with meaningful opportunities to develop leadership, responsibility, and real-world problem-solving skills while actively serving their school and city. As Principal of Cordova High School, I continue to witness the powerful and lasting impact this program has on student engagement, school connectedness, and civic pride.

Through hands-on projects, community partnerships, and peer outreach, Velo Lancers students strengthen positive relationships across our campus and beyond. Participants learn the value of teamwork, service, and stewardship while contributing to a safer, more inclusive environment for all. The program also elevates student voice and empowers youth to take ownership in shaping their community, a core outcome aligned with our school's commitment to student leadership and civic engagement.

Investment in the Cordova High Velo Lancers is an investment in youth development and community well-being. The skills, confidence, and sense of purpose students gain through this program extend far beyond high school, preparing them to be thoughtful leaders and engaged citizens in Rancho Cordova and beyond.

On behalf of Cordova High School and the students we serve, I sincerely thank you for your continued consideration and partnership. Your support ensures that opportunities like Velo Lancers remain accessible and sustainable for future generations of Lancers.

Thank you for your time and consideration. Should you require any further information or assistance, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Sincerely,

Amy Strawn, Principal

Work Sheet:

1. Fifteen volunteers will be assisting each Saturday
2. Volunteers will spend five hours each Saturday
3. Program lasts for ten weeks
4. 15 x 5 x 10 equals 750 hours
5. 750 hours x $34.79 per hour equals $26,092.50

VELO
TREK
TREK

U-HAUL
VERMONT
TREK

U-HAUL
BIKE PATROL
JOYCE
TREK

VELO
LANCERS
Jorah
Isabella

FOX 40 BIKE ACADEMY GRADUATION 2025

BIKE ACADEMY 2025 GRADUATION VIDEO REEL

https://locable-assets-production.s3.amazonaws.com/uploads/resource/file/1257079/GRAPEVINE_2011-21-2025.pdf?timestamp=1763655265

Title

Architects of Hope, Inc Fellowship Program 2026-2027

03/06/2026

id. 53405677

by **jairon jackson** in **Fiscal Year 2026-2027 Community Enhancement & Investment Fund Grant Application**

[redacted]
Sacramento , California
95827
United States
[redacted]

Original Submission

03/06/2026

Score n/a

	Thank you for your interest in applying to the City of Rancho Cordova's Community Enhancement & Investment Fund. Applications are open from February 9, 2026, to March 13, 2026, Noon (12:00 p.m.) with a specific deadline of March 6th Noon (12:00 p.m.) for certain applications**. Before you begin, please read the notes about deadlines and certain types of grant applications/grants below. **School/Park Application Deadline **Note that projects or programs involving a park or school district have a deadline of March 6 Noon (12:00 p.m.) to allow for the third-party endorsement process by the grant deadline.** A Note about Religious Schools and the Application/Grant Process **Note for grant applications from religious schools. The United States Supreme Court has recently ruled in part that: “denying a generally available benefit [from government] solely on account of religious identity imposes a penalty on the free exercise of religion that can be justified only by a state interest of the highest order.” The City is of the opinion that not all grants to religious schools are prohibited under this and other similar rulings. However, these United States Supreme Court decisions remain in conflict with a section of the California State Constitution that says: “[n]either the Legislature, nor any county, city and county, township, school district, or other municipal corporation, shall ever make an appropriation, or pay from any public fund whatever, or grant anything to or in aid of any religious sect, church, creed, or sectarian purpose, or help to support or sustain any school, college, university, hospital, or other institution controlled by any religious creed, church, or sectarian denomination whatever; nor shall any grant or donation of personal property or real estate ever be made by the state, or any city, city and county, town, or other municipal corporation for any religious creed, church, or sectarian purpose whatever”. The City will accept applications for grants of these City public funds from religious schools, but will have language in the grant agreements to address the possibility and consequences of legal challenges and new court decisions on this and related topics. ** Future Grant Opportunities If you are interested in remaining up-to-date on available grants from the City of Rancho Cordova, click here to sign up for the Grants Interest List. A separate call for programming opportunities with the Rancho Cordova Youth Center is anticipated later in 2026. The list is also used to advertise separate art programs when funds are available. Ongoing Grant Opportunity The City of Rancho Cordova offers a microgrant opportunity. Learn more about those grants online.
Is this your first time applying for grant funding from the City of Rancho Cordova? As a first-time applicant, Community Enhancement & Investment Fund (CEIF) staff will contact you to discuss your project and grant application process.	No: Not a First Time Applicant

	1 - Project/Program Information Note: You can add a collaborator to this form to assist you in completing this application! A collaborator can help you complete this form by filling in fields for you, although only you can submit this form. You can add a collaborator by navigating to the top of the form and clicking on the 'Manage Collaborators' button. Simply enter their email address and click 'invite' to invite them as a collaborator. If you need further assistance, you may consult this Help article for more information.
Project/Program Name. Assign a project name to your project/program.	Architects of Hope, Inc Fellowship Program 2026-2027
Which category does your Project/Program align with?	Youth Programs & Services
Provide a Project/Program Synopsis	AOH Athletics Leadership Program, created by Architects of Hope, combines athletics, mentorship, and leadership development to engage youth in grades 5–12. Operating twice weekly at Mitchell, Mills, and Cordova High, the program supports hard-to-reach students through mentorship, athletic training, and life-skills development that promote leadership, academic engagement, and positive decision-making.
Provide a Project/Program Description	**AOH Athletics Leadership Program –** The AOH Mentorship & Athletics Leadership Program is a structured after-school youth development initiative that integrates athletic training, mentorship, and leadership development to empower students in grades 5–12. Designed and implemented by Architects of Hope (AOH), the program uses sports—primarily football and track training and conditioning—as a powerful engagement tool to teach critical life skills, including leadership, communication, teamwork, accountability, and resilience. This initiative will expand and enhance AOH's already established in-school mentorship programs currently operating at Mitchell Middle School, Sutter Middle School, and look to add Mills Middle and Cordova High School, where AOH has maintained a strong presence for the past three years, serving over 100 students annually through mentorship, leadership development, and social-emotional support services. Through a combination of skill-based athletic clinics, leadership development workshops, and culturally responsive mentorship, students gain the confidence, discipline, and guidance necessary to succeed both on and off the field. The program emphasizes character development, goal setting, emotional regulation, and positive decision-making, while reinforcing the importance of academic engagement, personal responsibility, and community leadership. AOH intentionally focuses on hard-to-reach youth, including students experiencing challenges such as chronic absenteeism, behavioral issues, youth violence, gang involvement, and other harmful behaviors, and other risk factors that often make it difficult for traditional school systems to fully

engage them. By building authentic relationships and providing consistent mentorship, AOH helps these students develop a stronger sense of belonging, purpose, and accountability.

The program will operate twice per week on Tuesdays and Thursdays as an after-school program, providing youth with a safe, structured, and supportive environment during critical out-of-school hours. This intentional engagement helps reduce risk factors associated with unsupervised time while promoting healthy physical activity, teamwork, and social-emotional development.

By combining athletics with mentorship and leadership training, the AOH Athletics Leadership Program serves as a pipeline for youth empowerment, preparing participants to become confident leaders, positive role models, and active contributors in their schools and communities.

Partnerships & Community Collaboration

AOH has built strong partnerships throughout the Rancho Cordova and greater Sacramento region to support youth development and expand opportunities for students. Current and past partners supporting AOH programming include collaborations with local school districts, community organizations, and regional institutions, including: **Roberts Family Development Center (RFDC)** to strengthen the academic and tutoring components of the Measure H program. RFDC has a long-standing track record of providing high-quality educational support services for youth and families throughout Sacramento County. Through this partnership, RFDC will provide structured tutoring, academic enrichment, and learning support for students participating in AOH programming.

Students enrolled in the AOH Athletics & Leadership Program will have access to tutoring support that focuses on improving academic performance, homework completion, and study habits. RFDC staff and tutors will work alongside AOH mentors to ensure that students receive both academic guidance and social-emotional support. This collaboration will help reinforce positive learning behaviors while addressing academic challenges that may impact student success.

By integrating RFDC’s expertise in education and tutoring with AOH’s mentorship and leadership development model, the partnership will create a well-rounded support system for participating youth. Together, both organizations will help students strengthen their academic confidence, remain engaged in school, and develop the skills necessary for long-term educational success.

- Folsom Cordova Unified School District (FCUSD)
- Sacramento County Office of Education (SCOE CARES Program)
- Sacramento City Unified School District (SCUSD)
- Twin Rivers Unified School District (TRUSD)
- Liberty Towers Church
- Ball-Out Academy
- SMUD
- Golden 1 Credit Union

- Community mentors, coaches, and local business partners

These partnerships help expand mentorship opportunities, leadership development experiences, and career exposure for participating youth.

Program Sustainability & Cost Sharing

Architects of Hope is committed to investing its own resources to ensure the success and sustainability of this program. AOH will contribute in-kind support and organizational resources, including staff time, mentorship services, program coordination, and existing curriculum materials, to help offset program costs.

In addition, AOH will leverage its existing funding streams, partnerships, and sponsorships to support program operations, equipment, and youth engagement activities. This shared investment demonstrates AOH's commitment to sustaining long-term programming and maximizing the impact of the City of Rancho Cordova's support.

Program Impact

Aligned with the mission of Architects of Hope, this program helps youth develop the skills, mindset, and support systems necessary for long-term success in education, career pathways, and life, while strengthening positive outcomes for students, schools, and the Rancho Cordova community.

Tell us about your Project/Program Team	Architects of Hope (AOH) maintains a strong partnership with the Sacramento County Office of Education, co-developing youth mentoring structures and training more than 15 mentors with over 100 hours of professional development alongside Mentor CA. Over the past 3–5 years, AOH has served some of Sacramento's hardest-to-reach youth across multiple districts while supporting other providers and ensuring program continuity. Led by Damone Jackson, Jairon Jackson, Alexis Chase, and Dustin Forester, the team combines research, culturally responsive mentorship, and trauma-informed practices to deliver impactful youth leadership and mental health programming aligned with SCOE priorities.

Provide your Project/Program Goals

Project / Program Goals

The goal of the Architects of Hope (AOH) Athletics & Leadership Program is to provide structured mentorship, leadership development, and athletic engagement opportunities that support the social, emotional, and academic development of youth. Through a combination of athletics, mentorship, and life-skills training, the program is designed to engage students who may be at risk of disengagement from school and provide them with positive pathways for personal growth and success.

The program will operate at Cordova High School and Mitchell Middle School during the academic year, with summer programming hosted at Mather Sports Complex.

Primary Program Goals

1. Increase Youth Engagement and Positive Development
Provide structured after-school programming that engages youth in athletics, mentorship, and leadership development, helping students build confidence, teamwork, and positive decision-making skills.

2. Improve School Engagement and Academic Accountability
Encourage consistent school attendance, improved classroom behavior, and stronger academic motivation through mentorship, goal setting, and regular check-ins with students.

3. Develop Leadership and Life Skills
Equip students with essential life skills, including communication, conflict resolution, teamwork, goal setting, and leadership development through workshops and mentorship circles.

4. Promote Healthy Lifestyles and Physical Wellness
Introduce youth to structured athletic training and conditioning programs that encourage physical fitness, discipline, and healthy habits.

5. Strengthen Community Connections and Mentorship
Connect youth with positive mentors, coaches, and community leaders who can provide guidance, career exposure, and long-term support.

6. Reduce Risk Factors and Promote Positive Decision Making
Provide a safe and supportive environment where youth can build strong relationships with mentors and peers while developing skills that help them avoid negative influences and high-risk behaviors.

Optional File Upload: Provide any additional records to supplement your program/project application. Note: Combine multiple files in one pdf before uploading.

RFP_252603_Scoring_Summary.pdf

RFP_252603_NOI.pdf

Letter_of_Support_AoH_5.pdf

AOH_support_letter_2024_1.pdf

AoH_Letter_of_Support.pdf

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2 - Funding & Costs

Funding Request - Complete this section with total dollar amounts for your project/program's costs	Funds are generally not intended to be used for deferred maintenance and ongoing operational needs. The funds are intended for enhancing and investing in the City of Rancho Cordova. If your project/program is awarded, the costs identified below would be reviewed and potentially open to modification during a contracting phase (if a grant is awarded by the City Council). If awarded, grant funds are not available until a contract is executed during Fiscal Year 2026-2027.
Total project/program cost*	120000
What is the amount of Community Enhancement & Investment Fund grant monies requested?	90000
Does your project/program involve construction of any facilities or improvements upon any property?	No
What is the total cost of personnel for your project/program?	15000
What is the total cost of supplies for your project/program?	36000
What is the total cost of transportation for your project/program?	27000
What is the total cost of equipment for your project/program?	30000
What is the total cost of any miscellaneous expenses for your project/program?	12000

Upload your project/program's budget as a .pdf file. Include the categories and their dollar amounts along with information about any other funding sources to demonstrate your project/program's total budget. Note, the sum of all categories must match the total project or program cost, or the amount requested of CEIF if there is no other funding source. Please clearly illustrate any matching funds or funding from other sources in your project/program budget, including in-kind sources. Note: Combine multiple files in one pdf before uploading.

Budget_Narrative_AOH_Grant_.pdf

Has your organization sought or will seek other funding for this project/program?	Yes, actively seeking funding support or have secured additional funding support for this project/program.
Describe any funding secured or being sought for this project/program.	Architects of Hope, Inc. (AOH) has successfully secured multi-year funding through the Sacramento County Office of Education (SCOE) to support youth mentorship, leadership development, and wellness programming across three school sites over the next five years. These schools include Mitchell Middle School, Mills Middle School, and Sutter Middle School. This investment allows AOH to provide consistent programming focused on leadership development, mental health support, academic engagement, and positive youth mentorship for students who may be at higher risk of disengagement from school. In addition to this secured funding, AOH is currently applying to become the Rancho Cordova Community Incubator Lead (CIL) through the Roberts Family Development Center and the Sierra Health Foundation Building Community Leadership Capacity (BCLC) initiative. If awarded, this opportunity would provide dedicated office space in Rancho Cordova along with additional funding to support community-led initiatives focused on violence prevention, youth development, and reducing community challenges such as third-party homicides and neighborhood safety concerns. This role would allow AOH to deepen its presence in the Rancho Cordova community while expanding services for youth and families. Additionally, AOH has secured funding through the Sacramento City Unified School District (SCUSD) to provide programming that serves youth in the Lincoln Village neighborhood community. These funds support culturally responsive mentorship, leadership training, and enrichment activities designed to empower young people and strengthen community engagement. Together, these secured and pending funding streams demonstrate strong community investment in AOH’s programming and help ensure that youth across multiple districts receive consistent, high-quality mentorship and leadership development opportunities.

Please describe any ongoing operations and maintenance costs beyond Fiscal Year 2026/2027, if applicable.	Beyond Fiscal Year 2026–2027, ongoing operations and maintenance costs for the Architects of Hope (AOH) program will primarily include staffing, program materials, transportation, and administrative support necessary to sustain high-quality youth development programming. Key operational costs include mentor and program facilitator stipends, curriculum materials, leadership and wellness program supplies, transportation for student engagement activities, and data collection and evaluation systems used to track program outcomes. AOH has developed a diversified funding strategy to sustain programming beyond the initial funding period. The organization currently maintains multi-year partnerships with the Sacramento County Office of Education, which provides funding to support programming at Mitchell Middle School, Mills Middle School, and Sutter Middle School over the next five years. Additional support is secured through school district partnerships, philanthropic grants, and community-based funding opportunities. AOH also continues to pursue additional public and private funding sources to ensure long-term program sustainability. These efforts include district service agreements, community foundation grants, and workforce development partnerships that support youth leadership and mentorship programming across Sacramento County. Through these partnerships and funding streams, AOH is well positioned to maintain program operations and expand services beyond Fiscal Year 2026–2027 without interruption to participating students.
Do you have volunteer or in-kind support for your project? This could include volunteers for an activity/event that is ongoing or a one-time experience.	No
Is this a single year request or a request for funding for multiple years?	Multiple Years
If requesting CEIF grant funding for multiple years, please share how many years?	2 years
For requests spanning multiple years, share the dollar amount requested per year.	FY 2026-2027 $80,000 FY 2027-2028 $80,000

For projects/programs that span multiple years, please describe your sustainability plan and whether it is viable as a single year request.	Architects of Hope, Inc. (AOH) has developed a sustainability strategy that combines multi-year institutional partnerships, school district contracts, and philanthropic support to ensure that programs continue beyond the initial funding period. AOH currently maintains multi-year funding through the Sacramento County Office of Education, which supports programming at Mitchell Middle School, Mills Middle School, and Sutter Middle School over a five-year period. These partnerships provide a stable foundation for ongoing youth mentorship, leadership development, and wellness programming. In addition to these secured resources, AOH actively pursues additional funding through school district service agreements, community foundation grants, and local government initiatives to support program expansion and long-term sustainability. The organization is also currently seeking opportunities through regional initiatives such as the Building Community Leadership Capacity (BCLC) Community Incubator Lead program, which would further strengthen AOH's infrastructure and community-based services in Rancho Cordova. This request is structured so that the program is fully viable as a single-year investment, while also serving as a catalyst for longer-term program sustainability. If funded for one year, the investment will allow AOH to expand services, strengthen partnerships with local schools and community organizations, and demonstrate measurable outcomes that can support future funding opportunities. The program model is designed to be scalable and adaptable, ensuring that services can continue through a combination of renewed grants, district partnerships, and community investments. Through this diversified funding strategy and strong community partnerships, AOH is well positioned to sustain and grow the program over multiple years while maximizing the impact of a single-year funding request.
Has your project/program received funding from the Community Enhancement & Investment Fund previously?	No
	3 - Project/Program Details Grant applications are typically approved to occur between July 2026 through June 2027. What is your plan to complete this project/program within this time frame?
Anticipated Start Date (July 1 is the soonest available start date)	7/1/2026

Anticipated End Date (typically projects/programs end by June 30)	6/30/2027

Please describe your project/program schedule

Annual Program Schedule

Summer Program (July – August 2026)

Location: Mather Sports Complex

Days: Tuesday & Thursday
Time: 9:00 AM – 12:00 PM

Activities Include

- Football and track skill development
- Speed, agility, and conditioning training
- Leadership development workshops
- Team-building exercises
- Guest speakers (coaches, community leaders, former athletes)
- College and career exposure activities

Estimated Participation: 40–60 youth

Fall Program (September – December 2026)

Locations:

- Cordova High School
- Mitchell Middle School

Days: Tuesday & Thursday
Time: 3:15 PM – 5:15 PM

Program Components

- Sacramento State Hornets Athletics
- Athletic training and conditioning
- Academic accountability check-ins
- Leadership academy workshops
- Mentorship circles and goal setting
- Mental health and emotional regulation discussions
- Guest speakers and community leaders

Winter Program (January – March 2027)

Locations:

- Cordova High School
- Mitchell Middle School

Days: Tuesday & Thursday
Time: 3:15 PM – 5:15 PM

Focus Areas

- Sacramento State Hornets Athletics
- Strength and conditioning
- Leadership development curriculum
- Conflict resolution and character development
- Workforce readiness and career exploration
- Community service projects

Spring Program (April – June 2027)

Locations:

- Cordova High School
- Mitchell Middle School

Days: Tuesday & Thursday
Time: 3:15 PM – 5:15 PM

Program Activities

- Sacramento State Hornets Athletics
- Athletic training and speed development
- Leadership capstone projects
- Goal setting for summer and next school year
- Student recognition and awards ceremony
- Parent engagement and community celebration

Weekly Program Structure

Typical Session (2 Hours)

TimeActivity3:15 – 3:30 PMStudent Check-In & Relationship Building3:30 – 4:15 PMAthletic Training / Conditioning4:15 – 4:45 PMLeadership Development Workshop4:45 – 5:00 PMMentorship Circle5:00 – 5:15 PMGoal Setting & Program Wrap-Up

What challenges do you anticipate in your project/program's implementation? What is your plan to complete your project/program should those or other challenges arise?	Architects of Hope, Inc. (AOH) primarily serves youth who are often considered the hardest to reach—students who may struggle with attendance challenges, behavioral concerns, academic disengagement, or external community pressures. Because the program intentionally focuses on these higher-need students, maintaining consistent participation and engagement can be an anticipated challenge. However, AOH has developed a proven mentorship model that uses athletics, leadership development, and culturally responsive mentorship as a gateway to build trust and sustained participation. Through years of experience working in partnership with local schools—including Cordova High School and Mitchell Middle School—AOH has demonstrated strong outcomes with these populations. Over the past several years, more than 90% of youth participating in AOH programs have successfully improved school engagement, secured employment opportunities, or continued into higher education pathways. These outcomes are achieved through consistent mentorship, goal setting, leadership development workshops, and positive role modeling from trained mentors and coaches. Another potential challenge is coordinating programming across multiple locations and maintaining access to facilities for athletics-based programming. AOH addresses this by working closely with school administrators and community partners to ensure scheduling alignment and facility availability. Summer programming hosted at Mather Sports Complex / Lincoln village park provides additional space for athletic development, leadership training, and larger youth engagement activities. If unexpected challenges arise, AOH has a strong infrastructure and network of community partners that allow the organization to adapt quickly while maintaining program quality. The organization maintains trained mentors, strong school partnerships, and flexible program design that allows activities to be adjusted based on student needs, school schedules, or facility availability. Through this proactive approach and its established track record of success with high-need youth, AOH is well positioned to successfully implement the program while continuing to deliver measurable outcomes for participating students.
How many individuals does your project/program serve?	200
How many Rancho Cordova residents does your project/program serve?	500
	4 - Project/Program Location

Address Verification	If you need to check if your project is in Rancho Cordova, type in your program/project's location in the Assessor Parcel Viewer: https://assessorparcelviewer.saccounty.gov/jsviewer/assessor.html
School and park related applications are due before Noon (12:00 p.m.) on March 6, 2026, to allow for the endorsement process.	Please note that projects or programs that are proposed on property owned or operated by outside agencies or a private party will require coordination with and potentially approvals from outside agencies, organizations, and/or the private party. Include whether you have received a letter of support for the project/program from the property owner. Upload any letters of support with your application. City staff will verify third-party permits have been discussed. In your planning discussions, be sure to discuss any necessary insurance or volunteer requirements that may increase budget costs. School Sites If your project/program is intended to operate at a public K-12 school site, your application is due by March 6 at Noon (12:00 p.m.). City staff will work with the school districts to confirm an endorsement for your project/program. It's the applicant's responsibility to communicate with school site and district representatives before applying so there is clarity during the endorsement process. Districts will only consider endorsement for applications submitted to the Community Enhancement & Investment Fund by the March 6 at Noon (12:00 p.m.). deadline. Each participating school superintendent reserves the right to withhold their endorsement of a project/program. Parks If your project/program is intended to operate at a park or community center site, your application is due by the March 6 at Noon (12:00 p.m.). deadline. City staff will work with the Cordova Recreation & Park District to confirm an endorsement for your project/program. It's the applicant's responsibility to communicate with district representatives before applying so there is clarity during the endorsement process. A special use permit application is required for any program or event planned at a CRPD facility. The special use application can be found at the CRPD website: https://www.cordovarpd.gov/. CRPD will only consider endorsement for applications submitted to the Community Enhancement & Investment Fund by the March 6 at Noon (12:00 p.m.). deadline. The Cordova Recreation & Park District reserves the right to withhold their endorsement of a project/program. Below is the list of staff to communicate with at school and park organizations: Folsom Cordova Unified School District: mwest@fcusd.org Cordova Recreation & Park District: cmichelotti@cordovarpd.gov Elk Grove Unified School District: mgulden@egusd.net Sacramento City Unified School District: Tuan-Duong@scusd.edu for Winn and Carver and Enrique-Flores@scusd.edu for Lincoln.
Primary street address of project/program	Cordova High School 2239 Chase Dr Rancho Cordova, CA 95670 United States
List the city location of the project/program.	Rancho Cordova
Select State	CA

Provide the zip code for your project/program's primary location.	95670
If your project/program takes place at multiple locations, please list other or secondary locations.	Mitchell Middle School 2100 Zinfandel Dr Rancho Cordova, CA 95670 United States Mills Middle school Mather sports complex Lincoln village park

Third Party Letters of Support (Note: Combine multiple files in one pdf before uploading)

AoH_Letter_of_Support.pdf

Does your project/program involve one of Rancho Cordova's school districts?	Yes
Is the project/program requesting facility use only or is this a request to partner with the school district?	Partner with school on project/program
Please select all the school districts which your project/program intends to involve:	Folsom Cordova USD
Please select one or more of the Folsom Cordova Unified School District school facilities which your project/program will involve:	Cordova High School Mitchell Middle School Mills Middle School
Have you reached out to a contact at the school(s) you indicated above?	Some, but not all

Are there still schools you need to contact? If so, please list them below.	Mills Middle School
Please provide the names of your contacts at the school(s) or district(s) who are familiar with your project/program.	Jennifer Laret FCUSD Board Member Chris Clark FCUSD Board Member Ian Shipley Mitchel Vice Principal Athony Davis Head Track Coach Cordova High
Does your project/program involve the Cordova Recreation & Park District?	Yes
Is the project/program requesting facility use only or is this a request to partner with the Cordova Recreation & Park District?	Facility Use Only. Visit Cordova Recreation & Park District's website for facility use information.
Please select one or more of the Cordova Recreation & Park District facilities which your project/program will involve:	Lincoln Village Community Park Mather Sports Complex
Have you already discussed your project/program with staff at the Cordova Recreation & Park District?	Yes
What is the name of your point of contact at the Cordova Recreation & Park District?	Chase Michelotti

What is the email for your point of contact at the Cordova Recreation & Park District?	cmichelotti@cordovarpd.gov
	5 - Applicant Information
Name	Jairon Jackson
Is this project/program on behalf of an organization?	Yes
What is the name of your organization?	Architects of Hope, Inc
What is your title and/or role at your organization?	Jairon Jackson CEO Co- Founder
Provide contact phone number:	+[redacted]
Provide contact email:	[redacted]m
Are you the primary point of contact on this project/program?	Yes
If your project/program was awarded the requested funds, are you authorized to sign the contract for your organization?	Yes, I would be the one to sign the contract
By checking here, I confirm that I am aware that my application materials will become public record.	checked

Thank you for applying to the Community Enhancement & Investment Fund Fiscal Year 2026-2027 Grant Cycle. Applicants will receive an automated response through the grant portal. Community Enhancement & Investment Fund (CEIF) Staff will follow up with any questions regarding your Fiscal Year 2026-2027 application. For information about the next steps in the CEIF grant process, visit our website for more information. It is anticipated that applications will be reviewed by the City Council starting in April 2026 with adoption in June 2026. Should applicants be awarded by the City Council, funding would not be available to grantees until the start of Fiscal Year 2026-2027 and the completion of a contract. Please send an email to CEIFGrants@cityofranchocordova.org with any questions or comments.

Internal Form

Score	n/a

Title

Architects of Hope, Inc Fellowship Program 2026-2027

03/06/2026

id. 53405677

by **jairon jackson** in **Fiscal Year 2026-2027 Community Enhancement & Investment Fund Grant Application**

Average score: n/a

Reviewed by: Mina West (Score:)

03/19/2026

Which organization(s) are you completing this form on behalf of? (Select all that apply)	A school district
Which school district are you completing this form on behalf of?	FCUSD
Which FCUSD school facility	Mills Middle School Mitchell Middle School Cordova High School
For Mills Middle School, the school district's acknowledgement is:	Conditional approval for rental of facility only
Notes providing rationale	The Architects of Hope Athletics Leadership Program supports Mills Middle School students by providing structured after.school mentorship, leadership development, and athletic engagement during critical out.of.school hours. By combining physical activity with culturally responsive mentorship and life.skills training, the program promotes positive behavior, school engagement, and healthy decision.making for students who may be at risk of disengagement. Endorsing this program aligns with district and City priorities by strengthening student well.being, fostering connectedness to school, and supporting positive youth development in a safe, supervised setting.
For Mitchell Middle School, the school district's acknowledgement is:	Conditional approval for rental of facility only

Notes providing rationale	At Mitchell Middle School, the Architects of Hope Athletics Leadership Program offers a proven, relationship.based approach to engaging students through mentorship, leadership development, and structured athletic activities. The program provides consistent support that encourages attendance, accountability, and social.emotional growth while addressing risk factors often associated with unsupervised after.school time. District endorsement supports a collaborative effort to promote student wellness, reinforce positive school culture, and expand access to meaningful enrichment opportunities that contribute to long.term academic and personal success.
For Cordova High School, the school district's acknowledgement is:	Conditional approval for rental of facility only
Notes providing rationale	The Architects of Hope Athletics Leadership Program supports Cordova High School students by providing structured after.school mentorship, leadership development, and athletic engagement that promotes academic accountability, personal growth, and positive decision.making. By combining athletics with culturally responsive mentorship and life.skills training, the program helps engage students who may be at risk of disengagement while reinforcing school connectedness and healthy lifestyles. District endorsement of this program aligns with City and district priorities by supporting youth wellness, reducing risk factors during out.of.school hours, and fostering leadership, resilience, and long.term success for Cordova High School students.
Organizations may provide PDF or JPG documentation regarding their endorsement.	
Name of Superintendent, Manager, or Designee completing this form:	Mina West
Title of individual completing this form	Administrative Assistant - Communications and Community Engagement
By checking here, I verify that I have the authority at my organization to provide an endorsement.	True

Title

Architects of Hope, Inc Fellowship Program 2026-2027

03/06/2026

id. 53405677

by **jairon jackson** in **Fiscal Year 2026-2027 Community Enhancement & Investment Fund Grant Application**

Average score: n/a

Reviewed by: Chase Michelotti (Score:)

03/12/2026

Which organization(s) are you completing this form on behalf of? (Select all that apply)	A parks district
Cordova Recreation & Park District	Conditional Endorsement (Notes Provided)
CRPD Notes	Was able to connect with organizer. Awaiting organizer to submit Special Use Permit Application. Need to confirm program works with current facility schedule.
Organizations may provide PDF or JPG documentation regarding their endorsement.	
Name of Superintendent, Manager, or Designee completing this form:	Chase Michelotti
Title of individual completing this form	Recreation Superintendent
By checking here, I verify that I have the authority at my organization to provide an endorsement.	True

Which organization(s) are you completing this form on behalf of? (Select all that apply)	A school district
Which school district are you completing this form on behalf of?	FCUSD
Which FCUSD school facility	Cordova High School Mitchell Middle School Mills Middle School
For Mills Middle School, the school district's acknowledgement is:	Endorsement given
Notes providing rationale	The Architects of Hope Athletics Leadership Program supports Mills Middle School students by providing structured after.school mentorship, leadership development, and athletic engagement during critical out.of.school hours. By combining physical activity with culturally responsive mentorship and life.skills training, the program promotes positive behavior, school engagement, and healthy decision.making for students who may be at risk of disengagement. Endorsing this program aligns with district and City priorities by strengthening student well.being, fostering connectedness to school, and supporting positive youth development in a safe, supervised setting.
For Mitchell Middle School, the school district's acknowledgement is:	Endorsement given
Notes providing rationale	At Mitchell Middle School, the Architects of Hope Athletics Leadership Program offers a proven, relationship.based approach to engaging students through mentorship, leadership development, and structured athletic activities. The program provides consistent support that encourages attendance, accountability, and social.emotional growth while addressing risk factors often associated with unsupervised after.school time. District endorsement supports a collaborative effort to promote student wellness, reinforce positive school culture, and expand access to meaningful enrichment opportunities that contribute to long.term academic and personal success.
For Cordova High School, the school district's acknowledgement is:	Endorsement given

Notes providing rationale	The Architects of Hope Athletics Leadership Program supports Cordova High School students by providing structured after.school mentorship, leadership development, and athletic engagement that promotes academic accountability, personal growth, and positive decision.making. By combining athletics with culturally responsive mentorship and life.skills training, the program helps engage students who may be at risk of disengagement while reinforcing school connectedness and healthy lifestyles. District endorsement of this program aligns with City and district priorities by supporting youth wellness, reducing risk factors during out.of.school hours, and fostering leadership, resilience, and long.term success for Cordova High School students.
Organizations may provide PDF or JPG documentation regarding their endorsement.	
Name of Superintendent, Manager, or Designee completing this form:	Mina West
Title of individual completing this form	Administrative Assistant - Communications and Community Engagement
By checking here, I verify that I have the authority at my organization to provide an endorsement.	True

Budget Narrative

Architects of Hope (AOH) Athletics & Leadership Program
Program Period: July 1, 2026 – June 30, 2027
Program Sites: Cordova High School, Mitchell Middle School, and Sutter Middle School

The total program budget for the AOH Athletics & Leadership Program is **$120,000**, which will support programming across three school sites serving middle and high school youth. Each site operates with a **$40,000 program allocation**, supporting mentorship, athletic training, leadership development, and youth engagement activities throughout the school year and summer programming.

Architects of Hope will contribute **$30,000 in matching funds** to support the program, representing **$10,000 per school site** through in-kind resources, staff time, mentorship services, program coordination, and existing curriculum and equipment. This investment demonstrates AOH's commitment to sustaining high-quality programming and leveraging community resources to maximize the impact of grant funding.

The following provides a detailed description of each budget category and how funds will support program implementation.

Personnel – $5,000 per site ($15,000 total)

Personnel costs support stipends for qualified program facilitators, mentors, and athletic coaches who deliver programming and provide direct support to participating youth. Staff responsibilities include leading mentorship circles, facilitating leadership development workshops, supervising athletic training sessions, and coordinating program logistics.

While personnel costs are intentionally minimized within this request, AOH leverages additional staffing support through volunteers, community mentors, and existing organizational staff to help deliver programming and maintain strong mentor-to-student relationships.

Supplies – $12,000 per site ($36,000 total)

Supplies support the program's leadership curriculum and youth development materials. This includes printed program guides, student workbooks, leadership development materials, goal-setting journals, and mentorship activity resources.

Additional supplies include athletic training materials used during football and track conditioning sessions, such as cones, resistance bands, agility ladders, hydration supplies, and other equipment needed for safe and effective training. These materials ensure students have the resources necessary to fully participate in program activities.

Transportation – $9,000 per site ($27,000 total)

Transportation funds support safe and reliable transportation for program participants during off-site activities and special events. This includes transportation for field trips, leadership retreats, community engagement opportunities, and exposure visits to colleges, workplaces, and community organizations.

Funds may also support mileage reimbursement for staff transporting equipment or traveling between program sites, ensuring smooth program operations across multiple locations.

Equipment – $10,000 per site ($30,000 total)

Equipment funds support the purchase of durable athletic training equipment used throughout the program. This includes football training equipment, track and conditioning equipment, strength and agility training tools, and fitness gear needed to facilitate structured athletics programming.

Investments in equipment help create a safe and engaging training environment where students can develop physical fitness, teamwork, and discipline through athletics.

Miscellaneous – $4,000 per site ($12,000 total)

Miscellaneous costs support program enrichment and student engagement activities. These funds may be used for guest speakers, community mentors, leadership workshops, and special program events that provide students with exposure to positive role models and career pathways.

Additional expenses may include healthy snacks or meals for students participating in extended after-school programming, recognition events, student incentives, and end-of-program celebrations that highlight student achievements.

Summary

The proposed budget ensures that the majority of funding directly supports youth engagement activities, program materials, and athletic programming. By minimizing personnel costs and leveraging existing partnerships, volunteers, and organizational resources, Architects of Hope is able to maximize the impact of grant funding while providing high-quality programming for youth across multiple school sites.

With **$30,000 in matching contributions from AOH and a total project budget of $120,000**, the program will serve youth consistently across three school sites while delivering mentorship, leadership development, and athletics-based programming designed to support positive youth development.

Sacramento County Office of Education

ATTACHMENT 4 PROCUREMENT DEPARTMENT
10150 MISSILE WAY • SACRAMENTO, CA 95655
(916) 228-2092 • FAX (916) 228-2450

September 26, 2025

Dear Bidder,

Thank you for the interest you and your company have demonstrated by participating in Sacramento County Office of Education's Invitation for Request for Proposal No. 252603 Court & Community Schools Student Enrichment Programs.

The evaluation committee assigned to this project has completed its evaluation of your proposal in accordance with the criteria outlined in the Bid. The committee will present to the Sacramento County Office of Education Governing Board on October 7, 2025 its recommendation to authorize the award of a contract pursuit to RFP #252603 to Architects of Hope, Inc.; Aliyah Sidqe; Thrive Academics; Roberts Family Development Center; HOKALI; 916 Ink; Milton Bowens Teaching Artist; Improve Your Tomorrow; The HAWK Institute; Sylvan Learning, Middle Tree Incorporated; Little Scholars LLC; Beats Lyrics Leaders; WorkED Inc; Earth Mama Healing Foundation; Community Initiatives/MENTOR California; Ball-Out Academy Inc; and McNeal Mentouring.

Again, thank you for participating in the proposal process.

Sincerely,

Nick LaMattina

Nick LaMattina
Coordinator, Business Support
Sacramento County Office of Education

Cc: File

PRO Youth & Families
3841N. Freeway Blvd., Suite 210
Sacramento, CA 95834
[redacted]

March 4, 2026

To Whom it May Concern:

I am proud to share this letter of support and recommendation for Architects of Hope (AOH). They offer youth meaningful mentorship and leadership opportunities that incorporate mental wellness, healthy relationship skills, and youth substance use awareness and prevention. AOH have been essential collaborative partners with our organization for almost five years and they have reached several hundred youth over the course of our partnership. AOH has also retained high-quality staff over the course of our partnership, providing consistency and stability to their programming. They take the time to engage youth where they are and consistently serve our community's most hard to reach youth.

Collaboration is a two-fold process. It includes the successful delivery of high-quality programming to youth and the administrative capacity to manage project deliverables. I can say with confidence, through first-hand experience, that AOH has the ability to deliver on both fronts. They have been extremely skilled at developing pro-active relationships at the school-site level that have made it possible to launch programs more quickly and increase site-level buy-in. Youth have consistently given AOH high marks for their ability to create spaces where youth can build stronger relationships with one another and safely engage in conversations about tough topics like using marijuana, mental health concerns, and dangerous relationships. In addition, youth have appreciated AOH's emphasis on developing healthy routines and mindfulness practices that provide them with the skills they need to achieve their goals.

We have been extremely fortunate to partner with Architects of Hope and would encourage other entities seeking to include them in collaborative partnership to improve the lives of youth. Please do not hesitate to contact me with any questions about their professional qualifications.

Sincerely,

Taylor Intermill
Associate Director
PRO Youth & Families
[redacted]
taylori@proyouthandfamilies.org

August 7, 2024

Dear Selection Committee:

I am providing this letter of support to the Architects of Hope (AOH) application for funding through the Safe Credit Union. Architects of Hope has been a SMUD Shine award partner in two previous cycles of Shine funding to support the under-resourced youth in workforce development skills development, job skills training and support in the Sacramento Region.

The AOH programs have been providing impactful support services to our community of under-resourced and underserved youth through strong partnerships with multiple school districts. They reach the "hard to reach" students with staff that resembles, represented and can relate to the challenges the students currently face. They engage with compassion and care and hold students to a high standard with accountability. The AOH staff model the effective communication skills, conflict resolution skills, key problem solving and decision-making and presentation skills.

As their Project lead for their Shine projects, I supported their project deliverables and implementation of their funding and project. I fully support their application for funding from Safe Credit Union. If you need more information on the programs we supported through the Shine award program, please feel free to reach out to me directly at (916) 690-2356 or at betty.low@smud.org.

With Regards,

Betty M. Low

Betty M. Low, MSW
Program Manager, Sustainable Communities Partnerships
SMUD

Sacramento County Office of Education
EDUCATION EMPOWERS

David W. Gordon
Superintendent

Board of Education

Karina Talamantes
President

Paul A. Keefer, Ed.D., MBA
Vice President

Joanne Ahola

O. Alfred Brown, Sr.

Heather Davis

Harold Fong, MSW

Bina Lefkovitz

(916) 228-2500

www.scoe.net

July 30, 2021

RE: Architects of Hope

Dear SMUD SHINE AWARD Representatives,

The Sacramento County Office of Education (SCOE) is one of 58 county offices of education in California. Approximately 650 regular and more than 950 temporary and substitute SCOE staff work year-round providing services which complement and supplement those offered by public school districts in Sacramento County. SCOE provides technical assistance, curriculum and instructional support, staff development, legal and financial advice, and oversight to Sacramento County school districts.

SCOE partnered with Architects of Hope (AoH) on two innovative programs as a result of needs that developed during COVID Sacramento Healthy HeARTS and Minds Collaborative and SCOE's Summer Innovation Centers. This year long partnership resulted in much needed mentoring services for over 300 students in five sites throughout Sacramento County. Mentoring and peer mentoring is a key strategy SCOE and other school districts are employing to impact Student Achievement and Mental Wellness during this turbulent an uneasy time.

We commit to participating in and supporting Architects of Hope in their efforts to address the underserved and underprivileged students in the greater Sacramento area through SMUD SHINE AWARD.

Mentoring is and will remain a key strategy that SCOE uses to support all of the school programs that it directly serves including Elinor Lincoln Hickey Jr./Sr. High School, Nathaniel S. Colley, Sr., High School, North Area Community School, and El Centro Jr./Sr. High School. Further, mentoring is a key component of regional mental wellness plans, and other initiatives that SCOE leads. SCOE will continue to work collaboratively with Architects of Hope in the Sacramento region to ensure alignment of goals around group and peer-to-peer mentoring.

Sincerely,

Jackie White
Director II, College and Career Initiatives

RFP #252603
Court & Community Schools Student Enrichment Programs

RFP Scoring Summary

	Total	Organizational Experience and Qualifications	Plan for Delivery of Services	Program Description and Outcomes	Cost
Supplier	**/ 100 pts**	**/ 10 pts**	**/ 25 pts**	**/ 25 pts**	**/ 40 pts**
Architects of Hope, Inc	90.33 pts	8.333 pts	21.33 pts	22.67 pts	38 pts
Aliyah Sidqe	87 pts	8.667 pts	20.67 pts	21.67 pts	36 pts
Thrive Academics	86.33 pts	8.667 pts	21 pts	20.67 pts	36 pts
Roberts Family Development Center	85.67 pts	9.333 pts	21.33 pts	21 pts	34 pts
HOKALI	85.33 pts	8 pts	21 pts	21.33 pts	35 pts
916 INK	85 pts	9 pts	22.33 pts	23.67 pts	30 pts
Milton Bowens Teaching Artist	85 pts	10 pts	23.33 pts	22.67 pts	29 pts

	Total	Organizational Experience and Qualifications	Plan for Delivery of Services	Program Description and Outcomes	Cost
Supplier	**/ 100 pts**	**/ 10 pts**	**/ 25 pts**	**/ 25 pts**	**/ 40 pts**
Improve Your Tomorrow	85 pts	8.667 pts	20.67 pts	21.67 pts	34 pts
The HAWK Institute	84.67 pts	9.667 pts	22.33 pts	22.67 pts	30 pts
Sylvan Learning	84.67 pts	8.667 pts	20.33 pts	21.67 pts	34 pts
Middle Tree Incorporated	83.33 pts	8 pts	20 pts	18.33 pts	37 pts
Little Scholars LLC	82.33 pts	7.667 pts	19 pts	19.67 pts	36 pts
Beats Lyrics Leaders	82 pts	9.667 pts	22.33 pts	20 pts	30 pts
WorkED Inc	80 pts	8 pts	21.67 pts	20.33 pts	30 pts
Earth Mama Healing Foundation	78.33 pts	9 pts	22.67 pts	22.67 pts	24 pts
Community Initiatives/MENTOR California	77 pts	8.333 pts	21.33 pts	21.33 pts	26 pts

	Total	Organizational Experience and Qualifications	Plan for Delivery of Services	Program Description and Outcomes	Cost
Supplier	**/ 100 pts**	**/ 10 pts**	**/ 25 pts**	**/ 25 pts**	**/ 40 pts**
Ball-Out Academy Inc	76.67 pts	8.667 pts	19.67 pts	20.33 pts	28 pts
McNeal Mentouring	75.33 pts	8.333 pts	19.33 pts	18.67 pts	29 pts
Exceptional Lives	66.67 pts	7.333 pts	18 pts	17.33 pts	24 pts
Emerge	58 pts	7.667 pts	20 pts	20.33 pts	10 pts
Center for the Collaborative Classroom	51 pts	9.333 pts	17.33 pts	18.33 pts	6 pts

***Bidders must score a minimum of 75 points to be considered for a contract.

Title

Book Vending Machine Positive Incentives Program

03/04/2026

id. 53384467

by **Jamie Hinchcliffe** in **Fiscal Year 2026-2027 Community Enhancement & Investment Fund Grant Application**

10679 Bear Hollow Drive
Rancho Corcova, California
95670
United States
[redacted]

Original Submission

03/04/2026

Score n/a

	Thank you for your interest in applying to the City of Rancho Cordova's Community Enhancement & Investment Fund. Applications are open from February 9, 2026, to March 13, 2026, Noon (12:00 p.m.) with a specific deadline of March 6th Noon (12:00 p.m.) for certain applications**. Before you begin, please read the notes about deadlines and certain types of grant applications/grants below. **School/Park Application Deadline **Note that projects or programs involving a park or school district have a deadline of March 6 Noon (12:00 p.m.) to allow for the third-party endorsement process by the grant deadline.** A Note about Religious Schools and the Application/Grant Process **Note for grant applications from religious schools. The United States Supreme Court has recently ruled in part that: “denying a generally available benefit [from government] solely on account of religious identity imposes a penalty on the free exercise of religion that can be justified only by a state interest of the highest order.” The City is of the opinion that not all grants to religious schools are prohibited under this and other similar rulings. However, these United States Supreme Court decisions remain in conflict with a section of the California State Constitution that says: “[n]either the Legislature, nor any county, city and county, township, school district, or other municipal corporation, shall ever make an appropriation, or pay from any public fund whatever, or grant anything to or in aid of any religious sect, church, creed, or sectarian purpose, or help to support or sustain any school, college, university, hospital, or other institution controlled by any religious creed, church, or sectarian denomination whatever; nor shall any grant or donation of personal property or real estate ever be made by the state, or any city, city and county, town, or other municipal corporation for any religious creed, church, or sectarian purpose whatever”. The City will accept applications for grants of these City public funds from religious schools, but will have language in the grant agreements to address the possibility and consequences of legal challenges and new court decisions on this and related topics. ** Future Grant Opportunities If you are interested in remaining up-to-date on available grants from the City of Rancho Cordova, click here to sign up for the Grants Interest List. A separate call for programming opportunities with the Rancho Cordova Youth Center is anticipated later in 2026. The list is also used to advertise separate art programs when funds are available. Ongoing Grant Opportunity The City of Rancho Cordova offers a microgrant opportunity. Learn more about those grants online.
Is this your first time applying for grant funding from the City of Rancho Cordova? As a first-time applicant, Community Enhancement & Investment Fund (CEIF) staff will contact you to discuss your project and grant application process.	Yes: First Time Applicant

	1 - Project/Program Information Note: You can add a collaborator to this form to assist you in completing this application! A collaborator can help you complete this form by filling in fields for you, although only you can submit this form. You can add a collaborator by navigating to the top of the form and clicking on the 'Manage Collaborators' button. Simply enter their email address and click 'invite' to invite them as a collaborator. If you need further assistance, you may consult this Help article for more information.
Project/Program Name. Assign a project name to your project/program.	Book Vending Machine Positive Incentives Program
Which category does your Project/Program align with?	Youth Programs & Services
Provide a Project/Program Synopsis	The book vending machine will serve as a positive incentive program for the students. They will be able to earn tokens and redeem them for free books they can keep.
Provide a Project/Program Description	Please see the attached grant proposal.
Tell us about your Project/Program Team	The Navigator Elementary librarian, Michelle Watkins, will run and maintain the vending machine. She will work alongside school administrators and the PBIS team to integrate the vending machine program into the existing behavioral program.
Provide your Project/Program Goals	Please see the attached grant proposal.

Optional File Upload: Provide any additional records to supplement your program/project application. Note: Combine multiple files in one pdf before uploading.

Grant_Proposal__Book_Vending_Machine_Positive_Incentives_Program.pdf

	2 - Funding & Costs
Funding Request - Complete this section with total dollar amounts for your project/program's costs	Funds are generally not intended to be used for deferred maintenance and ongoing operational needs. The funds are intended for enhancing and investing in the City of Rancho Cordova. If your project/program is awarded, the costs identified below would be reviewed and potentially open to modification during a contracting phase (if a grant is awarded by the City Council). If awarded, grant funds are not available until a contract is executed during Fiscal Year 2026-2027.
Total project/program cost*	10000

What is the amount of Community Enhancement & Investment Fund grant monies requested?	10000
Does your project/program involve construction of any facilities or improvements upon any property?	No
What is the total cost of personnel for your project/program?	0
What is the total cost of supplies for your project/program?	0
What is the total cost of transportation for your project/program?	0
What is the total cost of equipment for your project/program?	0
What is the total cost of any miscellaneous expenses for your project/program?	0

Upload your project/program's budget as a .pdf file. Include the categories and their dollar amounts along with information about any other funding sources to demonstrate your project/program's total budget. Note, the sum of all categories must match the total project or program cost, or the amount requested of CEIF if there is no other funding source. Please clearly illustrate any matching funds or funding from other sources in your project/program budget, including in-kind sources. Note: Combine multiple files in one pdf before uploading.

Navigator_Elementary_-_33250576394.pdf

Has your organization sought or will seek other funding for this project/program?	No, not seeking any other funding support.

Please explain why you are not seeking any other funding support for your project/program.	The school runs two book fairs each year. The profits can be used to buy scholastic books at a discounted rate. These books will be used to replenish future stock.
Please describe any ongoing operations and maintenance costs beyond Fiscal Year 2026/2027, if applicable.	The machine comes with a standard 2-year warranty. The quote includes an additional 4-year extended warranty. Beyond the 6 years, the company offers maintenance. PTA will help to support as needed and book fair monies can be used if available. The machine will be kept in the library to minimize risk to the equipment.
Do you have volunteer or in-kind support for your project? This could include volunteers for an activity/event that is ongoing or a one-time experience.	No
Is this a single year request or a request for funding for multiple years?	Single Year
Has your project/program received funding from the Community Enhancement & Investment Fund previously?	No
	3 - Project/Program Details Grant applications are typically approved to occur between July 2026 through June 2027. What is your plan to complete this project/program within this time frame?
Anticipated Start Date (July 1 is the soonest available start date)	7/1/2026
Anticipated End Date (typically projects/programs end by June 30)	12/31/2026

Please describe your project/program schedule	Once the new school branding is completed, the machine request can be made. The designers will work with our team to create a custom vinyl design for the machine. Once the design is complete, the machine will be made and shipped. We would love to unveil the book vending machine at the beginning of the 26/27 school year. However, we cannot set any exact dates until we secure the funding.
What challenges do you anticipate in your project/program's implementation? What is your plan to complete your project/program should those or other challenges arise?	We do not anticipate any problems with the vending machine implementation.
How many individuals does your project/program serve?	Navigator Elementary serves approximately 430 students every year.
How many Rancho Cordova residents does your project/program serve?	The student body is comprised of Rancho Cordova residents.
	4 - Project/Program Location
Address Verification	If you need to check if your project is in Rancho Cordova, type in your program/project's location in the Assessor Parcel Viewer: https://assessorparcelviewer.saccounty.gov/jsviewer/assessor.html

School and park related applications are due before Noon (12:00 p.m.) on March 6, 2026, to allow for the endorsement process.	Please note that projects or programs that are proposed on property owned or operated by outside agencies or a private party will require coordination with and potentially approvals from outside agencies, organizations, and/or the private party. Include whether you have received a letter of support for the project/program from the property owner. Upload any letters of support with your application. City staff will verify third-party permits have been discussed. In your planning discussions, be sure to discuss any necessary insurance or volunteer requirements that may increase budget costs. School Sites If your project/program is intended to operate at a public K-12 school site, your application is due by March 6 at Noon (12:00 p.m.). City staff will work with the school districts to confirm an endorsement for your project/program. It's the applicant's responsibility to communicate with school site and district representatives before applying so there is clarity during the endorsement process. Districts will only consider endorsement for applications submitted to the Community Enhancement & Investment Fund by the March 6 at Noon (12:00 p.m.). deadline. Each participating school superintendent reserves the right to withhold their endorsement of a project/program. Parks If your project/program is intended to operate at a park or community center site, your application is due by the March 6 at Noon (12:00 p.m.). deadline. City staff will work with the Cordova Recreation & Park District to confirm an endorsement for your project/program. It's the applicant's responsibility to communicate with district representatives before applying so there is clarity during the endorsement process. A special use permit application is required for any program or event planned at a CRPD facility. The special use application can be found at the CRPD website: https://www.cordovarpd.gov/. CRPD will only consider endorsement for applications submitted to the Community Enhancement & Investment Fund by the March 6 at Noon (12:00 p.m.). deadline. The Cordova Recreation & Park District reserves the right to withhold their endorsement of a project/program. Below is the list of staff to communicate with at school and park organizations: Folsom Cordova Unified School District: mwest@fcusd.org Cordova Recreation & Park District: cmichelotti@cordovarpd.gov Elk Grove Unified School District: mgulden@egusd.net Sacramento City Unified School District: Tuan-Duong@scusd.edu for Winn and Carver and Enrique-Flores@scusd.edu for Lincoln.
Primary street address of project/program	10679 Bear Hollow Drive
List the city location of the project/program.	Rancho Cordova
Select State	CA
Provide the zip code for your project/program's primary location.	95670

If your project/program takes place at multiple locations, please list other or secondary locations.	

Third Party Letters of Support (Note: Combine multiple files in one pdf before uploading)

Untitled_document_1.pdf

Does your project/program involve one of Rancho Cordova's school districts?	Yes
Is the project/program requesting facility use only or is this a request to partner with the school district?	Partner with school on project/program
Please select all the school districts which your project/program intends to involve:	Folsom Cordova USD
Please select one or more of the Folsom Cordova Unified School District school facilities which your project/program will involve:	Navigator Elementary School
Have you reached out to a contact at the school(s) you indicated above?	Yes
Please provide the names of your contacts at the school(s) or district(s) who are familiar with your project/program.	James Tucker, Principal Michelle Watkins, Librarian Summer Ellis, Administrative

Does your project/program involve the Cordova Recreation & Park District?	No
	5 - Applicant Information
Name	Jamie Hinchcliffe
Is this project/program on behalf of an organization?	Yes
What is the name of your organization?	Navigator Elementary PTA
What is your title and/or role at your organization?	President
Provide contact phone number:	[redacted]
Provide contact email:	[redacted]
Are you the primary point of contact on this project/program?	Yes
If your project/program was awarded the requested funds, are you authorized to sign the contract for your organization?	Yes, I would be the one to sign the contract
By checking here, I confirm that I am aware that my application materials will become public record.	checked

Thank you for applying to the Community Enhancement & Investment Fund Fiscal Year 2026-2027 Grant Cycle. Applicants will receive an automated response through the grant portal. Community Enhancement & Investment Fund (CEIF) Staff will follow up with any questions regarding your Fiscal Year 2026-2027 application. For information about the next steps in the CEIF grant process, visit our website for more information. It is anticipated that applications will be reviewed by the City Council starting in April 2026 with adoption in June 2026. Should applicants be awarded by the City Council, funding would not be available to grantees until the start of Fiscal Year 2026-2027 and the completion of a contract. Please send an email to CEIFGrants@cityofranchocordova.org with any questions or comments.

Internal Form

Score	n/a

Grant Proposal: Book Vending Machine Positive Incentives Program

Submitted by: *Navigator Elementary School PTA*
Principal: *James Tucker*
City: *Rancho Cordova*
Date: *3/2/2026*

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1. Executive Summary

Navigator Elementary, a Title I school serving a diverse and economically challenged student population, is seeking funding to implement a **Book Vending Machine Positive Incentives Program**. This initiative will provide students with free, high-interest books as rewards for positive behavior, academic growth, and contributions to school culture. The program promotes literacy, equity, and student motivation by allowing children to select and keep books of their choice. Funding will support the purchase of a customized book vending machine, a 4 year extended maintenance warranty, and first-year book replenishment.

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2. Statement of Need

As a Title I school, many of our students have limited access to books at home. Research consistently shows that children who have books of their own demonstrate stronger reading skills, improved academic performance, and greater confidence as learners. Additionally, positive behavior support systems are most effective when rewards are meaningful, equitable, and connected to learning.

Our school is committed to fostering a culture where reading is celebrated and positive behavior is recognized. However, we currently lack a sustainable, engaging incentive system that both motivates students and supports literacy development. A book vending machine provides a creative, student-centered solution that meets both needs simultaneously.

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3. Program Description

The **Book Vending Machine Positive Incentives Program** will operate as follows:

- Students earn **“book tokens”** by meeting schoolwide expectations, demonstrating kindness, improving academically, or contributing positively to the school community.

- Tokens can be redeemed at the **book vending machine** located on campus.
- The machine will be stocked with diverse, culturally relevant, age-appropriate books.
- Students keep the books permanently, helping build home libraries and fostering a love of reading.
- The program integrates seamlessly with our school's Positive Behavioral Interventions and Supports (PBIS) program, attendance initiatives, and academic recognition systems.
- This program has the potential to put books in the hands of approximately 430 students a year.

This approach transforms reading into an exciting, student-driven experience and reinforces positive behavior in a meaningful way.

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4. Goals and Expected Outcomes

Program Goals

- Increase student access to high-interest books.
- Strengthen positive behavior and school culture.
- Promote literacy and independent reading.
- Provide equitable incentives for all students.

Expected Outcomes

- Increased student motivation and engagement.
- Improved reading habits and literacy skills.
- Reduction in behavioral incidents.
- Growth in students' personal book ownership.
- Stronger home-school connections around reading.

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5. Budget Request

We respectfully request **grant funding in the amount of $10,000** to support:

Item	Estimated Cost
Book vending machine (please see attached quote for breakdown)	$7,922.38

Extended maintenance warranty (4 year add-on)	$699.00
Book replenishment (First year)	$1,378.62
Total Request	**$10,000.00**

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6. Sustainability Plan

To ensure long-term success, the school will:

- Integrate the program into PBIS and schoolwide recognition systems.
- Work closely with PBIS and school administration to monitor progress and identify what works and what needs improvement
- Partner with local businesses, community organizations, and PTA for book sponsorships.
- Utilize a portion of the profits from our bi-annual book fairs to replenish inventory.

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7. Conclusion

This program represents an innovative, joyful, and equitable approach to promoting literacy and positive behavior in our Title I school. By funding this initiative, the city will directly support hundreds of students, helping them build personal libraries, strengthen reading habits, and feel recognized for their achievements.

We deeply appreciate your consideration and welcome the opportunity to discuss this proposal further.

BookVending.com

Navigator Elementary - 33250576394

Navigator Elementary

Bill to:

10679 Bear Hollow Drive
Rancho Cordova, California,

Ship to:

10679 Bear Hollow Drive
Rancho Cordova, California

Michelle Watkins
mwatkins@fcusd.org
[redacted]

Quote: 20250311-121818426

Reference ID:33250576394

Quote created: March 11, 2025
Quote expires: June 26, 2026

Quote created by: Jared

jared@globalvendinggroup.com
+1-800-592-4220
JRP

Comments from Jared

Check out Inchy's Book Bundle:
Book Bundle Catalog

Products & Services

Item & Description	SKU	Quantity	Unit Price	Total
CUSTOM WRAP BOOK VENDING MACHINE NEW 2024 CUSTOM BW NEW 2024 size of machine only: 46in W x 31.5in D x 76in H size on pallet: 48in W x 40in D x 83in H 2 Year Standard Warranty - Included Lifetime virtual technical support	1200	1	$5,695.00	$5,695.00 +$498.31 8.75% Tax
Picture Book Upgrade - 3 Trays (AAB) Tray Configuration: Standard Standard Option B Option A Option A	1305	1	$525.00	$525.00 +$45.94 8.75% Tax
Tokens Inchy Tokens 100 Ct	4200	2	$75.00	$150.00 +$13.13 8.75% Tax
Warranty 4 year Add Extended Warranty Plan – Additional 4 Years - Adds 4 extra years of parts warranty coverage beyond the standard 2-year warranty (6 years total). Includes lifetime virtual technical support and full Inchy Care+ coverage. Peace of mind for the long haul.	4521	1	$699.00	$699.00
Lift Gate (4410) Shipping: Lift Gate - outside delivery to the door only.(inside delivery and placement NOT INCLUDED!)*SHIPPING DISCLOSURE*Please review the machine dimensions and 'Ship To' address listed above. Contact GVG Shipping within (5) business days of receiving this invoice with any address changes or location access issues due to machine sizes provided.		1	$995.00	$995.00

One-time subtotal	$8,064.00
Tax (8.75%)	$557.38
Total	**$8,621.38**

Purchase terms

Questions? Contact me

Jared Pilarski
jared@globalvendinggroup.com
+1-800-592-4220

Global Vending Group
6000 N Bailey Ave
Suite 1E
Amherst, NY 14226
USA

Michelle Watkins
School Librarian
Navigator Elementary School
10679 Bear Hollow Drive
Rancho Cordova, CA 95670
mwatkins@fcusd.org
January 13, 2026

Dear Grant Committee,

As the librarian at Navigator Elementary School, I have the privilege of witnessing every day how books can spark curiosity, confidence, and joy in our students. For many of our children—especially in our Title I community—access to new, high-interest books is limited. Their excitement when they discover a story that speaks to them is unmistakable. It is this joy of reading that inspires me to write in strong support of our school's request for funding for a Book Vending Machine Positive Incentives Program.

This project is especially meaningful to me because it aligns with a belief I hold deeply–every child deserves the chance to own books they love…not borrowed, not shared—their own books, free to keep, reread, and treasure always. When students have books at home, their confidence as readers grows, their literacy skills strengthen, and their connection to learning deepens.

Last year, I began purchasing books using our book fair funds to start building an initial inventory for the vending machine. Even before the machine is in place, students have been asking about it with excitement and anticipation. They love the idea of earning a token through positive behavior or academic growth and using it to choose a brand-new book from the machine designed just for them. Their enthusiasm reinforces how powerful this program will be.

The vending machine will not only support literacy, it will celebrate it by transforming reading into an experience filled with pride, choice, and joy. Students will be able to select books reflecting their interests, cultures, and dreams, helping them see themselves as readers and as valued members of our school community.

I am passionate about this project because I know the difference it will make. With your support, we can create a lasting, equitable system that rewards students in a meaningful way while building their personal libraries and nurturing a lifelong love of reading.

Thank you for considering this request and for supporting the children and families of Rancho Cordova. I would be honored to share more about the program and the impact it will have on our students.

Warm Regards,

Michelle Watkins
School Librarian, Navigator Elementary

Navigator Elementary School
10679 Bear Hollow Drive
Rancho Cordova, CA 95670
916-294-2420 | www.fcusd.org/ne
James Tucker, Principal

Dear Grant Application Committee,

I am writing on behalf of Navigator Elementary, a proud Title I school serving the children and families of our community. Every day, we work to ensure that our students not only succeed academically but also feel valued, supported, and inspired. Today, I am reaching out to request the city's partnership to launch a new initiative that aligns deeply with those goals: a Book Vending Machine Positive Incentives Program.

This program introduces a creative, joyful way to promote literacy and positive behavior. Students will earn special tokens by meeting schoolwide expectations, demonstrating kindness, showing academic growth, and contributing positively to our school culture. These tokens can then be redeemed for a free book of their choice from a book-vending machine located on campus.

For many of our students, access to high-interest books at home is limited. By allowing them to select and keep a book they are excited about, we are not only rewarding positive behavior — we are building personal libraries, strengthening reading habits, and fostering a lifelong love of learning. Research consistently shows that student choice is one of the strongest motivators for reading, and this program brings that power directly into their hands.

To bring this vision to life, we are seeking grant funding in the amount of $10,000 to cover the cost of the vending machine, initial book inventory, and ongoing replenishment. Your support would directly impact hundreds of students and help us create a schoolwide culture where reading is celebrated, accessible, and fun.

We would be honored to partner with the city on this initiative. Together, we can provide our students with meaningful incentives that encourage positive behavior while also strengthening literacy — a foundation for future success.

Thank you for considering our request and for your continued commitment to the children and families of Rancho Cordova. I would welcome the opportunity to discuss this program further and share how it can become a lasting, transformative part of our school community.

Sincerely,

James Tucker
Principal, Navigator Elementary

January 19, 2026

Dear Grant Selection Committee:

My name is Jenny Olson, and I am the proud parent of a current 4 th grade Navigator Elementary School student and 6 th grade former Navigator student. I have also been on the PTA Board for the past 3 years. I am writing in strong support of our school's proposal to get a book vending machine as a positive incentive for students' behavior and creative way to get kids excited about and invested in reading.

As a parent, I know firsthand how difficult it can be to instill a love of reading in a child. With modern day games, tablets, and television, the draw to sit down with a good book and read isn't usually the first option kids choose, especially when they are younger. Over the years, right before winter break, my kids got a new book from their teacher or the library at Navigator. I remember how excited they were to get the book, especially when they got to choose the book. It became natural for them to read it over the break. A book vending machine would be even cooler because students can pass it every day and build excitement for which book they will choose after earning enough points. It also helps build a reading library for families who may not be able to afford new books.

Our school and teachers have been using small incentives for positive behavior and to increase school attendance, and it really works. Our school attendance rate is up, and my 4 th grader is still excited when she comes home with a prize after earning enough good behavior / kindness points. A book vending machine will add to our culture of kindness and make reading fun and exciting. It also makes practical sense to invest in a child's literacy skills, imagination, and creativity.

Thank you for your consideration to fund this amazing benefit that will support our students and help build a school-wide culture of reading.
Sincerely,

Jenny Olson
PTA Board Historian and proud Navigator Elementary School mom

Title

Cordova High School Music Ambassadors

03/05/2026

id. 53394773

by **Kevin Sims** in **Fiscal Year 2026-2027 Community Enhancement & Investment Fund Grant Application**

PO BOX 3031
RANCHO CORDOVA, California
95741
CA
United States
[redacted]
ksims@fcusd.org

Original Submission

03/05/2026

Score n/a

	Thank you for your interest in applying to the City of Rancho Cordova's Community Enhancement & Investment Fund. Applications are open from February 9, 2026, to March 13, 2026, Noon (12:00 p.m.) with a specific deadline of March 6th Noon (12:00 p.m.) for certain applications**. Before you begin, please read the notes about deadlines and certain types of grant applications/grants below. **School/Park Application Deadline **Note that projects or programs involving a park or school district have a deadline of March 6 Noon (12:00 p.m.) to allow for the third-party endorsement process by the grant deadline.** A Note about Religious Schools and the Application/Grant Process **Note for grant applications from religious schools. The United States Supreme Court has recently ruled in part that: “denying a generally available benefit [from government] solely on account of religious identity imposes a penalty on the free exercise of religion that can be justified only by a state interest of the highest order.” The City is of the opinion that not all grants to religious schools are prohibited under this and other similar rulings. However, these United States Supreme Court decisions remain in conflict with a section of the California State Constitution that says: “[n]either the Legislature, nor any county, city and county, township, school district, or other municipal corporation, shall ever make an appropriation, or pay from any public fund whatever, or grant anything to or in aid of any religious sect, church, creed, or sectarian purpose, or help to support or sustain any school, college, university, hospital, or other institution controlled by any religious creed, church, or sectarian denomination whatever; nor shall any grant or donation of personal property or real estate ever be made by the state, or any city, city and county, town, or other municipal corporation for any religious creed, church, or sectarian purpose whatever”. The City will accept applications for grants of these City public funds from religious schools, but will have language in the grant agreements to address the possibility and consequences of legal challenges and new court decisions on this and related topics. ** Future Grant Opportunities If you are interested in remaining up-to-date on available grants from the City of Rancho Cordova, click here to sign up for the Grants Interest List. A separate call for programming opportunities with the Rancho Cordova Youth Center is anticipated later in 2026. The list is also used to advertise separate art programs when funds are available. Ongoing Grant Opportunity The City of Rancho Cordova offers a microgrant opportunity. Learn more about those grants online.
Is this your first time applying for grant funding from the City of Rancho Cordova? As a first-time applicant, Community Enhancement & Investment Fund (CEIF) staff will contact you to discuss your project and grant application process.	No: Not a First Time Applicant

	1 - Project/Program Information Note: You can add a collaborator to this form to assist you in completing this application! A collaborator can help you complete this form by filling in fields for you, although only you can submit this form. You can add a collaborator by navigating to the top of the form and clicking on the 'Manage Collaborators' button. Simply enter their email address and click 'invite' to invite them as a collaborator. If you need further assistance, you may consult this Help article for more information.
Project/Program Name. Assign a project name to your project/program.	Cordova High School Music Ambassadors
Which category does your Project/Program align with?	Youth Programs & Services
Provide a Project/Program Synopsis	The Cordova High Music Boosters seek financial support to help the Marching Band, Orchestra, and Jazz Band travel to Disneyland in February 2027 to participate in Disney Imagination Campus, including a Main Street, U.S.A. march and Soundtrack Instrumental Workshops.

Provide a Project/Program Description	Since 1983, the **Cordova High School Music Boosters**, a volunteer-run non.profit organization, has supported the Cordova High School Instrumental Music Program through fundraising, performances, sponsored events, and general program assistance. The Boosters proudly serve the **Marching Band, Drumline, Color Guard, Winter Guard, Winter Percussion Ensemble, Jazz Band, Orchestra, and Guitar classes**, helping ensure meaningful opportunities and enriching experiences for all student musicians. Our project is to provide all of our Cordova High School Marching Band, Guard, Orchestra, and Jazz Band members the opportunity to participate in the Disney Imagination Campus in February 2027 and proudly represent Rancho Cordova on an international stage as ambassadors. This educational program is located in the Disneyland Resort where they will develop their performance skills through behind the scenes professional workshops and live experiences. A special trip of this caliber helps students understand the commitment required to become musicians and performers, strengthens their bond as a team, and allows them to be positive community role models. This five.day trip includes **three days in the Disneyland parks**, with one of our Cordova High School groups scheduled to **perform or participate in a workshop each day**, plus **two travel days** by charter bus. Based on current quotes, the **estimated cost per charter bus is $11,571.70**, and we will need **at least two buses**, totaling **$23,143.40**. We are also requesting **$4,050.00** to provide day.of.event shirts that promote our school, ensembles, and community, while also helping us easily identify our students throughout the parks. **The overall cost of the trip is estimated to be $87,098.37 for 90 students.** Our ongoing fundraising efforts in addition a Measure H grant will help this special opportunity more affordable for our families, ensuring all dedicated students may participate in a meaningful and rewarding experience at Disneyland. **Your assistance in making this possible is deeply appreciated.**
Tell us about your Project/Program Team	Kevin Sims, Cordova High School Music Director will coordinate the completion of the project. He will coordinate with Music Booster President Ceci Bradbury, Music Booster Board, and FCUSD staff for transportation reservations and payment.

Provide your Project/Program Goals	The goal is to lower the overall cost of the trip so that all of our members, including families facing financial challenges, have the opportunity to participate in this unique experience. We are requesting support for the following expenses: • $23,143.70 – Transportation Costs (estimated for two charter buses at $11,571.70 each) • $4,050.00 – Student Trip T.Shirts (estimated at $15 per shirt for three days for 90 members) • $500.00 – Gas for Parent Driver Equipment/Instrument Trailer **$27,693.70 Total** Receipts and invoices will be provided as documentation of all expenditures.

Optional File Upload: Provide any additional records to supplement your program/project application. Note: Combine multiple files in one pdf before uploading.

2027_-_CHS_-_Avalon_-_Quotation_Form_-_17761.PDF

Soundtrack_Sessions__Instrumental_Workshop.pdf

Disneyland_2027_Measure_H_Itinerary.pdf

	2 - Funding & Costs
Funding Request - Complete this section with total dollar amounts for your project/program's costs	Funds are generally not intended to be used for deferred maintenance and ongoing operational needs. The funds are intended for enhancing and investing in the City of Rancho Cordova. If your project/program is awarded, the costs identified below would be reviewed and potentially open to modification during a contracting phase (if a grant is awarded by the City Council). If awarded, grant funds are not available until a contract is executed during Fiscal Year 2026-2027.
Total project/program cost*	87098.37
What is the amount of Community Enhancement & Investment Fund grant monies requested?	27693.70
Does your project/program involve construction of any facilities or improvements upon any property?	No

What is the total cost of personnel for your project/program?	0
What is the total cost of supplies for your project/program?	0
What is the total cost of transportation for your project/program?	0
What is the total cost of equipment for your project/program?	0
What is the total cost of any miscellaneous expenses for your project/program?	0

Upload your project/program's budget as a .pdf file. Include the categories and their dollar amounts along with information about any other funding sources to demonstrate your project/program's total budget. Note, the sum of all categories must match the total project or program cost, or the amount requested of CEIF if there is no other funding source. Please clearly illustrate any matching funds or funding from other sources in your project/program budget, including in-kind sources. Note: Combine multiple files in one pdf before uploading.

Disneyland_2027_Finances_Measure_H.pdf

Has your organization sought or will seek other funding for this project/program?	Yes, actively seeking funding support or have secured additional funding support for this project/program.
Describe any funding secured or being sought for this project/program.	The Music Boosters have a variety of planned fundraising events, including dinners, catalog sales, etc. to support the trip and lower the final cost. Members and their families committed to the trip will be asked to provide the remaining costs required to participate in the trip.
Please describe any ongoing operations and maintenance costs beyond Fiscal Year 2026/2027, if applicable.	

Do you have volunteer or in-kind support for your project? This could include volunteers for an activity/event that is ongoing or a one-time experience.	No
Is this a single year request or a request for funding for multiple years?	Single Year
Has your project/program received funding from the Community Enhancement & Investment Fund previously?	No
	3 - Project/Program Details Grant applications are typically approved to occur between July 2026 through June 2027. What is your plan to complete this project/program within this time frame?
Anticipated Start Date (July 1 is the soonest available start date)	8/10/2026
Anticipated End Date (typically projects/programs end by June 30)	3/17/2027

Please describe your project/program schedule	**2026** April We officially announce the trip to the families October Pay hotel deposit **November 6 Last day to add or drop from trip and receive a deposit refund** November 11 Notifications of final trip cost based on number of participants is shared (includes: t-shirts, hotel, tickets, other costs). December 11 The day we pay for tickets and make reservations for all members, families, and friends. **2027** **January 12 Last Payment Due (trip fully paid for)** February 15 Trip begins February 19 Trip concludes March Bus invoice is received and paid
What challenges do you anticipate in your project/program's implementation? What is your plan to complete your project/program should those or other challenges arise?	No challenges other than member families may not consider the trip due to the original price tag before fundraising. A lower cost may convince them with a higher number of participants will lower shared costs (i.e., hotel).
How many individuals does your project/program serve?	Estimated 90 students plus families that attend trip on their cost.
How many Rancho Cordova residents does your project/program serve?	90 students estimated to participate.
	4 - Project/Program Location
Address Verification	If you need to check if your project is in Rancho Cordova, type in your program/project's location in the Assessor Parcel Viewer: https://assessorparcelviewer.saccounty.gov/jsviewer/assessor.html

School and park related applications are due before Noon (12:00 p.m.) on March 6, 2026, to allow for the endorsement process.	Please note that projects or programs that are proposed on property owned or operated by outside agencies or a private party will require coordination with and potentially approvals from outside agencies, organizations, and/or the private party. Include whether you have received a letter of support for the project/program from the property owner. Upload any letters of support with your application. City staff will verify third-party permits have been discussed. In your planning discussions, be sure to discuss any necessary insurance or volunteer requirements that may increase budget costs. School Sites If your project/program is intended to operate at a public K-12 school site, your application is due by March 6 at Noon (12:00 p.m.). City staff will work with the school districts to confirm an endorsement for your project/program. It's the applicant's responsibility to communicate with school site and district representatives before applying so there is clarity during the endorsement process. Districts will only consider endorsement for applications submitted to the Community Enhancement & Investment Fund by the March 6 at Noon (12:00 p.m.). deadline. Each participating school superintendent reserves the right to withhold their endorsement of a project/program. Parks If your project/program is intended to operate at a park or community center site, your application is due by the March 6 at Noon (12:00 p.m.). deadline. City staff will work with the Cordova Recreation & Park District to confirm an endorsement for your project/program. It's the applicant's responsibility to communicate with district representatives before applying so there is clarity during the endorsement process. A special use permit application is required for any program or event planned at a CRPD facility. The special use application can be found at the CRPD website: https://www.cordovarpd.gov/. CRPD will only consider endorsement for applications submitted to the Community Enhancement & Investment Fund by the March 6 at Noon (12:00 p.m.). deadline. The Cordova Recreation & Park District reserves the right to withhold their endorsement of a project/program. Below is the list of staff to communicate with at school and park organizations: Folsom Cordova Unified School District: mwest@fcusd.org Cordova Recreation & Park District: cmichelotti@cordovarpd.gov Elk Grove Unified School District: mgulden@egusd.net Sacramento City Unified School District: Tuan-Duong@scusd.edu for Winn and Carver and Enrique-Flores@scusd.edu for Lincoln.
Primary street address of project/program	2239 Chase Drive, Rancho Cordova, CA
List the city location of the project/program.	Rancho Cordova
Select State	CA
Provide the zip code for your project/program's primary location.	95670

If your project/program takes place at multiple locations, please list other or secondary locations.	
Third Party Letters of Support (Note: Combine multiple files in one pdf before uploading)	
Does your project/program involve one of Rancho Cordova's school districts?	Yes
Is the project/program requesting facility use only or is this a request to partner with the school district?	Partner with school on project/program
Please select all the school districts which your project/program intends to involve:	Folsom Cordova USD
Please select one or more of the Folsom Cordova Unified School District school facilities which your project/program will involve:	Cordova High School
Have you reached out to a contact at the school(s) you indicated above?	Yes
Please provide the names of your contacts at the school(s) or district(s) who are familiar with your project/program.	Kevin Sims

Does your project/program involve the Cordova Recreation & Park District?	No
	5 - Applicant Information
Name	Kevin Sims
Is this project/program on behalf of an organization?	No
Provide contact phone number:	+[redacted]
Provide contact email:	ksims@fcusd.org
Are you the primary point of contact on this project/program?	Yes
If your project/program was awarded the requested funds, are you authorized to sign the contract for your organization?	Yes, I would be the one to sign the contract
By checking here, I confirm that I am aware that my application materials will become public record.	checked
	Thank you for applying to the Community Enhancement & Investment Fund Fiscal Year 2026-2027 Grant Cycle. Applicants will receive an automated response through the grant portal. Community Enhancement & Investment Fund (CEIF) Staff will follow up with any questions regarding your Fiscal Year 2026-2027 application. For information about the next steps in the CEIF grant process, visit our website for more information. It is anticipated that applications will be reviewed by the City Council starting in April 2026 with adoption in June 2026. Should applicants be awarded by the City Council, funding would not be available to grantees until the start of Fiscal Year 2026-2027 and the completion of a contract. Please send an email to CEIFGrants@cityofranchocordova.org with any questions or comments.

Internal Form

Score	n/a

Income

	Cost each	#		Total
Student Fees	$967.76	90		$87,098

Total Income **$87,098.37**

Expenses

Hotel		# rooms	# of nights		Chaperone Cost	Student Cost
Student Rooms	$198.07	18	3	$10,695.78		$118.84
Chaperone Rooms (Student Pay)	$198.07	4	1	$792.28		$8.80
Chaperone Rooms -	$198.07	1	2		$396.14	
Chaperone Rooms -	$198.07	1	2		$396.14	
Chaperone Rooms -	$198.07	1	2		$396.14	
Chaperone Rooms -	$198.07	1	2		$396.14	
Trailer Driver	$198.07	1	4	$792.28		$8.80
Chaperone Room - Sims	$198.07	1	3	$594.21		$6.60
Bus Drivers	$198.07	2	4	$1,584.56		$17.61

Total Hotel **$14,459.11** **Student Expense** **$160.66**

		#	# of Items			
Buses	$11,571.70		2	$ 23,143.40		$ 257.15
Passes - Students Only (3 Day)	$436.00	**90**		$ 39,240.00		$ 436.00
Passes - Students Workshop Only (Orchestra)	$34.00	**30**		$ 1,020.00		$ 11.33
Passes - Students Performance Only (Band)	$40.00	**62**		$ 2,480.00		$ 27.56
Passes - Students Performance Only (Jazz)	$40.00	**20**	0	$ 800.00		$ 8.89
Bus and Trailer Parking at Hotel	$93.76	3	4	$ 1,125.12		$ 12.50
Trailer Expenses				$ 500.00	Gas	$ 5.56
Trip Shirts	$15.00	90	3	$ 4,050.00		$ 45.00
Chaperone Gifts	$25.00	11	1	$ 280.74		$ 3.12

$72,639 **Student Expense** **$807.10**

Total Expenses **$87,098.37**

Net Balance **$0.00**

First Payment **$200.00**
Second Payment **$300.00**
Final Payment **$467.76**

Total Student Expenses **$967.76**

Quotation

Avalon Transportation, LLC
7701 Wilbur Way
Sacramento, CA 95828

Tel No: 916.423.4000

E-mail: accounting@avalontrans.com

FOLSOM CORDOVA UNIFIED SCHOOL DIST
ATTN: NAVEEN CHANDRA
11458 ELKS CIRCLE
RANCHO CORDOVA, CA 95742

Thank you for your enquiry received today. We are pleased to be able to quote for your requirements as detailed below.

Quotation ID	17761/30912	Client Ref 1	
Date	2/19/2026	Client Ref 2	

First Pick-up	Cordova High School	Destination	Homewood Suites Main Gate
Pick-up Date	Mon 2/15/2027 Time 12:30	Arrival Date	Mon 2/15/2027 Time 21:00
Single Journey	No	Leave Date	Fri 2/19/2027 Time 00:30
Vehicle To Stay	Yes	Back Date	Fri 2/19/2027 Time 08:30

Passengers		Distance	889

First Pick-up Instructions	Destination Instructions
2239 Chase Dr Rancho Cordova, CA 95670 SPAB	1) LUNCH IN KETTLEMAN CITY (1 HOUR) 2) Homewood Suites Main Gate - 12005 Harbor Blvd. Garden Grove, CA ITINERARY ATTACHED Feb 16, 2027 - 7am start / break / 11pm end Feb 17, 2027 - 7am start / break / 11pm end Feb 18, 2027 - 7am start / break / Depart home at midnight on Feb 19, 2027 GROUP IS RESPONSIBLE FOR DRIVER HOTEL ROOM.

Quantity	Seats	Vehicle Description	Unit Price	Price	Tax %	Tax	Total
1	56	Full Size Motorcoach	$11,396.70	$11,396.70	0	$0.00	$11,396.70

Quantity	Description	Unit Price	Price	Tax %	Tax	Total
1	Night Time Driving	$175.00	$175.00	0	$0.00	$175.00
Movement Totals			$11,571.70		$0.00	$11,571.70

This quotation has been given to you based on the times and destination given to us. Should you wish to vary any of the details then the price will alter accordingly.

Coach Manager Printed: 2/19/2026 12:37:15 PM

Soundtrack Sessions: Instrumental Workshop

Experience the excitement, focus and fast-paced energy of a professional recording studio environment.

Overview

Throughout the orchestra and band workshops, students will learn a repertoire of Disney music and hone fundamental skills including intonation, musical balance and tone quality. In addition to sight-reading practice and ensemble-training, they'll learn how phrasing, dynamics and articulation can add emotion to any piece of music.

Disney music professionals will give music lessons and share insights about the high expectations of being a professional musician and how to succeed in this highly competitive field. Endorsed by the National Association for Music Education, the Disney Imagination Campus Soundtrack Sessions: Instrumental workshop is sure to hit all the right notes for your band or orchestra— culminating with a screening of their recorded work set to Disney film footage!

Learning Objectives

After completing this workshop, participants will be able to:

- Sight-read and record a varied repertoire of Disney music
- Sight-read, listen to, analyze and describe musical pieces
- Develop and reinforce the fundamentals of musical performance
- Play better with a band or orchestra, thanks to ensemble training
- Understand what it's like to work in the music industry as a professional
- Express intonation, balance and tone quality while following a conductor's interpretation
- Maximize rehearsal productivity by preparing in advance to be accurate and expressive

- Understand the requirements of a studio recording environment and what is expected of performers
- Evaluate music and musical performances

Educational Standards: Our Performing Arts Workshops and Performances meet many of the National Core Arts Standards to continue and support classroom learning in a real-world setting. For more details on specific education standards met through our programs, workshops, and performance experiences, please contact your Disney Imagination Campus Representative.

The Disney Difference

Disney Imagination Campus Performing Arts Workshops set the standard by which all other workshop opportunities are measured. Discover the Disney Difference in music, where the students taking our Soundtrack Sessions: Instrumental workshop will:

- Work directly with Disney teaching-artists—who are professional musicians working in the music industry
- Study and play Disney scores and arrangements, which are exclusive to this performing arts workshop
- Be treated as professional musicians in a recording studio environment
- Gain insight into careers in the recording and film industry through Q & A with their Disney teaching-artist
- Have the opportunity to enjoy the magic of our theme parks with specially priced tickets.

https://www.disneycampus.com/programs/performing-arts/soundtrack-sessions-instrumental/

Marching Band Performances

Strike up the band and get ready for a rousing performance as you march down one of our iconic Disney parade routes! Your marching band will experience the emotion, pageantry and pride of a grand Disney tradition. Afterwards, make even more memories as you reward yourselves by enjoying the magic of our theme parks.

Overview

Discover the excitement — and the magic — of being in the spotlight on the most magical of stages as you perform for an audience at a Disney theme park. This

time-honored tradition will challenge your group to perform at their highest level as they experience the expectations and discipline required to be a Disney performer.

The Disney Difference

Disney Imagination Campus Performances set the standard by which all other performance opportunities are measured. Discover the Disney Difference when:

Performers are treated as honorary Disney Cast Members for the day
Your ensemble's performance is supported by professional Disney coordinators
Your group partakes in the magic of our parks with specially priced tickets

Additional Information

Audition required
At Disneyland Resort in California, a minimum of 50 performers total (minimum of 40 instrumentalists) per organized marching band to participate in this experience
Theme park reservations must start at Disney *California Adventure*® Park. This applies to all ticket types.
At Walt Disney World Resort in Florida, a minimum of 40 performers total per organized marching band to participate in this experience.

Educational Standards: Our Performing Arts Workshops and Performances meet many of the National Core Arts Standards to continue and support classroom learning in a real-world setting. For more details on specific education standards met through our programs, workshops, and performance experiences, please contact your Disney Imagination Campus Representative.

https://www.disneycampus.com/programs/performing-arts/marching-band/

Title

Athletic Support for Mills, Mitchell & Kinney

03/06/2026

id. 53409907

by **Mina West** in **Fiscal Year 2026-2027 Community Enhancement & Investment Fund Grant Application**

1965 Birkmont Drive
Rancho Cordova, California
95742
CA
United States
[redacted]
mwest@fcusd.org

Original Submission

03/06/2026

Score n/a

	Thank you for your interest in applying to the City of Rancho Cordova's Community Enhancement & Investment Fund. Applications are open from February 9, 2026, to March 13, 2026, Noon (12:00 p.m.) with a specific deadline of March 6th Noon (12:00 p.m.) for certain applications**. Before you begin, please read the notes about deadlines and certain types of grant applications/grants below. **School/Park Application Deadline **Note that projects or programs involving a park or school district have a deadline of March 6 Noon (12:00 p.m.) to allow for the third-party endorsement process by the grant deadline.** A Note about Religious Schools and the Application/Grant Process **Note for grant applications from religious schools. The United States Supreme Court has recently ruled in part that: “denying a generally available benefit [from government] solely on account of religious identity imposes a penalty on the free exercise of religion that can be justified only by a state interest of the highest order.” The City is of the opinion that not all grants to religious schools are prohibited under this and other similar rulings. However, these United States Supreme Court decisions remain in conflict with a section of the California State Constitution that says: “[n]either the Legislature, nor any county, city and county, township, school district, or other municipal corporation, shall ever make an appropriation, or pay from any public fund whatever, or grant anything to or in aid of any religious sect, church, creed, or sectarian purpose, or help to support or sustain any school, college, university, hospital, or other institution controlled by any religious creed, church, or sectarian denomination whatever; nor shall any grant or donation of personal property or real estate ever be made by the state, or any city, city and county, town, or other municipal corporation for any religious creed, church, or sectarian purpose whatever”. The City will accept applications for grants of these City public funds from religious schools, but will have language in the grant agreements to address the possibility and consequences of legal challenges and new court decisions on this and related topics. ** Future Grant Opportunities If you are interested in remaining up-to-date on available grants from the City of Rancho Cordova, click here to sign up for the Grants Interest List. A separate call for programming opportunities with the Rancho Cordova Youth Center is anticipated later in 2026. The list is also used to advertise separate art programs when funds are available. Ongoing Grant Opportunity The City of Rancho Cordova offers a microgrant opportunity. Learn more about those grants online.
Is this your first time applying for grant funding from the City of Rancho Cordova? As a first-time applicant, Community Enhancement & Investment Fund (CEIF) staff will contact you to discuss your project and grant application process.	No: Not a First Time Applicant

	1 - Project/Program Information Note: You can add a collaborator to this form to assist you in completing this application! A collaborator can help you complete this form by filling in fields for you, although only you can submit this form. You can add a collaborator by navigating to the top of the form and clicking on the 'Manage Collaborators' button. Simply enter their email address and click 'invite' to invite them as a collaborator. If you need further assistance, you may consult this Help article for more information.
Project/Program Name. Assign a project name to your project/program.	Athletic Support for Mills, Mitchell & Kinney
Which category does your Project/Program align with?	Youth Programs & Services
Provide a Project/Program Synopsis	The plan is to support and encourage physical fitness as a positive outlet for afterschool sports at Mills, Mitchell and Kinney H.S.
Provide a Project/Program Description	Now more than ever, school athletics play a vital role in meeting students' social-emotional needs, fostering meaningful connections with peers and trusted adults, and inspiring motivation for academic success. This project will strengthen both the educational and athletic programs at our three secondary schools in Rancho Cordova by ensuring students have access to well-supported, high-quality after-school sports opportunities. Research and school-based evidence consistently show that athletics serve as one of the most effective Positive Behavioral Interventions and Supports (PBIS), promoting engagement, accountability, and a strong sense of belonging. As our schools continue to expand their after-school athletic offerings, they face ongoing challenges in securing the funding necessary for equipment, supplies, and program sustainability. Investing in these programs is essential to supporting student growth and strengthening our entire community.
Tell us about your Project/Program Team	The Team responsible for ensuring that this project is implemented will be made up of site administrators and district representation. Team members: Principal Dana Carrigan, Mills Middle School, Principal Sandra Garcia, Mitchell Middle School, and Principal Allen Sims, Kinney High School, and Peter Maroon, District Director of Athletics.

Provide your Project/Program Goals	Our goal is to ensure all students have access to after-school athletic programs while reducing financial barriers that may limit participation. Currently, state and district general funds primarily cover coaching stipends and essential safety items. In alignment with district policies, we are committed to promoting and expanding participation in local school athletic programs by providing the additional resources necessary to sustain and enhance them. We will achieve these goals by: • **Updating equipment and supplies to maintain quality programs and strengthen competitive opportunities** • **Covering transportation costs to reduce financial barriers for student-athletes** • **Improving facilities to ensure a safe and supportive environment** • **Providing supplemental funding for coaching stipends and program enrichment needs** • **Promoting school pride, recognition, and community engagement** • **Expanding athletic opportunities for students in alternative education settings** Through these efforts, we aim to create equitable, accessible, and high-quality athletic experiences for all students.
Optional File Upload: Provide any additional records to supplement your program/project application. Note: Combine multiple files in one pdf before uploading.	
	2 - Funding & Costs
Funding Request - Complete this section with total dollar amounts for your project/program's costs	Funds are generally not intended to be used for deferred maintenance and ongoing operational needs. The funds are intended for enhancing and investing in the City of Rancho Cordova. If your project/program is awarded, the costs identified below would be reviewed and potentially open to modification during a contracting phase (if a grant is awarded by the City Council). If awarded, grant funds are not available until a contract is executed during Fiscal Year 2026-2027.
Total project/program cost*	158000

What is the amount of Community Enhancement & Investment Fund grant monies requested?	85000
Does your project/program involve construction of any facilities or improvements upon any property?	No
What is the total cost of personnel for your project/program?	83000
What is the total cost of supplies for your project/program?	19500
What is the total cost of transportation for your project/program?	15500
What is the total cost of equipment for your project/program?	22000
What is the total cost of any miscellaneous expenses for your project/program?	17500

Upload your project/program's budget as a .pdf file. Include the categories and their dollar amounts along with information about any other funding sources to demonstrate your project/program's total budget. Note, the sum of all categories must match the total project or program cost, or the amount requested of CEIF if there is no other funding source. Please clearly illustrate any matching funds or funding from other sources in your project/program budget, including in-kind sources. Note: Combine multiple files in one pdf before uploading.

Measure_H_Grant_Application_Word_2026_1.docx.pdf

Has your organization sought or will seek other funding for this project/program?	Yes, actively seeking funding support or have secured additional funding support for this project/program.

Describe any funding secured or being sought for this project/program.	
Please describe any ongoing operations and maintenance costs beyond Fiscal Year 2026/2027, if applicable.	
Do you have volunteer or in-kind support for your project? This could include volunteers for an activity/event that is ongoing or a one-time experience.	No
Is this a single year request or a request for funding for multiple years?	Single Year
Has your project/program received funding from the Community Enhancement & Investment Fund previously?	Yes
How many years has your project/program received funding from the Community Enhancement & Investment Fund?	5 or more years
How much funding has your organization received from the Community Enhancement & Investment Fund through our traditional grants (not including microgrants)?	700,000

	3 - Project/Program Details Grant applications are typically approved to occur between July 2026 through June 2027. What is your plan to complete this project/program within this time frame?
Anticipated Start Date (July 1 is the soonest available start date)	7/1/2026
Anticipated End Date (typically projects/programs end by June 30)	7/30/2027
Please describe your project/program schedule	Funding does not become available until July 1. Funding typically ends June 30 of the following year.The timeline for this project would start in July 1, 2026 and be completed by the June 30, 2027. Each school will utilize funds to cover expenses over the four season of sports. Equipment and supplies will be ordered by December, and transportation cost will be for the duration of the year.
What challenges do you anticipate in your project/program's implementation? What is your plan to complete your project/program should those or other challenges arise?	N/A
How many individuals does your project/program serve?	Student Population at W.E. Mitchell Middle School, Mills Middle School, and Kinney High School
How many Rancho Cordova residents does your project/program serve?	1,600+
	4 - Project/Program Location
Address Verification	If you need to check if your project is in Rancho Cordova, type in your program/project's location in the Assessor Parcel Viewer: https://assessorparcelviewer.saccounty.gov/jsviewer/assessor.html

School and park related applications are due before Noon (12:00 p.m.) on March 6, 2026, to allow for the endorsement process.	Please note that projects or programs that are proposed on property owned or operated by outside agencies or a private party will require coordination with and potentially approvals from outside agencies, organizations, and/or the private party. Include whether you have received a letter of support for the project/program from the property owner. Upload any letters of support with your application. City staff will verify third-party permits have been discussed. In your planning discussions, be sure to discuss any necessary insurance or volunteer requirements that may increase budget costs. School Sites If your project/program is intended to operate at a public K-12 school site, your application is due by March 6 at Noon (12:00 p.m.). City staff will work with the school districts to confirm an endorsement for your project/program. It's the applicant's responsibility to communicate with school site and district representatives before applying so there is clarity during the endorsement process. Districts will only consider endorsement for applications submitted to the Community Enhancement & Investment Fund by the March 6 at Noon (12:00 p.m.). deadline. Each participating school superintendent reserves the right to withhold their endorsement of a project/program. Parks If your project/program is intended to operate at a park or community center site, your application is due by the March 6 at Noon (12:00 p.m.). deadline. City staff will work with the Cordova Recreation & Park District to confirm an endorsement for your project/program. It's the applicant's responsibility to communicate with district representatives before applying so there is clarity during the endorsement process. A special use permit application is required for any program or event planned at a CRPD facility. The special use application can be found at the CRPD website: https://www.cordovarpd.gov/. CRPD will only consider endorsement for applications submitted to the Community Enhancement & Investment Fund by the March 6 at Noon (12:00 p.m.). deadline. The Cordova Recreation & Park District reserves the right to withhold their endorsement of a project/program. Below is the list of staff to communicate with at school and park organizations: Folsom Cordova Unified School District: mwest@fcusd.org Cordova Recreation & Park District: cmichelotti@cordovarpd.gov Elk Grove Unified School District: mgulden@egusd.net Sacramento City Unified School District: Tuan-Duong@scusd.edu for Winn and Carver and Enrique-Flores@scusd.edu for Lincoln.
Primary street address of project/program	1965 Birkmont Drive
List the city location of the project/program.	Rancho Cordova
Select State	CA
Provide the zip code for your project/program's primary location.	95742

If your project/program takes place at multiple locations, please list other or secondary locations.	Mills Middle School W.E. Mitchell Middle School Kinney High School
Third Party Letters of Support (Note: Combine multiple files in one pdf before uploading)	
Does your project/program involve one of Rancho Cordova's school districts?	Yes
Is the project/program requesting facility use only or is this a request to partner with the school district?	Partner with school on project/program
Please select all the school districts which your project/program intends to involve:	Folsom Cordova USD
Please select one or more of the Folsom Cordova Unified School District school facilities which your project/program will involve:	Mills Middle School Mitchell Middle School Kinney High School
Have you reached out to a contact at the school(s) you indicated above?	Yes
Please provide the names of your contacts at the school(s) or district(s) who are familiar with your project/program.	Peter Maroon - Director of Athletics

Does your project/program involve the Cordova Recreation & Park District?	No
	5 - Applicant Information
Name	Mina West
Is this project/program on behalf of an organization?	Yes
What is the name of your organization?	Folsom Cordova Unified School District
What is your title and/or role at your organization?	Admin Asst. - Communications and Community Engagement Department
Provide contact phone number:	[redacted]
Provide contact email:	mwest@fcusd.org
Are you the primary point of contact on this project/program?	Yes
If your project/program was awarded the requested funds, are you authorized to sign the contract for your organization?	No, someone else would sign the contract
If selected by the City Council to receive an award, what is the name of the person at your organization who would sign the contract?	Sean Martin
What is the title of this individual?	Assistant Superintendent Business Services

What is the best phone number where we could contact the signatory?	[redacted]
What is the best email address to contact the signatory?	LVenzon@fcusd.org
By checking here, I confirm that I am aware that my application materials will become public record.	checked
	Thank you for applying to the Community Enhancement & Investment Fund Fiscal Year 2026-2027 Grant Cycle. Applicants will receive an automated response through the grant portal. Community Enhancement & Investment Fund (CEIF) Staff will follow up with any questions regarding your Fiscal Year 2026-2027 application. For information about the next steps in the CEIF grant process, visit our website for more information. It is anticipated that applications will be reviewed by the City Council starting in April 2026 with adoption in June 2026. Should applicants be awarded by the City Council, funding would not be available to grantees until the start of Fiscal Year 2026-2027 and the completion of a contract. Please send an email to CEIFGrants@cityofranchocordova.org with any questions or comments.

Internal Form

Score	n/a

2026/2027 GRANT APPLICATION
COMMUNITY ENHANCEMENT & INVESTMENT FUND
To be Completed and returned to Mina West at
mwest@fcusd.org
Must be received by February 23, 2026

Project Name **Athletic Support for Mills, Mitchell & Kinney**

Project Synopsis The plan is to support and encourage physical fitness as a positive outlet for afterschool sports at Mills, Mitchell and Kinney H.S.

Project Description Now more than ever, school athletics play a vital role in meeting students' social-emotional needs, fostering meaningful connections with peers and trusted adults, and inspiring motivation for academic success. This project will strengthen both the educational and athletic programs at our three secondary schools in Rancho Cordova by ensuring students have access to well-supported, high-quality after-school sports opportunities. Research and school-based evidence consistently show that athletics serve as one of the most effective Positive Behavioral Interventions and Supports (PBIS), promoting engagement, accountability, and a strong sense of belonging. As our schools continue to expand their after-school athletic offerings, they face ongoing challenges in securing the funding necessary for equipment, supplies, and program sustainability. Investing in these programs is essential to supporting student growth and strengthening our entire community.

Project Team The Team responsible for ensuring that this project is implemented will be made up of site administrators and district representation. Team members: Principal Dana Carrigan, Mills Middle School, Principal Sandra Garcia, Mitchell Middle School, and Principal Allen Sims, Kinney High School, and Peter Maroon, District Director of Athletics.

Project Goals Our goal is to ensure all students have access to after-school athletic programs while reducing financial barriers that may limit participation. Currently, state and district general funds primarily cover coaching stipends and essential safety items. In alignment with district policies, we are committed to promoting and expanding participation in local school athletic programs by providing the additional resources necessary to sustain and enhance them.

We will achieve these goals by:

- Updating equipment and supplies to maintain quality programs and strengthen competitive opportunities
- Covering transportation costs to reduce financial barriers for student-athletes
- Improving facilities to ensure a safe and supportive environment
- Providing supplemental funding for coaching stipends and program enrichment needs

- Promoting school pride, recognition, and community engagement
- Expanding athletic opportunities for students in alternative education settings

Through these efforts, we aim to create equitable, accessible, and high-quality athletic experiences for all students.

Funding Request Funds are generally not intended to be used for deferred maintenance and ongoing operational needs. The funds are intended for Community Enhancement & Investment.

Total project cost: $158,000

Estimated breakdown of project expenditures:

A. Personnel = $83,500
B. Supplies = $19,500
C. Transportation = $15,500
D. Equipment = $22,000
E. Miscellaneous = $2,500
F. Referees = $15,000

Matching funds (including any in-kind contributions): $73,000

Include any other funding contributions including your own: $0

Ongoing (beyond FY 2025/2026) operations and maintenance costs if applicable: 0

Total Community Enhancement & Investment Funds requested: $85,000

Is this a multiyear request? Yes ☐ No X If yes, number of years:

If you answered yes above, describe your sustainability plan and whether the project is viable as a single year request.

How many years have you received funding for this project? Six years

When will your request for funding sunset for ongoing programs? Without funding from the school community, this will be a challenge.

Do you plan to ask annually for funding? Yes

What other funding will you seek to support your project? Local fundraising by each school community.

Project Schedule Project timeline and anticipated start and completion date. (If this is a multiyear request, please indicate that in both the funding request and the project schedule.) Funding does not become available until July 1. Funding typically ends June 30 of the following year.

Timeliness Project funds will be utilized to cover the cost of multitude of afterschool sports from August through June. Funding will be used for all four seasons for referees, transportation and equipment. Funds must be used by June 30, 2026.

Adaptability As challenges arise, the funding will be used to ensure program efficacy and that each school is able to support athletic needs based upon categories allotted.

Project Location **Mills MS 10439 Coloma Rd., Mitchell MS 2100 Zinfandel Dr., and Kinney HS 2710 Kilgore Rd., Rancho Cordova**
Physical Address:
Have you received a letter of support for the project from the property owner? Yes X No ☐ N/A x If yes, submit the letter of support with your application.

If your project/program is intended to operate or take place at a public K-12 school site or a park/park facility, instead of a support letter you must request the endorsement of the entity using the appropriate Supplemental Endorsement Form.

School District (if applicable, check all that apply): EGUSD ☐ FCUSD X SCUSD ☐ Other ☐

By the application deadline, the City of Rancho Cordova must also receive the Supplemental Endorsement Form that's been signed and dated by the corresponding school superintendent for the application to be considered a complete submittal. It's the applicant's responsibility to ask for the endorsement in the time allotted. You will be asked to share if you have contacted school staff and to provide the name(s) of your contact(s). Each participating school superintendent reserves the right to withhold their endorsement of a project/program. Refer to the Fiscal Year 2025/2026 Supplemental Endorsement Form for more information and important deadlines.

Cordova Recreation & Park District
If your project/program is intended to operate or take place at a park/park facility, instead of a support letter, you must request the endorsement of the Cordova Recreation & Park District (CRPD) using the Supplemental Endorsement Form. It's the applicant's responsibility to ask for the endorsement in the time allotted. The CRPD representative reserves the right to withhold their endorsement of a project/program. Refer to the Fiscal Year 2025/2026 Supplemental Endorsement Form for more information and important deadlines.

Application Submitted by

Name: Peter Maroon

Title: FCUSD Director of Athletics

[redacted]

Email: pmaroon@fcusd.org

Organization's Legal Name (if applicable): Folsom Cordova Unified School District

Mailing Address: 1965 Birkmont Drive, Rancho Cordova, CA 95742

Signatory If the applicant's project or program is selected for funding, list who will be the signatory of the funding agreement.

Signatory's Name: Sean Martin

Title: Assistant Superintendent of Business Services

[redacted]

Email: semartin@fcusd.org

Mailing Address: 1965 Birkmont Drive, Rancho Cordova, CA 95742

Public Record Unless otherwise exempt under applicable law, applications and application materials are public records. All information received from an applicant, whether received in connection with a grant application or in connection with any grant-funded activities performed are subject to disclosure pursuant to the California Public Records Act, unless otherwise exempt.

Title

CalSOAP AVID tutors for Mills Middle School and Cordova High School

03/05/2026

id. 53393144

by **Mina West** in **Fiscal Year 2026-2027 Community Enhancement & Investment Fund Grant Application**

1965 Birkmont Drive
Rancho Cordova, California
95742
CA
United States
[redacted]
mwest@fcusd.org

Original Submission

03/05/2026

Score n/a

	Thank you for your interest in applying to the City of Rancho Cordova's Community Enhancement & Investment Fund. Applications are open from February 9, 2026, to March 13, 2026, Noon (12:00 p.m.) with a specific deadline of March 6th Noon (12:00 p.m.) for certain applications**. Before you begin, please read the notes about deadlines and certain types of grant applications/grants below. **School/Park Application Deadline **Note that projects or programs involving a park or school district have a deadline of March 6 Noon (12:00 p.m.) to allow for the third-party endorsement process by the grant deadline.** A Note about Religious Schools and the Application/Grant Process **Note for grant applications from religious schools. The United States Supreme Court has recently ruled in part that: “denying a generally available benefit [from government] solely on account of religious identity imposes a penalty on the free exercise of religion that can be justified only by a state interest of the highest order.” The City is of the opinion that not all grants to religious schools are prohibited under this and other similar rulings. However, these United States Supreme Court decisions remain in conflict with a section of the California State Constitution that says: “[n]either the Legislature, nor any county, city and county, township, school district, or other municipal corporation, shall ever make an appropriation, or pay from any public fund whatever, or grant anything to or in aid of any religious sect, church, creed, or sectarian purpose, or help to support or sustain any school, college, university, hospital, or other institution controlled by any religious creed, church, or sectarian denomination whatever; nor shall any grant or donation of personal property or real estate ever be made by the state, or any city, city and county, town, or other municipal corporation for any religious creed, church, or sectarian purpose whatever”. The City will accept applications for grants of these City public funds from religious schools, but will have language in the grant agreements to address the possibility and consequences of legal challenges and new court decisions on this and related topics. ** Future Grant Opportunities If you are interested in remaining up-to-date on available grants from the City of Rancho Cordova, click here to sign up for the Grants Interest List. A separate call for programming opportunities with the Rancho Cordova Youth Center is anticipated later in 2026. The list is also used to advertise separate art programs when funds are available. Ongoing Grant Opportunity The City of Rancho Cordova offers a microgrant opportunity. Learn more about those grants online.
Is this your first time applying for grant funding from the City of Rancho Cordova? As a first-time applicant, Community Enhancement & Investment Fund (CEIF) staff will contact you to discuss your project and grant application process.	No: Not a First Time Applicant

	1 - Project/Program Information Note: You can add a collaborator to this form to assist you in completing this application! A collaborator can help you complete this form by filling in fields for you, although only you can submit this form. You can add a collaborator by navigating to the top of the form and clicking on the 'Manage Collaborators' button. Simply enter their email address and click 'invite' to invite them as a collaborator. If you need further assistance, you may consult this Help article for more information.
Project/Program Name. Assign a project name to your project/program.	CalSOAP AVID tutors for Mills Middle School and Cordova High School
Which category does your Project/Program align with?	Youth Programs & Services
Provide a Project/Program Synopsis	With proper funding, FCUSD can provide professional tutors through the CalSOAP program to aid our AVID students in their endeavors to succeed in their courses. AVID students have a 93% A-G completion rate and AVID tutorials play a key role in that success.
Provide a Project/Program Description	One of the key components of the AVID program is tutoring. During AVID tutorials, students present to their peers and a tutor their point of confusion (POC) in their studies and then their peers and tutor can help them navigate through their notes and instruction to a solution and explanation. SCOE has been working closely with CalSOAP to utilize CalSOAP employees to help AVID students all over the Sacramento region. This requires funding to pay tutors to be available AVID classroom hours.
Tell us about your Project/Program Team	As District Director of AVID I will be working closely with Leila Vera from CalSOAP as well as Amy Strawn, Erick Evans and Tracy Brown from Cordova High School and Dana Carrigan, Brooke Hoppe, Amy King, and Andrea Corona at Mills Middle School respectively. The CalSOAP tutors will be working in the classrooms of Marizza Lundstrum, Tracy Brown, and Cole Cooper at Cordova High School and in the classrooms of Amy King and Andrea Corona at Mills Middle School.
Provide your Project/Program Goals	With funding for CalSOAP tutors, our students at Cordova High School and Mills Middle School will be able to keep up and succeed in their grade level and advanced classes at their respective campuses. Twice a week, students are required to complete a tutorial request form or TRF. This TRF details their understanding of their subject material and their point of confusion (POC) which they are requesting help with. Every student presents to their tutorial group (3-4 students) and their tutor, and receives assistance from their group and tutor to better understand their POC. While each student presents, the other students are taking notes to stay engaged and to learn more about the subject matter themselves. This program has proven to be successful for 45 years.

Optional File Upload: Provide any additional records to supplement your program/project application. Note: Combine multiple files in one pdf before uploading.	
	2 - Funding & Costs
Funding Request - Complete this section with total dollar amounts for your project/program's costs	Funds are generally not intended to be used for deferred maintenance and ongoing operational needs. The funds are intended for enhancing and investing in the City of Rancho Cordova. If your project/program is awarded, the costs identified below would be reviewed and potentially open to modification during a contracting phase (if a grant is awarded by the City Council). If awarded, grant funds are not available until a contract is executed during Fiscal Year 2026-2027.
Total project/program cost*	11630
What is the amount of Community Enhancement & Investment Fund grant monies requested?	11630
Does your project/program involve construction of any facilities or improvements upon any property?	No
What is the total cost of personnel for your project/program?	11630
What is the total cost of supplies for your project/program?	0
What is the total cost of transportation for your project/program?	0
What is the total cost of equipment for your project/program?	0

What is the total cost of any miscellaneous expenses for your project/program?	0

Upload your project/program's budget as a .pdf file. Include the categories and their dollar amounts along with information about any other funding sources to demonstrate your project/program's total budget. Note, the sum of all categories must match the total project or program cost, or the amount requested of CEIF if there is no other funding source. Please clearly illustrate any matching funds or funding from other sources in your project/program budget, including in-kind sources. Note: Combine multiple files in one pdf before uploading.

AVID_tutor_Measure_H_Grant_Application_Word.docx.pdf

Has your organization sought or will seek other funding for this project/program?	Yes, actively seeking funding support or have secured additional funding support for this project/program.
Describe any funding secured or being sought for this project/program.	I have reached out to Larry Ladd to present a request to a future meeting of the Rancho Cordova chapter of Kiwanis, however, there are no formal commitments to funding at this time.
Please describe any ongoing operations and maintenance costs beyond Fiscal Year 2026/2027, if applicable.	N/A
Do you have volunteer or in-kind support for your project? This could include volunteers for an activity/event that is ongoing or a one-time experience.	No
Is this a single year request or a request for funding for multiple years?	Single Year
Has your project/program received funding from the Community Enhancement & Investment Fund previously?	No

	3 - Project/Program Details Grant applications are typically approved to occur between July 2026 through June 2027. What is your plan to complete this project/program within this time frame?
Anticipated Start Date (July 1 is the soonest available start date)	7/1/2026
Anticipated End Date (typically projects/programs end by June 30)	6/30/2027
Please describe your project/program schedule	The timeline would be from Fall (August) 2026 to the end of Spring (May) 2027
What challenges do you anticipate in your project/program's implementation? What is your plan to complete your project/program should those or other challenges arise?	N/A
How many individuals does your project/program serve?	AVID students of Cordova High School and Mills Middle School ~ 180
How many Rancho Cordova residents does your project/program serve?	AVID students of these two schools ~ 180
	4 - Project/Program Location
Address Verification	If you need to check if your project is in Rancho Cordova, type in your program/project's location in the Assessor Parcel Viewer: https://assessorparcelviewer.saccounty.gov/jsviewer/assessor.html

School and park related applications are due before Noon (12:00 p.m.) on March 6, 2026, to allow for the endorsement process.	Please note that projects or programs that are proposed on property owned or operated by outside agencies or a private party will require coordination with and potentially approvals from outside agencies, organizations, and/or the private party. Include whether you have received a letter of support for the project/program from the property owner. Upload any letters of support with your application. City staff will verify third-party permits have been discussed. In your planning discussions, be sure to discuss any necessary insurance or volunteer requirements that may increase budget costs. School Sites If your project/program is intended to operate at a public K-12 school site, your application is due by March 6 at Noon (12:00 p.m.). City staff will work with the school districts to confirm an endorsement for your project/program. It's the applicant's responsibility to communicate with school site and district representatives before applying so there is clarity during the endorsement process. Districts will only consider endorsement for applications submitted to the Community Enhancement & Investment Fund by the March 6 at Noon (12:00 p.m.). deadline. Each participating school superintendent reserves the right to withhold their endorsement of a project/program. Parks If your project/program is intended to operate at a park or community center site, your application is due by the March 6 at Noon (12:00 p.m.). deadline. City staff will work with the Cordova Recreation & Park District to confirm an endorsement for your project/program. It's the applicant's responsibility to communicate with district representatives before applying so there is clarity during the endorsement process. A special use permit application is required for any program or event planned at a CRPD facility. The special use application can be found at the CRPD website: https://www.cordovarpd.gov/. CRPD will only consider endorsement for applications submitted to the Community Enhancement & Investment Fund by the March 6 at Noon (12:00 p.m.). deadline. The Cordova Recreation & Park District reserves the right to withhold their endorsement of a project/program. Below is the list of staff to communicate with at school and park organizations: Folsom Cordova Unified School District: mwest@fcusd.org Cordova Recreation & Park District: cmichelotti@cordovarpd.gov Elk Grove Unified School District: mgulden@egusd.net Sacramento City Unified School District: Tuan-Duong@scusd.edu for Winn and Carver and Enrique-Flores@scusd.edu for Lincoln.
Primary street address of project/program	1965 Birkmont Drive, Rancho Cordova, CA 95742
List the city location of the project/program.	Rancho Cordova
Select State	CA
Provide the zip code for your project/program's primary location.	95742

If your project/program takes place at multiple locations, please list other or secondary locations.	Cordova High School, Mills Middle School
Third Party Letters of Support (Note: Combine multiple files in one pdf before uploading)	
Does your project/program involve one of Rancho Cordova's school districts?	Yes
Is the project/program requesting facility use only or is this a request to partner with the school district?	Partner with school on project/program
Please select all the school districts which your project/program intends to involve:	Folsom Cordova USD
Please select one or more of the Folsom Cordova Unified School District school facilities which your project/program will involve:	Mills Middle School Cordova High School
Have you reached out to a contact at the school(s) you indicated above?	Yes
Please provide the names of your contacts at the school(s) or district(s) who are familiar with your project/program.	Cole Cooper

Does your project/program involve the Cordova Recreation & Park District?	No
	5 - Applicant Information
Name	Mina West
Is this project/program on behalf of an organization?	Yes
What is the name of your organization?	Folsom Cordova Unified School District - AVID
What is your title and/or role at your organization?	Administrative Assistant - Communications and Community Engagement
Provide contact phone number:	[redacted]
Provide contact email:	mwest@fcusd.org
Are you the primary point of contact on this project/program?	Yes
If your project/program was awarded the requested funds, are you authorized to sign the contract for your organization?	No, someone else would sign the contract
If selected by the City Council to receive an award, what is the name of the person at your organization who would sign the contract?	Sean Martin
What is the title of this individual?	Assistant Superintendent Business Services

What is the best phone number where we could contact the signatory?	[redacted]
What is the best email address to contact the signatory?	LVenzon@fcusd.org
By checking here, I confirm that I am aware that my application materials will become public record.	checked
	Thank you for applying to the Community Enhancement & Investment Fund Fiscal Year 2026-2027 Grant Cycle. Applicants will receive an automated response through the grant portal. Community Enhancement & Investment Fund (CEIF) Staff will follow up with any questions regarding your Fiscal Year 2026-2027 application. For information about the next steps in the CEIF grant process, visit our website for more information. It is anticipated that applications will be reviewed by the City Council starting in April 2026 with adoption in June 2026. Should applicants be awarded by the City Council, funding would not be available to grantees until the start of Fiscal Year 2026-2027 and the completion of a contract. Please send an email to CEIFGrants@cityofranchocordova.org with any questions or comments.

Internal Form

Score	n/a

2026/2027 GRANT APPLICATION
COMMUNITY ENHANCEMENT & INVESTMENT FUND
To be Completed and returned to Mina West at
mwest@fcusd.org
Must be received by February 23, 2026

Project Name: CalSOAP AVID tutors for Mills Middle School and Cordova High School

Project Synopsis: With proper funding, FCUSD can provide professional tutors through the CalSOAP program to aid our AVID students in their endeavors to succeed in their courses. AVID students have a 93% A-G completion rate and AVID tutorials play a key role in that success.

Project Description: One of the key components of the AVID program is tutoring. During AVID tutorials, students present to their peers and a tutor their point of confusion (POC) in their studies and then their peers and tutor can help them navigate through their notes and instruction to a solution and explanation. SCOE has been working closely with CalSOAP to utilize CalSOAP employees to help AVID students all over the Sacramento region. This requires funding to pay tutors to be available AVID classroom hours.

Project Team: As District Director of AVID I will be working closely with Leila Vera from CalSOAP as well as Amy Strawn, Erick Evans and Tracy Brown from Cordova High School and Dana Carrigan, Brooke Hoppe, Amy King, and Andrea Corona at Mills Middle School respectively. The CalSOAP tutors will be working in the classrooms of Marizza Lundstrum, Tracy Brown, and Cole Cooper at Cordova High School and in the classrooms of Amy King and Andrea Corona at Mills Middle School.

Project Goals: With funding for CalSOAP tutors, our students at Cordova High School and Mills Middle School will be able to keep up and succeed in their grade level and advanced classes at their respective campuses. Twice a week, students are required to complete a tutorial request form or TRF. This TRF details their understanding of their subject material and their point of confusion (POC) which they are requesting help with. Every student presents to their tutorial group (3-4 students) and their tutor, and receives assistance from their group and tutor to better understand their POC. While each student presents, the other students are taking notes to stay engaged and to learn more about the subject matter themselves. This program has proven to be successful for 45 years.

Funding Request Funds are generally not intended to be used for deferred maintenance and ongoing operational needs. The funds are intended for Community Enhancement & Investment.

Total project cost: $11,630.00

Estimated breakdown of project expenditures: Cordova High School will require 2 tutors for 4 separate classes 2 times a week starting in mid fall semester and ending in late spring semester, totalling 25 weeks. At a tutoring rate of $19.60 per hour, the total estimated cost will be $7,087.00 per year. Mills Middle School will also require 2 tutors, but only for 2 separate classes 2 times a week starting mid fall semester and ending late spring semester totalling 25 weeks. At the same tutoring rate of $19.60 per hour, the total estimated cost will be $4,543.00 per year. The total cost requested for this project at both campuses will be $11,630.00.

Matching funds (including any in-kind contributions): District funds are now being used for the cost of the AVID program including training teachers at Cordova High School roughly, $9,934.00, SCOE fees $1,100.00 for training, roughly $8,000.00 in substitute costs as to cover teachers to train. Training teachers at Mills Middle School will be $18,389.00 and Whiterock elementary school training will be $9,550.00. FCUSD with the individual school sites will be splitting these costs. These are rough, but conservative estimates.

Include any other funding contributions including your own:

Ongoing (beyond FY 2025/2026) operations and maintenance costs if applicable: The district is continuing this program for a minimum of 3 years, however we are only requesting these funds for the (2026-2027) school year at this time.

Total Community Enhancement & Investment Funds requested: $11,630.00

Is this a multiyear request? No

If you answered yes above, describe your sustainability plan and whether the project is viable as a single year request.

How many years have you received funding for this project? This is the 2nd year that Cordova High School has been an AVID School, and next fall will be the first year for Mills Middle School and Whiterock Elementary School. We have not had funding for tutors up until this point.

When will your request for funding sunset for ongoing programs? This is a single year request for the 2026-2027 school year, however, tutorials are an integral part of the AVID program, and there will be an ongoing need for tutors as long as we have the AVID program.

Do you plan to ask annually for funding? As of now, I am seeking other means of funding for ongoing years.

What other funding will you seek to support your project? I have reached out to Larry Ladd to present a request to a future meeting of the Rancho Cordova chapter of Kiwanis, however, there are no formal commitments to funding at this time.

Project Schedule Project timeline and anticipated start and completion date. (If this is a multiyear request, please indicate that in both the funding request and the project schedule.) Funding does not become available until July 1. Funding typically ends June 30 of the following year.

The timeline would be from Fall (August) 2026 to the end of Spring (May) 2027.

Timeliness In addition to providing the project timeline identified above, describe how you will be able to complete your project by June 30, 2027. Please note, if selected for funding, you will be required to submit a narrative Outcomes Report and a financial Use of Funds Report at least two times during the grant period.

Tutors will be interviewed and selected in the beginning of the 2026 school year by SCOE and begin tutoring our students in late September or early October. The tutors will conclude their classroom visits by mid May 2027.

Project Location Please note that projects or programs that are proposed on property owned or operated by outside agencies or a private party will require the coordination with and potentially approvals from outside agencies, organizations, and/or the private party.

This project will be exclusively carried out in the AVID classrooms at Cordova High School and Mills Middle School.

Physical Address:

Have you received a letter of support for the project from the property owner? Yes ☐ No ☐ N/A x If yes, submit the letter of support with your application.

If your project/program is intended to operate or take place at a public K-12 school site or a park/park facility, instead of a support letter you must request the endorsement of the entity using the appropriate Supplemental Endorsement Form.

School District (if applicable, check all that apply): FCUSD only

By the application deadline, the City of Rancho Cordova must also receive the Supplemental Endorsement Form that's been signed and dated by the corresponding school superintendent for the application to be considered a complete submittal. It's the applicant's responsibility to ask for the endorsement in the time allotted. You will be asked to share if you have contacted school staff and to provide the name(s) of your contact(s). Each participating school superintendent reserves the right to withhold their endorsement of a project/program. Refer to the Fiscal Year 2025/2026 Supplemental Endorsement Form for more information and important deadlines.

Cordova Recreation & Park District

If your project/program is intended to operate or take place at a park/park facility, instead of a support letter, you must request the endorsement of the Cordova Recreation & Park District (CRPD) using the Supplemental Endorsement Form. It's the applicant's responsibility to ask for the endorsement in the time allotted. The CRPD representative reserves the right to withhold their endorsement of a project/program. Refer to the Fiscal Year 2025/2026 Supplemental Endorsement Form for more information and important deadlines.

Application Submitted by

Name: Cole Cooper

Title: Folsom Cordova Unified School District AVID District Director

[redacted]

Email: ccooper@fcusd.org

Organization's Legal Name (if applicable):

Mailing Address: 1965 Birkmont Drive, Rancho Cordova, CA 95742

Signatory If the applicant's project or program is selected for funding, list who will be the signatory of the funding agreement.

Signatory's Name: Erik Swanson

Title: Superintendent

[redacted]

Email: Eswanson@fcusd.org

Mailing Address: 1965 Birkmont Drive, Rancho Cordova, CA 95742

Public Record Unless otherwise exempt under applicable law, applications and application materials are public records. All information received from an applicant, whether received in connection with a grant application or in connection with any grant-funded activities performed are subject to disclosure pursuant to the California Public Records Act, unless otherwise exempt.

Title

Homeless Students Success and Wellness Initiative

03/04/2026

id. 53392706

by **Mina West** in **Fiscal Year 2026-2027 Community Enhancement & Investment Fund Grant Application**

1965 Birkmont Drive
Rancho Cordova, California
95742
CA
United States
[redacted]
mwest@fcusd.org

Original Submission

03/04/2026

Score n/a

	Thank you for your interest in applying to the City of Rancho Cordova's Community Enhancement & Investment Fund. Applications are open from February 9, 2026, to March 13, 2026, Noon (12:00 p.m.) with a specific deadline of March 6th Noon (12:00 p.m.) for certain applications**. Before you begin, please read the notes about deadlines and certain types of grant applications/grants below. **School/Park Application Deadline **Note that projects or programs involving a park or school district have a deadline of March 6 Noon (12:00 p.m.) to allow for the third-party endorsement process by the grant deadline.** A Note about Religious Schools and the Application/Grant Process **Note for grant applications from religious schools. The United States Supreme Court has recently ruled in part that: “denying a generally available benefit [from government] solely on account of religious identity imposes a penalty on the free exercise of religion that can be justified only by a state interest of the highest order.” The City is of the opinion that not all grants to religious schools are prohibited under this and other similar rulings. However, these United States Supreme Court decisions remain in conflict with a section of the California State Constitution that says: “[n]either the Legislature, nor any county, city and county, township, school district, or other municipal corporation, shall ever make an appropriation, or pay from any public fund whatever, or grant anything to or in aid of any religious sect, church, creed, or sectarian purpose, or help to support or sustain any school, college, university, hospital, or other institution controlled by any religious creed, church, or sectarian denomination whatever; nor shall any grant or donation of personal property or real estate ever be made by the state, or any city, city and county, town, or other municipal corporation for any religious creed, church, or sectarian purpose whatever”. The City will accept applications for grants of these City public funds from religious schools, but will have language in the grant agreements to address the possibility and consequences of legal challenges and new court decisions on this and related topics. ** Future Grant Opportunities If you are interested in remaining up-to-date on available grants from the City of Rancho Cordova, click here to sign up for the Grants Interest List. A separate call for programming opportunities with the Rancho Cordova Youth Center is anticipated later in 2026. The list is also used to advertise separate art programs when funds are available. Ongoing Grant Opportunity The City of Rancho Cordova offers a microgrant opportunity. Learn more about those grants online.
Is this your first time applying for grant funding from the City of Rancho Cordova? As a first-time applicant, Community Enhancement & Investment Fund (CEIF) staff will contact you to discuss your project and grant application process.	No: Not a First Time Applicant

	1 - Project/Program Information Note: You can add a collaborator to this form to assist you in completing this application! A collaborator can help you complete this form by filling in fields for you, although only you can submit this form. You can add a collaborator by navigating to the top of the form and clicking on the 'Manage Collaborators' button. Simply enter their email address and click 'invite' to invite them as a collaborator. If you need further assistance, you may consult this Help article for more information.
Project/Program Name. Assign a project name to your project/program.	Homeless Students Success and Wellness Initiative
Which category does your Project/Program align with?	Youth Programs & Services
Provide a Project/Program Synopsis	The Measure H Grant is vital for providing essential resources such as food, clothing, and educational materials for homeless students in Rancho Cordova. This initiative will eliminate barriers to learning, fostering an environment conducive to academic success and overall well-being while promoting community involvement and support.
Provide a Project/Program Description	The Homeless Student Services Program ensures that students experiencing homelessness have access to essential resources, services, and opportunities that are vital to their academic success, emotional development, and overall well-being. This program aims to eliminate barriers that could hinder homeless students from thriving in an educational environment. The grant proposal is intended to benefit these students while aligning with the City's Community Enhancement and Investment Fund guidelines. The funding will enable us to provide crucial services to homeless students, addressing their immediate needs and fostering achievement. **The program will include the following components:** 1. **Food Insecurity**: Our initiatives focus on addressing food insecurity through grocery gift cards and food assistance. By addressing their nutritional needs, we aim to support their overall health and well-being. This assistance will empower them to concentrate fully on their academic studies and personal development, free from the overwhelming stress and distraction caused by hunger. 2. **Clothing and Hygiene Supplies**: Students will receive appropriate clothing, including weather-appropriate attire and footwear. Additionally, hygiene kits filled with personal care items such as soap, shampoo, and toothpaste will be distributed to help students feel clean and confident while attending school. 3. **Transportation Assistance**: Transportation poses a significant challenge for homeless students. Although the school district offers bus passes and city services (SacRT), there are situations where bus access may not be feasible. This program will provide bicycles and helmets to ensure that students can travel to school safely.

4. **Extracurricular Participation**: The McKinney-Vento Act guarantees that students experiencing homelessness have the right to immediate enrollment in school and promotes their involvement in extracurricular activities. To support these students, our program will provide essential resources that enable their full participation, including appropriate clothing, uniforms, and specialized gear required for various sports and clubs. By removing barriers to obtaining these resources, we aim to help homeless students engage in enriching experiences outside the classroom, fostering their social development and personal interests.
5. **School Supplies:** Essential school supplies are crucial to every child's educational journey. This program aims to ensure that students have access to a comprehensive range of necessary items, including high-quality scientific calculators with advanced functions for math and science courses. Additionally, we will provide a variety of vibrant art supplies, including colored pencils, paint sets, and sketch pads, which are vital for creative projects and assignments in art classes. By supplying these essential tools, we aim to enhance the learning experience and equip students for success in their studies.

Community Benefit Based on the City's Guidelines and Criteria:

1. **Enhancement of Educational Outcome**s: By addressing the specific needs of homeless students, such as food insecurity and a lack of educational resources, this program aims to reduce dropouts and improve academic performance. Students experiencing homelessness who receive consistent academic support are more likely to graduate from high school, reducing chronic absenteeism, opening greater opportunities for higher education, employment, and economic independence.
2. **Long-Term Economic Growth**: Investing in education and the well-being of homeless students fosters long-term economic growth. By assisting these students in overcoming challenges and achieving graduation, we equip them to enter the workforce. Consequently, they will contribute to the local economy, fulfill their tax obligations, and lessen their dependence on social services.

In conclusion, supporting homeless students aligns with the City's Community Enhancement and Investment Fund guidelines by addressing the immediate needs of these students and their families. This approach promotes educational success and fosters a more stable and resilient community. By meeting their educational needs, we also help students become self-sufficient. Empowering homeless students to succeed in school while providing families with necessary resources and benefits not only benefits the students but the entire community.

Tell us about your Project/Program Team	Families in Transition Folsom Cordova Unified School District
Provide your Project/Program Goals	The McKinney-Vento Act safeguards the educational rights of homeless children and youth, ensuring they have access to the same educational opportunities as their peers. This legislative framework aims to facilitate

their enrollment in schools, maintain regular attendance, and enable active participation in school-related activities.

Our program goes beyond simply enrolling students; we are committed to creating a supportive environment that addresses the various challenges they face. We recognize that barriers to education, such as a lack of transportation, school supplies, and essential resources, can significantly hinder a child's ability to thrive academically. Therefore, we provide comprehensive support that includes access to necessities like food, clothing, and hygiene products.

Our goal is to remove these obstacles as we strive to ensure that students not only attend school but are also engaged participants in school life. Our goal is to empower these children and youth, helping them to build a strong foundation for their future while fostering a sense of belonging and community within the educational system.

By consistently identifying and collecting data on homeless students through a comprehensive needs assessment process, we will be able to effectively address and fulfill the specific goals outlined in our program. This involves not only categorizing the various challenges faced by these students but also understanding their emotional, academic, and social needs. By gathering detailed insights, we can tailor our interventions and resources to ensure we provide meaningful support, thereby enhancing the overall success and well-being of our homeless student population.

Below are the data collected for the school year 2024-2025 and the services we have provided with ongoing funding from the City of Rancho Cordova and the current data for the first half of the school year 2025-2026.

(Please see attached document for Exhibits)

Exhibit A- Total Number of Homeless Students per City of Residence for School Year 2024-2025

Exhibit B-Unaccompanied Youth for SY 2024-2025

Exhibit C- Measure H Recipients First and Second Half Reporting for SY 2024-2025

Exhibit D1- Types of MH Support Received by Students per School First Half of SY 2025-2026

A total of 110 students served for the first half of SY 2025-2026

Exhibit D2- Number of Students Identified Homeless for the First Half of SY 2025-2026

A total of 631 students were identified as homeless

Exhibit D3- Total Number of Homeless Students per City of Residence

Exhibit A provides a comprehensive overview of the homeless population categorized by city of residence, highlighting Rancho Cordova as the

locality with the highest number of homeless students.

Exhibit B focuses on unaccompanied youth, demonstrating that Rancho Cordova also has the largest population of these individuals.

Exhibit C outlines the allocation of Measure H funds for the FCUSD Families in Transition Program during the 2024-2025 school year. These resources were strategically employed to support 111 students in the first half of the year and 102 students in the second half. The program specifically focused on higher-risk students, including those whose families faced unsheltered living conditions, resided in temporary hotels or motels, stayed in shelters, and those youths identified as unaccompanied.

Exhibit D1, D2, and D3 show details of the support provided to **110** students in Rancho Cordova during the first half of the 2025-2026 school year. Exhibit D2 details the total number of identified homeless students for that same period. Exhibit D3 shows details of the number of students per city of residence. Rancho Cordova has a total number of **484** homeless students, which accounts for **76.70%** of the homeless student population. Notably, **23.29%** of the Rancho Cordova homeless population received support through Measure H Funding.

In terms of support and services, the program offered various essential assistance options, including food gifts, grocery gift cards, and support for clothing and shoes. These resources aimed to alleviate some of the immediate challenges faced by these vulnerable students and their families.

Data gathered through Data Quest (see exhibits F1 and F2) indicates a reduction in chronic absenteeism among homeless students in our district. While the improvement may not be as significant as we had hoped, it nonetheless reflects the effectiveness of the support systems we have implemented. This progress highlights the importance of ongoing collaboration to ensure that every student can thrive both academically and socially. Our goal has been to reduce chronic absenteeism and enhance graduation rates for homeless students, empowering them and helping them to break the cycle of homelessness.

Exhibit F1-Data Quest Data for Chronic Absenteeism for SY 2024-205

Exhibit F2- Data Quest for Chronic Absenteeism for SY 2023-2024

The team is committed to putting in significant effort to systematically gather and analyze relevant data, ensuring that we stay focused on providing services that are both meaningful and impactful to our stakeholders. By utilizing the specific metrics detailed above, we will have a clear framework to guide the implementation of our programs. This approach will enable us to monitor progress effectively and make necessary adjustments to our strategies in response to the data, ensuring that we meet our objectives and continually improve our services.

Optional File Upload: Provide any additional records to supplement your program/project application. Note: Combine multiple files in one pdf before uploading.

Copy_of___Measure_H_Grant_Application_Word_2026-2027.docx.pdf

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Funding Request - Complete this section with total dollar amounts for your project/program's costs	Funds are generally not intended to be used for deferred maintenance and ongoing operational needs. The funds are intended for enhancing and investing in the City of Rancho Cordova. If your project/program is awarded, the costs identified below would be reviewed and potentially open to modification during a contracting phase (if a grant is awarded by the City Council). If awarded, grant funds are not available until a contract is executed during Fiscal Year 2026-2027.
Total project/program cost*	20000
What is the amount of Community Enhancement & Investment Fund grant monies requested?	20000
Does your project/program involve construction of any facilities or improvements upon any property?	No
What is the total cost of personnel for your project/program?	0
What is the total cost of supplies for your project/program?	0
What is the total cost of transportation for your project/program?	0
What is the total cost of equipment for your project/program?	0
What is the total cost of any miscellaneous expenses for your project/program?	20000

Upload your project/program's budget as a .pdf file. Include the categories and their dollar amounts along with information about any other funding sources to demonstrate your project/program's total budget. Note, the sum of all categories must match the total project or program cost, or the amount requested of CEIF if there is no other funding source. Please clearly illustrate any matching funds or funding from other sources in your project/program budget, including in-kind sources. Note: Combine multiple files in one pdf before uploading.

Copy_of___Measure_H_Grant_Application_Word_2026-2027.docx.pdf

Has your organization sought or will seek other funding for this project/program?	Yes, actively seeking funding support or have secured additional funding support for this project/program.
Describe any funding secured or being sought for this project/program.	To provide a holistic network of support, we continue to develop and strengthen partnerships with various community agencies, including Rancho Cordova Food Locker, Cordova Parks and Recs, Project 680, Iron Point Financial, Rotary Club of Folsom, Folsom Moose Lodge, Women of the Moose, Rotary Anne, and Roebbelen Construction. Additionally, we have the support of private individuals who continue to assist the students in our program.
Please describe any ongoing operations and maintenance costs beyond Fiscal Year 2026/2027, if applicable.	The program is also funded by Title 1, a grant from EHCY, ARP funds, and generous donations from various community partners and agencies.
Do you have volunteer or in-kind support for your project? This could include volunteers for an activity/event that is ongoing or a one-time experience.	No
Is this a single year request or a request for funding for multiple years?	Single Year
Has your project/program received funding from the Community Enhancement & Investment Fund previously?	Yes

How many years has your project/program received funding from the Community Enhancement & Investment Fund?	4
How much funding has your organization received from the Community Enhancement & Investment Fund through our traditional grants (not including microgrants)?	60,000
	3 - Project/Program Details Grant applications are typically approved to occur between July 2026 through June 2027. What is your plan to complete this project/program within this time frame?
Anticipated Start Date (July 1 is the soonest available start date)	7/1/2026
Anticipated End Date (typically projects/programs end by June 30)	6/30/2027

Please describe your project/program schedule	We will diligently allocate funding to address the fundamental and essential needs of homeless students residing in Rancho Cordova. For the coming school year, the financial resources will be systematically distributed across the two semesters of the academic year, ensuring that support is provided consistently throughout the school year. In order to maintain transparency and accountability, comprehensive reports detailing the utilization of funds and the impact of our efforts will be submitted twice during each fiscal year, specifically in December and May. These reports will outline the progress made, challenges encountered, and the overall effectiveness of our initiatives in improving the lives and educational experiences of these vulnerable students. The team will follow these steps to ensure the timeline is adhered to and the goals are achieved: 1. Each member of the team will have clear and defined roles and responsibilities. 2. We will conduct regular check-ins and project updates to identify potential delays. 3. Milestones and checkpoints will be established to facilitate tracking progress. 4. Progress will be monitored in real-time by using Google Sheets.
What challenges do you anticipate in your project/program's implementation? What is your plan to complete your project/program should those or other challenges arise?	N/A
How many individuals does your project/program serve?	The 484 homeless students identified in the city of Rancho Cordova
How many Rancho Cordova residents does your project/program serve?	The 484 homeless students identified in the city of Rancho Cordova
	4 - Project/Program Location
Address Verification	If you need to check if your project is in Rancho Cordova, type in your program/project's location in the Assessor Parcel Viewer: https://assessorparcelviewer.saccounty.gov/jsviewer/assessor.html

School and park related applications are due before Noon (12:00 p.m.) on March 6, 2026, to allow for the endorsement process.	Please note that projects or programs that are proposed on property owned or operated by outside agencies or a private party will require coordination with and potentially approvals from outside agencies, organizations, and/or the private party. Include whether you have received a letter of support for the project/program from the property owner. Upload any letters of support with your application. City staff will verify third-party permits have been discussed. In your planning discussions, be sure to discuss any necessary insurance or volunteer requirements that may increase budget costs. School Sites If your project/program is intended to operate at a public K-12 school site, your application is due by March 6 at Noon (12:00 p.m.). City staff will work with the school districts to confirm an endorsement for your project/program. It's the applicant's responsibility to communicate with school site and district representatives before applying so there is clarity during the endorsement process. Districts will only consider endorsement for applications submitted to the Community Enhancement & Investment Fund by the March 6 at Noon (12:00 p.m.). deadline. Each participating school superintendent reserves the right to withhold their endorsement of a project/program. Parks If your project/program is intended to operate at a park or community center site, your application is due by the March 6 at Noon (12:00 p.m.). deadline. City staff will work with the Cordova Recreation & Park District to confirm an endorsement for your project/program. It's the applicant's responsibility to communicate with district representatives before applying so there is clarity during the endorsement process. A special use permit application is required for any program or event planned at a CRPD facility. The special use application can be found at the CRPD website: https://www.cordovarpd.gov/. CRPD will only consider endorsement for applications submitted to the Community Enhancement & Investment Fund by the March 6 at Noon (12:00 p.m.). deadline. The Cordova Recreation & Park District reserves the right to withhold their endorsement of a project/program. Below is the list of staff to communicate with at school and park organizations: Folsom Cordova Unified School District: mwest@fcusd.org Cordova Recreation & Park District: cmichelotti@cordovarpd.gov Elk Grove Unified School District: mgulden@egusd.net Sacramento City Unified School District: Tuan-Duong@scusd.edu for Winn and Carver and Enrique-Flores@scusd.edu for Lincoln.
Primary street address of project/program	1965 Birkmont Drive
List the city location of the project/program.	Rancho Cordova
Select State	CA
Provide the zip code for your project/program's primary location.	95742

If your project/program takes place at multiple locations, please list other or secondary locations.	N/A
Third Party Letters of Support (Note: Combine multiple files in one pdf before uploading)	
Does your project/program involve one of Rancho Cordova's school districts?	Yes
Is the project/program requesting facility use only or is this a request to partner with the school district?	Partner with school on project/program
Please select all the school districts which your project/program intends to involve:	Folsom Cordova USD
Please select one or more of the Folsom Cordova Unified School District school facilities which your project/program will involve:	Cordova Gardens Elementary School Cordova Meadows Elementary School Cordova Villa Elementary School Navigator Elementary School Peter J. Shields Elementary School Rancho Cordova Elementary School Riverview STEM Academy White Rock Elementary School Williamson Elementary School Mills Middle School Mitchell Middle School Cordova High School Kinney High School Prospect Community Day School Walnutwood High School Innovations Academy
Have you reached out to a contact at the school(s) you indicated above?	Yes

Please provide the names of your contacts at the school(s) or district(s) who are familiar with your project/program.	Iyuanna Pease and Christine Lim
Does your project/program involve the Cordova Recreation & Park District?	No
	5 - Applicant Information
Name	Mina West
Is this project/program on behalf of an organization?	Yes
What is the name of your organization?	Folsom Cordova Unified School District - Families in Transition
What is your title and/or role at your organization?	Administrative Assistant - Communications and Community Engagement Department
Provide contact phone number:	+[redacted]
Provide contact email:	mwest@fcusd.org
Are you the primary point of contact on this project/program?	Yes
If your project/program was awarded the requested funds, are you authorized to sign the contract for your organization?	No, someone else would sign the contract

If selected by the City Council to receive an award, what is the name of the person at your organization who would sign the contract?	Sean Martin
What is the title of this individual?	Assistant Superintendent Business Services
What is the best phone number where we could contact the signatory?	+[redacted]
What is the best email address to contact the signatory?	LVenzon@fcusd.org
By checking here, I confirm that I am aware that my application materials will become public record.	checked
	Thank you for applying to the Community Enhancement & Investment Fund Fiscal Year 2026-2027 Grant Cycle. Applicants will receive an automated response through the grant portal. Community Enhancement & Investment Fund (CEIF) Staff will follow up with any questions regarding your Fiscal Year 2026-2027 application. For information about the next steps in the CEIF grant process, visit our website for more information. It is anticipated that applications will be reviewed by the City Council starting in April 2026 with adoption in June 2026. Should applicants be awarded by the City Council, funding would not be available to grantees until the start of Fiscal Year 2026-2027 and the completion of a contract. Please send an email to CEIFGrants@cityofranchocordova.org with any questions or comments.

Internal Form

Score	n/a

2026/2027 GRANT APPLICATION
COMMUNITY ENHANCEMENT & INVESTMENT FUND
To be completed and returned to Mina West at
mwest@fcusd.org
Must be received by February 23, 2026

Project Name Assign a project name to your project/program.

Homeless Students Success and Wellness Initiative

Project Synopsis In 50 words or less, please describe the project.

The Measure H Grant is vital for providing essential resources such as food, clothing, and educational materials for homeless students in Rancho Cordova. This initiative will eliminate barriers to learning, fostering an environment conducive to academic success and overall well-being while promoting community involvement and support.

Project Description Describe the project in detail and how it benefits the community based on the City's Community Enhancement & Investment Fund guidelines and selection criteria. If you need more room to answer the question, please attach a separate document to your application.

The Homeless Student Services Program ensures that students experiencing homelessness have access to essential resources, services, and opportunities that are vital to their academic success, emotional development, and overall well-being. This program aims to eliminate barriers that could hinder homeless students from thriving in an educational environment.

The grant proposal is intended to benefit these students while aligning with the City's Community Enhancement and Investment Fund guidelines. The funding will enable us to provide crucial services to homeless students, addressing their immediate needs and fostering achievement.

The program will include the following components:

1. **Food Insecurity**: Our initiatives focus on addressing food insecurity through grocery gift cards and food assistance. By addressing their nutritional needs, we aim to support their overall health and well-being. This assistance will empower them to concentrate fully on their academic studies and personal development, free from the overwhelming stress and distraction caused by hunger.
2. **Clothing and Hygiene Supplies**: Students will receive appropriate clothing, including weather-appropriate attire and footwear. Additionally, hygiene kits filled with personal care items such as soap, shampoo, and toothpaste will be distributed to help students feel clean and confident while attending school.
3. **Transportation Assistance**: Transportation poses a significant challenge for homeless students. Although the school district offers bus passes and city services (SacRT), there are situations where bus access may not be feasible. This program will provide bicycles and helmets to ensure that students can travel to school safely.
4. **Extracurricular Participation**: The McKinney-Vento Act guarantees that students experiencing homelessness have the right to immediate enrollment in school and promotes their involvement in extracurricular activities. To support these students, our program will provide essential resources that enable their full participation, including appropriate clothing, uniforms, and specialized gear required for various sports and clubs. By removing barriers to obtaining these resources, we aim to help homeless students engage in enriching experiences outside the classroom, fostering their social development and personal interests.

5. **School Supplies:** Essential school supplies are crucial to every child's educational journey. This program aims to ensure that students have access to a comprehensive range of necessary items, including high-quality scientific calculators with advanced functions for math and science courses. Additionally, we will provide a variety of vibrant art supplies, including colored pencils, paint sets, and sketch pads, which are vital for creative projects and assignments in art classes. By supplying these essential tools, we aim to enhance the learning experience and equip students for success in their studies.

Community Benefit Based on the City's Guidelines and Criteria:

1. **Enhancement of Educational Outcome**s: By addressing the specific needs of homeless students, such as food insecurity and a lack of educational resources, this program aims to reduce dropouts and improve academic performance. Students experiencing homelessness who receive consistent academic support are more likely to graduate from high school, reducing chronic absenteeism, opening greater opportunities for higher education, employment, and economic independence.
2. **Long-Term Economic Growth**: Investing in education and the well-being of homeless students fosters long-term economic growth. By assisting these students in overcoming challenges and achieving graduation, we equip them to enter the workforce. Consequently, they will contribute to the local economy, fulfill their tax obligations, and lessen their dependence on social services.

In conclusion, supporting homeless students aligns with the City's Community Enhancement and Investment Fund guidelines by addressing the immediate needs of these students and their families. This approach promotes educational success and fosters a more stable and resilient community. By meeting their educational needs, we also help students become self-sufficient. Empowering homeless students to succeed in school while providing families with necessary resources and benefits not only benefits the students but the entire community.

Project Team: Individuals or organizations responsible for the development and delivery of the project.

Families in Transition
Folsom Cordova Unified School District

Project Goals: List goals, and outline metrics by which progress in reaching goals can be measured and the project team's efforts can be focused.

The McKinney-Vento Act safeguards the educational rights of homeless children and youth, ensuring they have access to the same educational opportunities as their peers. This legislative framework aims to facilitate their enrollment in schools, maintain regular attendance, and enable active participation in school-related activities.

Our program goes beyond simply enrolling students; we are committed to creating a supportive environment that addresses the various challenges they face. We recognize that barriers to education, such as a lack of transportation, school supplies, and essential resources, can significantly hinder a child's ability to thrive academically. Therefore, we provide comprehensive support that includes access to necessities like food, clothing, and hygiene products.

Our goal is to remove these obstacles as we strive to ensure that students not only attend school but are also engaged participants in school life. Our goal is to empower these children and youth, helping them to build a strong foundation for their future while fostering a sense of belonging and community within the educational system.

By consistently identifying and collecting data on homeless students through a comprehensive needs assessment process, we will be able to effectively address and fulfill the specific goals outlined in our program. This involves not only categorizing the various challenges faced by these students but also understanding their emotional, academic, and social needs. By gathering detailed insights, we can tailor our interventions and resources to ensure we provide meaningful support, thereby enhancing the overall success and well-being of our homeless student population.

Below are the data collected for the school year 2024-2025 and the services we have provided with ongoing funding from the City of Rancho Cordova and the current data for the first half of the school year 2025-2026.

Exhibit A- Total Number of Homeless Students per City of Residence for School Year 2024-2025

City	Total Count	Percentage Count
Rancho Cordova	591	67%
Folsom	163	18.58%
Mather	66	7.50%
Sacramento	44	5.01%
El Dorado Hills	4	0.45%
Gold River	3	0.34%
Citrus Heights	2	0.20%
North Highlands	1	0.11%
Orangevale	1	0.11%
Rio Linda	1	0.11%
Roseville	1	0.11%
Grand Total	**877**	**100%**

Exhibit B-Unaccompanied Youth for SY 2024-2025

Total Number of Unaccompanied Youth	
Schools	Number of Students
Cordova High School	4
Folsom High School	2
Kinney High School	4
Mills Middle School	1
Mitchell Middle School	1
SSS Non-Public School	1
Sutter Middle School	2
Vista del Lago High School	1
Walnutwood High School	2
Williamson Elementary	3
Grand Total	21

Exhibit C- Measure H Recipients First and Second Half Reporting for SY 2024-2025

MEASURE H		
Measure H Recipients	**July-Dec 2024**	**Jan-June 2025**
School	# of Students	# of Students
CG	6	12
CHS	30	21
CLC	2	2
CM	7	9
CV	8	8
KHS	3	2
MMS	11	11
MTMS	12	7
NPS (home school is in RC)	2	-
NV	8	11
PCDS	1	-
RC	7	4
WHS	1	3
WM	10	11
WR	3	1
Grand Total	**111**	**102**

Exhibit D1- Types of MH Support Received by Students per School First Half of SY 2025-2026

A total of 110 students served for the first half of SY 2025-2026

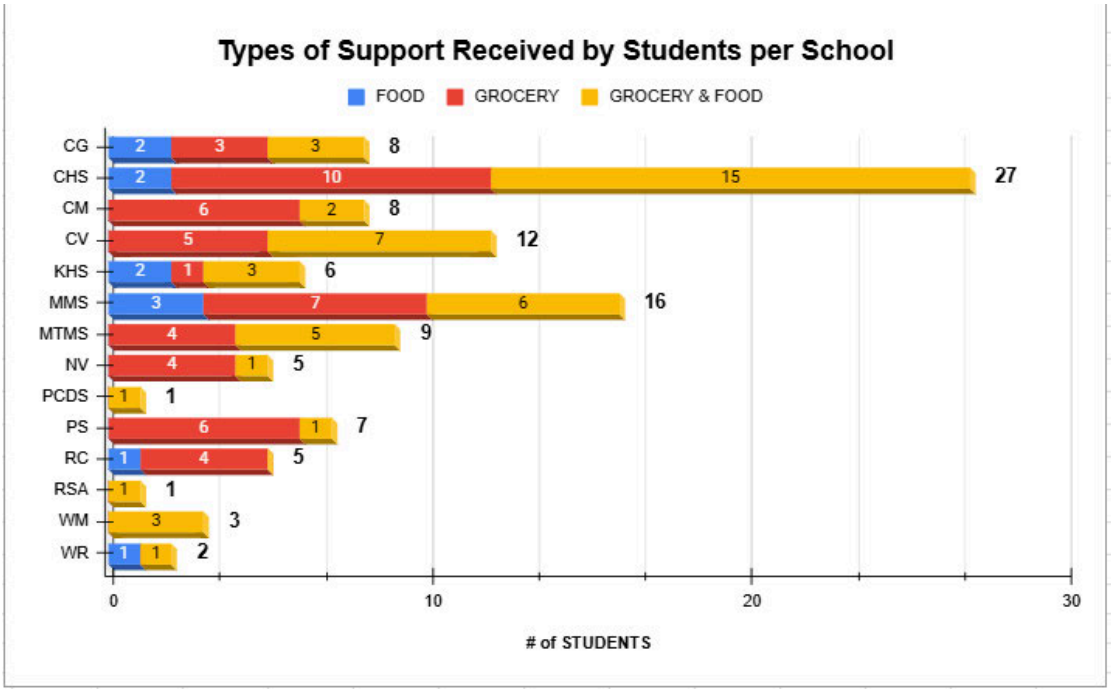


Exhibit D2- Number of Students Identified Homeless for the First Half of SY 2025-2026
A total of 631 students were identified as homeless

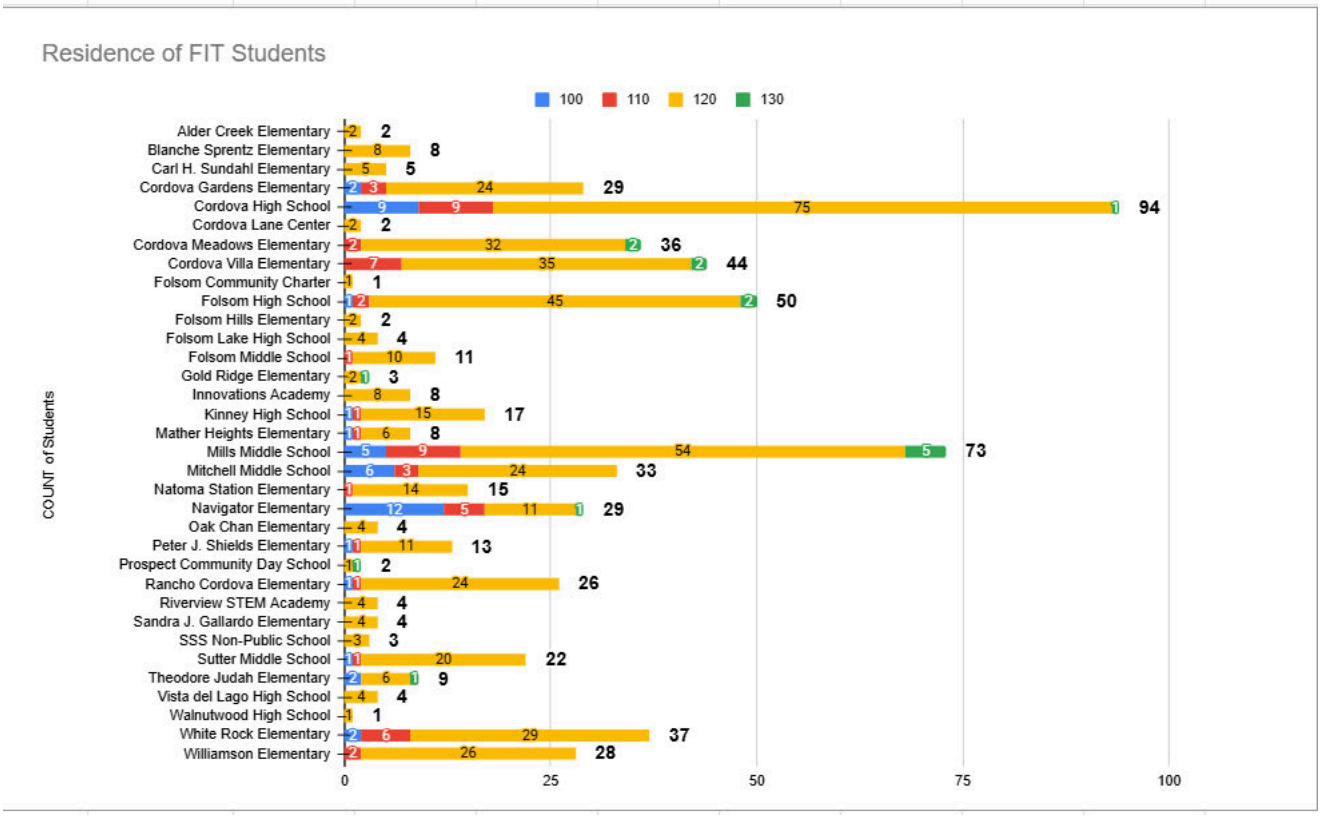


Exhibit D3- Total Number of Homeless Students per City of Residence

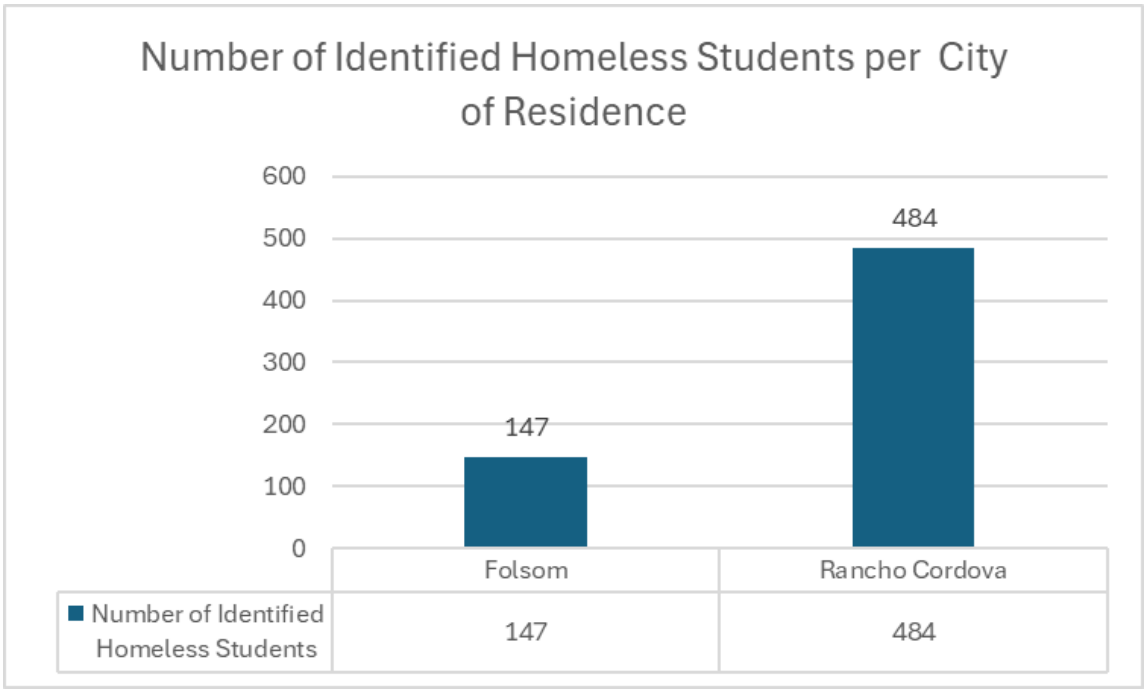


Exhibit A provides a comprehensive overview of the homeless population categorized by city of residence, highlighting Rancho Cordova as the locality with the highest number of homeless students.

Exhibit B focuses on unaccompanied youth, demonstrating that Rancho Cordova also has the largest population of these individuals.

Exhibit C outlines the allocation of Measure H funds for the FCUSD Families in Transition Program during the 2024-2025 school year. These resources were strategically employed to support 111 students in the first half of the year and 102 students in the second half. The program specifically focused on higher-risk students, including those whose families faced unsheltered living conditions, resided in temporary hotels or motels, stayed in shelters, and those youths identified as unaccompanied.

Exhibit D1, D2, and D3 show details of the support provided to **110** students in Rancho Cordova during the first half of the 2025-2026 school year. Exhibit D2 details the total number of identified homeless students for that same period. Exhibit D3 shows details of the number of students per city of residence. Rancho Cordova has a total number of **484** homeless students, which accounts for **76.70%** of the homeless student population. Notably, **23.29%** of the Rancho Cordova homeless population received support through Measure H Funding.

In terms of support and services, the program offered various essential assistance options, including food gifts, grocery gift cards, and support for clothing and shoes. These resources aimed to alleviate some of the immediate challenges faced by these vulnerable students and their families.

Data gathered through Data Quest (see exhibits F1 and F2) indicates a reduction in chronic absenteeism among homeless students in our district. While the improvement may not be as significant as we had hoped, it nonetheless reflects the effectiveness of the support systems we have implemented. This progress highlights the importance of ongoing collaboration to ensure that every student can thrive both academically and socially. Our goal has been to reduce chronic absenteeism and enhance graduation rates for homeless students, empowering them and helping them to break the cycle of homelessness.

Exhibit F1-Data Quest Data for Chronic Absenteeism for SY 2024-205

Name	Chronic Absenteeism Eligible Enrollment	Chronic Absenteeism Count	Chronic Absenteeism Rate
Folsom-Cordova Unified	784	306	39.0%
Sacramento County	12,831	5,819	45.4%
Statewide	267,465	92,505	34.6%

Exhibit F2- Data Quest for Chronic Absenteeism for SY 2023-2024

Name	Chronic Absenteeism Eligible Enrollment	Chronic Absenteeism Count	Chronic Absenteeism Rate
Folsom-Cordova Unified	840	330	39.3%
Sacramento County	11,584	5,595	48.3%
Statewide	258,646	93,457	36.1%

The team is committed to putting in significant effort to systematically gather and analyze relevant data, ensuring that we stay focused on providing services that are both meaningful and impactful to our stakeholders. By utilizing the specific metrics detailed above, we will have a clear framework to guide the implementation of our programs. This approach will enable us to monitor progress effectively and make necessary adjustments to our strategies in response to the data, ensuring that we meet our objectives and continually improve our services.

Funding Request: Funds are generally not intended to be used for deferred maintenance and ongoing operational needs. The funds are intended for Community Enhancement & Investment.

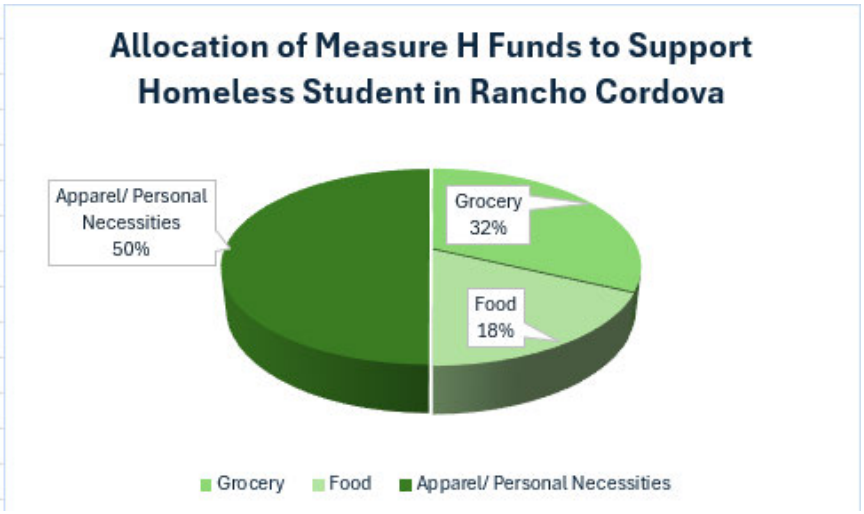
Total project cost:

$20,000.00

Estimated breakdown of project expenditures:

The program will allocate funding specifically for various essential expenditures that directly support the basic needs of homeless students, with a particular focus on unaccompanied youth. This funding will cover a range of necessities, including meals from local fast food chains that are accessible to many unaccompanied youth, food items to ensure proper sustenance, grocery staples that provide balanced meals, and appropriate clothing to help these students maintain dignity and warmth. Additionally, the program will fund essential school supplies, such as notebooks, writing instruments, backpacks, calculators, and art supplies, to facilitate academic participation. Beyond these, other vital essentials may include hygiene products and personal care items, all aimed at providing comprehensive support to help these young individuals thrive despite their challenging circumstances.

Vendor	Aug to December 2026	January to May 2027	Total
Amazon	$5,000.00		$ 5,000.00
Burger King	$ 300.00	$ 300.00	$ 600.00
Dominos	$ 300.00	$ 300.00	$ 600.00
McDonalds	$ 300.00	$ 300.00	$ 600.00
Panda Express	$ 300.00	$ 300.00	$ 600.00
Subway	$ 300.00	$ 300.00	$ 600.00
Taco Bell	$ 300.00	$ 300.00	$ 600.00
Target	$5,000		$ 5,000.00
Walmart	$ 3,200.00	$ 3,200.00	$ 6,400.00
Total			$20,000.00



Matching funds (including any in-kind contributions):

Include any other funding contributions including your own:

Ongoing (beyond FY 2025/2026) operations and maintenance costs if applicable:

The program is also funded by Title 1, a grant from EHCY, ARP funds, and generous donations from various community partners and agencies.

Total Community Enhancement & Investment Funds requested:

$20,000.00

Is this a multiyear request? Yes ☐ No ☐x If yes, number of years:

If you answered yes above, describe your sustainability plan and whether the project is viable as a single year request.

N/A

How many years have you received funding for this project?

The Families in Transition (FIT) started receiving funds in 2022. Applied for and granted another funding for SY 2025-2026.

When will your request for funding sunset for ongoing programs?

July 2026

Do you plan to ask annually for funding?

Yes

What other funding will you seek to support your project?

To provide a holistic network of support, we continue to develop and strengthen partnerships with various community agencies, including Rancho Cordova Food Locker, Cordova Parks and Recs, Project 680, Iron Point Financial, Rotary Club of Folsom, Folsom Moose Lodge, Women of the Moose, Rotary Anne, and Roebbelen Construction. Additionally, we have the support of private individuals who continue to assist the students in our program.

Project Schedule: Project timeline and anticipated start and completion date. (If this is a multiyear request, please indicate that in both the funding request and the project schedule.) Funding does not become available until July 1. Funding typically ends June 30 of the following year.

We will diligently allocate funding to address the fundamental and essential needs of homeless students residing in Rancho Cordova. For the coming school year, the financial resources will be systematically distributed across the two semesters of the academic year, ensuring that support is provided consistently throughout the school year.

In order to maintain transparency and accountability, comprehensive reports detailing the utilization of funds and the impact of our efforts will be submitted twice during each fiscal year, specifically in December and May. These reports will outline the progress made, challenges encountered, and the overall effectiveness of our initiatives in improving the lives and educational experiences of these vulnerable students.

School Year 2026-2027			
Support Needed	**Aug- Dec**	**Jan- May**	**Total**
Grocery	$ 3,200.00	$ 3,200.00	$ 6,400.00
Food	$ 1,800.00	$ 1,800.00	$ 3,600.00
Apparel/Personal Necessities	$ 5,000.00	$ 5,000.00	$ 10,000.00
Total	$ 10,000.00	$ 10,000.00	$ 20,000.00

Project timeline to ensure funding is used in a timely manner.

Month/Week	Task	Action Steps	Output
Second Week of July	Eligibility Calls Begin	- Contact families in transition.	- Create list of families needing assistance.
		- Gather detailed data on specific needs.	- Updated family records.
Throughout the Year	Receive Referrals from Schools	- Track school referrals.	- Real-time referral log.
		- Assess immediate needs.	- Action plan for assistance.
Before Each Break (e.g., Winter, Spring, Summer)	Pre-Break Assistance Distribution	- Review family needs.	- Families have the necessities to sustain them during the break.
		- Gather necessary items (clothing, food, supplies).	
		- Distribute items well before break.	
Ongoing Throughout the Year (Monthly/Bi-Monthly)	Ongoing Check-ins with Families	- Call families for updates on their needs.	- Updated records of ongoing needs.
		- Document any changes or new necessities.	- Emergency assistance if required.

Timeliness: In addition to providing the project timeline identified above, describe how you will be able to complete your project by June 30, 2026. Please note, if selected for funding, you will be required to submit a narrative Outcomes Report and a financial Use of Funds Report at least two times during the grant period.

The team will follow these steps to ensure the timeline is adhered to and the goals are achieved:

1. Each member of the team will have clear and defined roles and responsibilities.
2. We will conduct regular check-ins and project updates to identify potential delays.
3. Milestones and checkpoints will be established to facilitate tracking progress.
4. Progress will be monitored in real-time by using Google Sheets.

Project Location Please note that projects or programs that are proposed on property owned or operated by outside agencies or a private party will require coordination with and potentially approvals from outside agencies, organizations, and/or the private party.

Families In Transition
2460 Cordova Lane
Rancho Cordova, CA 95670

Physical Address:

Have you received a letter of support for the project from the property owner? Yes ☐ No ☐ N/A x If yes, submit the letter of support with your application.

If your project/program is intended to operate or take place at a public K-12 school site or a park/park facility, instead of a support letter, you must request the endorsement of the entity using the appropriate Supplemental Endorsement Form.

School District (if applicable, check all that apply): EGUSD ☐ FCUSD x☐ SCUSD ☐ Other ☐

By the application deadline, the City of Rancho Cordova must also receive the Supplemental Endorsement Form that's been signed and dated by the corresponding school superintendent for the application to be considered a complete submittal. It's the applicant's responsibility to ask for the endorsement in the time allotted. You will be asked to share if you have contacted school staff and to provide the name(s) of your contact(s). Each participating school superintendent reserves the right to withhold their endorsement of a project/program. Refer to the Fiscal Year 2025/2026 Supplemental Endorsement Form for more information and important deadlines.

Cordova Recreation & Park District

If your project/program is intended to operate or take place at a park/park facility, instead of a support letter, you must request the endorsement of the Cordova Recreation & Park District (CRPD) using the Supplemental Endorsement Form. It's the applicant's responsibility to ask for the endorsement in the time allotted. The CRPD representative reserves the right to withhold their endorsement of a project/program. Refer to the Fiscal Year 2025/2026 Supplemental Endorsement Form for more information and important deadlines.

Application Submitted by
Name: Iyuanna Pease

Title: Director Social Emotional Lrng

[redacted]

Email: Ipease@fcusd.org

Organization's Legal Name (if applicable):

Mailing Address: 1965 Birkmont Drive Rancho Cordova CA 95742

Signatory If the applicant's project or program is selected for funding, list who will be the signatory of the funding agreement.
Signatory's Name:

Title: Superintendent

[redacted]

Email:

Mailing Address: 1965 Birkmont Drive, Rancho Cordova, CA 95742

Public Record Unless otherwise exempt under applicable law, applications and application materials are public records. All information received from an applicant, whether received in connection with a grant application or in connection with any grant-funded activities performed are subject to disclosure pursuant to the California Public Records Act, unless otherwise exempt.

Title

Mills Middle School Positive Behavior Intervention Supports (PBIS)

03/04/2026

id. 53392903

by **Mina West** in **Fiscal Year 2026-2027 Community Enhancement & Investment Fund Grant Application**

1965 Birkmont Drive
Rancho Cordova, California
95742
CA
United States
[redacted]
mwest@fcusd.org

Original Submission

03/04/2026

Score n/a

	Thank you for your interest in applying to the City of Rancho Cordova's Community Enhancement & Investment Fund. Applications are open from February 9, 2026, to March 13, 2026, Noon (12:00 p.m.) with a specific deadline of March 6th Noon (12:00 p.m.) for certain applications**. Before you begin, please read the notes about deadlines and certain types of grant applications/grants below. **School/Park Application Deadline **Note that projects or programs involving a park or school district have a deadline of March 6 Noon (12:00 p.m.) to allow for the third-party endorsement process by the grant deadline.** A Note about Religious Schools and the Application/Grant Process **Note for grant applications from religious schools. The United States Supreme Court has recently ruled in part that: “denying a generally available benefit [from government] solely on account of religious identity imposes a penalty on the free exercise of religion that can be justified only by a state interest of the highest order.” The City is of the opinion that not all grants to religious schools are prohibited under this and other similar rulings. However, these United States Supreme Court decisions remain in conflict with a section of the California State Constitution that says: “[n]either the Legislature, nor any county, city and county, township, school district, or other municipal corporation, shall ever make an appropriation, or pay from any public fund whatever, or grant anything to or in aid of any religious sect, church, creed, or sectarian purpose, or help to support or sustain any school, college, university, hospital, or other institution controlled by any religious creed, church, or sectarian denomination whatever; nor shall any grant or donation of personal property or real estate ever be made by the state, or any city, city and county, town, or other municipal corporation for any religious creed, church, or sectarian purpose whatever”. The City will accept applications for grants of these City public funds from religious schools, but will have language in the grant agreements to address the possibility and consequences of legal challenges and new court decisions on this and related topics. ** Future Grant Opportunities If you are interested in remaining up-to-date on available grants from the City of Rancho Cordova, click here to sign up for the Grants Interest List. A separate call for programming opportunities with the Rancho Cordova Youth Center is anticipated later in 2026. The list is also used to advertise separate art programs when funds are available. Ongoing Grant Opportunity The City of Rancho Cordova offers a microgrant opportunity. Learn more about those grants online.
Is this your first time applying for grant funding from the City of Rancho Cordova? As a first-time applicant, Community Enhancement & Investment Fund (CEIF) staff will contact you to discuss your project and grant application process.	No: Not a First Time Applicant

	1 - Project/Program Information Note: You can add a collaborator to this form to assist you in completing this application! A collaborator can help you complete this form by filling in fields for you, although only you can submit this form. You can add a collaborator by navigating to the top of the form and clicking on the 'Manage Collaborators' button. Simply enter their email address and click 'invite' to invite them as a collaborator. If you need further assistance, you may consult this Help article for more information.
Project/Program Name. Assign a project name to your project/program.	Mills Middle School Positive Behavior Intervention Supports (PBIS)
Which category does your Project/Program align with?	Youth Programs & Services
Provide a Project/Program Synopsis	The PBIS team at Mills Middle School supports the student engagement, behavioral, and academic success of all students. Additionally, the program supports and promotes the climate and culture of the school. We do this through the use of rewards and incentives, as well as student engagement programs.
Provide a Project/Program Description	**1. Behavior Rewards and Incentives** **Tier 1: Mills Bills / Student Store Program** Mills utilizes Mills Bills as its PBIS token economy to reinforce the 5 P's: Prompt, Prepared, Polite, Positive, and Productive. Students earn Mills Bills throughout the day and bank them on the 5-Star online platform. They may purchase items and experiences from the digital Student Store, which offers snacks, drinks, art supplies, sports equipment, and larger prizes such as Bluetooth speakers and TVs. **Tier 2: Check-In/Check-Out (CICO)** CICO pairs students with a mentor to support attendance, behavior, and academic improvement. Students set daily and weekly goals, receive ongoing feedback, and earn weekly rewards when goals are met. This structured intervention is one of the school's most effective Tier 2 supports. **Tier 2: Behavior Academy** Each quarter, Mills runs multiple six.week Behavior Academies for students who need targeted support developing specific behavioral skills. Students are explicitly taught replacement behaviors, earn raffle tickets for participation and progress, and participate in weekly raffles for prizes. **2. Academic Rewards and Incentives** **Student of the Quarter** Any staff member may nominate one student each quarter for outstanding academic or personal achievement. Students are recognized through an Advisory video presentation, receive a certificate and golden ticket, and attend a celebration that includes breakfast, hot chocolate, donuts, Mills.themed decorations, raffle prizes, and a school t-shirt. **Mustang of the Year (6th/7th Grade)** At the end of the year, every 6th. and 7th.grade teacher selects one student as their Mustang of the Year. A video montage highlights each student's accomplishments. Awardees receive a medal and certificate and

celebrate with their families at a pizza party.

English Learner (EL) Reclassification Party

Students who pass the ELPAC and reclassify as Fluent English Proficient are honored at a celebration with certificates, hot chocolate, and donuts.

AVID Program Incentives

AVID helps students strengthen organization, academic habits, collaboration, and college/career readiness. Incentives include AVID t.shirts for 7th and 8th graders and promotion stoles for 8th graders who complete course requirements. (See Field Trips for college/career tours.)

Triple A (AAA)

Students with strong Academics (3.0+ GPA), Arrivals (two or fewer tardies), and Attitude (all S/O citizenship marks) qualify for rewards including special semester field trips. (See Field Trips.)

3. Attendance Rewards and Incentives

Donut Club

Each month the school holds a classroom attendance competition. The targeted class period may shift monthly, and criteria may include best attendance or most improved attendance. Weekly Advisory updates track standings. The winning class earns a donut party.

Attendance Super Stars

Each quarter, students with outstanding attendance receive certificates and community.sponsored rewards such as Chick.fil.A dessert coupons. Students with perfect semester attendance also receive a Mills t.shirt.

4. Climate and Culture Programs

6th Grade Class Shirts

During Rodeo Day, incoming 6th graders receive a class.color t-shirt that they use for spirit days, rallies, and events throughout their three years at Mills.

WEB (Where Everybody Belongs)

WEB pairs trained 8th.grade mentors with incoming 6th graders to support their transition socially, emotionally, and academically. WEB leaders run orientation, coordinate events throughout the year, and present anti.bullying lessons in 6th.grade Advisory classes. Supplies and t.shirts support orientation and training activities. (See Field Trips.)

Student Senate End.of.Year Celebration

Student Senators represent the diversity and voices of Mills students. Their end.of.year celebration includes a donut and hot chocolate party, program reflection, and a certificate recognizing their service.

Schoolwide Quarterly Rewards – Extended FLEX

At the end of each quarter, all students participate in an extended FLEX period, choosing from various activities, hobbies, and enrichment opportunities with staff. This schoolwide celebration is a favorite among students and staff.

Mustang Round Up

At year's end, students choose three enrichment activities to attend during a full day of celebration. Past activities include cultural cooking projects (guacamole, horchata), club celebrations (Armenian Club, Science Club, SAGA, D&D), shark dissections, and solar oven cooking. Mustang Round Up consistently enjoys high student attendance.

Field Trips

Triple A (AAA)

AAA students earn a special field trip each semester. Past destinations include local movie theaters.

	Grade-Level End.of.Year Field Trips • **6th Grade – Hagan Park BBQ & Field Day:** Organized by WEB leaders, including games and a free BBQ lunch. • **7th Grade – Roller Skating at The Rink:** A private skating session; school covers transportation costs. • **8th Grade – Golfland Sunsplash:** A celebration for students meeting promotion criteria. The school covers transportation and part of the admission fee. **AVID College & Career Tours** AVID students attend free field trips to colleges and businesses (e.g., Solidigm). Transportation and related costs are fully covere
Tell us about your Project/Program Team	PBIS Team Lead (Stephanie Cecil-Spaulding), Administrator (Dana Carrigan), Clerk (Hailey O'Connell)
Provide your Project/Program Goals	1. Create a comprehensive PBIS program (Tiers 1, 2, and 3). Complete Tiered Fidelity Index (TFI) as program audit and apply for PBIS "Platinum" recognition through www.pbisca.org (highest level of recognition). Received Gold level recognition in August 2025 and 2024, Silver level recognition in August 2023, 2022, and 2021. 2. Continue to increase student engagement and provide behavior, academic, and social emotional support to increase on-time graduation rates. Continue to use multiple data sources to identify students needing additional supports. Continue to use preventive and restorative practices, and alternatives to suspension to keep students in the learning environment. 3. Increase attendance awareness and celebrations. Increase student attendance rate to 95% and decrease chronic absenteeism by at least 5%.
Optional File Upload: Provide any additional records to supplement your program/project application. Note: Combine multiple files in one pdf before uploading.	
	2 - Funding & Costs
Funding Request - Complete this section with total dollar amounts for your project/program's costs	Funds are generally not intended to be used for deferred maintenance and ongoing operational needs. The funds are intended for enhancing and investing in the City of Rancho Cordova. If your project/program is awarded, the costs identified below would be reviewed and potentially open to modification during a contracting phase (if a grant is awarded by the City Council). If awarded, grant funds are not available until a contract is executed during Fiscal Year 2026-2027.

Total project/program cost*	30000
What is the amount of Community Enhancement & Investment Fund grant monies requested?	30000
Does your project/program involve construction of any facilities or improvements upon any property?	No
What is the total cost of personnel for your project/program?	0
What is the total cost of supplies for your project/program?	0
What is the total cost of transportation for your project/program?	10000
What is the total cost of equipment for your project/program?	0
What is the total cost of any miscellaneous expenses for your project/program?	20000

Upload your project/program's budget as a .pdf file. Include the categories and their dollar amounts along with information about any other funding sources to demonstrate your project/program's total budget. Note, the sum of all categories must match the total project or program cost, or the amount requested of CEIF if there is no other funding source. Please clearly illustrate any matching funds or funding from other sources in your project/program budget, including in-kind sources. Note: Combine multiple files in one pdf before uploading.

Copy_of_Measure_H_Grant_Application_-_Mills_PBIS.docx.pdf

Has your organization sought or will seek other funding for this project/program?	Yes, actively seeking funding support or have secured additional funding support for this project/program.

Describe any funding secured or being sought for this project/program.	Fundraising, donations, site Title 1 funds when permitted
Please describe any ongoing operations and maintenance costs beyond Fiscal Year 2026/2027, if applicable.	N/A
Do you have volunteer or in-kind support for your project? This could include volunteers for an activity/event that is ongoing or a one-time experience.	No
Is this a single year request or a request for funding for multiple years?	Single Year
Has your project/program received funding from the Community Enhancement & Investment Fund previously?	Yes
How many years has your project/program received funding from the Community Enhancement & Investment Fund?	5 or more years
How much funding has your organization received from the Community Enhancement & Investment Fund through our traditional grants (not including microgrants)?	100,000

3 - Project/Program Details Grant applications are typically approved to occur between July 2026 through June 2027. What is your plan to complete this project/program within this time frame?	
Anticipated Start Date (July 1 is the soonest available start date)	7/1/2026
Anticipated End Date (typically projects/programs end by June 30)	6/30/2027
Please describe your project/program schedule	PBIS is on-going every school year and follows the Folsom Cordova school calendar. Beginning in August 2026 through May 2027. Subsequent years would be August 2027 – May 2028, August 2028 – May 2029, etc. **Timeliness** In addition to providing the project timeline identified above, describe how you will be able to complete your project by June 30, 2027. Please note, if selected for funding, you will be required to submit a narrative Outcomes Report and a financial Use of Funds Report at least two times during the grant period. As the rewards, incentives and student engagement occur weekly, monthly, quarterly, each semester and annually, the PBIS team will be able to manage the projects and funding throughout the 2026-2027 school year (August 2026-May 2027).
What challenges do you anticipate in your project/program's implementation? What is your plan to complete your project/program should those or other challenges arise?	N/A
How many individuals does your project/program serve?	Almost 900 students who attend Mills Middle School
How many Rancho Cordova residents does your project/program serve?	Almost 900 Students

4 - Project/Program Location

Address Verification	If you need to check if your project is in Rancho Cordova, type in your program/project's location in the Assessor Parcel Viewer: https://assessorparcelviewer.saccounty.gov/jsviewer/assessor.html
School and park related applications are due before Noon (12:00 p.m.) on March 6, 2026, to allow for the endorsement process.	Please note that projects or programs that are proposed on property owned or operated by outside agencies or a private party will require coordination with and potentially approvals from outside agencies, organizations, and/or the private party. Include whether you have received a letter of support for the project/program from the property owner. Upload any letters of support with your application. City staff will verify third-party permits have been discussed. In your planning discussions, be sure to discuss any necessary insurance or volunteer requirements that may increase budget costs. School Sites If your project/program is intended to operate at a public K-12 school site, your application is due by March 6 at Noon (12:00 p.m.). City staff will work with the school districts to confirm an endorsement for your project/program. It's the applicant's responsibility to communicate with school site and district representatives before applying so there is clarity during the endorsement process. Districts will only consider endorsement for applications submitted to the Community Enhancement & Investment Fund by the March 6 at Noon (12:00 p.m.). deadline. Each participating school superintendent reserves the right to withhold their endorsement of a project/program. Parks If your project/program is intended to operate at a park or community center site, your application is due by the March 6 at Noon (12:00 p.m.). deadline. City staff will work with the Cordova Recreation & Park District to confirm an endorsement for your project/program. It's the applicant's responsibility to communicate with district representatives before applying so there is clarity during the endorsement process. A special use permit application is required for any program or event planned at a CRPD facility. The special use application can be found at the CRPD website: https://www.cordovarpd.gov/. CRPD will only consider endorsement for applications submitted to the Community Enhancement & Investment Fund by the March 6 at Noon (12:00 p.m.). deadline. The Cordova Recreation & Park District reserves the right to withhold their endorsement of a project/program. Below is the list of staff to communicate with at school and park organizations: Folsom Cordova Unified School District: mwest@fcusd.org Cordova Recreation & Park District: cmichelotti@cordovarpd.gov Elk Grove Unified School District: mgulden@egusd.net Sacramento City Unified School District: Tuan-Duong@scusd.edu for Winn and Carver and Enrique-Flores@scusd.edu for Lincoln.
Primary street address of project/program	10439 Coloma Road, Rancho Cordova, CA 95670
List the city location of the project/program.	Rancho Cordova
Select State	CA

Provide the zip code for your project/program's primary location.	95670
If your project/program takes place at multiple locations, please list other or secondary locations.	N/A
Third Party Letters of Support (Note: Combine multiple files in one pdf before uploading)	
Does your project/program involve one of Rancho Cordova's school districts?	Yes
Is the project/program requesting facility use only or is this a request to partner with the school district?	Partner with school on project/program
Please select all the school districts which your project/program intends to involve:	Folsom Cordova USD
Please select one or more of the Folsom Cordova Unified School District school facilities which your project/program will involve:	Mills Middle School
Have you reached out to a contact at the school(s) you indicated above?	Yes

Please provide the names of your contacts at the school(s) or district(s) who are familiar with your project/program.	PBIS Team Lead (Stephanie Cecil-Spaulding), Administrator (Dana Carrigan), Clerk (Hailey O'Connell)
Does your project/program involve the Cordova Recreation & Park District?	No
	5 - Applicant Information
Name	Mina West
Is this project/program on behalf of an organization?	Yes
What is the name of your organization?	Folsom Cordova Unified School District
What is your title and/or role at your organization?	Administrative Assistant - Communications and Community Engagement
Provide contact phone number:	+[redacted]
Provide contact email:	mwest@fcusd.org
Are you the primary point of contact on this project/program?	Yes
If your project/program was awarded the requested funds, are you authorized to sign the contract for your organization?	No, someone else would sign the contract

If selected by the City Council to receive an award, what is the name of the person at your organization who would sign the contract?	Sean Martin
What is the title of this individual?	Assistant Superintendent Business Services
What is the best phone number where we could contact the signatory?	+[redacted]
What is the best email address to contact the signatory?	LVenzon@fcusd.org
By checking here, I confirm that I am aware that my application materials will become public record.	checked
	Thank you for applying to the Community Enhancement & Investment Fund Fiscal Year 2026-2027 Grant Cycle. Applicants will receive an automated response through the grant portal. Community Enhancement & Investment Fund (CEIF) Staff will follow up with any questions regarding your Fiscal Year 2026-2027 application. For information about the next steps in the CEIF grant process, visit our website for more information. It is anticipated that applications will be reviewed by the City Council starting in April 2026 with adoption in June 2026. Should applicants be awarded by the City Council, funding would not be available to grantees until the start of Fiscal Year 2026-2027 and the completion of a contract. Please send an email to CEIFGrants@cityofranchocordova.org with any questions or comments.

Internal Form

Score	n/a

2026/2027 GRANT APPLICATION
COMMUNITY ENHANCEMENT & INVESTMENT FUND
To be Completed and returned to Mina West at
mwest@fcusd.org
Must be received by February 23, 2026

Project Name Assign a project name to your project/program.
Mills Middle School Positive Behavior Intervention Supports (PBIS)

Project Synopsis In 50 words or less, please describe the project.
The PBIS team at Mills Middle School supports the student engagement, behavioral, and academic success of all students. Additionally, the program supports and promotes the climate and culture of the school. We do this through the use of rewards and incentives, as well as student engagement programs.

Project Description Describe the project in detail and how it benefits the community based on the City's Community Enhancement & Investment Fund guidelines and selection criteria. If you need more room to answer the question, please attach a separate document to your application.

Behavior/Academic/Attendance/Climate and Culture Rewards and Incentive Programs:

1. Behavior Rewards and Incentives
   a. Tier 1: Mills Bills/Student Store Rewards Program: Mills uses Mills Bills as our PBIS token economy. Students who demonstrate any of the 5 P's (Prompt, Prepared, Polite, Positive, and/or Productive) may be rewarded with a Mills Bill. Students bank their Mills Bills using the online platform 5-Star and have the opportunity to buy various prizes and/or experiences through our digital Student Store. Some of the items available for purchase are snacks, candy, drinks, art sets, sports equipment, and larger prizes range from bluetooth speakers to TVs.

   b. Tier 2: Check-In/Check-Out Rewards
   Check-In/Check-Out is a highly effective Tier 2 intervention where students are paired with a mentor and given daily and weekly goals to improve their attendance, behavior, and academics. Students earn weekly rewards if they meet their goal.

   c. Tier 2: Behavior Academy Incentives
   Each quarter we run multiple 6-week Behavior Academies where students who struggle with demonstrating specific behaviors are re-taught appropriate behavior skills to be successful at school and in life. Students earn raffle tickets for active participation and for demonstrating the appropriate behavior/skill they are working on. Students participate in weekly raffle drawings to win prizes.

2. Academic Rewards and Incentives:
   a. Student of the Quarter
   Any staff member can nominate one student per quarter as their Student of the Quarter. Nominated students are announced through a video presentation during Advisory and receive a certificate, golden ticket, and invitation to the Student of the Quarter Celebration. The celebration includes breakfast during Advisory where they each receive a Mills t-shirt and prizes are raffled off. Nominees also enjoy hot chocolate and donuts! Mills decorations and balloons help round out the celebration.

b. Mustang of the Year

Mustang of the Year. This is our 6th/7th grade end of the year awards celebration. (8th grade awards are paid for by site funds). Each teacher who teaches 6th and/or 7th grade selects one student as their Mustang of the Year award winner. Staff creates a video montage of why each student has been awarded to play during the celebration. Students are presented with a medal and certificate for their outstanding achievement for the school year. Students and their families enjoy a pizza party to celebrate their hard work.

c. English Learner (EL) Reclassification Party

Reward for English Learners who passed the ELPAC exam and have reclassified as Fluent English Proficient. Students receive a certificate and enjoy hot chocolate and donuts during their celebration event.

d. AVID Program

Advancement Via Individual Determination (AVID) is designed to support students in developing strong organizational skills, academic confidence, collaboration, and college and career readiness. AVID t-shirts for 7th and 8th graders and 8th grade promotion stoles for students who successfully complete the AVID course requirements their 8th grade year. (See Field Trips.)

e. Triple A (AAA). See Field Trips

3. Attendance Rewards and Incentives:

a. Donut Club

Each month a school-wide class competition is held focusing on positive attendance. Each month the class period changes and the requirement may change from best attendance to most improved attendance. Weekly updates are shown in Advisory and at the end of the month, the winning class earns a donut party.

b. Attendance Super Stars

Each quarter Attendance Super Stars will be awarded with a certificate. Mills is working with our Community Partners to offer rewards such as complimentary dessert coupons at Chick-fil-A to all our Attendance Super Stars. Students with perfect attendance during each Semester also receive a Mills t-shirt.

4. Climate and Culture:

a. 6th Grade Class Shirts

During Rodeo Day (day before school starts) we welcome all of our incoming 6th graders with a class t-shirt in their class color. This is their class shirt they will have for the next three years. Students wear them during spirit days and rallies.

b. WEB

Where Everybody Belongs (WEB) is a middle school mentorship program that pairs 8th grade mentors with incoming 6th graders to ease the transition to middle school socially, emotionally, and academically. WEB leaders are trained over the summer and host 6th grade orientation. Throughout the school year they organized events and present anti-bullying presentations in 6th grade Advisory classrooms for year long support. WEB leader t-shirt and supplies for WEB events such as orientation and WEB leader training. (See Field Trips)

c. Student Senate End of Year Celebration

Student Senators are student leaders that reflect the beautiful diversity of Mills and the City of Rancho Cordova. The End of Year Celebration is a reward for our Student Senators for elevating student voice in decision making and representing their peers during monthly Student Senate Meetings. Celebration includes a donut and hot chocolate party, reflection of the program, and students receive a certificate of service.

d. Schoolwide Quarter Rewards-Extended FLEX
At the end of each quarter, students enjoy an hour-long extended FLEX period where they can choose an event of their choice to attend. This is a wonderful opportunity for students to try new hobbies, spend time with their friends and favorite staff members, or have additional time to play sports. ALL students are able to participate in this event and it has very quickly become a highlight that both students and staff look forward to.

e. Mustang Round Up
At the end of the year, students enjoy a day of enrichment and fun, where they can choose 3 different events of their choice to attend. In the past students have participated in cultural events like making guacamole and horchata and various clubs have their year of year celebrations (Armenian, D&D, Science Club, SAGA,etc.). Enrichment events have included shark dissections and using solar ovens to make smores and chocolate cake. ALL students are able to participate in this event. Mustang Round Up has historically been one of our highest attended school days.

Field Trips:

1. Triple A (AAA)
Students who qualify for AAA have outstanding Academics (3.0 GPA or higher), Arrivals (no more than 2 lates), and Attitude (all “S” and/or “O’ citizenship marks). To incentivize and reward students we take students on a field trip each semester. Past field trips have been to the movie theater.

2. Grade Level End-of-Year Field Trips
6th Grade-Hagan Park BBQ and Field Day is hosted by WEB. Our 8th grade WEB leaders plan games and with the help of community volunteers, all qualifying 6th graders enjoy a BBQ lunch at our city’s beautiful Hagan Park in May. This is a free field trip for qualifying students. We pay supplies and food costs.

7th Grade-Roller Skating. All qualifying 7th graders get to attend an end-of-year field trip to one of our city’s most popular middle school hang outs, The Rink! Students are treated to a private skating session to celebrate the end of the school year. To help make this field trip more affordable for students, we pay transportation costs for qualifying students.

8th Grade-To celebrate finishing middle school, students who meet promotion criteria are invited to go on a field trip to Golfland Sunsplash in Roseville, CA. To help make this field trip more affordable for students, we pay the transportation cost and a portion of the admission cost for qualifying students.

3. AVID College and Career Tours
A major component of AVID is college and career readiness. Field trips to colleges and businesses like Solidigm incentivize and inspire students. Transportation and other field trip related costs are covered making these field trips free to students.

Project Team Individuals or organizations responsible for the development and delivery of the project.
PBIS Team Lead (Stephanie Cecil-Spaulding), Administrator (Dana Carrigan), Clerk (Hailey O'Connell)

Project Goals List goals, and outline metrics by which progress in reaching goals can be measured and the project team’s efforts can be focused.

1. Create a comprehensive PBIS program (Tiers 1, 2, and 3). Complete Tiered Fidelity Index (TFI) as program audit and apply for PBIS "Platinum" recognition through www.pbisca.org (highest level of recognition). Received Gold level recognition in August 2025 and 2024, Silver level recognition in August 2023, 2022, and 2021.

2. Continue to increase student engagement and provide behavior, academic, and social emotional support to increase on-time graduation rates. Continue to use multiple data sources to identify students needing additional supports. Continue to use preventive and restorative practices, and alternatives to suspension to keep students in the learning environment.

3. Increase attendance awareness and celebrations. Increase student attendance rate to 95% and decrease chronic absenteeism by at least 5%.

Funding Request Funds are generally not intended to be used for deferred maintenance and ongoing operational needs. The funds are intended for Community Enhancement & Investment.

Total project cost: $30,000

Estimated breakdown of project expenditures:
Rewards and Incentives: $20, 000
Field Trips: $10,000

Matching funds (including any in-kind contributions): None

Include any other funding contributions including your own: $2,500 (Fundraising and Title 1)

Ongoing (beyond FY 2025/2026) operations and maintenance costs if applicable: None

Total Community Enhancement & Investment Funds requested: $30,000*
*Mills' enrollment has increased by almost 20% in the past 3 years and is continuing to enroll new students each week. The increase in funding amount is due to enrollment growth, inflation costs, and the addition of new programs like WEB and AVID to improve student outcomes.

Is this a multiyear request? Yes ☑ No ☐ If yes, number of years: 3

If you answered yes above, describe your sustainability plan and whether the project is viable as a single year request.

Mills Middle School is requesting a multi-year grant to sustain and strengthen its PBIS program because it is a critical structure for student engagement, motivation, and school culture in a high-needs community. Mills is a Title I school serving a population in which more than 80% of students are identified as socioeconomically disadvantaged. Many of our students face barriers outside of school that directly impact attendance, engagement, and overall academic success. For the past nine years, our PBIS program has served as a cornerstone of student recognition, encouragement, and positive reinforcement. Through PBIS, students are acknowledged for demonstrating positive behavior, academic effort, and growth, and they are provided access to meaningful incentives, enrichment programs, and field trip opportunities that they might not otherwise experience.

Unlike many schools, Mills has never had a PTO or PTA to fundraise for student activities, incentives, field trips, or reward-based programs. As a result, PBIS is not simply a supplemental initiative, it is the primary vehicle through which we provide engagement opportunities and celebrate student achievement. These incentives and experiences are essential for building a positive school climate, strengthening student-teacher relationships, and reinforcing the behavioral and academic expectations that support student success.

While Mills receives Title I funding, those funds are legally restricted and cannot be used for the incentive items, rewards, student recognition events, or enrichment activities outlined in this proposal. Title I dollars must be directed toward supplemental academic services and instructional supports, and therefore cannot sustain the core motivational and engagement components of our PBIS framework.

Measure H funding has been instrumental in allowing Mills to maintain these programs. Without continued, multi-year support, many of the programs and experiences that recognize and reward Mills scholars will no longer be feasible. This would significantly impact our ability to maintain a positive school climate, incentivize attendance and academic growth, and provide equitable access to enrichment opportunities for students who otherwise may not have them.

A multi-year grant is essential to ensure program stability and long-term impact. PBIS is most effective when it is implemented consistently over time. Multi-year funding would allow Mills to strategically plan, sustain programming, and continue building a culture where positive behavior, academic effort, and student growth are consistently celebrated. Most importantly, it would ensure that our students continue to have access to the recognition, engagement, and enrichment opportunities that help them thrive.

How many years have you received funding for this project? 6

When will your request for funding sunset for ongoing programs? NA

Do you plan to ask annually for funding? Yes

What other funding will you seek to support your project? Fundraising, donations, site Title 1 funds when permitted

Project Schedule Project timeline and anticipated start and completion date. (If this is a multiyear request, please indicate that in both the funding request and the project schedule.) Funding does not become available until July 1. Funding typically ends June 30 of the following year.

PBIS is on-going every school year and follows the Folsom Cordova school calendar. Beginning in August 2026 through May 2027. Subsequent years would be August 2027 – May 2028, August 2028 – May 2029, etc.

Timeliness In addition to providing the project timeline identified above, describe how you will be able to complete your project by June 30, 2027. Please note, if selected for funding, you will be required to submit a narrative Outcomes Report and a financial Use of Funds Report at least two times during the grant period.

As the rewards, incentives and student engagement occur weekly, monthly, quarterly, each semester and annually, the PBIS team will be able to manage the projects and funding throughout the 2026-2027 school year (August 2026-May 2027).

Project Location Please note that projects or programs that are proposed on property owned or operated by outside agencies or a private party will require the coordination with and potentially approvals from outside agencies, organizations, and/or the private party.

Physical Address: 10439 Coloma Road, Rancho Cordova, CA 95670

Have you received a letter of support for the project from the property owner? Yes ☐ No ☐ N/A ☑ If yes, submit the letter of support with your application.

If your project/program is intended to operate or take place at a public K-12 school site or a park/park facility, instead of a support letter you must request the endorsement of the entity using the appropriate Supplemental Endorsement Form.

School District (if applicable, check all that apply): EGUSD ☐ FCUSD ☑ SCUSD ☐ Other ☐

By the application deadline, the City of Rancho Cordova must also receive the Supplemental Endorsement Form that's been signed and dated by the corresponding school superintendent for the application to be considered a complete submittal. It's the

applicant's responsibility to ask for the endorsement in the time allotted. You will be asked to share if you have contacted school staff and to provide the name(s) of your contact(s). Each participating school superintendent reserves the right to withhold their endorsement of a project/program. Refer to the Fiscal Year 2025/2026 Supplemental Endorsement Form for more information and important deadlines.

Cordova Recreation & Park District

If your project/program is intended to operate or take place at a park/park facility, instead of a support letter, you must request the endorsement of the Cordova Recreation & Park District (CRPD) using the Supplemental Endorsement Form. It's the applicant's responsibility to ask for the endorsement in the time allotted. The CRPD representative reserves the right to withhold their endorsement of a project/program. Refer to the Fiscal Year 2025/2026 Supplemental Endorsement Form for more information and important deadlines.

Application Submitted by

Name: Stephanie Cecil-Spaulding

Title: Student Support Specialist

Phone: (916) 294-9045 ext. 710118

Email: scecilspaulding@fcusd.org

Organization's Legal Name (if applicable): Mills Middle School, Folsom Cordova Unified School District

Mailing Address: 10439 Coloma Road, Rancho Cordova CA 95670

Public Record Unless otherwise exempt under applicable law, applications and application materials are public records. All information received from an applicant, whether received in connection with a grant application or in connection with any grant-funded activities performed are subject to disclosure pursuant to the California Public Records Act, unless otherwise exempt.

Title

FCUSD Mitchell Positive Behavior Intervention Supports (PBIS) Incentives

03/05/2026

id. 53392997

by **Mina West** in **Fiscal Year 2026-2027 Community Enhancement & Investment Fund Grant Application**

1965 Birkmont Drive
Rancho Cordova, California
95742
CA
United States
[redacted]
mwest@fcusd.org

Original Submission

03/05/2026

Score n/a

	Thank you for your interest in applying to the City of Rancho Cordova's Community Enhancement & Investment Fund. Applications are open from February 9, 2026, to March 13, 2026, Noon (12:00 p.m.) with a specific deadline of March 6th Noon (12:00 p.m.) for certain applications**. Before you begin, please read the notes about deadlines and certain types of grant applications/grants below. **School/Park Application Deadline **Note that projects or programs involving a park or school district have a deadline of March 6 Noon (12:00 p.m.) to allow for the third-party endorsement process by the grant deadline.** A Note about Religious Schools and the Application/Grant Process **Note for grant applications from religious schools. The United States Supreme Court has recently ruled in part that: “denying a generally available benefit [from government] solely on account of religious identity imposes a penalty on the free exercise of religion that can be justified only by a state interest of the highest order.” The City is of the opinion that not all grants to religious schools are prohibited under this and other similar rulings. However, these United States Supreme Court decisions remain in conflict with a section of the California State Constitution that says: “[n]either the Legislature, nor any county, city and county, township, school district, or other municipal corporation, shall ever make an appropriation, or pay from any public fund whatever, or grant anything to or in aid of any religious sect, church, creed, or sectarian purpose, or help to support or sustain any school, college, university, hospital, or other institution controlled by any religious creed, church, or sectarian denomination whatever; nor shall any grant or donation of personal property or real estate ever be made by the state, or any city, city and county, town, or other municipal corporation for any religious creed, church, or sectarian purpose whatever”. The City will accept applications for grants of these City public funds from religious schools, but will have language in the grant agreements to address the possibility and consequences of legal challenges and new court decisions on this and related topics. ** Future Grant Opportunities If you are interested in remaining up-to-date on available grants from the City of Rancho Cordova, click here to sign up for the Grants Interest List. A separate call for programming opportunities with the Rancho Cordova Youth Center is anticipated later in 2026. The list is also used to advertise separate art programs when funds are available. Ongoing Grant Opportunity The City of Rancho Cordova offers a microgrant opportunity. Learn more about those grants online.
Is this your first time applying for grant funding from the City of Rancho Cordova? As a first-time applicant, Community Enhancement & Investment Fund (CEIF) staff will contact you to discuss your project and grant application process.	No: Not a First Time Applicant

	1 - Project/Program Information Note: You can add a collaborator to this form to assist you in completing this application! A collaborator can help you complete this form by filling in fields for you, although only you can submit this form. You can add a collaborator by navigating to the top of the form and clicking on the 'Manage Collaborators' button. Simply enter their email address and click 'invite' to invite them as a collaborator. If you need further assistance, you may consult this Help article for more information.
Project/Program Name. Assign a project name to your project/program.	FCUSD Mitchell Positive Behavior Intervention Supports (PBIS) Incentives
Which category does your Project/Program align with?	Youth Programs & Services
Provide a Project/Program Synopsis	As a site we work collaboratively to ensure a positive climate for our students, built with routines, systems, and incentives. Our goal is to continue to increase the number of incentives and opportunities for students to be celebrated.

Provide a Project/Program Description

Increase tangible rewards:

School-brand merchandise: (t-shirts, stickers, water bottles, etc.) - school-branded items promote school pride and sense of belonging, making students feel more connected to their community. When students earn and then wear these items, it reinforces positive behavior by associating it with visible reward, and also sends a positive message to other students.

Student 5 Star Mitchell Store (a variety of appealing items: pencils, fidgets, keychains, snacks etc.) -Tangible and motivating reinforcement system for Mitchell behavior expectations (3Bs), students earn tickets for displaying positive behaviors that align with Mitchell 3Bs and then exchange them for items. Promotes goal setting, delayed gratification, teaches cause and effect, reinforces the idea that positive choice leads to positive outcome.

CICO (Check-in and Check-out) rewards- targeted PBIS intervention designed to provide daily positive reinforcement for students who need extra support in meeting their behavioral or academic goals.

Behavior Academies incentives -tiered, group interventions that help students develop skills in the area of Social Emotional Learning. Incentives offered during these structured groups help with engagement, motivation to attend, and reinforcement of learned skills.

SEL survey incentives- These surveys provide critical data on student well being, school climate, and shape interventions, and supports needed on campus. Unfortunately, many students either avoid completing them or don't take them seriously leading to inaccurate or incomplete data. Offering incentives can significantly improve participation and quality of responses.

Monthly Mental Health Awareness tables incentives- providing dedicated space for students to learn about mental health, normalize mental health conversations, raise awareness of mental health struggles among youth, provide resources and teach positive coping strategies.

Experiential Rewards and Events:

Assemblies and Guest Speakers- This program reinforces positive behavior through role models, motivational speakers, and SEL learning strategies practiced in a large group setting. Additionally this program fosters a sense of community and belonging.

Annual field trips per grade level-Once per year field trips for 6th, 7th, and 8th graders. Examples: roller rink, sunsplash, movie theatre etc. This incentive program encourages students to remain engaged, responsible, and goal oriented while reinforcing positive choices.

Engagement Materials:

School wide posters-consistent visual reinforcement of PBIS expectations, which helps maintain a school-wide culture of positivity and reinforces expectations in a non punitive way.

Tell us about your Project/Program Team	• Mitchell Administrative Team • Mitchell Attendance Team • Mitchell Climate Team
Provide your Project/Program Goals	• Recognize and reward positive behaviors through the 5 Star Mitchell Store, a student store where students can redeem their PBIS tickets for a reward item. • Recognize attendance growth - Short term rewards after SART meetings and Long term rewards. LED Lights, water bottles, snacks, meal vouchers. • Proactive Incentives for attendance: Small and large class size attendance competitions (Donut/Bagel Party). • Check in Check Out program: Small group of students and staff members that are working to build connectedness one on one. Incentives for completing check ins. • Climate and culture - Marauder breakfast for marauders of the semester. Hygiene and personal items (Tooth paste, deodorant, shampoo, brushes, gel, laundry detergent, etc.) to supplement the kindness closet. • Class t-shirts to create connectedness at pep rallies. More planned activities such as staff versus students volleyball game, egg spoon race, mini games to encourage school morale.
Optional File Upload: Provide any additional records to supplement your program/project application. Note: Combine multiple files in one pdf before uploading.	
	2 - Funding & Costs
Funding Request - Complete this section with total dollar amounts for your project/program's costs	Funds are generally not intended to be used for deferred maintenance and ongoing operational needs. The funds are intended for enhancing and investing in the City of Rancho Cordova. If your project/program is awarded, the costs identified below would be reviewed and potentially open to modification during a contracting phase (if a grant is awarded by the City Council). If awarded, grant funds are not available until a contract is executed during Fiscal Year 2026-2027.
Total project/program cost*	20000
What is the amount of Community Enhancement & Investment Fund grant monies requested?	20000

Does your project/program involve construction of any facilities or improvements upon any property?	No
What is the total cost of personnel for your project/program?	0
What is the total cost of supplies for your project/program?	0
What is the total cost of transportation for your project/program?	5000
What is the total cost of equipment for your project/program?	0
What is the total cost of any miscellaneous expenses for your project/program?	15000

Upload your project/program's budget as a .pdf file. Include the categories and their dollar amounts along with information about any other funding sources to demonstrate your project/program's total budget. Note, the sum of all categories must match the total project or program cost, or the amount requested of CEIF if there is no other funding source. Please clearly illustrate any matching funds or funding from other sources in your project/program budget, including in-kind sources. Note: Combine multiple files in one pdf before uploading.

Copy_of_Mitchell_MS_2026-2027_Measure_H_Grant_Application_Word.docx.pdf

Has your organization sought or will seek other funding for this project/program?	No, not seeking any other funding support.
Please explain why you are not seeking any other funding support for your project/program.	Mitchell Middle School consistently uses all available district and site funds, but these sources cannot support a comprehensive PBIS incentive program. School budgets and state/federal funds are restricted to academic or operational needs and cannot be used for rewards, student merchandise, raffles, or field.trip incentives. PTSO and donations help on a small scale but are inconsistent and cannot reliably fund schoolwide rewards for all students.

Please describe any ongoing operations and maintenance costs beyond Fiscal Year 2026/2027, if applicable.	N/A
Do you have volunteer or in-kind support for your project? This could include volunteers for an activity/event that is ongoing or a one-time experience.	No
Is this a single year request or a request for funding for multiple years?	Single Year
Has your project/program received funding from the Community Enhancement & Investment Fund previously?	Yes
How many years has your project/program received funding from the Community Enhancement & Investment Fund?	1
How much funding has your organization received from the Community Enhancement & Investment Fund through our traditional grants (not including microgrants)?	20,000
	3 - Project/Program Details Grant applications are typically approved to occur between July 2026 through June 2027. What is your plan to complete this project/program within this time frame?

Anticipated Start Date (July 1 is the soonest available start date)	7/1/2026
Anticipated End Date (typically projects/programs end by June 30)	6/30/2027
Please describe your project/program schedule	PBIS is on-going every school year and follows the Folsom Cordova school calendar. Beginning in August 2026 through May 2027. Subsequent years would be August 2027 – May 2028, August 2028 – May 2029, etc.
What challenges do you anticipate in your project/program's implementation? What is your plan to complete your project/program should those or other challenges arise?	N/A
How many individuals does your project/program serve?	737 students of Mitchell Middle School
How many Rancho Cordova residents does your project/program serve?	737 Middle School Students
	4 - Project/Program Location
Address Verification	If you need to check if your project is in Rancho Cordova, type in your program/project's location in the Assessor Parcel Viewer: https://assessorparcelviewer.saccounty.gov/jsviewer/assessor.html

School and park related applications are due before Noon (12:00 p.m.) on March 6, 2026, to allow for the endorsement process.	Please note that projects or programs that are proposed on property owned or operated by outside agencies or a private party will require coordination with and potentially approvals from outside agencies, organizations, and/or the private party. Include whether you have received a letter of support for the project/program from the property owner. Upload any letters of support with your application. City staff will verify third-party permits have been discussed. In your planning discussions, be sure to discuss any necessary insurance or volunteer requirements that may increase budget costs. School Sites If your project/program is intended to operate at a public K-12 school site, your application is due by March 6 at Noon (12:00 p.m.). City staff will work with the school districts to confirm an endorsement for your project/program. It's the applicant's responsibility to communicate with school site and district representatives before applying so there is clarity during the endorsement process. Districts will only consider endorsement for applications submitted to the Community Enhancement & Investment Fund by the March 6 at Noon (12:00 p.m.). deadline. Each participating school superintendent reserves the right to withhold their endorsement of a project/program. Parks If your project/program is intended to operate at a park or community center site, your application is due by the March 6 at Noon (12:00 p.m.). deadline. City staff will work with the Cordova Recreation & Park District to confirm an endorsement for your project/program. It's the applicant's responsibility to communicate with district representatives before applying so there is clarity during the endorsement process. A special use permit application is required for any program or event planned at a CRPD facility. The special use application can be found at the CRPD website: https://www.cordovarpd.gov/. CRPD will only consider endorsement for applications submitted to the Community Enhancement & Investment Fund by the March 6 at Noon (12:00 p.m.). deadline. The Cordova Recreation & Park District reserves the right to withhold their endorsement of a project/program. Below is the list of staff to communicate with at school and park organizations: Folsom Cordova Unified School District: mwest@fcusd.org Cordova Recreation & Park District: cmichelotti@cordovarpd.gov Elk Grove Unified School District: mgulden@egusd.net Sacramento City Unified School District: Tuan-Duong@scusd.edu for Winn and Carver and Enrique-Flores@scusd.edu for Lincoln.
Primary street address of project/program	10439 Coloma Road, Rancho Cordova CA 95670
List the city location of the project/program.	Rancho Cordova
Select State	CA
Provide the zip code for your project/program's primary location.	95670

If your project/program takes place at multiple locations, please list other or secondary locations.	N/A
Third Party Letters of Support (Note: Combine multiple files in one pdf before uploading)	
Does your project/program involve one of Rancho Cordova's school districts?	Yes
Is the project/program requesting facility use only or is this a request to partner with the school district?	Partner with school on project/program
Please select all the school districts which your project/program intends to involve:	Folsom Cordova USD
Please select one or more of the Folsom Cordova Unified School District school facilities which your project/program will involve:	Mitchell Middle School
Have you reached out to a contact at the school(s) you indicated above?	Yes
Please provide the names of your contacts at the school(s) or district(s) who are familiar with your project/program.	Stephanie Cecil-Spaulding

Does your project/program involve the Cordova Recreation & Park District?	No
	5 - Applicant Information
Name	Mina West
Is this project/program on behalf of an organization?	Yes
What is the name of your organization?	Folsom Cordova Unified School District
What is your title and/or role at your organization?	Administrative Assistant - Communications and Community Engagement
Provide contact phone number:	+[redacted]
Provide contact email:	mwest@fcusd.org
Are you the primary point of contact on this project/program?	Yes
If your project/program was awarded the requested funds, are you authorized to sign the contract for your organization?	No, someone else would sign the contract
If selected by the City Council to receive an award, what is the name of the person at your organization who would sign the contract?	Sean Martin
What is the title of this individual?	Assistant Superintendent Business Services

What is the best phone number where we could contact the signatory?	+[redacted]
What is the best email address to contact the signatory?	LVenzon@fcusd.org
By checking here, I confirm that I am aware that my application materials will become public record.	checked
	Thank you for applying to the Community Enhancement & Investment Fund Fiscal Year 2026-2027 Grant Cycle. Applicants will receive an automated response through the grant portal. Community Enhancement & Investment Fund (CEIF) Staff will follow up with any questions regarding your Fiscal Year 2026-2027 application. For information about the next steps in the CEIF grant process, visit our website for more information. It is anticipated that applications will be reviewed by the City Council starting in April 2026 with adoption in June 2026. Should applicants be awarded by the City Council, funding would not be available to grantees until the start of Fiscal Year 2026-2027 and the completion of a contract. Please send an email to CEIFGrants@cityofranchocordova.org with any questions or comments.

Internal Form

Score	n/a

2026/2027 GRANT APPLICATION
COMMUNITY ENHANCEMENT & INVESTMENT FUND
To be Completed and returned to Mina West at
mwest@fcusd.org
Must be received by February 23, 2026

Project Name Assign a project name to your project/program.
FCUSD Mitchell Positive Behavior Intervention Supports (PBIS) Incentives - Year 2

Project Synopsis In 50 words or less, please describe the project.
As a site we work collaboratively to ensure a positive climate for our students, built with routines, systems, and incentives. Our goal is to continue to increase the number of incentives and opportunities for students to be celebrated.

Project Description Describe the project in detail and how it benefits the community based on the City's Community Enhancement & Investment Fund guidelines and selection criteria. If you need more room to answer the question, please attach a separate document to your application.

Increase tangible rewards:

School-brand merchandise: (t-shirts, stickers, water bottles, etc.) - school-branded items promote school pride and sense of belonging, making students feel more connected to their community. When students earn and then wear these items, it reinforces positive behavior by associating it with visible reward, and also sends a positive message to other students.

Student 5 Star Mitchell Store (a variety of appealing items: pencils, fidgets, keychains, snacks etc.) -Tangible and motivating reinforcement system for Mitchell behavior expectations (3Bs), students earn tickets for displaying positive behaviors that align with Mitchell 3Bs and then exchange them for items. Promotes goal setting, delayed gratification, teaches cause and effect, reinforces the idea that positive choice leads to positive outcome.

CICO (Check-in and Check-out) rewards- targeted PBIS intervention designed to provide daily positive reinforcement for students who need extra support in meeting their behavioral or academic goals.

Behavior Academies incentives -tiered, group interventions that help students develop skills in the area of Social Emotional Learning. Incentives offered during these structured groups help with engagement, motivation to attend, and reinforcement of learned skills.

SEL survey incentives- These surveys provide critical data on student well being, school climate, and shape interventions, and supports needed on campus. Unfortunately, many students either avoid completing them or don't take them seriously leading to inaccurate or incomplete data. Offering incentives can significantly improve participation and quality of responses.

Monthly Mental Health Awareness tables incentives- providing dedicated space for students to learn about mental health, normalize mental health conversations, raise awareness of mental health struggles among youth, provide resources and teach positive coping strategies.

Experiential Rewards and Events:

Assemblies and Guest Speakers- This program reinforces positive behavior through role models, motivational speakers, and SEL learning strategies practiced in a large group setting. Additionally this program fosters a sense of community and belonging.

Annual field trips per grade level-Once per year field trips for 6th, 7th, and 8th graders. Examples: roller rink, sunsplash, movie theatre etc. This incentive program encourages students to remain engaged, responsible, and goal oriented while reinforcing positive choices.

Engagement Materials:

School wide posters-consistent visual reinforcement of PBIS expectations, which helps maintain a school-wide culture of positivity and reinforces expectations in a non punitive way.

Project Team Individuals or organizations responsible for the development and delivery of the project.

- Mitchell Administrative Team
- Mitchell Attendance Team
- Mitchell Climate Team

Project Goals List goals, and outline metrics by which progress in reaching goals can be measured and the project team's efforts can be focused.

- Recognize and reward positive behaviors through the 5 Star Mitchell Store, a student store where students can redeem their PBIS tickets for a reward item.
- Recognize attendance growth - Short term rewards after SART meetings and Long term rewards. LED Lights, water bottles, snacks, meal vouchers.
- Proactive Incentives for attendance: Small and large class size attendance competitions (Donut/Bagel Party).
- Check in Check Out program: Small group of students and staff members that are working to build connectedness one on one. Incentives for completing check ins.
- Climate and culture - Marauder breakfast for marauders of the semester. Hygiene and personal items (Tooth paste, deodorant, shampoo, brushes, gel, laundry detergent, etc.) to supplement the kindness closet.
- Class t-shirts to create connectedness at pep rallies. More planned activities such as staff versus students volleyball game, egg spoon race, mini games to encourage school morale.

Funding Request Funds are generally not intended to be used for deferred maintenance and ongoing operational needs. The funds are intended for Community Enhancement & Investment.

Total project cost: $20,000 for 2026-2027

Estimated breakdown of project expenditures:

- $15,000 Student rewards and incentives including but not limited to prizes, and store-bought or branded materials such as water bottles, tshirts, stickers, etc.
- $5,000 Experiential learning opportunities and field trips

- Total = $20,000

Matching funds (including any in-kind contributions): None

Include any other funding contributions including your own: None

Ongoing (beyond FY 2025/2026) operations and maintenance costs if applicable: N/A

Total Community Enhancement & Investment Funds requested: $20,000

Is this a multiyear request? Yes ☐ No If yes, number of years:

If you answered yes above, describe your sustainability plan and whether the project is viable as a single year request.

How many years have you received funding for this project? 1 year

When will your request for funding sunset for ongoing programs?

Do you plan to ask annually for funding? Yes

What other funding will you seek to support your project? PTSO, SCOE CARE Funds, and Supplemental Site Funds

Project Schedule Project timeline and anticipated start and completion date. (If this is a multiyear request, please indicate that in both the funding request and the project schedule.) Funding does not become available until July 1. Funding typically ends June 30 of the following year.

Projected to start on July 1, 2026 and on-going throughout the academic school year.

Timeliness In addition to providing the project timeline identified above, describe how you will be able to complete your project by June 30, 2026. Please note, if selected for funding, you will be required to submit a narrative Outcomes Report and a financial Use of Funds Report at least two times during the grant period.

We currently have some incentives in place, the goal is to increase the number of incentives, monitor, and collect data.

Project Location Please note that projects or programs that are proposed on property owned or operated by outside agencies or a private party will require the coordination with and potentially approvals from outside agencies, organizations, and/or the private party.

W.E. Mitchell Middle School
2100 Zinfandel Dr, Rancho Cordova, CA 95670

Physical Address:

Have you received a letter of support for the project from the property owner? Yes ☐ No N/A x If yes, submit the letter of support with your application.

If your project/program is intended to operate or take place at a public K-12 school site or a park/park facility, instead of a support letter you must request the endorsement of the entity using the appropriate Supplemental Endorsement Form.

School District (if applicable, check all that apply): EGUSD ☐ FCUSD SCUSD ☐ Other ☐

By the application deadline, the City of Rancho Cordova must also receive the Supplemental Endorsement Form that's been signed and dated by the corresponding school superintendent for the application to be considered a complete submittal. It's the applicant's responsibility to ask for the endorsement in the time allotted. You will be asked to share if you have contacted school staff and to provide the name(s) of your contact(s). Each participating school superintendent reserves the right to withhold their endorsement of a project/program. Refer to the Fiscal Year 2025/2026 Supplemental Endorsement Form for more information and important deadlines.

Cordova Recreation & Park District

If your project/program is intended to operate or take place at a park/park facility, instead of a support letter, you must request the endorsement of the Cordova Recreation & Park District (CRPD) using the Supplemental Endorsement Form. It's the applicant's responsibility to ask for the endorsement in the time allotted. The CRPD representative reserves the right to withhold their endorsement of a project/program. Refer to the Fiscal Year 2025/2026 Supplemental Endorsement Form for more information and important deadlines.

Application Submitted by

Name: Sandra Garcia

Title: Principal

[redacted]

Email: sgarcia@fcusd.org

Organization's Legal Name (if applicable): W.E. Mitchell Middle School

Mailing Address: W.E. Mitchell Middle School, 2100 Zinfandel Dr, Rancho Cordova, CA 9567

Signatory If the applicant's project or program is selected for funding, list who will be the signatory of the funding agreement.

Signatory's Name:

Title: Superintendent

P[redacted]

Email:

Mailing Address: 1965 Birkmont Drive, Rancho Cordova, CA 95742

Public Record Unless otherwise exempt under applicable law, applications and application materials are public records. All information received from an applicant, whether received in connection with a grant application or in connection with any grant-funded activities performed are subject to disclosure pursuant to the California Public Records Act, unless otherwise exempt.

Title

Outdoor STEAM Discovery Initiative for Rancho Cordova Elementary Schools (TK–5)

03/05/2026

id. 53403132

by **Mina West** in **Fiscal Year 2026-2027 Community Enhancement & Investment Fund Grant Application**

1965 Birkmont Drive
Rancho Cordova, California
95742
CA
United States
[redacted]
mwest@fcusd.org

Original Submission

03/05/2026

Score n/a

	Thank you for your interest in applying to the City of Rancho Cordova's Community Enhancement & Investment Fund. Applications are open from February 9, 2026, to March 13, 2026, Noon (12:00 p.m.) with a specific deadline of March 6th Noon (12:00 p.m.) for certain applications**. Before you begin, please read the notes about deadlines and certain types of grant applications/grants below. **School/Park Application Deadline **Note that projects or programs involving a park or school district have a deadline of March 6 Noon (12:00 p.m.) to allow for the third-party endorsement process by the grant deadline.** A Note about Religious Schools and the Application/Grant Process **Note for grant applications from religious schools. The United States Supreme Court has recently ruled in part that: “denying a generally available benefit [from government] solely on account of religious identity imposes a penalty on the free exercise of religion that can be justified only by a state interest of the highest order.” The City is of the opinion that not all grants to religious schools are prohibited under this and other similar rulings. However, these United States Supreme Court decisions remain in conflict with a section of the California State Constitution that says: “[n]either the Legislature, nor any county, city and county, township, school district, or other municipal corporation, shall ever make an appropriation, or pay from any public fund whatever, or grant anything to or in aid of any religious sect, church, creed, or sectarian purpose, or help to support or sustain any school, college, university, hospital, or other institution controlled by any religious creed, church, or sectarian denomination whatever; nor shall any grant or donation of personal property or real estate ever be made by the state, or any city, city and county, town, or other municipal corporation for any religious creed, church, or sectarian purpose whatever”. The City will accept applications for grants of these City public funds from religious schools, but will have language in the grant agreements to address the possibility and consequences of legal challenges and new court decisions on this and related topics. ** Future Grant Opportunities If you are interested in remaining up-to-date on available grants from the City of Rancho Cordova, click here to sign up for the Grants Interest List. A separate call for programming opportunities with the Rancho Cordova Youth Center is anticipated later in 2026. The list is also used to advertise separate art programs when funds are available. Ongoing Grant Opportunity The City of Rancho Cordova offers a microgrant opportunity. Learn more about those grants online.
Is this your first time applying for grant funding from the City of Rancho Cordova? As a first-time applicant, Community Enhancement & Investment Fund (CEIF) staff will contact you to discuss your project and grant application process.	No: Not a First Time Applicant

	1 - Project/Program Information Note: You can add a collaborator to this form to assist you in completing this application! A collaborator can help you complete this form by filling in fields for you, although only you can submit this form. You can add a collaborator by navigating to the top of the form and clicking on the 'Manage Collaborators' button. Simply enter their email address and click 'invite' to invite them as a collaborator. If you need further assistance, you may consult this Help article for more information.
Project/Program Name. Assign a project name to your project/program.	Outdoor STEAM Discovery Initiative for Rancho Cordova Elementary Schools (TK–5)
Which category does your Project/Program align with?	Youth Programs & Services
Provide a Project/Program Synopsis	The Outdoor STEAM Discovery Initiative provides hands-on, standards-aligned field trips and in-school STEAM programs for TK–5 students in Rancho Cordova. The program expands equitable access to high-quality science, technology, engineering, arts, and math experiences that increase student engagement, academic achievement, and long-term interest in STEAM careers.

Provide a Project/Program Description

Through the generosity of the City of Rancho Cordova's Community Enhancement & Investment Fund (CEIF), past funding has allowed hundreds of students to participate in STEAM field trips and programs over the past 6 years. These investments have directly expanded access to high-quality, experiential learning opportunities for elementary students across Rancho Cordova.

The Outdoor STEAM Discovery Initiative continues this successful partnership by expanding equitable access to hands-on STEAM learning experiences for TK–5 students attending Folsom Cordova Unified School District (FCUSD) elementary schools in Rancho Cordova.

Through partnerships with local science museums, environmental education centers, zoos, agricultural programs, conservation organizations, and performing arts groups, students participate in experiential field trips and in-school STEAM programs aligned to California's Next Generation Science Standards (NGSS) and Environmental Principles & Concepts.

Research consistently demonstrates the value of educational field trips. According to the National Education Association, students who participate in educational trips report:

- Improved grades (59%)
- Higher high school graduation rates (95%)
- Increased college graduation rates (63%)
- 12% higher annual income
- 89% reporting lasting positive impacts on engagement and career interests

This initiative directly aligns with the City's Community Enhancement & Investment Fund priorities by:

- Improving the quality and accessibility of STEAM education
- Increasing equitable access for Title I and underserved students
- Connecting youth to community-based educational institutions
- Supporting long-term workforce development in high-demand STEAM industries
- Strengthening partnerships between schools and local organizations

Funds will primarily support transportation costs, program admission fees, and on-site instructional programming. By removing financial barriers, FCUSD ensures that all students — regardless of socioeconomic status — can participate.

The initiative enhances community investment by:

- Building environmental literacy
- Encouraging civic and environmental stewardship
- Fostering creativity and innovation
- Promoting local economic development through STEAM workforce pathways

Tell us about your Project/Program Team	**Lead Organization:** Folsom Cordova Unified School District (FCUSD) **School Representatives:** John Bliss – CGE Amber Fontaine – CME Amber Carter – CVE James Tucker – NVE Ted Bosque – PJS Anna Chitwood – RCE Lari Powell – RSA Tanya LaBass – WRE Leslee Cottrell – WME The project team will coordinate scheduling, transportation, vendor partnerships, academic alignment, student participation, and data collection.

Provide your Project/Program Goals	**Goal 1: Increase Access to STEAM Experiences** **Metrics:** • Number of field trips completed • Number of students served • Percentage of Title I/underserved students participating **Goal 2: Improve Student Engagement in STEAM** **Metrics:** • Pre- and post-event student engagement surveys • Teacher feedback surveys • Student reflection responses **Goal 3: Support Academic Growth in Science and Math** **Metrics:** • Pre- and post-assessment comparisons • Science benchmark data • NGSS-aligned performance task results **Goal 4: Strengthen Community Connections** **Metrics:** • Number of local partner organizations engaged • Repeat partnerships developed • Family participation in extended STEAM events
Optional File Upload: Provide any additional records to supplement your program/project application. Note: Combine multiple files in one pdf before uploading.	
	2 - Funding & Costs
Funding Request - Complete this section with total dollar amounts for your project/program's costs	Funds are generally not intended to be used for deferred maintenance and ongoing operational needs. The funds are intended for enhancing and investing in the City of Rancho Cordova. If your project/program is awarded, the costs identified below would be reviewed and potentially open to modification during a contracting phase (if a grant is awarded by the City Council). If awarded, grant funds are not available until a contract is executed during Fiscal Year 2026-2027.

Total project/program cost*	75000
What is the amount of Community Enhancement & Investment Fund grant monies requested?	50000
Does your project/program involve construction of any facilities or improvements upon any property?	No
What is the total cost of personnel for your project/program?	0
What is the total cost of supplies for your project/program?	0
What is the total cost of transportation for your project/program?	30000
What is the total cost of equipment for your project/program?	0
What is the total cost of any miscellaneous expenses for your project/program?	45000

Upload your project/program's budget as a .pdf file. Include the categories and their dollar amounts along with information about any other funding sources to demonstrate your project/program's total budget. Note, the sum of all categories must match the total project or program cost, or the amount requested of CEIF if there is no other funding source. Please clearly illustrate any matching funds or funding from other sources in your project/program budget, including in-kind sources. Note: Combine multiple files in one pdf before uploading.

2nd_-_2026_Measure_H_-_Field_Trip_Funding_request.docx_1.pdf

Has your organization sought or will seek other funding for this project/program?	Yes, actively seeking funding support or have secured additional funding support for this project/program.

Describe any funding secured or being sought for this project/program.	Matching Funds (Including In-Kind Contributions): Site discretionary funds (estimated): $10,000 Staff coordination time Volunteer chaperone support Additional Funding Contributions: Title I subsidies where applicable PTA/PTO contributions Ongoing Operations & Maintenance Costs (Beyond FY 2025–2026): Minimal. Programs are event-based and do not create permanent maintenance costs. Future funding would support continued expansion.
Please describe any ongoing operations and maintenance costs beyond Fiscal Year 2026/2027, if applicable.	N/A
Do you have volunteer or in-kind support for your project? This could include volunteers for an activity/event that is ongoing or a one-time experience.	No
Is this a single year request or a request for funding for multiple years?	Single Year
Has your project/program received funding from the Community Enhancement & Investment Fund previously?	Yes
How many years has your project/program received funding from the Community Enhancement & Investment Fund?	5 or more years

How much funding has your organization received from the Community Enhancement & Investment Fund through our traditional grants (not including microgrants)?	190,000
	3 - Project/Program Details Grant applications are typically approved to occur between July 2026 through June 2027. What is your plan to complete this project/program within this time frame?
Anticipated Start Date (July 1 is the soonest available start date)	7/1/2026
Anticipated End Date (typically projects/programs end by June 30)	6/30/2027
Please describe your project/program schedule	• **Planning & Scheduling: July–August 2026** • **Program Implementation: August 6, 2026 – May 28, 2027** • **Data Collection Completed: By May 28, 2027** • **Final Reports Submitted: By June 30, 2027** **All activities will occur within the grant period (July 1, 2026 – June 30, 2027).**
What challenges do you anticipate in your project/program's implementation? What is your plan to complete your project/program should those or other challenges arise?	N/A
How many individuals does your project/program serve?	All students who attend the 9 Rancho Cordova Elementary (TK-5) Schools within FCUSD
How many Rancho Cordova residents does your project/program serve?	Approximately 3500 Students of our Rancho Cordova Elementary Schools

4 - Project/Program Location

Address Verification	If you need to check if your project is in Rancho Cordova, type in your program/project's location in the Assessor Parcel Viewer: https://assessorparcelviewer.saccounty.gov/jsviewer/assessor.html
School and park related applications are due before Noon (12:00 p.m.) on March 6, 2026, to allow for the endorsement process.	Please note that projects or programs that are proposed on property owned or operated by outside agencies or a private party will require coordination with and potentially approvals from outside agencies, organizations, and/or the private party. Include whether you have received a letter of support for the project/program from the property owner. Upload any letters of support with your application. City staff will verify third-party permits have been discussed. In your planning discussions, be sure to discuss any necessary insurance or volunteer requirements that may increase budget costs. School Sites If your project/program is intended to operate at a public K-12 school site, your application is due by March 6 at Noon (12:00 p.m.). City staff will work with the school districts to confirm an endorsement for your project/program. It's the applicant's responsibility to communicate with school site and district representatives before applying so there is clarity during the endorsement process. Districts will only consider endorsement for applications submitted to the Community Enhancement & Investment Fund by the March 6 at Noon (12:00 p.m.). deadline. Each participating school superintendent reserves the right to withhold their endorsement of a project/program. Parks If your project/program is intended to operate at a park or community center site, your application is due by the March 6 at Noon (12:00 p.m.). deadline. City staff will work with the Cordova Recreation & Park District to confirm an endorsement for your project/program. It's the applicant's responsibility to communicate with district representatives before applying so there is clarity during the endorsement process. A special use permit application is required for any program or event planned at a CRPD facility. The special use application can be found at the CRPD website: https://www.cordovarpd.gov/. CRPD will only consider endorsement for applications submitted to the Community Enhancement & Investment Fund by the March 6 at Noon (12:00 p.m.). deadline. The Cordova Recreation & Park District reserves the right to withhold their endorsement of a project/program. Below is the list of staff to communicate with at school and park organizations: Folsom Cordova Unified School District: mwest@fcusd.org Cordova Recreation & Park District: cmichelotti@cordovarpd.gov Elk Grove Unified School District: mgulden@egusd.net Sacramento City Unified School District: Tuan-Duong@scusd.edu for Winn and Carver and Enrique-Flores@scusd.edu for Lincoln.
Primary street address of project/program	1965 Birkmont Drive
List the city location of the project/program.	Rancho Cordova
Select State	CA

Provide the zip code for your project/program's primary location.	95742
If your project/program takes place at multiple locations, please list other or secondary locations.	Cordova Gardens Elementary Cordova Meadows Elementary Cordova Villa Elementary Navigator Elementary Peter J. Shields Elementary Rancho Cordova Elementary Riverview STEM Academy White Rock Elementary Williamson Elementary
Third Party Letters of Support (Note: Combine multiple files in one pdf before uploading)	
Does your project/program involve one of Rancho Cordova's school districts?	Yes
Is the project/program requesting facility use only or is this a request to partner with the school district?	Partner with school on project/program
Please select all the school districts which your project/program intends to involve:	Folsom Cordova USD

Please select one or more of the Folsom Cordova Unified School District school facilities which your project/program will involve:	Cordova Gardens Elementary School Cordova Meadows Elementary School Cordova Villa Elementary School Navigator Elementary School Peter J. Shields Elementary School Rancho Cordova Elementary School Riverview STEM Academy White Rock Elementary School Williamson Elementary School
Have you reached out to a contact at the school(s) you indicated above?	Yes
Please provide the names of your contacts at the school(s) or district(s) who are familiar with your project/program.	Lari Powell - Riverview STEM Principal
Does your project/program involve the Cordova Recreation & Park District?	No
	5 - Applicant Information
Name	Mina West
Is this project/program on behalf of an organization?	Yes
What is the name of your organization?	Folsom Cordova Unified School District
What is your title and/or role at your organization?	Amin Asst. - Communications and Community Engagement
Provide contact phone number:	+[redacted]
Provide contact email:	mwest@fcusd.org

Are you the primary point of contact on this project/program?	Yes
If your project/program was awarded the requested funds, are you authorized to sign the contract for your organization?	No, someone else would sign the contract
If selected by the City Council to receive an award, what is the name of the person at your organization who would sign the contract?	Sean Martin
What is the title of this individual?	Assistant Superintendent Business Services
What is the best phone number where we could contact the signatory?	+ [redacted]
What is the best email address to contact the signatory?	LVenzon@fcusd.org
By checking here, I confirm that I am aware that my application materials will become public record.	checked
	Thank you for applying to the Community Enhancement & Investment Fund Fiscal Year 2026-2027 Grant Cycle. Applicants will receive an automated response through the grant portal. Community Enhancement & Investment Fund (CEIF) Staff will follow up with any questions regarding your Fiscal Year 2026-2027 application. For information about the next steps in the CEIF grant process, visit our website for more information. It is anticipated that applications will be reviewed by the City Council starting in April 2026 with adoption in June 2026. Should applicants be awarded by the City Council, funding would not be available to grantees until the start of Fiscal Year 2026-2027 and the completion of a contract. Please send an email to CEIFGrants@cityofranchocordova.org with any questions or comments.

Internal Form

Score	n/a

Outdoor STEAM Discovery Initiative for Rancho Cordova Elementary Schools (TK–5)

Project Synopsis (50 words or less)

The Outdoor STEAM Discovery Initiative provides hands-on, standards-aligned field trips and in-school STEAM programs for TK–5 students in Rancho Cordova. The program expands equitable access to high-quality science, technology, engineering, arts, and math experiences that increase student engagement, academic achievement, and long-term interest in STEAM careers.

Project Description

Through the generosity of the City of Rancho Cordova's Community Enhancement & Investment Fund (CEIF), past funding has allowed hundreds of students to participate in STEAM field trips and programs over the past 6 years. These investments have directly expanded access to high-quality, experiential learning opportunities for elementary students across Rancho Cordova.

The Outdoor STEAM Discovery Initiative continues this successful partnership by expanding equitable access to hands-on STEAM learning experiences for TK–5 students attending Folsom Cordova Unified School District (FCUSD) elementary schools in Rancho Cordova.

Through partnerships with local science museums, environmental education centers, zoos, agricultural programs, conservation organizations, and performing arts groups, students participate in experiential field trips and in-school STEAM programs aligned to California's Next Generation Science Standards (NGSS) and Environmental Principles & Concepts.

Research consistently demonstrates the value of educational field trips. According to the National Education Association, students who participate in educational trips report:

- Improved grades (59%)
- Higher high school graduation rates (95%)
- Increased college graduation rates (63%)
- 12% higher annual income

- 89% reporting lasting positive impacts on engagement and career interests

This initiative directly aligns with the City's Community Enhancement & Investment Fund priorities by:

- Improving the quality and accessibility of STEAM education
- Increasing equitable access for Title I and underserved students
- Connecting youth to community-based educational institutions
- Supporting long-term workforce development in high-demand STEAM industries
- Strengthening partnerships between schools and local organizations

Funds will primarily support transportation costs, program admission fees, and on-site instructional programming. By removing financial barriers, FCUSD ensures that all students — regardless of socioeconomic status — can participate.

The initiative enhances community investment by:

- Building environmental literacy
- Encouraging civic and environmental stewardship
- Fostering creativity and innovation
- Promoting local economic development through STEAM workforce pathways

Project Team

Lead Organization:
Folsom Cordova Unified School District (FCUSD)

School Representatives:
John Bliss – CGE
Amber Fontaine – CME
Amber Carter – CVE
James Tucker – NVE
Ted Bosque – PJS
Anna Chitwood – RCE
Lari Powell – RSA

Tanya LaBass – WRE
Leslee Cottrell – WME

The project team will coordinate scheduling, transportation, vendor partnerships, academic alignment, student participation, and data collection.

Project Goals & Metrics

Goal 1: Increase Access to STEAM Experiences

Metrics:

- Number of field trips completed
- Number of students served
- Percentage of Title I/underserved students participating

Goal 2: Improve Student Engagement in STEAM

Metrics:

- Pre- and post-event student engagement surveys
- Teacher feedback surveys
- Student reflection responses

Goal 3: Support Academic Growth in Science and Math

Metrics:

- Pre- and post-assessment comparisons
- Science benchmark data
- NGSS-aligned performance task results

Goal 4: Strengthen Community Connections

Metrics:

- Number of local partner organizations engaged
- Repeat partnerships developed
- Family participation in extended STEAM events

Funding Request

Total Project Cost:
$75,000 (estimated)

Estimated Breakdown of Expenditures:

- Field Trip Admission & Program Fees: $40,000
- Transportation (bus costs average $225–$260 per bus): $30,000
- In-School STEAM Programs/Presentations: $5,000

Matching Funds (Including In-Kind Contributions):

- Site discretionary funds (estimated): $10,000
- Staff coordination time
- Volunteer chaperone support

Additional Funding Contributions:

- Title I subsidies where applicable
- PTA/PTO contributions

Ongoing Operations & Maintenance Costs (Beyond FY 2025–2026):
Minimal. Programs are event-based and do not create permanent maintenance costs. Future funding would support continued expansion.

Total Community Enhancement & Investment Funds Requested:
$50,000

Is this a multiyear request?
☐ **Yes**
☑ **No**

How many years have you received funding for this project?
6 years

When will your request for funding sunset for ongoing programs?
June 30, 2027 (completion of 2026–2027 school year programming)

Do you plan to ask annually for funding?
Future funding requests may be submitted based on demonstrated outcomes and program effectiveness.

What other funding will you seek?

- School site discretionary funds
- PTA/PTO fundraising
- Title I funds
- Educational foundation grants
- Corporate/community sponsorships

Project Schedule

- **Planning & Scheduling: July–August 2026**
- **Program Implementation: August 6, 2026 – May 28, 2027**
- **Data Collection Completed: By May 28, 2027**
- **Final Reports Submitted: By June 30, 2027**

All activities will occur within the grant period (July 1, 2026 – June 30, 2027).

Timeliness

All field trips and programs will be scheduled prior to the start of the school year. Transportation contracts and vendor bookings will be confirmed by August 2026. Data collection will occur immediately following each event to ensure completion well before the June 30, 2027 deadline.

The project team has extensive experience coordinating large-scale field trip logistics and will submit required Outcomes Reports and Use of Funds Reports twice during the grant period.

Project Location

Field trip locations are throughout Sacramento County, with many located in Rancho Cordova, including:

- Soil Born Farms
- Sacramento Children's Museum
- Nimbus Fish Hatchery
- Mather/SCOE Outdoor Education
- Splash at Mather

Primary participating district:
☑ **FCUSD**

Title

Rancho Cordova Pathways to Invention and Innovation (P2I 2) Initiative

03/06/2026

id. 53409100

by **Mina West** in **Fiscal Year 2026-2027 Community Enhancement & Investment Fund Grant Application**

1965 Birkmont Drive
Rancho Cordova, California
95742
CA
United States
[redacted]
mwest@fcusd.org

Original Submission

03/06/2026

Score	n/a
	Thank you for your interest in applying to the City of Rancho Cordova's Community Enhancement & Investment Fund. Applications are open from February 9, 2026, to March 13, 2026, Noon (12:00 p.m.) with a specific deadline of March 6th Noon (12:00 p.m.) for certain applications**. Before you begin, please read the notes about deadlines and certain types of grant applications/grants below. **School/Park Application Deadline **Note that projects or programs involving a park or school district have a deadline of March 6 Noon (12:00 p.m.) to allow for the third-party endorsement process by the grant deadline.** A Note about Religious Schools and the Application/Grant Process **Note for grant applications from religious schools. The United States Supreme Court has recently ruled in part that: “denying a generally available benefit [from government] solely on account of religious identity imposes a penalty on the free exercise of religion that can be justified only by a state interest of the highest order.” The City is of the opinion that not all grants to religious schools are prohibited under this and other similar rulings. However, these United States Supreme Court decisions remain in conflict with a section of the California State Constitution that says: “[n]either the Legislature, nor any county, city and county, township, school district, or other municipal corporation, shall ever make an appropriation, or pay from any public fund whatever, or grant anything to or in aid of any religious sect, church, creed, or sectarian purpose, or help to support or sustain any school, college, university, hospital, or other institution controlled by any religious creed, church, or sectarian denomination whatever; nor shall any grant or donation of personal property or real estate ever be made by the state, or any city, city and county, town, or other municipal corporation for any religious creed, church, or sectarian purpose whatever”. The City will accept applications for grants of these City public funds from religious schools, but will have language in the grant agreements to address the possibility and consequences of legal challenges and new court decisions on this and related topics. ** Future Grant Opportunities If you are interested in remaining up-to-date on available grants from the City of Rancho Cordova, click here to sign up for the Grants Interest List. A separate call for programming opportunities with the Rancho Cordova Youth Center is anticipated later in 2026. The list is also used to advertise separate art programs when funds are available. Ongoing Grant Opportunity The City of Rancho Cordova offers a microgrant opportunity. Learn more about those grants online.
Is this your first time applying for grant funding from the City of Rancho Cordova? As a first-time applicant, Community Enhancement & Investment Fund (CEIF) staff will contact you to discuss your project and grant application process.	No: Not a First Time Applicant

	1 - Project/Program Information Note: You can add a collaborator to this form to assist you in completing this application! A collaborator can help you complete this form by filling in fields for you, although only you can submit this form. You can add a collaborator by navigating to the top of the form and clicking on the 'Manage Collaborators' button. Simply enter their email address and click 'invite' to invite them as a collaborator. If you need further assistance, you may consult this Help article for more information.
Project/Program Name. Assign a project name to your project/program.	Rancho Cordova Pathways to Invention and Innovation (P2I 2) Initiative
Which category does your Project/Program align with?	Youth Programs & Services
Provide a Project/Program Synopsis	This Initiative will engage students in Cordova Gardens Elementary, Mitchell Middle School, and Cordova High, in invention projects conducted during the regular school day. Students will identify a challenge faced by people in the community and will work in small teams to create a solution that can help others.

Provide a Project/Program Description	The Pathways to Invention and Innovation (P2I2) Initiative will enhance the quality of education in three schools in Rancho Cordova (Cordova Gardens Elementary, Mitchell Middle School, and Cordova High) by providing instructional materials and tools students need to complete open-ended inquiry and project-based invention lessons and coverage of transportation costs needed to showcase the work at the California Invention Convention in Spring 2027. The work of educators and students constitutes a new form of civic engagement. Specifically, students at each grade span will actively engage in conversations with those who live and work in the community as the students identify and develop technological solutions to local challenges. All will learn together as students share what they learned, and the invention prototypes developed at an end of year celebration. Benefits accruing to students from this approach to teaching and learning include: 1. enhanced abilities to synthesize and apply knowledge from different disciplines to real world problems, 2. development of technical skills, and 3) development of durable human skills needed for success in work and in life. Leverage: The initiative builds on Cordova High's InvenTeams experiences in which students and educators collaborated with a representative from the City of Rancho Cordova PublicWorks Department during the 2025-2026 school year as they developed a prototype of a technological solution to address flooding caused by clogged storm drains. The Lemelson-MIT (LMIT) Program which sponsored the InvenTeam grant is considering further investment in the region in the form of free instructional resources and staff development for educators across grades K-14 who want to embed invention education into the regular school day. LMIT's support will include year-round coaching and mentorship during each of the next three years (2026-2029). Support from the CEIF to cover the cost of tools, materials and the CA Invention Convention for students in participating teachers' classrooms will make it possible for schools in Rancho Cordova to take full advantage of LMIT's offerings. Return on Investment: As noted above, the community will benefit from the social bonds created through engagement with students whom they would not otherwise come to know and the students' efforts to understand and address challenges residents face. The community will also benefit from students' improved abilities to: 1. synthesize and apply knowledge from different disciplines to real world problems, 2. use technologies (such as AI) and tools to design and build, and 3. engage in the world in ways that reflect the durable human skills needed for success in work and life. The business community often cites the need for schools to do more to produce graduates with durable human skills, including teamwork, collaboration, and problem-solving capabilities. Educators engaged in this effort will work with members of the business community to create rubrics for assessing and documenting evidence of students' development of the technical and human skills needed by their future employees. This will help student with post-graduation employment while ensuring that employers can identify those qualified for open positions. Capacity: Cordova High's ability to secure an InvenTeam grant from LMIT (one of 8 awards made across the nation) and its successful completion of an invention prototype is evidence of the school's capacity to take up invention education. Principals and teachers from each of the three schools in this initiative have pledged their full support for the effort.
Tell us about your Project/Program Team	Sarah Hodges, Alyssa Tarr & Lindsey Nelson, Cordova Gardens Elementary (Pilot in 2nd Grade) Britt Stark & Jon Tritt, Mitchell Middle School (pilot in Science/Design Classes) Faith Caplan, CTE Engineering and Product Development Teacher, Cordova High Educators are being supported as they engage in the invention education initiative by their school and district administrators. These include: • John Bliss, Principal, Cordova Gardens Elementary • Sandra Garcia, Principal, Mitchell Middle School • Amy Strawn, Principal, Cordova High School • Shanan Spears, CTE Director, Folsom-Cordova USD

Provide your Project/Program Goals	Goal 1: Make invention education a permanent part of the learning opportunities afforded to students in our school. Metrics: Teacher participation in professional development and follow-on meetings. Number of IvE lessons in each class, time spent, number of students reached. Goal 2: Establish pathways to invention and innovation in which learners have access to invention education opportunities starting in their early years and continuing through college. Work with educators, site leaders, and the surrounding community includes a focus on creating IvE opportunities across multiple grade spans so that learners have ongoing support across time. Metrics: Tracking of number of lessons, description of the lessons, and time spent for each student in each year of the program. Goal 3: Generate new knowledge about the lasting impact of IvE for students who have repeated engagements over time. The evidence base and new knowledge that emerges from the study of the student outcomes generated by our work are key to continuously informing and achieving Goals 1 and 2. Metrics: Data from reflections of educators on their experiences and the experiences of their students. All of the above, pre- and post- experience surveys each semester from students, and artifacts from a sample of students selected for tracing the over time learning experiences.
Optional File Upload: Provide any additional records to supplement your program/project application. Note: Combine multiple files in one pdf before uploading.	
	2 - Funding & Costs
Funding Request - Complete this section with total dollar amounts for your project/program's costs	Funds are generally not intended to be used for deferred maintenance and ongoing operational needs. The funds are intended for enhancing and investing in the City of Rancho Cordova. If your project/program is awarded, the costs identified below would be reviewed and potentially open to modification during a contracting phase (if a grant is awarded by the City Council). If awarded, grant funds are not available until a contract is executed during Fiscal Year 2026-2027.
Total project/program cost*	49800
What is the amount of Community Enhancement & Investment Fund grant monies requested?	24800
Does your project/program involve construction of any facilities or improvements upon any property?	No
What is the total cost of personnel for your project/program?	0
What is the total cost of supplies for your project/program?	0
What is the total cost of transportation for your project/program?	500

What is the total cost of equipment for your project/program?	14300
What is the total cost of any miscellaneous expenses for your project/program?	10000

Upload your project/program's budget as a .pdf file. Include the categories and their dollar amounts along with information about any other funding sources to demonstrate your project/program's total budget. Note, the sum of all categories must match the total project or program cost, or the amount requested of CEIF if there is no other funding source. Please clearly illustrate any matching funds or funding from other sources in your project/program budget, including in-kind sources. Note: Combine multiple files in one pdf before uploading.

2026_2027_GRANT_APPLICATION_Rancho_Cordova_Pathways_to_Invention_and_Innovation_P2I2_Initiative_.pdf

Has your organization sought or will seek other funding for this project/program?	Yes, actively seeking funding support or have secured additional funding support for this project/program.
Describe any funding secured or being sought for this project/program.	LMIT will open its professional development workshops, coaching and instructional materials to any interested teacher in the district at no additional costs. PD will be local at no cost to the district. The value of these free services across the year is estimated at $25,000 ($20k difference between the silver and gold PiE membership plus travel to site at no cost to the district).
Please describe any ongoing operations and maintenance costs beyond Fiscal Year 2026/2027, if applicable.	
Do you have volunteer or in-kind support for your project? This could include volunteers for an activity/event that is ongoing or a one-time experience.	No
Is this a single year request or a request for funding for multiple years?	Single Year
Has your project/program received funding from the Community Enhancement & Investment Fund previously?	No
	3 - Project/Program Details Grant applications are typically approved to occur between July 2026 through June 2027. What is your plan to complete this project/program within this time frame?
Anticipated Start Date (July 1 is the soonest available start date)	7/1/2026
Anticipated End Date (typically projects/programs end by June 30)	6/30/2027

Please describe your project/program schedule	As noted above, we are requesting grant funding for the 2026-2027 school year which correspond to the first year that LMIT will be offering support to educators in the Greater Sacramento region (July 1, 2026 – December 31, 2029). The grant will cover materials for students, tools, a community event and participation in the CA Invention Convention finals in participating teachers' classes. We request a start date of July 1, 2026 and an end date of June 30' **Timeliness** The timeline we envision is as follows: July 2026 Educators participate in a two-day professional development workshop with LMIT Oct. 1, 2026 At least 1 invention activity attempted in class with at least 30 students. Assessment data collected. November 1, 2026 Educators have met with LMIT coach to review educators' experiences and student outcomes. Plan next steps. January 31, 2027 At least 2 invention activities attempted in class with at least 30 students. Assessment data collected. Submission to CAIC if desired. March 1, 2027 Educators have met with LMIT coach to review educators' experiences and student outcomes. Plan next steps. March 31, 2027 At least 3 invention activities attempted in class with at least 30 students. Assessment data collected. Participate in CAIC if desired in April. May 1, 2027 Educators have met with LMIT coach to review educators' experiences and student outcomes. Plan next steps. June 1, 2027 At least 4 invention activities attempted in class with at least 30 students. Assessment data collected. June 30, 2027 Culminating event held to showcase student work. Educators meet to review evidence of student outcomes and revise lessons for following school year.
What challenges do you anticipate in your project/program's implementation? What is your plan to complete your project/program should those or other challenges arise?	Teacher PD sessions will take place in summer 2026 with ongoing coaching across the year. Students' invention projects will be conducted as part of the normal class periods in fall and spring. Final projects will be submitted and the CA Invention Convention will be completed by April 2027. A culminating event for the community will be held before the end of May 2027.
How many individuals does your project/program serve?	~ 180 Students
How many Rancho Cordova residents does your project/program serve?	~ 180
	4 - Project/Program Location
Address Verification	If you need to check if your project is in Rancho Cordova, type in your program/project's location in the Assessor Parcel Viewer: https://assessorparcelviewer.saccounty.gov/jsviewer/assessor.html

School and park related applications are due before Noon (12:00 p.m.) on March 6, 2026, to allow for the endorsement process.	Please note that projects or programs that are proposed on property owned or operated by outside agencies or a private party will require coordination with and potentially approvals from outside agencies, organizations, and/or the private party. Include whether you have received a letter of support for the project/program from the property owner. Upload any letters of support with your application. City staff will verify third-party permits have been discussed. In your planning discussions, be sure to discuss any necessary insurance or volunteer requirements that may increase budget costs. School Sites If your project/program is intended to operate at a public K-12 school site, your application is due by March 6 at Noon (12:00 p.m.). City staff will work with the school districts to confirm an endorsement for your project/program. It's the applicant's responsibility to communicate with school site and district representatives before applying so there is clarity during the endorsement process. Districts will only consider endorsement for applications submitted to the Community Enhancement & Investment Fund by the March 6 at Noon (12:00 p.m.). deadline. Each participating school superintendent reserves the right to withhold their endorsement of a project/program. Parks If your project/program is intended to operate at a park or community center site, your application is due by the March 6 at Noon (12:00 p.m.). deadline. City staff will work with the Cordova Recreation & Park District to confirm an endorsement for your project/program. It's the applicant's responsibility to communicate with district representatives before applying so there is clarity during the endorsement process. A special use permit application is required for any program or event planned at a CRPD facility. The special use application can be found at the CRPD website: https://www.cordovarpd.gov/. CRPD will only consider endorsement for applications submitted to the Community Enhancement & Investment Fund by the March 6 at Noon (12:00 p.m.). deadline. The Cordova Recreation & Park District reserves the right to withhold their endorsement of a project/program. Below is the list of staff to communicate with at school and park organizations: Folsom Cordova Unified School District: mwest@fcusd.org Cordova Recreation & Park District: cmichelotti@cordovarpd.gov Elk Grove Unified School District: mgulden@egusd.net Sacramento City Unified School District: Tuan-Duong@scusd.edu for Winn and Carver and Enrique-Flores@scusd.edu for Lincoln.
Primary street address of project/program	1965 Birkmont Drive
List the city location of the project/program.	Rancho Cordova
Select State	CA
Provide the zip code for your project/program's primary location.	95742
If your project/program takes place at multiple locations, please list other or secondary locations.	Cordova Gardens Elementary, W.E. Mitchell Middle School, and Cordova High School

Third Party Letters of Support (Note: Combine multiple files in one pdf before uploading)

Letters_of_Endorsement_for_Invention_and_Innovation.pdf

Does your project/program involve one of Rancho Cordova's school districts?	Yes
Is the project/program requesting facility use only or is this a request to partner with the school district?	Partner with school on project/program
Please select all the school districts which your project/program intends to involve:	Folsom Cordova USD

Please select one or more of the Folsom Cordova Unified School District school facilities which your project/program will involve:	Cordova Gardens Elementary School Mitchell Middle School Cordova High School
Have you reached out to a contact at the school(s) you indicated above?	Yes
Please provide the names of your contacts at the school(s) or district(s) who are familiar with your project/program.	Sarah Hodges, Alyssa Tarr & Lindsey Nelson, Cordova Gardens Elementary (Pilot in 2nd Grade) Britt Stark & Jon Tritt, Mitchell Middle School (pilot in Science/Design Classes) Faith Caplan, CTE Engineering and Product Development Teacher, Cordova High
Does your project/program involve the Cordova Recreation & Park District?	No
	5 - Applicant Information
Name	Mina West
Is this project/program on behalf of an organization?	Yes
What is the name of your organization?	Folsom Cordova Unified School District
What is your title and/or role at your organization?	Admin Asst. - Communications and Community Engagement Office
Provide contact phone number:	+[redacted]
Provide contact email:	mwest@fcusd.org
Are you the primary point of contact on this project/program?	Yes
If your project/program was awarded the requested funds, are you authorized to sign the contract for your organization?	No, someone else would sign the contract
If selected by the City Council to receive an award, what is the name of the person at your organization who would sign the contract?	Sean Martin
What is the title of this individual?	Assistant Superintendent Business Services

What is the best phone number where we could contact the signatory?	+[redacted]
What is the best email address to contact the signatory?	LVenzon@fcusd.org
By checking here, I confirm that I am aware that my application materials will become public record.	checked
	Thank you for applying to the Community Enhancement & Investment Fund Fiscal Year 2026-2027 Grant Cycle. Applicants will receive an automated response through the grant portal. Community Enhancement & Investment Fund (CEIF) Staff will follow up with any questions regarding your Fiscal Year 2026-2027 application. For information about the next steps in the CEIF grant process, visit our website for more information. It is anticipated that applications will be reviewed by the City Council starting in April 2026 with adoption in June 2026. Should applicants be awarded by the City Council, funding would not be available to grantees until the start of Fiscal Year 2026-2027 and the completion of a contract. Please send an email to CEIFGrants@cityofranchocordova.org with any questions or comments.

Internal Form

Score	n/a

2026/2027 GRANT APPLICATION
COMMUNITY ENHANCEMENT & INVESTMENT FUND
To be Completed and returned to Mina West at
mwest@fcusd.org
Must be received by February 23, 2026

Project Name

Rancho Cordova *Pathways to Invention and Innovation* ($P2I^2$) Initiative

Project Synopsis In 50 words or less, please describe the project.

The *Pathways to Invention and Innovation* ($P2I^2$) Initiative will engage students in Cordova Gardens Elementary, Mitchell Middle School, and Cordova High, in invention projects conducted during the regular school day. Students will identify a challenge faced by people in the community and will work in small teams to create a solution that can help others.

Project Description Describe the project in detail and how it benefits the community based on the City's Community Enhancement & Investment Fund guidelines and selection criteria. If you need more room to answer the question, please attach a separate document to your application.

The *Pathways to Invention and Innovation* ($P2I^2$) Initiative will enhance the quality of education in three schools in Rancho Cordova (Cordova Gardens Elementary, Mitchell Middle School, and Cordova High) by providing instructional materials and tools students need to complete open-ended inquiry and project-based invention lessons and coverage of transportation costs needed to showcase the work at the California Invention Convention in Spring 2027. The work of educators and students constitutes a new form of civic engagement. Specifically, students at each grade span will actively engage in conversations with those who live and work in the community as the students identify and develop technological solutions to local challenges. All will learn together as students share what they learned, and the invention prototypes developed at an end of year celebration. Benefits accruing to students from this approach to teaching and learning include: 1) enhanced abilities to synthesize and apply knowledge from different disciplines to real world problems, 2) development of technical skills, and 3) development of durable human skills needed for success in work and in life.

Leverage: The initiative builds on Cordova High's InvenTeams experiences in which students and educators collaborated with a representative from the City of Rancho Cordova PublicWorks Department during the 2025-2026 school year as they developed a prototype of a technological solution to address flooding caused by clogged storm drains. The Lemelson-MIT (LMIT) Program which sponsored the InvenTeam grant is considering further investment in the region in the form of free instructional resources and staff development for educators across grades K-14 who want to embed invention education into the regular school day. LMIT's support will include year-round coaching and mentorship during each of the next three years (2026-2029). Support from the CEIF to cover the cost of tools, materials and the CA Invention Convention for students in participating teachers' classrooms will make it possible for schools in Rancho Cordova to take full advantage of LMIT's offerings.

Return on Investment: As noted above, the community will benefit from the social bonds created through engagement with students whom they would not otherwise come to know and the students' efforts to understand and address challenges residents face. The community will also benefit from students' improved abilities to: 1) synthesize and apply knowledge from different disciplines to real world problems, 2) use technologies (such as AI) and tools to design and build, and 3) engage in the world in ways that reflect the durable human skills needed for success in work and life. The business community often cites the need for schools to do more to produce graduates with durable human skills, including teamwork, collaboration, and problem-solving capabilities. Educators engaged in this effort will work with members of the business community to create rubrics for assessing and documenting evidence of students' development of the technical and human skills needed by their future employees. This will help students with post-graduation employment while ensuring that employers can identify those qualified for open positions.

Capacity: Cordova High's ability to secure an InvenTeam grant from LMIT (one of 8 awards made across the nation) and its successful completion of an invention prototype is evidence of the school's capacity to take up invention education. Principals and teachers from each of the three schools in this initiative have pledged their full support for the effort.

Timeline: We are CEIF funding for the 2026-2027 school year. Educators and students in the three schools will benefit from free instructional lessons to guide invention projects, professional development, and year-round coaching from LMIT, and the materials, tools and invention convention travel costs coming from CEIF.

Project Team Individuals or organizations responsible for the development and delivery of the project.

The team of educators whose students benefit directly from the grant include:

Sarah Hodges, Alyssa Tarr & Lindsey Nelson, Cordova Gardens Elementary (Pilot in 2nd Grade)
Britt Stark & Jon Tritt, Mitchell Middle School (pilot in Science/Design Classes)
Faith Caplan, CTE Engineering and Product Development Teacher, Cordova High

Educators are being supported as they engage in the invention education initiative by their school and district administrators. These include:
John Bliss, Principal, Cardova Gardens Elementary
Sandra Garcia, Principal, Mitchell Middle School
Amy Strawn, Principal, Cordova High School
Shanan Spears, CTE Director, Folsom-Cordova USD

The leads for the curriculum, professional development, and year-round coaching the Lemelson-MIT Program would provide are Dr. Stephanie Couch, Executive Director of the Lemelson-MIT Program and Dr. Cristina Saenz, Invention Education Manager for the Lemelson-MIT Program.

Invention Education benefits from active engagement of others in the community who can support students' growth. The extended team members in this category within our community include, but are not limited to the following:
Margarita Dronov, City of Rancho Cordova
David Bayne, Franchise Tax Board
Zack Dowell, Folsom Lake College
Uri Griner, Museum of Science and Curiosity
Carly Starr, California State Railroad Museum

Project Goals List goals, and outline metrics by which progress in reaching goals can be measured and the project team's efforts can be focused.

Goal 1: Make invention education a permanent part of the learning opportunities afforded to students in our school.
Metrics: Teacher participation in professional development and follow-on meetings. Number of IvE lessons in each class, time spent, number of students reached.

Goal 2: Establish pathways to invention and innovation in which learners have access to invention education opportunities starting in their early years and continuing through college. Work with educators, site leaders, and the surrounding community includes a focus on creating IvE opportunities across multiple grade spans so that learners have ongoing support across time.

Metrics: Tracking of number of lessons, description of the lessons, and time spent for each student in each year of the program.

Goal 3: Generate new knowledge about the lasting impact of IvE for students who have repeated engagements over time. The evidence base and new knowledge that emerges from the study of the student outcomes generated by our work are key to continuously informing and achieving Goals 1 and 2.

Metrics: Data from reflections of educators on their experiences and the experiences of their students. All of the above, pre- and post- experience surveys each semester from students, and artifacts from a sample of students selected for tracing the over time learning experiences.

Funding Request Funds are generally not intended to be used for deferred maintenance and ongoing operational needs. The funds are intended for Community Enhancement & Investment.

Total project cost: $49,800

Estimated breakdown of project expenditures:

July 1, 2026- June 30, 2027: Classroom materials for two classes per school, six classes total at an average of $100 per student X 180 students = $1,800. Tools and/or software licenses for building prototypes @ $2,000 per class = $12,000. Local event to share projects with the community = $500.

Travel to CA Invention Convention state finals at the CA State Railroad Museum = $500. Silver level Partners in Invention Education (PiE) membership from LMIT for teacher PD and coaching = $10,000 year. Total CEIF = $24,800

Matching funds (including any in-kind contributions):
LMIT will open its professional development workshops, coaching and instructional materials to any interested teacher in the district at no additional costs. PD will be local at no cost to the district. The value of these free services across the year is estimated at $25,000 ($20k difference between the silver and gold PiE membership plus travel to site at no cost to the district).

Include any other funding contributions including your own: $0

Ongoing (beyond FY 2025/2026) operations and maintenance costs if applicable: Not applicable.

Total Community Enhancement & Investment Funds requested: $24,800

Is this a multiyear request? Yes ☐ No X If yes, number of years:

If you answered yes above, describe your sustainability plan and whether the project is viable as a single year request.

How many years have you received funding for this project? 0 from the district or CEIF. LMIT provided a $7,500 grant in the 2025-2026 year for invention education efforts in one class at Cordova High.

When will your request for funding sunset for ongoing programs? This offering is aligned with normal standards based instruction so there is no sunset.

Do you plan to ask annually for funding? It would be helpful to have PD and coaching available to other educators in the district in future years but this is not required.

What other funding will you seek to support your project? We will write state and federal grants with LMIT to grow invention education across the district, particularly those aimed at workforce and economic development.

Project Schedule Project timeline and anticipated start and completion date. (If this is a multiyear request, please indicate that in both the funding request and the project schedule.) Funding does not become available until July 1. Funding typically ends June 30 of the following year.

As noted above, we are requesting grant funding for the 2026-2027 school year which correspond to the first year that LMIT will be offering support to educators in the Greater Sacramento region (July 1, 2026 – December 31, 2029). The grant will cover materials for students, tools, a community event and participation in the CA Invention Convention finals in participating teachers' classes. We request a start date of July 1, 2026 and an end date of June 30'

Timeliness
The timeline we envision is as follows:

Dates	Activities
July 2026	Educators participate in a two-day professional development workshop with LMIT
Oct. 1, 2026	At least 1 invention activity attempted in class with at least 30 students. Assessment data collected.
November 1, 2026	Educators have met with LMIT coach to review educators' experiences and student outcomes. Plan next steps.
January 31, 2027	At least 2 invention activities attempted in class with at least 30 students. Assessment data collected. Submission to CAIC if desired.
March 1, 2027	Educators have met with LMIT coach to review educators' experiences and student outcomes. Plan next steps.
March 31, 2027	At least 3 invention activities attempted in class with at least 30 students. Assessment data collected. Participate in CAIC if desired in April.
May 1, 2027	Educators have met with LMIT coach to review educators' experiences and student outcomes. Plan next steps.
June 1, 2027	At least 4 invention activities attempted in class with at least 30 students. Assessment data collected.
June 30, 2027	Culminating event held to showcase student work. Educators meet to review evidence of student outcomes and revise lessons for following school year.

Timeliness In addition to providing the project timeline identified above, describe how you will be able to complete your project by June 30, 2026. Please note, if selected for funding, you will be required to submit a narrative Outcomes Report and a financial Use of Funds Report at least two times during the grant period.

Teacher PD sessions will take place in summer 2026 with ongoing coaching across the year. Students' invention projects will be conducted as part of the normal class periods in fall and spring. Final projects will be submitted and the CA Invention Convention will be completed by April 2027. A culminating event for the community will be held before the end of May 2027.

Adaptability Will you be able to adjust your project if California Public Health and/or Sacramento County Health Orders change? For example, the program could operate virtually or with other modifications made. Please describe.
Yes, LMIT helped move these types of invention education experiences online in 2020 and continues to offer online programs. We would have their full support if needed.

Project Location Please note that projects or programs that are proposed on property owned or operated by outside agencies or a private party will require the coordination with and potentially approvals from outside agencies, organizations, and/or the private party.

Physical Address:

Have you received a letter of support for the project from the property owner? Yes ☐ No ☐ N/A x If yes, submit the letter of support with your application.

If your project/program is intended to operate or take place at a public K-12 school site or a park/park facility, instead of a support letter you must request the endorsement of the entity using the appropriate Supplemental Endorsement Form.

School District (if applicable, check all that apply): EGUSD ☐ FCUSD X SCUSD ☐ Other ☐

By the application deadline, the City of Rancho Cordova must also receive the Supplemental Endorsement Form that's been signed and dated by the corresponding school superintendent for the application to be considered a complete submittal. It's the applicant's responsibility to ask for the endorsement in the time allotted. You will be asked to share if you have contacted school staff and to provide the name(s) of your contact(s). Each participating school superintendent reserves the right to withhold their endorsement of a project/program. Refer to the Fiscal Year 2025/2026 Supplemental Endorsement Form for more information and important deadlines.

Cordova Recreation & Park District

If your project/program is intended to operate or take place at a park/park facility, instead of a support letter, you must request the endorsement of the Cordova Recreation & Park District (CRPD) using the Supplemental Endorsement Form. It's the applicant's responsibility to ask for the endorsement in the time allotted. The CRPD representative reserves the right to withhold their endorsement of a project/program. Refer to the Fiscal Year 2025/2026 Supplemental Endorsement Form for more information and important deadlines.

Application Submitted by

Name: Faith Caplan

Title: CTE Teacher

[redacted]

Email: fcaplan@fcusd.org

Organization's Legal Name (if applicable): Cordova High

Mailing Address: 2239 Chase Drive, Rancho Cordova, CA 95670

Signatory If the applicant's project or program is selected for funding, list who will be the signatory of the funding agreement.

Signatory's Name:

Title: Erik Swanson, Superintendent

[redacted]

Email: eswanson@fcusd.org

Mailing Address: 1965 Birkmont Drive, Rancho Cordova, CA 95742

Public Record Unless otherwise exempt under applicable law, applications and application materials are public records. All information received from an applicant, whether received in connection with a grant application or in connection with any grant-funded activities performed are subject to disclosure pursuant to the California Public Records Act, unless otherwise exempt.

Cordova Gardens Academy of Arts and Sciences
2400 Dawes Street, Rancho Cordova, CA 95670
(916) 294-9115
Principal John Bliss

March 5, 2026

Dear Ms. Griffin,

I am writing to wholeheartedly endorse the Community Enhancement and Investment Fund (CEIF) application submitted by Cordova High CTE teacher Faith Caplan. Our school has benefitted from a program Faith has been teaching in which high school students engage with our kindergartners and create toys that may be of benefit to the students. We are ready to go to the next step by engaging our own students with hands-on invention projects, potentially with the assistance of high school mentors.

There are several educational benefits that will arise from the collaborative educational model we envision. Specifically, we are excited about the following three aspects of invention education:

1. Students will learn how to apply knowledge and practices from the different disciplines to real world problems
2. Students will learn how to work with tools, technologies and materials
3. Students will develop durable human skills needed for success

The funding of related costs of tools, materials, a community event, California Invention Convention, and the Silver PiE membership ensures that our teachers will have the support they need as they take up this new initiative.

Thank you in advance for your consideration of the proposal.

Gratefully,

John Bliss, Principal

CORDOVA HIGH SCHOOL

2239 Chase Drive, Rancho Cordova, CA 95670
Amy Strawn

Principal,

Assistant Principal, Dr. Carrie Jackson
Assistant Principal, Dr. Eric F. Evans
Assistant Principal, Erin Kaluza
Assistant Principal, Yvonne Thornton
Assistant Principal, Debra Zwicker-Sobrepena

5 March 2026

Dear Ms. Griffin,

I am writing to wholeheartedly endorse the Community Enhancement and Investment Fund (CEIF) application submitted by Cordova High CTE teacher Faith Caplan. Our high school has benefitted from a program Faith has been teaching in which high school students in the product design and innovation pathway get opportunities at multiple grade levels to:

- Learn how to apply knowledge and practices from the different disciplines to real world problems
- Learn how to work with tools, technologies and materials
- Develop durable human skills needed for success

The funding of related costs of tools, materials, a community event, California Invention Convention, and the Silver PiE membership ensures that Faith and other teachers at Cordova High will have the support they need as they take up this new approach to teaching and learning. CEIF funds will also provide funds needed as we seek to expand this approach to the elementary and middle schools in our feeder path to create a K-14 pathway to invention.

I had the good fortune of attending a community event for students on Cordova High's InvenTeam. The depth of knowledge and presentation of work to solve our city's stormwater runoff problems was incredible. Attendees were impressed by the level of sophistication of the work. As an educator, I was extremely proud of our school. This is the type of teaching and learning that deserves greater support.

Thank you in advance for your consideration of the proposal.

Sincerely,

Amy Strawn, Principal

Title

Rancho Cordova Spanish Language & High School Pathway Club

03/06/2026

id. 53408352

by **Mina West** in **Fiscal Year 2026-2027 Community Enhancement & Investment Fund Grant Application**

1965 Birkmont Drive
Rancho Cordova, California
95742
CA
United States
[redacted]
mwest@fcusd.org

Original Submission

03/06/2026

Score n/a

	Thank you for your interest in applying to the City of Rancho Cordova's Community Enhancement & Investment Fund. Applications are open from February 9, 2026, to March 13, 2026, Noon (12:00 p.m.) with a specific deadline of March 6th Noon (12:00 p.m.) for certain applications**. Before you begin, please read the notes about deadlines and certain types of grant applications/grants below. **School/Park Application Deadline **Note that projects or programs involving a park or school district have a deadline of March 6 Noon (12:00 p.m.) to allow for the third-party endorsement process by the grant deadline.** A Note about Religious Schools and the Application/Grant Process **Note for grant applications from religious schools. The United States Supreme Court has recently ruled in part that: “denying a generally available benefit [from government] solely on account of religious identity imposes a penalty on the free exercise of religion that can be justified only by a state interest of the highest order.” The City is of the opinion that not all grants to religious schools are prohibited under this and other similar rulings. However, these United States Supreme Court decisions remain in conflict with a section of the California State Constitution that says: “[n]either the Legislature, nor any county, city and county, township, school district, or other municipal corporation, shall ever make an appropriation, or pay from any public fund whatever, or grant anything to or in aid of any religious sect, church, creed, or sectarian purpose, or help to support or sustain any school, college, university, hospital, or other institution controlled by any religious creed, church, or sectarian denomination whatever; nor shall any grant or donation of personal property or real estate ever be made by the state, or any city, city and county, town, or other municipal corporation for any religious creed, church, or sectarian purpose whatever”. The City will accept applications for grants of these City public funds from religious schools, but will have language in the grant agreements to address the possibility and consequences of legal challenges and new court decisions on this and related topics. ** Future Grant Opportunities If you are interested in remaining up-to-date on available grants from the City of Rancho Cordova, click here to sign up for the Grants Interest List. A separate call for programming opportunities with the Rancho Cordova Youth Center is anticipated later in 2026. The list is also used to advertise separate art programs when funds are available. Ongoing Grant Opportunity The City of Rancho Cordova offers a microgrant opportunity. Learn more about those grants online.
Is this your first time applying for grant funding from the City of Rancho Cordova? As a first-time applicant, Community Enhancement & Investment Fund (CEIF) staff will contact you to discuss your project and grant application process.	No: Not a First Time Applicant

	1 - Project/Program Information Note: You can add a collaborator to this form to assist you in completing this application! A collaborator can help you complete this form by filling in fields for you, although only you can submit this form. You can add a collaborator by navigating to the top of the form and clicking on the 'Manage Collaborators' button. Simply enter their email address and click 'invite' to invite them as a collaborator. If you need further assistance, you may consult this Help article for more information.
Project/Program Name. Assign a project name to your project/program.	Rancho Cordova Spanish Language & High School Pathway Club
Which category does your Project/Program align with?	Youth Programs & Services
Provide a Project/Program Synopsis	The Rancho Cordova Spanish Language & High School Pathway Club expands access to world language enrichment for grades 6–8 at Riverview STEM Academy. Through structured before-school programming, cultural engagement, and high school preparation activities, the club builds a strong middle-to-high school pathway within Rancho Cordova public schools.
Provide a Project/Program Description	The Rancho Cordova Spanish Language & High School Pathway Club establishes a structured enrichment program for students in grades 6–8 focused on Spanish language development, cultural literacy, and high school pathway preparation. This project strengthens alignment with Cordova High School's academic and world language pathways by building early exposure, academic confidence, and awareness of high school course opportunities. The initiative supports a clearer transition into rigorous coursework, including advanced Spanish classes and college-preparatory pathways. This initiative creates a zero-period enrichment club that provides: • Foundational Spanish language development • Cultural exploration and global competence development • High school readiness skill-building activities • Cordova High School (CHS) pathway awareness and preparation This one-time CEIF investment supports development of the program framework and startup materials necessary to establish a high-quality, sustainable enrichment model. Funds will support curriculum development, digital tools, enrichment resources, family outreach, and evaluation systems. No funds will be used for employee salary expenses. By investing in early language enrichment, the City strengthens youth development, academic aspiration, and retention within Rancho Cordova public schools while reinforcing a clear pathway to Cordova High School. The project is designed as a startup initiative that builds internal capacity and long-term infrastructure without reliance on ongoing grant funding.

Tell us about your Project/Program Team	**Program Lead:** Lari Powell, Riverview STEM Academy **Implementation Support:** • Spanish Language Club Facilitator (district-assigned) • Riverview Administration • Counseling Team (High School Pathway Coordination) • Cordova High School Collaboration Riverview STEM Academy will oversee fiscal management, compliance, and outcome reporting.
Provide your Project/Program Goals	**Goal 1: Expand Access to Language Enrichment** • Serve 30–40 students during the 2026–2027 school year • Maintain ≥85% consistent participation rate **Goal 2: Increase High School Pathway Awareness** • 80% of participating 8th graders enroll in Spanish at Cordova High School • Increase Riverview representation in advanced world language coursework **Goal 3: Demonstrate Skill & Engagement Growth** • Documented growth in Spanish proficiency through club-based assessments • ≥85% positive student and family satisfaction **Goal 4: Strengthen Local Retention** • Increased percentage of Riverview students selecting Cordova High School
Optional File Upload: Provide any additional records to supplement your program/project application. Note: Combine multiple files in one pdf before uploading.	
	2 - Funding & Costs

Funding Request - Complete this section with total dollar amounts for your project/program's costs	Funds are generally not intended to be used for deferred maintenance and ongoing operational needs. The funds are intended for enhancing and investing in the City of Rancho Cordova. If your project/program is awarded, the costs identified below would be reviewed and potentially open to modification during a contracting phase (if a grant is awarded by the City Council). If awarded, grant funds are not available until a contract is executed during Fiscal Year 2026-2027.
Total project/program cost*	22000
What is the amount of Community Enhancement & Investment Fund grant monies requested?	22000
Does your project/program involve construction of any facilities or improvements upon any property?	No
What is the total cost of personnel for your project/program?	0
What is the total cost of supplies for your project/program?	22000
What is the total cost of transportation for your project/program?	0
What is the total cost of equipment for your project/program?	0
What is the total cost of any miscellaneous expenses for your project/program?	0

Upload your project/program's budget as a .pdf file. Include the categories and their dollar amounts along with information about any other funding sources to demonstrate your project/program's total budget. Note, the sum of all categories must match the total project or program cost, or the amount requested of CEIF if there is no other funding source. Please clearly illustrate any matching funds or funding from other sources in your project/program budget, including in-kind sources. Note: Combine multiple files in one pdf before uploading.

Has your organization sought or will seek other funding for this project/program?	No, not seeking any other funding support.
Please explain why you are not seeking any other funding support for your project/program.	This request represents one-time startup funding to establish the program framework and launch materials. The model is designed to operate sustainably within existing structures after the grant period.
Please describe any ongoing operations and maintenance costs beyond Fiscal Year 2026/2027, if applicable.	
Do you have volunteer or in-kind support for your project? This could include volunteers for an activity/event that is ongoing or a one-time experience.	No
Is this a single year request or a request for funding for multiple years?	Single Year
Has your project/program received funding from the Community Enhancement & Investment Fund previously?	No
	3 - Project/Program Details Grant applications are typically approved to occur between July 2026 through June 2027. What is your plan to complete this project/program within this time frame?
Anticipated Start Date (July 1 is the soonest available start date)	7/1/2026

Anticipated End Date (typically projects/programs end by June 30)	6/30/2027
Please describe your project/program schedule	**July 2026 – June 2027** **Summer 2026** • Finalize enrichment framework and startup materials • Acquire materials and digital resources • Coordinate CHS pathway articulation planning **Fall 2026** • Launch Spanish Language Club • Begin instruction and enrichment activities **Winter–Spring 2027** • Monitor participation and progress • Conduct family outreach • Collect outcome data **June 2027** Final evaluation and reporting
What challenges do you anticipate in your project/program's implementation? What is your plan to complete your project/program should those or other challenges arise?	This one-year investment establishes the club framework, startup materials, and implementation model while demonstrating measurable impact. Following successful implementation, Riverview will: • Integrate the club into long-term enrichment programming • Seek district and partnership support The club structure is intentionally designed for scalability and sustainability beyond the grant period without dependence on recurring grant funding.
How many individuals does your project/program serve?	30-40 students during the 26-27 School Year
How many Rancho Cordova residents does your project/program serve?	30-40
	4 - Project/Program Location

Address Verification	If you need to check if your project is in Rancho Cordova, type in your program/project's location in the Assessor Parcel Viewer: https://assessorparcelviewer.saccounty.gov/jsviewer/assessor.html
School and park related applications are due before Noon (12:00 p.m.) on March 6, 2026, to allow for the endorsement process.	Please note that projects or programs that are proposed on property owned or operated by outside agencies or a private party will require coordination with and potentially approvals from outside agencies, organizations, and/or the private party. Include whether you have received a letter of support for the project/program from the property owner. Upload any letters of support with your application. City staff will verify third-party permits have been discussed. In your planning discussions, be sure to discuss any necessary insurance or volunteer requirements that may increase budget costs. School Sites If your project/program is intended to operate at a public K-12 school site, your application is due by March 6 at Noon (12:00 p.m.). City staff will work with the school districts to confirm an endorsement for your project/program. It's the applicant's responsibility to communicate with school site and district representatives before applying so there is clarity during the endorsement process. Districts will only consider endorsement for applications submitted to the Community Enhancement & Investment Fund by the March 6 at Noon (12:00 p.m.). deadline. Each participating school superintendent reserves the right to withhold their endorsement of a project/program. Parks If your project/program is intended to operate at a park or community center site, your application is due by the March 6 at Noon (12:00 p.m.). deadline. City staff will work with the Cordova Recreation & Park District to confirm an endorsement for your project/program. It's the applicant's responsibility to communicate with district representatives before applying so there is clarity during the endorsement process. A special use permit application is required for any program or event planned at a CRPD facility. The special use application can be found at the CRPD website: https://www.cordovarpd.gov/. CRPD will only consider endorsement for applications submitted to the Community Enhancement & Investment Fund by the March 6 at Noon (12:00 p.m.). deadline. The Cordova Recreation & Park District reserves the right to withhold their endorsement of a project/program. Below is the list of staff to communicate with at school and park organizations: Folsom Cordova Unified School District: mwest@fcusd.org Cordova Recreation & Park District: cmichelotti@cordovarpd.gov Elk Grove Unified School District: mgulden@egusd.net Sacramento City Unified School District: Tuan-Duong@scusd.edu for Winn and Carver and Enrique-Flores@scusd.edu for Lincoln.
Primary street address of project/program	1965 Birkmont Drive
List the city location of the project/program.	Rancho Cordova
Select State	CA

Provide the zip code for your project/program's primary location.	95742
If your project/program takes place at multiple locations, please list other or secondary locations.	
Third Party Letters of Support (Note: Combine multiple files in one pdf before uploading)	
Does your project/program involve one of Rancho Cordova's school districts?	Yes
Is the project/program requesting facility use only or is this a request to partner with the school district?	Partner with school on project/program
Please select all the school districts which your project/program intends to involve:	Folsom Cordova USD
Please select one or more of the Folsom Cordova Unified School District school facilities which your project/program will involve:	Riverview STEM Academy
Have you reached out to a contact at the school(s) you indicated above?	Yes

Please provide the names of your contacts at the school(s) or district(s) who are familiar with your project/program.	Lari Powell - Principal of Riverview STEM Academy
Does your project/program involve the Cordova Recreation & Park District?	No
	5 - Applicant Information
Name	Mina West
Is this project/program on behalf of an organization?	Yes
What is the name of your organization?	Folsom Cordova Unified School District
What is your title and/or role at your organization?	Admin Asst. - Communications and Community Engagement
Provide contact phone number:	+[redacted]
Provide contact email:	mwest@fcusd.org
Are you the primary point of contact on this project/program?	Yes
If your project/program was awarded the requested funds, are you authorized to sign the contract for your organization?	No, someone else would sign the contract

If selected by the City Council to receive an award, what is the name of the person at your organization who would sign the contract?	Sean Martin
What is the title of this individual?	Assistant Superintendent Business Services
What is the best phone number where we could contact the signatory?	+[redacted]
What is the best email address to contact the signatory?	LVenzon@fcusd.org
By checking here, I confirm that I am aware that my application materials will become public record.	checked
	Thank you for applying to the Community Enhancement & Investment Fund Fiscal Year 2026-2027 Grant Cycle. Applicants will receive an automated response through the grant portal. Community Enhancement & Investment Fund (CEIF) Staff will follow up with any questions regarding your Fiscal Year 2026-2027 application. For information about the next steps in the CEIF grant process, visit our website for more information. It is anticipated that applications will be reviewed by the City Council starting in April 2026 with adoption in June 2026. Should applicants be awarded by the City Council, funding would not be available to grantees until the start of Fiscal Year 2026-2027 and the completion of a contract. Please send an email to CEIFGrants@cityofranchocordova.org with any questions or comments.

Internal Form

Score	n/a

Project Name

Rancho Cordova Spanish Language & High School Pathway Club

Project Synopsis (50 words)

The Rancho Cordova Spanish Language & High School Pathway Club expands access to world language enrichment for grades 6–8 at Riverview STEM Academy. Through structured before-school programming, cultural engagement, and high school preparation activities, the club builds a strong middle-to-high school pathway within Rancho Cordova public schools.

Project Description

The Rancho Cordova Spanish Language & High School Pathway Club establishes a structured enrichment program for students in grades 6–8 focused on Spanish language development, cultural literacy, and high school pathway preparation.

This project strengthens alignment with Cordova High School's academic and world language pathways by building early exposure, academic confidence, and awareness of high school course opportunities. The initiative supports a clearer transition into rigorous coursework, including advanced Spanish classes and college-preparatory pathways.

This initiative creates a zero-period enrichment club that provides:

- Foundational Spanish language development
- Cultural exploration and global competence development
- High school readiness skill-building activities
- Cordova High School (CHS) pathway awareness and preparation

This one-time CEIF investment supports development of the program framework and startup materials necessary to establish a high-quality, sustainable enrichment model. Funds will support curriculum development, digital tools, enrichment resources, family outreach, and evaluation systems. No funds will be used for employee salary expenses.

By investing in early language enrichment, the City strengthens youth development, academic aspiration, and retention within Rancho Cordova public schools while reinforcing a clear pathway to Cordova High School. The project is designed as a startup initiative that builds internal capacity and long-term infrastructure without reliance on ongoing grant funding.

Community Impact & CEIF Alignment

This initiative:

- Expands educational opportunity
- Strengthens youth enrichment programming
- Builds community academic assets
- Supports long-term college and workforce readiness

The club model enhances community vitality by preparing students for rigorous high school pathways while fostering cultural awareness and global competence.

Riverview will also work with community partners for expansion opportunities, including cultural organizations, educational foundations, and local stakeholders, to strengthen program impact and broaden access over time.

Project Team

Program Lead:
Lari Powell, Riverview STEM Academy

Implementation Support:

- Spanish Language Club Facilitator (district-assigned)
- Riverview Administration
- Counseling Team (High School Pathway Coordination)
- Cordova High School Collaboration

Riverview STEM Academy will oversee fiscal management, compliance, and outcome reporting.

Goals & Measurable Outcomes

Goal 1: Expand Access to Language Enrichment

- Serve 30–40 students during the 2026–2027 school year
- Maintain ≥85% consistent participation rate

Goal 2: Increase High School Pathway Awareness

- 80% of participating 8th graders enroll in Spanish at Cordova High School
- Increase Riverview representation in advanced world language coursework

Goal 3: Demonstrate Skill & Engagement Growth

- Documented growth in Spanish proficiency through club-based assessments
- ≥85% positive student and family satisfaction

Goal 4: Strengthen Local Retention

- Increased percentage of Riverview students selecting Cordova High School

Funding Request

Total CEIF Request: $22,000

Program Expenditures

- Spanish Enrichment Curriculum, Framework & Activity Development – $6,000
- Instructional Materials & Digital Language Platforms – $5,000
- Cultural Enrichment Resources & Guest Experiences – $3,500
- Student Access Supports & Supplies – $3,500
- Family Outreach & Recruitment – $1,500
- Program Evaluation & Reporting Tools – $2,500

All requested funds support enrichment programming, startup materials, and community-based educational resources. No funding is requested for district staffing salaries.

This request represents one-time startup funding to establish the program framework and launch materials. The model is designed to operate sustainably within existing structures after the grant period.

Sustainability

This one-year investment establishes the club framework, startup materials, and implementation model while demonstrating measurable impact.

Following successful implementation, Riverview will:

- Integrate the club into long-term enrichment programming
- Seek district and partnership support

The club structure is intentionally designed for scalability and sustainability beyond the grant period without dependence on recurring grant funding.

Project Timeline

July 2026 – June 2027

Summer 2026

- Finalize enrichment framework and startup materials
- Acquire materials and digital resources
- Coordinate CHS pathway articulation planning

Fall 2026

- Launch Spanish Language Club
- Begin instruction and enrichment activities

Winter–Spring 2027

- Monitor participation and progress
- Conduct family outreach
- Collect outcome data

June 2027

- Final evaluation and reporting

Project Location

Riverview STEM Academy
Rancho Cordova, CA

☒ FCUSD

Title

The "Power of 20" Literacy Initiative: Expanding Library Access

03/06/2026

id. 53408599

by **Mina West** in **Fiscal Year 2026-2027 Community Enhancement & Investment Fund Grant Application**

1965 Birkmont Drive
Rancho Cordova, California
95742
CA
United States
[redacted]
mwest@fcusd.org

Original Submission

03/06/2026

Score n/a

	Thank you for your interest in applying to the City of Rancho Cordova's Community Enhancement & Investment Fund. Applications are open from February 9, 2026, to March 13, 2026, Noon (12:00 p.m.) with a specific deadline of March 6th Noon (12:00 p.m.) for certain applications**. Before you begin, please read the notes about deadlines and certain types of grant applications/grants below. **School/Park Application Deadline **Note that projects or programs involving a park or school district have a deadline of March 6 Noon (12:00 p.m.) to allow for the third-party endorsement process by the grant deadline.** A Note about Religious Schools and the Application/Grant Process **Note for grant applications from religious schools. The United States Supreme Court has recently ruled in part that: “denying a generally available benefit [from government] solely on account of religious identity imposes a penalty on the free exercise of religion that can be justified only by a state interest of the highest order.” The City is of the opinion that not all grants to religious schools are prohibited under this and other similar rulings. However, these United States Supreme Court decisions remain in conflict with a section of the California State Constitution that says: “[n]either the Legislature, nor any county, city and county, township, school district, or other municipal corporation, shall ever make an appropriation, or pay from any public fund whatever, or grant anything to or in aid of any religious sect, church, creed, or sectarian purpose, or help to support or sustain any school, college, university, hospital, or other institution controlled by any religious creed, church, or sectarian denomination whatever; nor shall any grant or donation of personal property or real estate ever be made by the state, or any city, city and county, town, or other municipal corporation for any religious creed, church, or sectarian purpose whatever”. The City will accept applications for grants of these City public funds from religious schools, but will have language in the grant agreements to address the possibility and consequences of legal challenges and new court decisions on this and related topics. ** Future Grant Opportunities If you are interested in remaining up-to-date on available grants from the City of Rancho Cordova, click here to sign up for the Grants Interest List. A separate call for programming opportunities with the Rancho Cordova Youth Center is anticipated later in 2026. The list is also used to advertise separate art programs when funds are available. Ongoing Grant Opportunity The City of Rancho Cordova offers a microgrant opportunity. Learn more about those grants online.
Is this your first time applying for grant funding from the City of Rancho Cordova? As a first-time applicant, Community Enhancement & Investment Fund (CEIF) staff will contact you to discuss your project and grant application process.	No: Not a First Time Applicant

	1 - Project/Program Information Note: You can add a collaborator to this form to assist you in completing this application! A collaborator can help you complete this form by filling in fields for you, although only you can submit this form. You can add a collaborator by navigating to the top of the form and clicking on the 'Manage Collaborators' button. Simply enter their email address and click 'invite' to invite them as a collaborator. If you need further assistance, you may consult this Help article for more information.
Project/Program Name. Assign a project name to your project/program.	The "Power of 20" Literacy Initiative: Expanding Library Access
Which category does your Project/Program align with?	Youth Programs & Services
Provide a Project/Program Synopsis	An extension of the Library Recovery and Expansion program, this initiative modernizes 11 FCUSD school libraries in Rancho Cordova over three years. By purchasing curated, shelf-ready books, we aim to approach a 20:1 book-to-student ratio, enhancing collection diversity to improve literacy rates and community equity.

Provide a Project/Program Description

We begin this proposal with a profound sense of gratitude to the City of Rancho Cordova. The Library Recovery and Expansion Grant has been more than just a funding source; it has been a transformative investment in the future of our students. Through the City's steadfast commitment to literacy, we have successfully modernized our collections, moving the average copyright age from a 1999 baseline to a 2015 average. This partnership ensured that our students maintained access to high-quality library materials during a critical post-pandemic period, directly supporting learning loss mitigation efforts. We are deeply thankful for the City's vision, which has revitalized the quality of the books on our shelves and set the stage for the next level of student success. With this foundation of excellence established, we are now ready for the expansion phase.

Despite the hard-earned growth in our local schools, a stark achievement disparity remains between our Rancho Cordova students and their Folsom peers. According to the most recent California School Dashboard data, students in Folsom average a 73.2% proficiency rate in English Language Arts (ELA), while students in Rancho Cordova average 38.5%. This 34.7-percentage-point gap is a direct call to action, exacerbated by an imbalance in library resources. In Folsom, library collections are frequently bolstered by robust PTO fundraising and private donations—a "funding bridge" that our Rancho Cordova schools lack.

Bridging this gap requires a direct investment in the tools that build ELA proficiency. High-quality library collections support literacy development by providing "mirrors and windows"—books where students see themselves reflected and books that offer a window into new worlds (Bishop, 1990). This engagement is the primary driver of Voluntary Independent Reading, which research identifies as the single greatest predictor of vocabulary growth, reading comprehension, and grammatical development (Krashen, 2004). When a library reaches the 20:1 "book-rich" ratio, students are more likely to find "hook books" that turn reluctant readers into fluent ones. This volume of choice allows students to practice complex decoding and critical thinking skills outside of direct instruction, facilitating the essential developmental transition from "learning to read" to "reading to learn" (Chall, 1983).

Substantial research confirms that access to a high volume of books is one of the strongest predictors of academic success, as students in "book-rich" environments demonstrate significantly higher literacy rates than those in "book-poor" environments (Evans et al., 2010). Furthermore, the "Lance Studies" across multiple states have proven that the size of a library's collection is directly correlated with higher standardized test scores, regardless of student socioeconomic status (Lance & Kachel, 2018). While we have modernized our titles, we must now approach the American Library Association's gold standard of a 20:1 ratio. By curating durable, library-bound titles, we will provide Rancho Cordova students with a high-volume, modern literacy environment. This ensures our libraries are deep enough to fuel student curiosity, align with diverse curricular needs, and directly drive the proficiency levels our students deserve.

Tell us about your Project/Program Team	Folsom Cordova Unified School District Librarian: Responsible for selection review, purchasing, cataloging, and delivery of books to school sites. School Site Librarians/Staff: Responsible for selecting, shelving, and circulation.
Provide your Project/Program Goals	Increase Volume: Reach a minimum of 20 current, high-quality library items per student at all 11 targeted sites over the 3-year period. • Metric: Extract data from the Library Management System (LMS) to calculate total items divided by total enrollment at each site annually. Collection Modernization Continued: Modernize Collections: Shift the targeted library collection to 2015 or newer. • Metric: Run a "Collection Age Report" through the LMS for all newly acquired materials compared to the total collection. Enhance Engagement: Increase student engagement with library materials, particularly in upper grades to combat the "Middle School Slump." • Metric: Monitor circulation data (number of checkouts) for new titles, specifically tracking 4th–8th grade circulation rates.
Optional File Upload: Provide any additional records to supplement your program/project application. Note: Combine multiple files in one pdf before uploading.	
	2 - Funding & Costs
Funding Request - Complete this section with total dollar amounts for your project/program's costs	Funds are generally not intended to be used for deferred maintenance and ongoing operational needs. The funds are intended for enhancing and investing in the City of Rancho Cordova. If your project/program is awarded, the costs identified below would be reviewed and potentially open to modification during a contracting phase (if a grant is awarded by the City Council). If awarded, grant funds are not available until a contract is executed during Fiscal Year 2026-2027.
Total project/program cost*	195000
What is the amount of Community Enhancement & Investment Fund grant monies requested?	195000

Does your project/program involve construction of any facilities or improvements upon any property?	No
What is the total cost of personnel for your project/program?	0
What is the total cost of supplies for your project/program?	195000
What is the total cost of transportation for your project/program?	0
What is the total cost of equipment for your project/program?	0
What is the total cost of any miscellaneous expenses for your project/program?	0

Upload your project/program's budget as a .pdf file. Include the categories and their dollar amounts along with information about any other funding sources to demonstrate your project/program's total budget. Note, the sum of all categories must match the total project or program cost, or the amount requested of CEIF if there is no other funding source. Please clearly illustrate any matching funds or funding from other sources in your project/program budget, including in-kind sources. Note: Combine multiple files in one pdf before uploading.

FCUSD_Libraries_Measure_H_Grant_Application_Word.docx_1.pdf

Has your organization sought or will seek other funding for this project/program?	No, not seeking any other funding support.
Please explain why you are not seeking any other funding support for your project/program.	Our school libraries currently receive no dedicated funding from the state for the purchase of library books. As a result, expanding and updating our collections is extremely difficult without external support. While we continue to look for potential funding opportunities, grants specifically designated for library materials are limited and often highly competitive. This grant provides an important opportunity to address this gap by helping us increase access to high-quality, engaging books for our students. Without external support such as this, our ability to grow and refresh our library collections would remain very limited.

Please describe any ongoing operations and maintenance costs beyond Fiscal Year 2026/2027, if applicable.	Book repair funds supported by FCUSD General Fund
Do you have volunteer or in-kind support for your project? This could include volunteers for an activity/event that is ongoing or a one-time experience.	No
Is this a single year request or a request for funding for multiple years?	Multiple Years
If requesting CEIF grant funding for multiple years, please share how many years?	3 years
For requests spanning multiple years, share the dollar amount requested per year.	FY 26/27 (Year 1): 65,000 FY 27/28 (Year 2): 65,000 FY 28/29 (Year 3): 65,000
For projects/programs that span multiple years, please describe your sustainability plan and whether it is viable as a single year request.	We will complete the project by utilizing the phased timeline outlined above. FCUSD is prepared to begin selection and procurement immediately upon receipt of funds on July 1 of each fiscal year. Because we purchase "shelf-ready" materials—meaning they arrive with barcodes, spine labels, and digital records—books can be placed into circulation within days of delivery. We will submit the required Outcomes and Use of Funds Reports as mandated by the city guidelines. Progress reports are available on our library management system Follett Destiny
Has your project/program received funding from the Community Enhancement & Investment Fund previously?	Yes

How many years has your project/program received funding from the Community Enhancement & Investment Fund?	4
How much funding has your organization received from the Community Enhancement & Investment Fund through our traditional grants (not including microgrants)?	300,000
	3 - Project/Program Details Grant applications are typically approved to occur between July 2026 through June 2027. What is your plan to complete this project/program within this time frame?
Anticipated Start Date (July 1 is the soonest available start date)	7/1/2026
Anticipated End Date (typically projects/programs end by June 30)	6/30/2027
Please describe your project/program schedule	Start Date: July 1, 2026 Completion Date: June 30, 2029 (for the 3-year plan) FY 26/27 (Year 1): Selection, purchase, and distribution of $5,000 per elementary school and $10,000 per middle school. FY 27/28 (Year 2): Selection, purchase, and distribution of $5,000 per elementary school and $10,000 per middle school. FY 28/29 (Year 3): Selection, purchase, and distribution of $5,000 per elementary school and $10,000 per middle school to reach final goals.
What challenges do you anticipate in your project/program's implementation? What is your plan to complete your project/program should those or other challenges arise?	N/A

How many individuals does your project/program serve?	all 11 school sites of FCUSD in the Rancho Cordova area
How many Rancho Cordova residents does your project/program serve?	3000+
	4 - Project/Program Location
Address Verification	If you need to check if your project is in Rancho Cordova, type in your program/project's location in the Assessor Parcel Viewer: https://assessorparcelviewer.saccounty.gov/jsviewer/assessor.html

School and park related applications are due before Noon (12:00 p.m.) on March 6, 2026, to allow for the endorsement process.	Please note that projects or programs that are proposed on property owned or operated by outside agencies or a private party will require coordination with and potentially approvals from outside agencies, organizations, and/or the private party. Include whether you have received a letter of support for the project/program from the property owner. Upload any letters of support with your application. City staff will verify third-party permits have been discussed. In your planning discussions, be sure to discuss any necessary insurance or volunteer requirements that may increase budget costs. School Sites If your project/program is intended to operate at a public K-12 school site, your application is due by March 6 at Noon (12:00 p.m.). City staff will work with the school districts to confirm an endorsement for your project/program. It's the applicant's responsibility to communicate with school site and district representatives before applying so there is clarity during the endorsement process. Districts will only consider endorsement for applications submitted to the Community Enhancement & Investment Fund by the March 6 at Noon (12:00 p.m.). deadline. Each participating school superintendent reserves the right to withhold their endorsement of a project/program. Parks If your project/program is intended to operate at a park or community center site, your application is due by the March 6 at Noon (12:00 p.m.). deadline. City staff will work with the Cordova Recreation & Park District to confirm an endorsement for your project/program. It's the applicant's responsibility to communicate with district representatives before applying so there is clarity during the endorsement process. A special use permit application is required for any program or event planned at a CRPD facility. The special use application can be found at the CRPD website: https://www.cordovarpd.gov/. CRPD will only consider endorsement for applications submitted to the Community Enhancement & Investment Fund by the March 6 at Noon (12:00 p.m.). deadline. The Cordova Recreation & Park District reserves the right to withhold their endorsement of a project/program. Below is the list of staff to communicate with at school and park organizations: Folsom Cordova Unified School District: mwest@fcusd.org Cordova Recreation & Park District: cmichelotti@cordovarpd.gov Elk Grove Unified School District: mgulden@egusd.net Sacramento City Unified School District: Tuan-Duong@scusd.edu for Winn and Carver and Enrique-Flores@scusd.edu for Lincoln.
Primary street address of project/program	1965 Birkmont Drive
List the city location of the project/program.	Rancho Cordova
Select State	CA
Provide the zip code for your project/program's primary location.	95742

If your project/program takes place at multiple locations, please list other or secondary locations.	
Third Party Letters of Support (Note: Combine multiple files in one pdf before uploading)	
Does your project/program involve one of Rancho Cordova's school districts?	Yes
Is the project/program requesting facility use only or is this a request to partner with the school district?	Partner with school on project/program
Please select all the school districts which your project/program intends to involve:	Folsom Cordova USD
Please select one or more of the Folsom Cordova Unified School District school facilities which your project/program will involve:	Cordova Gardens Elementary School Cordova Meadows Elementary School Cordova Villa Elementary School Navigator Elementary School Peter J. Shields Elementary School Rancho Cordova Elementary School Riverview STEM Academy White Rock Elementary School Williamson Elementary School Mills Middle School Mitchell Middle School
Have you reached out to a contact at the school(s) you indicated above?	Yes

Please provide the names of your contacts at the school(s) or district(s) who are familiar with your project/program.	Aimee Korynta - District Librarian
Does your project/program involve the Cordova Recreation & Park District?	No
	5 - Applicant Information
Name	Mina West
Is this project/program on behalf of an organization?	Yes
What is the name of your organization?	Folsom Cordova Unified School District
What is your title and/or role at your organization?	Admin Asst. - Communications and Community Engagement
Provide contact phone number:	+[redacted]
Provide contact email:	mwest@fcusd.org
Are you the primary point of contact on this project/program?	Yes
If your project/program was awarded the requested funds, are you authorized to sign the contract for your organization?	No, someone else would sign the contract

If selected by the City Council to receive an award, what is the name of the person at your organization who would sign the contract?	Sean Martin
What is the title of this individual?	Assistant Superintendent Business Services
What is the best phone number where we could contact the signatory?	+[redacted]
What is the best email address to contact the signatory?	LVenzon@fcusd.org
By checking here, I confirm that I am aware that my application materials will become public record.	checked
	Thank you for applying to the Community Enhancement & Investment Fund Fiscal Year 2026-2027 Grant Cycle. Applicants will receive an automated response through the grant portal. Community Enhancement & Investment Fund (CEIF) Staff will follow up with any questions regarding your Fiscal Year 2026-2027 application. For information about the next steps in the CEIF grant process, visit our website for more information. It is anticipated that applications will be reviewed by the City Council starting in April 2026 with adoption in June 2026. Should applicants be awarded by the City Council, funding would not be available to grantees until the start of Fiscal Year 2026-2027 and the completion of a contract. Please send an email to CEIFGrants@cityofranchocordova.org with any questions or comments.

Internal Form

Score	n/a

2026/2027 GRANT APPLICATION
COMMUNITY ENHANCEMENT & INVESTMENT FUND
To be Completed and returned to Mina West at
mwest@fcusd.org
Must be received by February 23, 2026

Project Name

The "Power of 20" Literacy Initiative: Expanding Library Access

Project Synopsis In 50 words or less, please describe the project.

An extension of the Library Recovery and Expansion program, this initiative modernizes 11 FCUSD school libraries in Rancho Cordova over three years. By purchasing curated, shelf-ready books, we aim to approach a 20:1 book-to-student ratio, enhancing collection diversity to improve literacy rates and community equity.

Project Description Describe the project in detail and how it benefits the community based on the City's Community Enhancement & Investment Fund guidelines and selection criteria. If you need more room to answer the question, please attach a separate document to your application.

We begin this proposal with a profound sense of gratitude to the City of Rancho Cordova. The Library Recovery and Expansion Grant has been more than just a funding source; it has been a transformative investment in the future of our students. Through the City's steadfast commitment to literacy, we have successfully modernized our collections, moving the average copyright age from a 1999 baseline to a 2015 average. This partnership ensured that our students maintained access to high-quality library materials during a critical post-pandemic period, directly supporting learning loss mitigation efforts. We are deeply thankful for the City's vision, which has revitalized the quality of the books on our shelves and set the stage for the next level of student success. With this foundation of excellence established, we are now ready for the expansion phase**.**

Despite the hard-earned growth in our local schools, a stark achievement disparity remains between our Rancho Cordova students and their Folsom peers. According to the most recent California School Dashboard data, students in Folsom average a 73.2% proficiency rate in English Language Arts (ELA), while students in Rancho Cordova average 38.5%. This 34.7-percentage-point gap is a direct call to action, exacerbated by an imbalance in library resources. In Folsom, library collections are frequently bolstered by robust PTO fundraising and private donations—a "funding bridge" that our Rancho Cordova schools lack.

Bridging this gap requires a direct investment in the tools that build ELA proficiency. High-quality library collections support literacy development by providing "mirrors and windows"—books where students see themselves reflected and books that offer a window into new worlds (Bishop, 1990). This engagement is the primary driver of Voluntary Independent Reading, which research identifies as the single greatest predictor of vocabulary growth, reading comprehension, and grammatical development (Krashen, 2004). When a library reaches the 20:1 "book-rich" ratio, students are more likely to find "hook books" that turn reluctant readers into fluent ones. This volume of choice allows students to practice complex decoding and critical thinking skills outside of direct instruction, facilitating the essential developmental transition from "learning to read" to "reading to learn" (Chall, 1983).

Substantial research confirms that access to a high volume of books is one of the strongest predictors of academic success, as students in "book-rich" environments demonstrate significantly higher literacy rates than those in "book-poor" environments (Evans et al., 2010). Furthermore, the "Lance Studies" across multiple states have proven that the size of a library's collection is directly correlated with higher standardized test scores, regardless of student socioeconomic status (Lance & Kachel, 2018). While we have modernized our titles, we must now approach the American Library Association's gold standard of a 20:1 ratio. By curating durable, library-bound titles, we will provide Rancho Cordova students with a high-volume, modern literacy environment. This ensures our libraries are deep enough to fuel student curiosity, align with diverse curricular needs, and directly drive the proficiency levels our students deserve.

Project Team 11 Library Technicians and District Librarian

Folsom Cordova Unified School District Librarian**:** Responsible for selection review, purchasing, cataloging, and delivery of books to school sites.
School Site Librarians/Staff**:** Responsible for selecting, shelving, and circulation.

Project Goals List goals, and outline metrics by which progress in reaching goals can be measured and the project team's efforts can be focused.

Increase Volume: Reach a minimum of 20 current, high-quality library items per student at all 11 targeted sites over the 3-year period.

- *Metric:* Extract data from the Library Management System (LMS) to calculate total items divided by total enrollment at each site annually.

Collection Modernization Continued: Modernize Collections**:** Shift the targeted library collection to 2015 or newer.

- *Metric:* Run a "Collection Age Report" through the LMS for all newly acquired materials compared to the total collection.

Enhance Engagement: Increase student engagement with library materials, particularly in upper grades to combat the "Middle School Slump."

- *Metric:* Monitor circulation data (number of checkouts) for new titles, specifically tracking 4th–8th grade circulation rates.

Funding Request Funds are generally not intended to be used for deferred maintenance and ongoing operational needs. The funds are intended for Community Enhancement & Investment.

Total project cost: $195,000

Estimated breakdown of project expenditures:

Total of 7,800 books at $25.00 each (includes shelf-ready processing).

Annual expenditure of $65,000, distributed as $5,000 per elementary school and $10,000 per middle school.

Matching funds (including any in-kind contributions): $0 (This is a request for full funding of materials)

Include any other funding contributions including your own: Site budget allocation varies by site

Ongoing (beyond FY 2025/2026) operations and maintenance costs if applicable: Book repair funds supported by FCUSD General Fund

Total Community Enhancement & Investment Funds requested: $195,000

Is this a multiyear request? Yes ☒ No ☐ If yes, number of years: 3

If you answered yes above, describe your sustainability plan and whether the project is viable as a single year request.

This is a 3-year phased approach to reach all 11 schools intentionally. The project is sustainable because the materials purchased are durable, long-lasting assets. Ongoing maintenance is covered by existing district library budgets.

How many years have you received funding for this project? Similar funding was received for the last 3 years

When will your request for funding sunset for ongoing programs?

Do you plan to ask annually for funding? No

What other funding will you seek to support your project? No

Project Schedule Project timeline and anticipated start and completion date. (If this is a multiyear request, please indicate that in both the funding request and the project schedule.) Funding does not become available until July 1. Funding typically ends June 30 of the following year.

Start Date: July 1, 2026
Completion Date: June 30, 2029 (for the 3-year plan)
FY 26/27 (Year 1): Selection, purchase, and distribution of $5,000 per elementary school and $10,000 per middle school.
FY 27/28 (Year 2): Selection, purchase, and distribution of $5,000 per elementary school and $10,000 per middle school.
FY 28/29 (Year 3): Selection, purchase, and distribution of $5,000 per elementary school and $10,000 per middle school to reach final goals.

Timeliness In addition to providing the project timeline identified above, describe how you will be able to complete your project by June 30, 2026. Please note, if selected for funding, you will be required to submit a narrative Outcomes Report and a financial Use of Funds Report at least two times during the grant period.

We will complete the project by utilizing the phased timeline outlined above. FCUSD is prepared to begin selection and procurement immediately upon receipt of funds on July 1 of each fiscal year. Because we purchase "shelf-ready" materials—meaning they arrive with barcodes, spine labels, and digital records—books can be placed into circulation within days of delivery. We will submit the required Outcomes and Use of Funds Reports as mandated by the city guidelines. Progress reports are available on our library management system Follett Destiny

Adaptability Will you be able to adjust your project if California Public Health and/or Sacramento County Health Orders change? For example, the program could operate virtually or with other modifications made. Please describe.

Yes. If health orders change, the project can adapt by shifting the focus to digital library resources (eBooks) that can be accessed remotely by students, rather than physical books. However, as the request is for physical items, the distribution process can easily be adapted to contactless pickup at school sites if necessary.

Project Location Please note that projects or programs that are proposed on property owned or operated by outside agencies or a private party will require the coordination with and potentially approvals from outside agencies, organizations, and/or the private party.

Physical Address:
1965 Birkmont Dr
Rancho Cordova,California 95742

- Cordova Gardens Elementary 2400 Dawes St.
- Cordova Meadows Elementary 2550 La Loma Dr.
- Cordova Villa Elementary 10359 S. White Rock Rd.
- Mills Middle School 10439 Coloma Rd.
- Mitchell Middle School 2100 Zinfandel Dr.
- Navigator Elementary 10679 Bear Hollow Dr.
- Peter J. Shields Elementary 10434 Georgetown Dr.
- Rancho Cordova Elementary 2562 Chasella Way
- Riverview STEM Academy 10700 Ambassador Dr.
- White Rock 10487 White Rock Rd.
- Williamson 2276 Benita Dr.

Have you received a letter of support for the project from the property owner? Yes ☐ No ☐ N/A x If yes, submit the letter of support with your application.

If your project/program is intended to operate or take place at a public K-12 school site or a park/park facility, instead of a support letter you must request the endorsement of the entity using the appropriate Supplemental Endorsement Form.

School District (if applicable, check all that apply): EGUSD ☐ FCUSD x SCUSD ☐ Other ☐

By the application deadline, the City of Rancho Cordova must also receive the Supplemental Endorsement Form that's been signed and dated by the corresponding school superintendent for the application to be considered a complete submittal. It's the applicant's responsibility to ask for the endorsement in the time allotted. You will be asked to share if you have contacted school staff and to provide the name(s) of your contact(s). Each participating school superintendent reserves the right to withhold their endorsement of a project/program. Refer to the Fiscal Year 2025/2026 Supplemental Endorsement Form for more information and important deadlines.

Cordova Recreation & Park District

If your project/program is intended to operate or take place at a park/park facility, instead of a support letter, you must request the endorsement of the Cordova Recreation & Park District (CRPD) using the Supplemental Endorsement Form. It's the applicant's responsibility to ask for the endorsement in the time allotted. The CRPD representative reserves the right to withhold their endorsement of a project/program. Refer to the Fiscal Year 2025/2026 Supplemental Endorsement Form for more information and important deadlines.

Application Submitted by

Name: Aimee Korynta

Title: District Librarian

[redacted]

Email: AKorynta@fcusd.org

Organization's Legal Name (if applicable): Folsom Cordova Unified School District

Mailing Address: 1965 Birkmont Drive, Rancho Cordova, CA 95642

Signatory If the applicant's project or program is selected for funding, list who will be the signatory of the funding agreement.

Signatory's Name:

Title: Superintendent

[redacted]

Email:

Mailing Address: 1965 Birkmont Drive, Rancho Cordova, CA 95742

Public Record Unless otherwise exempt under applicable law, applications and application materials are public records. All information received from an applicant, whether received in connection with a grant application or in connection with any grant-funded activities performed are subject to disclosure pursuant to the California Public Records Act, unless otherwise exempt.

Title

Girls on the Run: Title I Access & Empowerment Initiative – Rancho Cordova

03/06/2026

id. 53409138

by **Carly Cardenas** in **Fiscal Year 2026-2027 Community Enhancement & Investment Fund Grant Application**

PO Box 19602
Sacramento, California
95819
United States
[redacted]
carly@gotrsac.org

Original Submission

03/12/2026

Score n/a

	Thank you for your interest in applying to the City of Rancho Cordova's Community Enhancement & Investment Fund. Applications are open from February 9, 2026, to March 13, 2026, Noon (12:00 p.m.) with a specific deadline of March 6th Noon (12:00 p.m.) for certain applications**. Before you begin, please read the notes about deadlines and certain types of grant applications/grants below. **School/Park Application Deadline **Note that projects or programs involving a park or school district have a deadline of March 6 Noon (12:00 p.m.) to allow for the third-party endorsement process by the grant deadline.** A Note about Religious Schools and the Application/Grant Process **Note for grant applications from religious schools. The United States Supreme Court has recently ruled in part that: “denying a generally available benefit [from government] solely on account of religious identity imposes a penalty on the free exercise of religion that can be justified only by a state interest of the highest order.” The City is of the opinion that not all grants to religious schools are prohibited under this and other similar rulings. However, these United States Supreme Court decisions remain in conflict with a section of the California State Constitution that says: “[n]either the Legislature, nor any county, city and county, township, school district, or other municipal corporation, shall ever make an appropriation, or pay from any public fund whatever, or grant anything to or in aid of any religious sect, church, creed, or sectarian purpose, or help to support or sustain any school, college, university, hospital, or other institution controlled by any religious creed, church, or sectarian denomination whatever; nor shall any grant or donation of personal property or real estate ever be made by the state, or any city, city and county, town, or other municipal corporation for any religious creed, church, or sectarian purpose whatever”. The City will accept applications for grants of these City public funds from religious schools, but will have language in the grant agreements to address the possibility and consequences of legal challenges and new court decisions on this and related topics. ** Future Grant Opportunities If you are interested in remaining up-to-date on available grants from the City of Rancho Cordova, click here to sign up for the Grants Interest List. A separate call for programming opportunities with the Rancho Cordova Youth Center is anticipated later in 2026. The list is also used to advertise separate art programs when funds are available. Ongoing Grant Opportunity The City of Rancho Cordova offers a microgrant opportunity. Learn more about those grants online.
Is this your first time applying for grant funding from the City of Rancho Cordova? As a first-time applicant, Community Enhancement & Investment Fund (CEIF) staff will contact you to discuss your project and grant application process.	Yes: First Time Applicant

	1 - Project/Program Information Note: You can add a collaborator to this form to assist you in completing this application! A collaborator can help you complete this form by filling in fields for you, although only you can submit this form. You can add a collaborator by navigating to the top of the form and clicking on the 'Manage Collaborators' button. Simply enter their email address and click 'invite' to invite them as a collaborator. If you need further assistance, you may consult this Help article for more information.
Project/Program Name. Assign a project name to your project/program.	Girls on the Run: Title I Access & Empowerment Initiative – Rancho Cordova
Which category does your Project/Program align with?	Youth Programs & Services
Provide a Project/Program Synopsis	The Girls on the Run Title I School Access & Empowerment Initiative will sustain programming at two Rancho Cordova Title I schools while expanding to a third campus. Serving 45 girls annually, this after-school program uses school facilities to combine physical activity and social-emotional learning, strengthening confidence and community connection.
Provide a Project/Program Description	Our answer is about 1300 words. We've attached the full answer in the File Upload Section. Thank you!
Tell us about your Project/Program Team	The Girls on the Run Title I Access & Empowerment Initiative will be implemented by the leadership and program staff of Girls on the Run Greater Sacramento (GOTR). Stephanie Tseu, Executive Director, provides organizational oversight and strategic leadership. Carly Murray, Program Manager, oversees program implementation, including coach training, background checks, and ensuring sites have the curriculum, materials, and support needed for successful seasons. Carly Cardenas, Development & Outreach Coordinator, manages grant funding, partnerships, and reporting. School coordination is supported by site liaisons, including Kayla Yates (Assistant Principal), Williamson Elementary; and Karen Gillard (Instructional Coach), Cordova Meadows.
Provide your Project/Program Goals	The goal of the Girls on the Run Title I Access & Empowerment Initiative in Rancho Cordova is to expand equitable access to Girls on the Run (GOTR) programming while strengthening confidence, health, and leadership skills among participating girls; and through engagement of schools, families, and community volunteers, GOTR aims to promote positive school environments, encourage healthy family activities, and fosters community connection through mentorship, youth-led service projects. Together, these efforts contribute to improving the overall health, well-being, and quality of life for Rancho Cordova youth and families. **Goal 1: Expand Access to Youth Development Programming (Participation Goal)** Provide GOTR programming at three Rancho Cordova Title I schools—Williamson Elementary, Cordova Meadows, and Peter Shields Elementary

—serving 30–45 girls annually in grades 3–8.

Metrics

3 participating schools

10–15 girls per team (full teams)

30–45 girls enrolled and completing the program each season

Goal 2: Improve Confidence, Leadership, and Social-Emotional Skills (Impact Goal)

Support participants in developing confidence, resilience, and leadership skills through structured lessons and mentorship.

Metrics

85% of participants report increased confidence and self-belief in post-season surveys

85% of participants report improved peer relationships and sense of belonging

Surveys administered to participants, families, schools, and coaches to capture the full scope of program impact

Goal 3: Promote Health and Physical Activity (Impact Goal)

Encourage lifelong healthy habits through running-based programming and participation in the culminating Girls on the Run 5K.

Metrics

100% program completion rate among participants

100% of participants complete the Girls on the Run 5K

85% of participants report increased comfort and participation in physical activity in post-season surveys

Goal 4: Strengthen School Climate (Impact Goal)

Encourage positive peer interactions, leadership, and kindness within participating schools as girls apply program lessons in their classrooms and school communities.

Metrics

80% of teachers and coaches report improvements in participant leadership, kindness, and peer inclusion in post-season surveys

Completion of one youth-led community impact project per team, documented by coaches and reported to GOTR Greater Sacramento

Goal 5: Strengthen Community Engagement (Impact Goal)

	Engage families, schools, and volunteers in supporting participants and celebrating their achievements. Metrics 2–4 volunteer coaches per team 75% or more of participants supported by a family member or mentor at the culminating 5K Completion of youth-led community impact projects at each school Additionally, GOTR staff will track enrollment, participation, survey results, and volunteer engagement each season to measure progress and ensure program goals remain focused and achievable.

Optional File Upload: Provide any additional records to supplement your program/project application. Note: Combine multiple files in one pdf before uploading.

GOTR_Letter_of_Endorsement.pdf

GOTR–_TITLE_1_ACCESS_EMPOWERMENT_INITATIVE_-_PROGRAM_DESCRIPTION.pdf

	2 - Funding & Costs
Funding Request - Complete this section with total dollar amounts for your project/program's costs	Funds are generally not intended to be used for deferred maintenance and ongoing operational needs. The funds are intended for enhancing and investing in the City of Rancho Cordova. If your project/program is awarded, the costs identified below would be reviewed and potentially open to modification during a contracting phase (if a grant is awarded by the City Council). If awarded, grant funds are not available until a contract is executed during Fiscal Year 2026-2027.
Total project/program cost*	7050
What is the amount of Community Enhancement & Investment Fund grant monies requested?	7050
Does your project/program involve construction of any facilities or improvements upon any property?	No
What is the total cost of personnel for your project/program?	0

What is the total cost of supplies for your project/program?	2325
What is the total cost of transportation for your project/program?	0
What is the total cost of equipment for your project/program?	2700
What is the total cost of any miscellaneous expenses for your project/program?	2025

Upload your project/program's budget as a .pdf file. Include the categories and their dollar amounts along with information about any other funding sources to demonstrate your project/program's total budget. Note, the sum of all categories must match the total project or program cost, or the amount requested of CEIF if there is no other funding source. Please clearly illustrate any matching funds or funding from other sources in your project/program budget, including in-kind sources. Note: Combine multiple files in one pdf before uploading.

GOTR_Title_1_Access_And_Empowerment_-_Rancho_Budget.pdf

Has your organization sought or will seek other funding for this project/program?	Yes, actively seeking funding support or have secured additional funding support for this project/program.

Describe any funding secured or being sought for this project/program.	Girls on the Run Greater Sacramento is pursuing a diversified funding strategy to support expansion to Title 1 Schools within Greater Sacramento (Yolo, Sacramento, El Dorado and Placer Counties). Funds secured within this pursuit, are divided within all scholarship participants, including those who would benefit from our Title I Access & Empowerment Initiative – Rancho Cordova. In addition to this request to the City of Rancho Cordova Community Enhancement & Investment Fund (CEIF), the organization has applied for several grants to help expand scholarship funding for girls attending Title I schools, including the Roseville Rotary Grant, Sacramento County Transient Occupancy Tax (TOT) Grant, Soroptimist International Blanche Edgar and Shirley Godfrey Grant, Sac Metro Inspire Giving Grant, and the American Eagle Foundation Grant. These are grants that we have applied to in 2026 and are awaiting responses. Girls on the Run also generates significant scholarship funding through community fundraising initiatives. The organization participates in Big Day of Giving (May 7) and plans to increase its fundraising goal this year from $25,000 to $30,000, to help address growing scholarship demand. In addition, the annual Tee for Her Future Golf Tournament (September 11) has a fundraising goal of $35,000, all of which will support Title I school scholarships. GOTR will also host its annual International Day of the Girl online fundraiser (October 11), with a goal of $10,000 to further expand scholarship support. Finally, Girls on the Run Greater Sacramento continues to actively pursue partnerships with local businesses and community leaders—including VSP Global, Sacramento Republic FC, Sutter Health, and UC Davis—to develop additional sponsorships that help sustain and expand programming for girls across the region.

Please describe any ongoing operations and maintenance costs beyond Fiscal Year 2026/2027, if applicable.	The primary ongoing costs associated with sustaining the Girls on the Run (GOTR) program beyond Fiscal Year 2026/2027 include program materials, site insurance, participant athletic gear, and the culminating 5K event. Based on the current program structure serving three teams (30–45 girls), these costs total approximately $7,050 per season, including coach background checks, CPR/First Aid certifications, coach training, site insurance, program materials, running shoes and athletic gear for scholarship participants, and 5K entry fees. However, these costs can decrease in future seasons as coaches return to the program. Returning coaches typically do not need to repeat background checks, coach training, or CPR/First Aid certifications each year, which reduces program expenses over time. As a result, the primary ongoing costs in future years will largely be limited to participant support and site operations, including program materials, insurance, athletic gear, and 5K participation. With this in mind – to maintain three teams with returning coaches, the on going costs would be $5,400. GOTR is committed to sustaining these programs long-term through a diversified funding strategy that includes grants, individual donations, corporate sponsorships, and community fundraising initiatives. While grant funding helps expand access to new sites, the organization also generates scholarship funding through major fundraising efforts such as Big Day of Giving, the Tee for Her Future Golf Tournament, and the International Day of the Girl online fundraising campaign. Together, these initiatives generate critical scholarship funding that supports participation at Title I schools. In addition, Girls on the Run continues to expand partnerships with local businesses and community organizations, including companies such as VSP Global, Sacramento Republic FC, Sutter Health, and UC Davis, to develop sponsorship opportunities that support program sustainability. Through this combination of diversified revenue streams, community partnerships, and volunteer engagement, GOTR is well positioned to sustain programming at Williamson Elementary, Cordova Meadows, and Peter Shields Elementary in future seasons.
Do you have volunteer or in-kind support for your project? This could include volunteers for an activity/event that is ongoing or a one-time experience.	No
Is this a single year request or a request for funding for multiple years?	Single Year

Has your project/program received funding from the Community Enhancement & Investment Fund previously?	No
	3 - Project/Program Details Grant applications are typically approved to occur between July 2026 through June 2027. What is your plan to complete this project/program within this time frame?
Anticipated Start Date (July 1 is the soonest available start date)	7/13/2026
Anticipated End Date (typically projects/programs end by June 30)	5/8/2027
Please describe your project/program schedule	**July 2026 – School Outreach & Coach Recruitment** • Confirm participation with three Title I schools: Williamson Elementary, Cordova Meadows Elementary, and Peter Shields Elementary. • Recruit volunteer coaches through school networks and the Rancho Cordova community. • Conduct coach training, background checks (Live Scan), and CPR/First Aid certification. *Outcome:* Three Girls on the Run teams established with **6 trained and certified volunteer coaches (2 per team).* **August 2026 – Participant Recruitment** • Provide schools with marketing materials and support outreach to families and the broader community. • Coordinate with school staff to recruit participants. *Outcome: Full enrollment for Fall 2026 teams.* **September 2026 – Fall Season Launch** • Deliver curriculum materials and program supplies. • Host a Gear Pick-Up Day for coaches and participants (running shoes, sports bras, socks, and program materials). • Begin the 8-week Girls on the Run program. *Outcome: Girls and coaches are fully equipped for a successful season.* **November 2026 – Fall Season Celebration** • Conclude the fall season and celebrate participant achievements. • Share program outcomes with partners and sponsors to support long-term sustainability. *Outcome: Increased community awareness and continued funding*

support.

October 2026 – February 2027 – Spring Outreach & Recruitment
• Recruit returning and new volunteer coaches (2 per team).
• Conduct coach training and background checks as needed.
• Provide marketing materials and support schools with participant recruitment.

Outcome: Full enrollment and trained coaches for Spring 2027 teams.

March – May 2027 – Spring Season & Celebratory 5K
• Launch the spring season with curriculum delivery and a Gear Pick-Up Day.
• Implement the 8-week program at participating schools.
• Girls complete the season by participating in the Girls on the Run Greater Sacramento 5K (May 8, 2027) with a parent, guardian, or mentor.

Outcome: Girls demonstrate increased confidence, physical activity, and social-emotional skills while celebrating their accomplishments at the culminating community 5K.

Because the program is implemented across both Fall 2026 and Spring 2027 seasons, the timeline provides flexibility to adapt to each school's academic calendar, staffing capacity, and student recruitment cycles. If a school is unable to host during the fall semester, the program can be implemented in the spring season instead, ensuring that all participating schools have the opportunity to successfully launch a Girls on the Run team while maintaining program quality and full enrollment.

What challenges do you anticipate in your project/program's implementation? What is your plan to complete your project/program should those or other challenges arise?	The primary challenge in implementing this program is recruiting volunteer coaches. Girls on the Run relies on volunteer coaches—typically teachers, school staff, parents, or community members—to facilitate the program at each school site. Because each team requires at least two coaches, ensuring that enough qualified volunteers are available can occasionally delay program launch at a particular school. To address this challenge, Girls on the Run Greater Sacramento has developed a multi-layered recruitment strategy. We work closely with school administrators and teachers to identify potential coaches within the school community and provide clear information about the manageable time commitment (two practices per week for eight weeks). We also recruit through parent networks, community partners, local businesses, and volunteer organizations. In addition, we reduce barriers for volunteers by covering the cost of coach training, background checks, and CPR/First Aid certification. Our staff provides hands-on support throughout the season—including training, curriculum guidance, and ongoing communication—to ensure coaches feel confident and supported. Because the program runs in both fall and spring seasons, we also have built-in flexibility. If a school needs additional time to secure coaches, the program can be launched in the following season. This approach helps ensure that each team is fully staffed and able to deliver the program with the quality and consistency that Girls on the Run is known for.
How many individuals does your project/program serve?	45
How many Rancho Cordova residents does your project/program serve?	600-1200
	4 - Project/Program Location
Address Verification	If you need to check if your project is in Rancho Cordova, type in your program/project's location in the Assessor Parcel Viewer: https://assessorparcelviewer.saccounty.gov/jsviewer/assessor.html

School and park related applications are due before Noon (12:00 p.m.) on March 6, 2026, to allow for the endorsement process.	Please note that projects or programs that are proposed on property owned or operated by outside agencies or a private party will require coordination with and potentially approvals from outside agencies, organizations, and/or the private party. Include whether you have received a letter of support for the project/program from the property owner. Upload any letters of support with your application. City staff will verify third-party permits have been discussed. In your planning discussions, be sure to discuss any necessary insurance or volunteer requirements that may increase budget costs. School Sites If your project/program is intended to operate at a public K-12 school site, your application is due by March 6 at Noon (12:00 p.m.). City staff will work with the school districts to confirm an endorsement for your project/program. It's the applicant's responsibility to communicate with school site and district representatives before applying so there is clarity during the endorsement process. Districts will only consider endorsement for applications submitted to the Community Enhancement & Investment Fund by the March 6 at Noon (12:00 p.m.). deadline. Each participating school superintendent reserves the right to withhold their endorsement of a project/program. Parks If your project/program is intended to operate at a park or community center site, your application is due by the March 6 at Noon (12:00 p.m.). deadline. City staff will work with the Cordova Recreation & Park District to confirm an endorsement for your project/program. It's the applicant's responsibility to communicate with district representatives before applying so there is clarity during the endorsement process. A special use permit application is required for any program or event planned at a CRPD facility. The special use application can be found at the CRPD website: https://www.cordovarpd.gov/. CRPD will only consider endorsement for applications submitted to the Community Enhancement & Investment Fund by the March 6 at Noon (12:00 p.m.). deadline. The Cordova Recreation & Park District reserves the right to withhold their endorsement of a project/program. Below is the list of staff to communicate with at school and park organizations: Folsom Cordova Unified School District: mwest@fcusd.org Cordova Recreation & Park District: cmichelotti@cordovarpd.gov Elk Grove Unified School District: mgulden@egusd.net Sacramento City Unified School District: Tuan-Duong@scusd.edu for Winn and Carver and Enrique-Flores@scusd.edu for Lincoln.
Primary street address of project/program	Williamson Elementary: 2275 Benita Drive
List the city location of the project/program.	Rancho Cordova
Select State	CA
Provide the zip code for your project/program's primary location.	95670

If your project/program takes place at multiple locations, please list other or secondary locations.	Cordova Meadows Elementary School: 2550 La Loma Dr, Rancho Cordova, CA 95670 Peter Shields Elementary School: 10434 Georgetown Dr, Rancho Cordova, CA 95670
Third Party Letters of Support (Note: Combine multiple files in one pdf before uploading)	
Does your project/program involve one of Rancho Cordova's school districts?	Yes
Is the project/program requesting facility use only or is this a request to partner with the school district?	Facility Use Only. Visit the school district website for facility use information.
Please select all the school districts which your project/program intends to involve:	Folsom Cordova USD
Please select one or more of the Folsom Cordova Unified School District school facilities which your project/program will involve:	Cordova Meadows Elementary School Peter J. Shields Elementary School Williamson Elementary School
Have you reached out to a contact at the school(s) you indicated above?	Yes
Please provide the names of your contacts at the school(s) or district(s) who are familiar with your project/program.	Williamson Elementary: Kayla Yates (Assistant Principal) Cordova Meadows: Karen Gillard (Instructional Coach) Peter Shields: PTA and Principal Bosque

Does your project/program involve the Cordova Recreation & Park District?	No
	5 - Applicant Information
Name	Carly Cardenas
Is this project/program on behalf of an organization?	Yes
What is the name of your organization?	Girls On The Run Greater Sacramento
What is your title and/or role at your organization?	Development and Outreach Coordinator
Provide contact phone number:	+[redacted]
Provide contact email:	carly@gotrsac.org
Are you the primary point of contact on this project/program?	Yes
If your project/program was awarded the requested funds, are you authorized to sign the contract for your organization?	No, someone else would sign the contract
If selected by the City Council to receive an award, what is the name of the person at your organization who would sign the contract?	Stephanie Tseu
What is the title of this individual?	Executive Director

What is the best phone number where we could contact the signatory?	+[redacted]
What is the best email address to contact the signatory?	stephanie@gotrsac.org
By checking here, I confirm that I am aware that my application materials will become public record.	checked
	Thank you for applying to the Community Enhancement & Investment Fund Fiscal Year 2026-2027 Grant Cycle. Applicants will receive an automated response through the grant portal. Community Enhancement & Investment Fund (CEIF) Staff will follow up with any questions regarding your Fiscal Year 2026-2027 application. For information about the next steps in the CEIF grant process, visit our website for more information. It is anticipated that applications will be reviewed by the City Council starting in April 2026 with adoption in June 2026. Should applicants be awarded by the City Council, funding would not be available to grantees until the start of Fiscal Year 2026-2027 and the completion of a contract. Please send an email to CEIFGrants@cityofranchocordova.org with any questions or comments.

Internal Form

Score	n/a

Girls on the Run Greater Sacramento
Title I Access & Empowerment Initiative – Rancho Cordova
Project Budget

Budget Category	CEIF Request ($)	Other Funding ($)	In-Kind ($)	Total ($)
Coach Background Checks (6 × $50)	$300	$0	$0	$300
Program Materials (3 × $250)	$750	$0	$0	$750
CPR & First Aid Certifications (6 × $100)	$600	$0	$0	$600
Coach GOTR Training (6 × $125)	$750	$0	$0	$750
Site Insurance (3 × $125)	$375	$0	$0	$375
Running Shoes, Socks and Sports Bras (45 × $60)	$2,700	$0	$0	$2,700
5K Entry (45 × $35)	$1,575	$0	$0	$1,575
TOTAL PROJECT COST	**$7,050**	**$0**	**$0**	**$7,050**

Funding Summary: The total project cost of **$7,050** is requested from the City of Rancho Cordova Community Enhancement & Investment Fund (CEIF). Girls on the Run Greater Sacramento also leverages in-kind contributions such as volunteer coach time, school facilities, and community partnerships to support program delivery.

GOTR– TITLE 1 ACCESS & EMPOWERMENT INITATIVE – RANCHO CORDOVA

Project Description: Describe the project/program in detail and how it benefits the community based on the City's Community Enhancement & Investment Fund guidelines and selection criteria. If you need more room to answer the question, please attach additional items in the File Upload section below. (750 Words)

GIRLS ON THE Run (GOTR) OVERVIEW

Girls on the Run (GOTR) is a youth development program that empowers girls in grades 3–8 to build confidence, leadership skills, and lifelong healthy habits through a research-based curriculum that combines physical activity with social-emotional learning. Since launching in the Sacramento region in 2003, GOTR has partnered with schools across Sacramento, Yolo, Placer, and El Dorado counties, serving more than 7,800 girls and engaging hundreds of volunteer coaches who mentor and support participants each season.

During each eight-week season, participants meet twice a week with trained volunteer coaches who guide them through interactive lessons focused on goal setting, resilience, emotional regulation, teamwork, and positive decision-making. By pairing movement with meaningful discussion, GOTR helps girls strengthen their mental well-being, develop a strong sense of self, and discover the confidence to lead and positively impact their communities.

Programs are typically held immediately after the school day ends and take place outdoors on school campuses using spaces such as the blacktop, grass field, or running track through the district's facility use process.

A core priority of our organization is ensuring equitable access to programming. Currently, 66% of GOTR participants receive financial scholarships, allowing girls from families facing financial barriers to participate fully in the program. Scholarship recipients also receive brand-new running shoes, socks, and sports bras, ensuring they have the proper gear to participate comfortably and confidently while setting them up for success throughout the season.

GOTR– TITLE 1 ACCESS & EMPOWERMENT INITATIVE – RANCHO CORDOVA

Through the GOTR Title I Access & Empowerment Initiative – Rancho Cordova, we are seeking support from the City of Rancho Cordova to sustain and expand programming at Title I schools within the community. Specifically, funding will allow us to continue GOTR at Williamson Elementary and Cordova Meadows, while expanding access to a new team at Peter Shields Elementary.

Grant funding will ensure the program is accessible to all interested girls regardless of financial circumstances by covering the full cost of participation, including:

Coach Background Checks (6 × $50) – $300

Program Materials (3 × $250) – $750

CPR & First Aid Certifications (6 × $100) – $600

Coach GOTR Training (6 × $125) – $750

Site Insurance (3 × $125) – $375

Running Shoes, Socks and Sports Bras (45 × $60) – $2,700

5K Entry (45 × $35) – $1,575

Total: $7,050.00

This initiative will serve 45 girls annually across three schools (15 girls per school) in grades 3–8, a critical developmental stage when research shows girls' confidence declines and participation in physical activity drops significantly. Each participant receives a full scholarship covering program costs, athletic gear, and a 5K entry for a parent or mentor, ensuring equitable access while encouraging meaningful family engagement.

The eight-week program is delivered by 2–4 trained volunteer coaches per site, fostering strong mentor relationships and accountability.

GOTR operates as a community partner that uses school campuses through the district's Facility Use process. The program is not a district-run after-school program (such as ACES or 4th R). Instead, GOTR independently provides programming while coordinating closely with school staff.

Sessions take place immediately after the school day ends, typically twice per week for approximately 90 minutes, and are held outdoors on available campus spaces such as the blacktop, grass field, or track. The program does not require classroom space or indoor facilities.

This structure allows schools to host the program without requiring district staffing or financial resources while still providing students access to a high-quality enrichment opportunity.

Post-season surveys consistently show that impact extends beyond participants. Girls apply these skills in classrooms and at home, improving peer relationships, participation, and overall school culture.

While GOTR independently delivers the program, schools play an important partnership role by helping introduce the opportunity to families through tools such as PeachJar flyers, newsletters, or allowing GOTR staff to share information with families during dismissal or school events.

Each team also completes a youth-led community service project—such as park clean-ups, anti-bullying campaigns, or gratitude initiatives for essential workers—allowing girls to practice leadership while making a tangible difference in their community.

Through sustaining programs at Williamson Elementary and Cordova Meadows and expanding to Peter Shields Elementary, this initiative will ensure that more girls in Rancho Cordova—particularly those attending Title I schools—have access to a program that builds confidence, promotes healthy lifestyles, and strengthens school communities.

ALLIGNMENT WITH GUIDELINE AND SELECTION CRITERIA
The GOTR Title I Access & Empowerment Initiative – Rancho Cordova directly aligns with the City of Rancho Cordova's Community Enhancement & Investment Fund (CEIF) guidelines and selection criteria, which prioritize projects that provide clear public benefit and strengthen the community.

COMMUNITY BENEFIT
The program serves 30–45 girls annually at Williamson Elementary, Cordova Meadows, and Peter Shields Elementary, while engaging families, teachers, volunteer coaches, and community members through the season and culminating 5K event.

YOUTH DEVELOPMENT
GOTR provides structured after-school programming that builds confidence, leadership skills, resilience, and positive decision-making during a critical developmental stage for girls.

The program takes place immediately after the school day and is facilitated by trained volunteer coaches through GOTR, on school campuses through the district's facility use process rather than through district-run after-school programs.

HEALTH AND WELLNESS
The program promotes physical activity and healthy lifestyle habits through running-based lessons and goal setting, encouraging long-term engagement in sports and wellness.

COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT AND CIVIC PARTICIPATION
Girls lead youth-driven service projects that benefit the Rancho Cordova community, reinforcing civic responsibility and community pride.

LOCAL IMPACT IN RANCHO CORDOVA
Programming will take place at three Rancho Cordova Title I schools, directly benefiting local students, families, and school communities.

PUBLIC ACCESS AND EQUITY
Grant funding ensures the program is fully accessible to all girls regardless of financial circumstances, covering participation costs, athletic gear, and family engagement in the culminating 5K event.

Through this initiative, the City's investment will support a proven youth development program that strengthens school communities, promotes healthy lifestyles, and empowers young girls to become confident leaders who positively impact Rancho Cordova.

NEED FOR FUNDING
Economic hardship has significantly increased the need for financial assistance among families participating in GOTR. Over the past two years, the percentage of participants requiring scholarships has increased from 58% to 66%, reflecting growing financial pressure on families and reduced access to extracurricular opportunities for many students.

At the same time, the cost of essential program components—particularly running shoes—has increased significantly, nearly doubling. These rising costs, combined with increased demand for scholarships, have placed additional pressure on our organization's ability to fully fund participation for girls at Title I schools.

Williamson Elementary and Cordova Meadows have both demonstrated strong demand for the program, consistently filling their teams with students eager to participate each season. In previous years, GOTR has been able to support these sites through a combination of foundation grants and philanthropic funding designated for scholarships. However, grant funding available to nonprofits declined significantly over the past year, resulting in fewer available scholarship dollars across our region.

As a result, our scholarship fund is experiencing greater demand with fewer available funding sources. Many families at these schools are unable to cover participation costs, and without scholarship support, a significant number of girls would not have the opportunity to participate.

Support from the City will help sustain programming at Williamson Elementary and Cordova Meadows while expanding access to Peter Shields Elementary, ensuring that Rancho Cordova girls can participate regardless of financial circumstances. This

investment will provide critical stability as GOTR implements new fundraising strategies designed to strengthen long-term scholarship funding. These efforts will help ensure that all three programs remain accessible and sustainable for years to come, allowing more girls across the Rancho Cordova community to benefit from the program.

SUSTAINABILITY

GOTR maintains a diversified funding model that includes individual donors, foundation grants, corporate sponsorships, community partnerships, fundraising events, and program fees. This diversified approach allows the organization to sustain programming across the region while ensuring equitable access for girls from families facing financial barriers. The program is also supported by a strong network of trained volunteer coaches and long-standing school partnerships, which significantly reduces program delivery costs and strengthens long-term sustainability. These partnerships create consistent program infrastructure at participating schools and allow teams to operate efficiently each season.

GOTR also has a proven track record of sustaining programs at Title I schools over multiple years. For example, Cordova Meadows Elementary has hosted a GOTR team since 2021, while other Title I sites—including Oak Ridge Elementary, Leataata Floyd Elementary, and Smythe Academy—have successfully operated both Spring and Fall seasons since 2021.

These long-standing partnerships demonstrate strong community demand and the organization's ability to maintain stable programming once teams are established.

To further strengthen sustainability, GOTR continues to expand its fundraising and community partnership strategies. In addition to pursuing new grant opportunities, the organization is increasing outreach to local businesses and employers, including companies such as VSP Global, California Family Fitness, and other Sacramento-area organizations, to develop sponsorships that help sustain programming at local schools. Community-based fundraising initiatives—including the annual Tee for Her Future Golf Tournament and a newly launched International Day of the Girl online fundraising campaign—are also helping to build a broader base of support for scholarships and program expansion.

Support from the City of Rancho Cordova Community Enhancement & Investment Fund will help stabilize scholarship funding for Rancho Cordova schools while GOTR continues to grow these community partnerships and diversified revenue streams. Through this investment, the City will help ensure that GOTR programming remains accessible, sustainable, and impactful for Rancho Cordova students and families for years to come.

Williamson Elementary School

Home of the Wildcats

March 03, 2026

To Whom It May Concern:

I am pleased to provide my enthusiastic endorsement of Girls on the Run Greater Sacramento.

Williamson Elementary launched its first Girls on the Run season in 2025, and we are currently kicking off our second season. Both seasons have reached maximum team capacity, demonstrating strong interest and excitement among our students and families.

As a school leader, I am deeply familiar with the power of this program. Prior to Williamson, I helped bring Girls on the Run to Cordova Meadows Elementary, where we have successfully hosted a full team every season since 2022. Across both campuses, I have witnessed firsthand the lasting impact Girls on the Run has on students, families, and school culture.

The program supports social-emotional learning, confidence, goal setting, and teamwork in a way that is both structured and inspiring. Girls who may begin the season unsure of themselves grow into confident leaders by the end of the program. The culminating 5K celebration consistently brings families together and strengthens connections between home and school.

Girls on the Run aligns seamlessly with our commitment to supporting the whole child. I strongly support continued opportunities to provide this program at Williamson Elementary and beyond, as it continues to make a meaningful difference in the lives of our students.

Sincerely,

Kayla R. Yates

Kayla Yates

Assistant Principal

Williamson Elementary School

Title

Harris Center for the Arts ClassACTS School Matinee Program

03/06/2026

id. 53410510

by **Sue Byrne** in **Fiscal Year 2026-2027 Community Enhancement & Investment Fund Grant Application**

1919 Spanos Court
Sacramento, California
95825
California
United States
[redacted]
byrnes@losrios.edu

Original Submission

03/06/2026

Score n/a

	Thank you for your interest in applying to the City of Rancho Cordova's Community Enhancement & Investment Fund. Applications are open from February 9, 2026, to March 13, 2026, Noon (12:00 p.m.) with a specific deadline of March 6th Noon (12:00 p.m.) for certain applications**. Before you begin, please read the notes about deadlines and certain types of grant applications/grants below. **School/Park Application Deadline **Note that projects or programs involving a park or school district have a deadline of March 6 Noon (12:00 p.m.) to allow for the third-party endorsement process by the grant deadline.** A Note about Religious Schools and the Application/Grant Process **Note for grant applications from religious schools. The United States Supreme Court has recently ruled in part that: “denying a generally available benefit [from government] solely on account of religious identity imposes a penalty on the free exercise of religion that can be justified only by a state interest of the highest order.” The City is of the opinion that not all grants to religious schools are prohibited under this and other similar rulings. However, these United States Supreme Court decisions remain in conflict with a section of the California State Constitution that says: “[n]either the Legislature, nor any county, city and county, township, school district, or other municipal corporation, shall ever make an appropriation, or pay from any public fund whatever, or grant anything to or in aid of any religious sect, church, creed, or sectarian purpose, or help to support or sustain any school, college, university, hospital, or other institution controlled by any religious creed, church, or sectarian denomination whatever; nor shall any grant or donation of personal property or real estate ever be made by the state, or any city, city and county, town, or other municipal corporation for any religious creed, church, or sectarian purpose whatever”. The City will accept applications for grants of these City public funds from religious schools, but will have language in the grant agreements to address the possibility and consequences of legal challenges and new court decisions on this and related topics. ** Future Grant Opportunities If you are interested in remaining up-to-date on available grants from the City of Rancho Cordova, click here to sign up for the Grants Interest List. A separate call for programming opportunities with the Rancho Cordova Youth Center is anticipated later in 2026. The list is also used to advertise separate art programs when funds are available. Ongoing Grant Opportunity The City of Rancho Cordova offers a microgrant opportunity. Learn more about those grants online.
Is this your first time applying for grant funding from the City of Rancho Cordova? As a first-time applicant, Community Enhancement & Investment Fund (CEIF) staff will contact you to discuss your project and grant application process.	Yes: First Time Applicant

	1 - Project/Program Information Note: You can add a collaborator to this form to assist you in completing this application! A collaborator can help you complete this form by filling in fields for you, although only you can submit this form. You can add a collaborator by navigating to the top of the form and clicking on the 'Manage Collaborators' button. Simply enter their email address and click 'invite' to invite them as a collaborator. If you need further assistance, you may consult this Help article for more information.
Project/Program Name. Assign a project name to your project/program.	Harris Center for the Arts ClassACTS School Matinee Program
Which category does your Project/Program align with?	Youth Programs & Services
Provide a Project/Program Synopsis	The ClassACTS School Matinee Program will enable approximately 800 3rd and 4th grade students and their chaperones from across the city of Rancho Cordova to experience live theatre at the Harris Center for the Arts by providing free tickets and transportation to performances which are specifically produced for school-age children.
Provide a Project/Program Description	Project overview ClassACTS invites students from low-resource (“Title I”) elementary schools across the city of Rancho Cordova to experience the wonder and excitement of live theatre through attendance at matinee performances of productions including Cinderella and Rumpelstiltskin in the 2026-27 school year. Elementary schools including, but not limited to, Cordova Gardens, Navigator, Rancho Cordova, and Williamson Elementary will be provided with free tickets and transportation to the Harris Center’s for the Arts’ (HCA) Stage 1 for engaging, interactive performances. The productions, along with additional titles to be determined in future years, are adapted and produced for school audiences to ensure age-appropriate, curriculum-aligned engagement. The Project Coordinator will leverage existing relationships with Folsom Cordova Unified School District (FCUSD) to identify participating Title I schools and will work with school contacts on scheduling and logistics, including transportation. Schools will be able to select whether they attend the fall or spring performance; a total of 800 students and chaperones across both performances are eligible to attend. While equitable access across school districts is an important part of our process, we defer to FCUSD to confirm participation among eligible schools. Performances are developed and delivered in partnership with Panto USA, a production company that specializes in theatrical experiences designed specifically for young audiences and particularly those in grades 3 and 4. Performances are scheduled once in fall and once in spring. The program benefits children from low-income families in Rancho Cordova’s public schools by providing them with first-hand experience of the arts. Many of the students who attend these productions have never

been inside a theater and have never experienced live theatre. The series is designed to expand equitable access to the arts, inspiring creativity and enhancing learning among local students through multicultural and multidisciplinary performances. Alongside the experience in the HCA, teachers will be provided with a study guide and instructional packet to use in their classroom, thereby supporting public schools to introduce more of the arts into their curriculum for the year. By covering the cost of transportation from schools to HCA, we are ensuring that schools without access to school buses or without the resources to pay for charter buses are still able to participate.

Last year, 1,231 Rancho Cordova Title I elementary students from eight schools attended the spring production of Treasure Island. While this was funded through one-time left-over Rancho Cordova Promise dollars, feedback was overwhelmingly positive and we would now like to expand the reach of the ClassACTs program to include more low-income students and schools from across Rancho Cordova.

How it benefits the Rancho Cordova community

It is a misconception that people from low-income backgrounds are not interested in the arts. They are. However, systemic barriers limit their opportunity to fully engage in the arts. According to the National Endowment for the Arts (NEA), one of the most significant barriers is economic, meaning the cost of admission to a performance or event can be financially out of reach for those with limited financial resources. The NEA research also found that the cost of attending an arts event goes beyond the price of a ticket and includes things like transportation and parking costs. But schools, including Title I schools in lower socioeconomic communities, typically receive less funding than those in more affluent areas and, as a result, may lack the resources to develop or provide arts education. For this reason, HCA's ClassACTS program provides instructional materials to accompany the performances for teachers to use as part of their curriculum. By providing free tickets and covering transportation costs through the ClassACTS program, we can directly address the common barriers of cost and the difficulty of getting to the venue, thereby supporting engagement in the arts by those who may otherwise find it difficult.

Attending professional artistic performances enriches students' educational experience by reinforcing literacy, cultural awareness, empathy, and creative expression — critical skills linked to academic achievement and lifelong learning. By providing related study guides and classroom resources to schools, the program becomes a curriculum-aligned arts education extension that supports teachers and inspires students who might not otherwise have access to the arts.

By serving Rancho Cordova students and families, ClassACTS directly supports artistic engagement, access to cultural programming, and equitable arts experiences for youth in a community that has limited local arts performance venues. This investment elevates youth creativity, strengthens community cultural life, and complements local education by exposing students to high-quality arts experiences early in life — a recognized contributor to improved academic outcomes and community

	pride.
Tell us about your Project/Program Team	Amber Shaver, HCA Center Manager, is the Project Director and is responsible for implementing the project with fidelity. Charlene Bastian, ClassACTS Coordinator, will be responsible for the day-to-day implementation of the project. She will: ● Coordinate reservations and map out seating charts for school performances ● Compile curriculum-related materials, deliver to school sites and educate students and teachers; ● Coordinate transportation to and from school sites; ● Maintain list of schools and contacts in each school district; ● Be flexible to accommodate school schedules As the current ClassACTS Coordinator, Charlene is highly familiar with both HCA and school district processes
Provide your Project/Program Goals	The overarching objective of ClassACTS is to expand access to the arts for students from low-resource schools across the city. By offering high-quality, professionally produced performances, we aim to spark inspiration, foster creativity and cultivate an appreciation for the arts among these students. **Goal 1 — Expand Access:** Provide free seats for Rancho Cordova schools to attend a ClassACTS matinee in either fall 2026 or spring 2027 (up to 800 students and chaperones total). **Goal 2 — Educational Impact:** Distribute an educational study guide for each performance to teachers and gather post-performance student/teacher feedback to assess engagement and learning outcomes. **Goal 3 — Community Engagement:** Strengthen arts exposure for local youth by partnering with Rancho Cordova schools for performances. **Goal 4 — Equity & Inclusion:** Ensure students from low-income families and underserved groups receive priority placement and additional support (e.g., transportation funding). Progress will be measured by attendance numbers, school and district participation demographic participation, post-event feedback surveys among participating schools, and teacher testimonials and will occur after each performance.

Optional File Upload: Provide any additional records to supplement your program/project application. Note: Combine multiple files in one pdf before uploading.

CLASSACTS_REPORT_S25.pdf

Funding Request - Complete this section with total dollar amounts for your project/program's costs	Funds are generally not intended to be used for deferred maintenance and ongoing operational needs. The funds are intended for enhancing and investing in the City of Rancho Cordova. If your project/program is awarded, the costs identified below would be reviewed and potentially open to modification during a contracting phase (if a grant is awarded by the City Council). If awarded, grant funds are not available until a contract is executed during Fiscal Year 2026-2027.
Total project/program cost*	34000
What is the amount of Community Enhancement & Investment Fund grant monies requested?	17000
Does your project/program involve construction of any facilities or improvements upon any property?	No
What is the total cost of personnel for your project/program?	11000
What is the total cost of supplies for your project/program?	0
What is the total cost of transportation for your project/program?	4000
What is the total cost of equipment for your project/program?	0
What is the total cost of any miscellaneous expenses for your project/program?	2000

Upload your project/program's budget as a .pdf file. Include the categories and their dollar amounts along with information about any other funding sources to demonstrate your project/program's total budget. Note, the sum of all categories must match the total project or program cost, or the amount requested of CEIF if there is no other funding source. Please clearly illustrate any matching funds or funding from other sources in your project/program budget, including in-kind sources. Note: Combine multiple files in one pdf before uploading.

ClassActsBudget.pdf

Has your organization sought or will seek other funding for this project/program?	Yes, actively seeking funding support or have secured additional funding support for this project/program.
Describe any funding secured or being sought for this project/program.	This request seeks funding to support two ClassACTS performances annually – one in fall and one in spring. Schools may choose which performance their students attend, with total attendance across both performances reaching up to 800 Rancho Cordova students and chaperones. Funding received will be allocated across both performances and will exclusively support Rancho Cordova participants. While the funding amount requested is equivalent to the cost of fully funding one ClassACTS performance, it is intentionally spread across two performances to maximize flexibility for school scheduling. The proposal is submitted as a multi-year request, reflecting the ongoing, annual nature of the program and our desire to ensure a new cohort of 3rd and 4th grade students from across Rancho Cordova have the opportunity to attend each year. LRCF has a dedicated staff committed to pursuing and securing long-term funding for the ClassACTS program. We have secured grant support from County of Sacramento, the Latrobe Fund, Robert R. and Star Pepper Foundation, and individual contributions which, alongside this CEIF request, will ensure we are able to offer free tickets and transportation to schools.
Please describe any ongoing operations and maintenance costs beyond Fiscal Year 2026/2027, if applicable.	Operating costs remain consistent each year and include staff costs, artist fees, marketing and outreach, transportation, equipment and educational resources, box office fees and accessibility services such as interpreters and describers.
Do you have volunteer or in-kind support for your project? This could include volunteers for an activity/event that is ongoing or a one-time experience.	Yes

Please share the total dollar amount for volunteer/in-kind support using $34.79 as the national rate for a volunteer hour. Source: Value of Volunteer Time	9046

Please provide a worksheet explaining your volunteer/in-kind contribution. You may upload a file in the following formats: CSV, DOC, DOCX, or PDF.

Value_of_Volunteer_Time.pdf

Is this a single year request or a request for funding for multiple years?	Multiple Years
If requesting CEIF grant funding for multiple years, please share how many years?	3
For requests spanning multiple years, share the dollar amount requested per year.	FY2026-2027: $17,000 FY2027-2028: $17,000 FY2028-2029: $17,000
For projects/programs that span multiple years, please describe your sustainability plan and whether it is viable as a single year request.	As described above, the Los Rios Colleges Foundation has a dedicated staff team committed to securing long-term funding for the ClassACTs program through grants and individual contributions. We have seen over the years how valuable this program is to schools, children and families who may not otherwise be able to experience live theatre and this is reflected in the support we have received from other funders and individuals. A grant from the Community Enhancement and Investment Fund would, additionally, serve as a wonderful catalyst to raise more philanthropic support for the ClassACTs program. The cost per performance is $17,000 dollars. It is, therefore, viable as a single year request although this would limit participation among Rancho Cordova schools to one performance in the 2026-27 school year only.
Has your project/program received funding from the Community Enhancement & Investment Fund previously?	No

3 - Project/Program Details Grant applications are typically approved to occur between July 2026 through June 2027. What is your plan to complete this project/program within this time frame?	
Anticipated Start Date (July 1 is the soonest available start date)	7/1/2026
Anticipated End Date (typically projects/programs end by June 30)	6/30/2027
Please describe your project/program schedule	The ClassACTS program has a proven calendar structure with established partnerships and logistical processes. With committed performance partners and confirmed dates, the program is ready to implement immediately with awarded funds, ensuring timely completion within the required period. • July–August 2026: Finalize performance selection, outreach to schools, logistics planning, development of instructional materials and classroom resources • September 2026 and January 2027: Distribute promotional and educational materials • October 2026 and March 2027: Schedule and host ClassACTS school matinees • October - November 2026 and March – April 2027: Collect feedback, evaluate outcomes, and report to CEIF **All activities will conclude by June 30, 2027**, in accordance with CEIF requirements.
What challenges do you anticipate in your project/program's implementation? What is your plan to complete your project/program should those or other challenges arise?	**Challenge:** Uncertain school district participation due to scheduling conflicts. **Solution:** Early outreach to Rancho Cordova and neighboring schools in summer 2026, and flexible matinee scheduling for both fall and spring performances. **Challenge:** Transportation costs are out-of-reach for participants. **Solution:** Budgeted transportation support line item and coordination with school administrators to share resources. **Challenge:** Lack of available buses to transport students from school to HCA **Solution:** Schools may hire private charter buses and be reimbursed by the ClassActs program for hire costs.
How many individuals does your project/program serve?	2,600

How many Rancho Cordova residents does your project/program serve?	800
	4 - Project/Program Location
Address Verification	If you need to check if your project is in Rancho Cordova, type in your program/project's location in the Assessor Parcel Viewer: https://assessorparcelviewer.saccounty.gov/jsviewer/assessor.html
School and park related applications are due before Noon (12:00 p.m.) on March 6, 2026, to allow for the endorsement process.	Please note that projects or programs that are proposed on property owned or operated by outside agencies or a private party will require coordination with and potentially approvals from outside agencies, organizations, and/or the private party. Include whether you have received a letter of support for the project/program from the property owner. Upload any letters of support with your application. City staff will verify third-party permits have been discussed. In your planning discussions, be sure to discuss any necessary insurance or volunteer requirements that may increase budget costs. School Sites If your project/program is intended to operate at a public K-12 school site, your application is due by March 6 at Noon (12:00 p.m.). City staff will work with the school districts to confirm an endorsement for your project/program. It's the applicant's responsibility to communicate with school site and district representatives before applying so there is clarity during the endorsement process. Districts will only consider endorsement for applications submitted to the Community Enhancement & Investment Fund by the March 6 at Noon (12:00 p.m.). deadline. Each participating school superintendent reserves the right to withhold their endorsement of a project/program. Parks If your project/program is intended to operate at a park or community center site, your application is due by the March 6 at Noon (12:00 p.m.). deadline. City staff will work with the Cordova Recreation & Park District to confirm an endorsement for your project/program. It's the applicant's responsibility to communicate with district representatives before applying so there is clarity during the endorsement process. A special use permit application is required for any program or event planned at a CRPD facility. The special use application can be found at the CRPD website: https://www.cordovarpd.gov/. CRPD will only consider endorsement for applications submitted to the Community Enhancement & Investment Fund by the March 6 at Noon (12:00 p.m.). deadline. The Cordova Recreation & Park District reserves the right to withhold their endorsement of a project/program. Below is the list of staff to communicate with at school and park organizations: Folsom Cordova Unified School District: mwest@fcusd.org Cordova Recreation & Park District: cmichelotti@cordovarpd.gov Elk Grove Unified School District: mgulden@egusd.net Sacramento City Unified School District: Tuan-Duong@scusd.edu for Winn and Carver and Enrique-Flores@scusd.edu for Lincoln.

Primary street address of project/program	1919 Spanos Court
List the city location of the project/program.	Sacramento
Select State	CA
Provide the zip code for your project/program's primary location.	95825
If your project/program takes place at multiple locations, please list other or secondary locations.	Harris Center for the Arts, 10 College Parkway, Folsom, CA 95

Third Party Letters of Support (Note: Combine multiple files in one pdf before uploading)

Harris_Center_ClassACTS_Letters_of_Endorsement.pdf

Does your project/program involve one of Rancho Cordova's school districts?	Yes
Is the project/program requesting facility use only or is this a request to partner with the school district?	Partner with school on project/program
Please select all the school districts which your project/program intends to involve:	Folsom Cordova USD
Please select one or more of the Folsom Cordova Unified School District school facilities which your project/program will involve:	Cordova Gardens Elementary School Cordova Meadows Elementary School Cordova Villa Elementary School Navigator Elementary School Peter J. Shields Elementary School Rancho Cordova Elementary School White Rock Elementary School Williamson Elementary School

Have you reached out to a contact at the school(s) you indicated above?	Yes
Please provide the names of your contacts at the school(s) or district(s) who are familiar with your project/program.	Mindy Andrus Coordinator, Visual and Performing Arts Folsom Cordova Unified School District mandrus@fcusd.org
Does your project/program involve the Cordova Recreation & Park District?	No
	5 - Applicant Information
Name	Sue Byrne
Is this project/program on behalf of an organization?	Yes
What is the name of your organization?	Los Rios Colleges Foundation
What is your title and/or role at your organization?	Director of Grants Management
Provide contact phone number:	+[redacted]
Provide contact email:	byrnes@losrios.edu
Are you the primary point of contact on this project/program?	Yes
If your project/program was awarded the requested funds, are you authorized to sign the contract for your organization?	No, someone else would sign the contract

If selected by the City Council to receive an award, what is the name of the person at your organization who would sign the contract?	Paula Allison
What is the title of this individual?	President
What is the best phone number where we could contact the signatory?	+[redacted]
What is the best email address to contact the signatory?	paula.allison@losrios.edu
By checking here, I confirm that I am aware that my application materials will become public record.	checked
	Thank you for applying to the Community Enhancement & Investment Fund Fiscal Year 2026-2027 Grant Cycle. Applicants will receive an automated response through the grant portal. Community Enhancement & Investment Fund (CEIF) Staff will follow up with any questions regarding your Fiscal Year 2026-2027 application. For information about the next steps in the CEIF grant process, visit our website for more information. It is anticipated that applications will be reviewed by the City Council starting in April 2026 with adoption in June 2026. Should applicants be awarded by the City Council, funding would not be available to grantees until the start of Fiscal Year 2026-2027 and the completion of a contract. Please send an email to CEIFGrants@cityofranchocordova.org with any questions or comments.

Internal Form

Score	n/a

ClassACTS Annual Budget

Budget Category	CEIF Request	Other Funding (Secured)	Total
Performance Fees (Artist/Production)	$7,000	$7,000	$14,000
Transportation for Schools	$4,000	$4,000	$8,000
Educational Materials and Study Guides	$2,000	$2,000	$4,000
Staff Coordination and Planning	$2,500	$2,500	$5,000
Marketing Outreach to Rancho Cordova schools	$1,000	$1,000	$2,000
Accesibility Accommodations (ASL, sensory)	$500	$500	$1,000
Total	**$17,000**	**$17,000**	**$34,000**

Value of Volunteer Time

Volunteer value is determined on a per-performance basis and calculated based on number of volunteers x hours worked x Independent Sector volunteer rate.

26 volunteers x 5 hours x $34.79 = **$4,523 per performance.**

2 performances per year: $4,523 x 2 **= $9,046 per year**

CLASS ACTS PROGRAM REPORT

2024-25

Harris Center

2024-25

SUMMARY

This past season, the Harris Center's ClassACTS program experienced significant growth, welcoming 2,682 students from 40 local elementary schools across multiple districts. The season featured two student matinee performances produced by PANTO USA: Rumpelstiltskin in the fall and Treasure Island in the spring. For the first time, the program expanded to include low-cost afternoon performances for charter and homeschool groups, broadening accessibility and community reach.

Ongoing support from the **Robert S. and Star Pepper Foundation** has been instrumental in sustaining the program's momentum. This stability allowed the HCA Philanthropy Team to focus on cultivating additional funding sources and growing the program's impact. Individual donors also played a vital role, contributing enough to provide access for more students at the modest cost of $9 per student. ClassACTS gained added visibility through the Harris Center's member newsletter, electronic donor wall, and as the featured campaign for the Big Day of Giving.

New funding partners included the City of Rancho Cordova, which generously covered spring performance costs for eight local schools, enabling 1,231 students to attend Treasure Island at no cost to their families.

Looking Ahead

The Harris Center is actively pursuing new grant opportunities to extend ClassACTS even further. Grant partnerships have been applied for with The Latrobe Fund and the El Dorado Community Foundation to support schools in El Dorado County, with additional grant efforts targeting Sacramento and Placer Counties. Future plans also include expanding access to junior high and high school students, with programming that features ballet, jazz, classical music, and other professional performances—broadening the scope of arts education for older students across the region.

ClassACTS

EXPANDING IMPACT

We welcomed 2,687 students from 40 local elementary schools.

ClassACTS performances were produced by PANTO USA and included Rumplestilkskin in the fall and Treasure Island in the spring.

2,687 STUDENTS

We welcomed 2,687 students to the Harris Center for the Arts over the season. 1,148 Attended Rumpelstiltskin and 1,539 attended Treasure Island.

40 ELEMENTARY SCHOOLS

Schools from Folsom Cordova, Sacramento City, Rescue Union school districts.

2,682 TICKETED ATTENDANCE

This year, we expanded the program to include afternoon ticketed performances at a low cost to charter and homeschool groups.

Harris Center | Los Rios Colleges FOUNDATION

ClassACTS

SPREADING JOY

Harris Center | Los Rios Colleges FOUNDATION

ClassACTS

GROWING DONOR BASE

The program is attracting new donors

Robert S. and Star Pepper Foundation
Thanks to the philanthropic leadership of the Robert S. and Star Pepper Foundation, we have been able to reach out to additional donors to grow support for the program.

NEW – Individual Donors
The ClassACTS program has been featured in our member newsletter, electronic donor wall, and as the featured campaign for Big Day of Giving. Over the past year, we have had donations from **24 individuals**. The total donation amount this fiscal year is **$4,842**. At our cost of approximately $9 per student, this equals access for **538 additional students**!

NEW – City Resources
The City of Rancho Cordova was able to cover the cost of students from Rancho Cordova schools for the Spring production of Treasure Island. This included **1,231 students** from **8 different elementary schools**. The City of Rancho Cordova paid **$11,079**.

NEW – Grant Applications in Progress
We have been working with **The Latrobe Fund** to establish grant funds for future ClassACTS productions for students from El Dorado County. Our application has received preliminary approval and we are currently working with the grant team and El Dorado County administrators to determine interest and logistic support for Fall of 2026.
We are also looking into additional grants that may cover different geographic areas, including Sacramento and Placer Counties.

Harris Center | Los Rios Colleges FOUNDATION

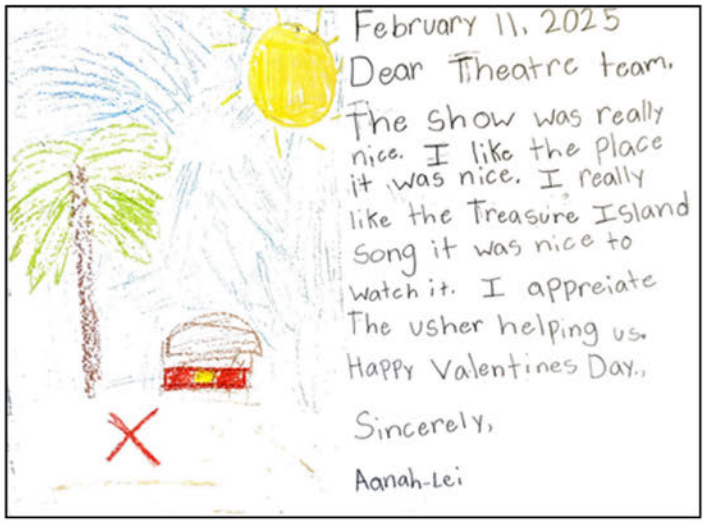
ClassACTS for the future

LOOKING AHEAD

With a strong foundation and growing community support, ClassACTS is poised to reach even more students in the coming seasons. Efforts are underway to secure new funding streams that will expand access across El Dorado, Sacramento, and Placer Counties—ensuring that high-quality arts experiences are within reach for students regardless of their school type or location. The program is also evolving to serve older students with engaging, age-appropriate performances in a variety of artistic disciplines.

As we build toward the future, the Harris Center, in partnership with the Robert S. and Star Pepper Foundation remains committed to inspiring the next generation through the power of live performance. With continued philanthropic investment, this vital program will grow to serve more students each year—helping to shape a more vibrant, arts-rich future for our entire region.

Harris Center | Los Rios Colleges FOUNDATION



February 11, 2025

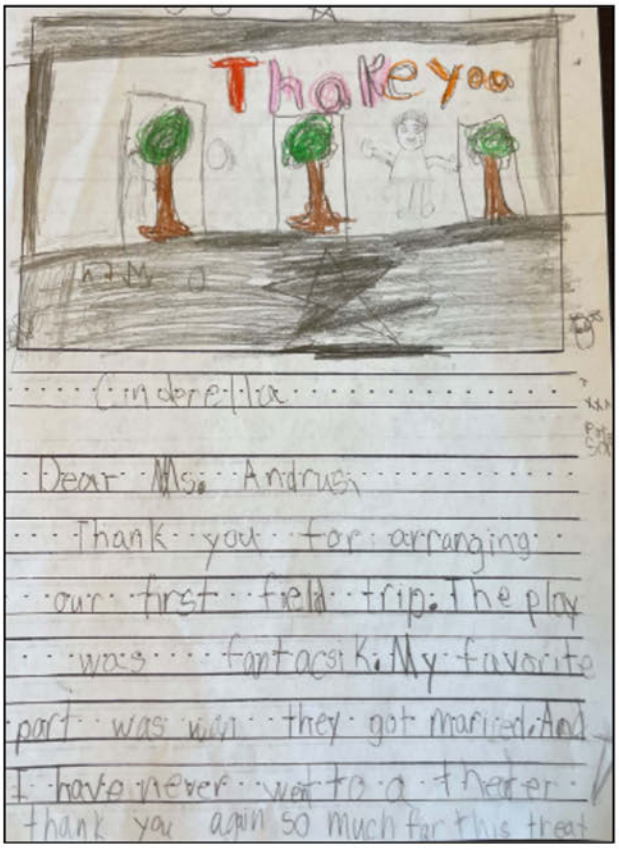
Dear Theatre team,

The show was really nice. I like the place it was nice. I really like the Treasure Island song it was nice to watch it. I appreiate The usher helping us.

Happy Valentines Day.,

Sincerely,

Aanah-Lei



February 11, 2025

Dear theater team,

I Lovd t play. It was so COOL!. Thank you for letting us See the play I Loved the song's. Thanks to the ushers.

Sincerely

Arabella huitt

Visit harriscenter.net and navigate to our school matinees page to watch two short videos that show the program in action.

Harris Center

Events | Visit | Support | Learn & Engage | Art Gallery | About

School Matinees

Home > Learn and Engage > School Matinees

Learn and Engage

- > School Matinees
- Emerging Artist Grants
- News
- Keep In Touch
- Impact Reports

Making the Arts Accessible and Inspirational

Our school matinee program, **ClassACTS**, invites students from Title I schools in underserved communities to experience the excitement and wonder of live theater. Thanks to generous donations to our Arts Opportunity Fund, we provide tickets and transportation to the Harris Center's state-of-the-art venue for engaging, interactive performances.

CLASS ACTS

School Matinee Productions

Fall Production

The Little Mermaid, September 24, 2025

Spring Production

The Jungle Book, February 4, 2026

Get Involved

If you are part of a school group and would like more information about tickets, please contact us at TicketOffice@harriscenter.net or (916) 608-6888.

If you are interested in becoming a sponsor of this program, please contact Mariann Eitzman, Regional Director of Philanthropy, at Mariann.Eitzman@losrios.edu or (916) 608-6643.

FOLSOM LAKE COLLEGE
EL DORADO CENTER | RANCHO CORDOVA CENTER

March 2, 2026

Rancho Cordova Community Enhancement and Investment Fund Grant Committee
City of Rancho Cordova
2729 Prospect Park Drive
Rancho Cordova, CA 95670

Dear Grant Committee Members,

I am pleased to offer my strong endorsement of the ClassACTS program in support of its application for funding through the Rancho Cordova Community Enhancement and Investment Fund. As President of Folsom Lake College, I have seen firsthand the powerful role that arts education plays in shaping well rounded students and strengthening connections between schools, families, and the broader community.

ClassACTS provides young people with meaningful access to high quality live performing arts experiences that enrich classroom learning and spark creativity. By bringing students to matinee performances and providing standards aligned educational opportunities, the program helps students engage with the arts in ways that foster curiosity, empathy, and critical thinking. These experiences can be transformative, particularly for students who may not otherwise have the opportunity to attend live performances.

The Rancho Cordova community includes many families whose students benefit greatly from access to arts education opportunities. ClassACTS helps remove barriers to participation by supporting transportation and access to performances, ensuring that more students can experience the educational and personal benefits of the arts. This investment supports not only individual student growth but also a vibrant and culturally engaged community.

Folsom Lake College and the Harris Center for the Arts are proud to support programs that connect students with enriching educational experiences. ClassACTS represents the kind of community partnership that strengthens our region and expands opportunities for young people to learn and grow. I respectfully encourage you to support this application. Your investment in ClassACTS will help ensure that more students in Rancho Cordova have access to meaningful arts experiences that can inspire a lifelong appreciation for learning and the arts.

Sincerely,

Dr. Art Pimentel
President
Folsom Lake College

Visual and Performing ArtsDepartment

1965 Birkmont Drive, Rancho Cordova, CA 95742 (916) 294-2413 Fax: (916) 294-9020

Mindy Andrus, Coordinator
mandrus@fcusd.org

Lisa Vaca, Administrative Assistant
lvaca@fcusd.org

March 2026

To Whom It May Concern,

As the Visual and Performing Arts (VAPA) Coordinator for the Folsom Cordova Unified School District, I am honored to provide this letter of support for The Los Rios College's Foundation, who manages the Harris Center's Class Act Title 1 program.

This inspiring project is deeply aligned with our district's vision to nurture the whole child by providing Visual and Performing Arts experiences and instruction, integrating creativity, providing opportunities for social-emotional learning, and community engagement. The Harris Center and staff are incredibly professional, organized, timely, friendly and our experience working with them has been greatly rewarding. They have provided lessons ahead of the performance so classroom teachers can prepare students for the performance. Working with the team at the Harris Center has been delightful.

Research shows that students who engage in expressive arts programs experience improved self-awareness, stronger relationships, and increased capacity for empathy and community. Additionally, research shows that students who engage in the arts are more likely to engage in school, have improved attendance, become part of the school community and show school pride. Experiences like these help students become more well rounded individuals.

The Folsom Cordova Unified School District has partnered with the Harris Center and the Los Rios College Foundation to bring hundreds of elementary students to engage in live theater. Many of our students who have attended the Class Act program had never experienced live theater. This quality program brings storytelling to life through song, dance, humor, audience participation and so much more. Our elementary age students who have attended these productions fully engage with the characters, story line and the message. We have received hundreds of thank you cards, pictures and letters from students where they share how much they enjoyed the show, or which characters they liked the most. Many of our students who attended as elementary students are now enrolled in music, drama and dance classes at our middle and high school programs. We like to think exposure to this type of performance has inspired our students to continue to engage in the arts.

We are proud to endorse The Los Rios College Foundation's efforts to continue to bring Class Acts and live theater to students who would otherwise most likely not have this type of experience. This program is innovative and impactful; it uplifts students and opens up the doors of imagination and creativity.

Please reach out to me if you have any questions.

Sincerely,

Mindy Andrus

Mindy Andrus, M.Ed
Coordinator, Visual and Performing Arts

Title

NorCal Arts Theatre classes and After School Theatre production at Williamson, Cordova Gardens and Cordova Villa Elementary schools

03/06/2026

id. 53410301

by **Michele Hillen-Noufer** in **Fiscal Year 2026-2027 Community Enhancement & Investment Fund Grant Application**

803 Vallejo Way
Sacramento , California
95818
CA
United States
[redacted]
michele.hillen@norcalsota.org

Original Submission

03/06/2026

Score n/a

	Thank you for your interest in applying to the City of Rancho Cordova's Community Enhancement & Investment Fund. Applications are open from February 9, 2026, to March 13, 2026, Noon (12:00 p.m.) with a specific deadline of March 6th Noon (12:00 p.m.) for certain applications**. Before you begin, please read the notes about deadlines and certain types of grant applications/grants below. **School/Park Application Deadline **Note that projects or programs involving a park or school district have a deadline of March 6 Noon (12:00 p.m.) to allow for the third-party endorsement process by the grant deadline.** A Note about Religious Schools and the Application/Grant Process **Note for grant applications from religious schools. The United States Supreme Court has recently ruled in part that: “denying a generally available benefit [from government] solely on account of religious identity imposes a penalty on the free exercise of religion that can be justified only by a state interest of the highest order.” The City is of the opinion that not all grants to religious schools are prohibited under this and other similar rulings. However, these United States Supreme Court decisions remain in conflict with a section of the California State Constitution that says: “[n]either the Legislature, nor any county, city and county, township, school district, or other municipal corporation, shall ever make an appropriation, or pay from any public fund whatever, or grant anything to or in aid of any religious sect, church, creed, or sectarian purpose, or help to support or sustain any school, college, university, hospital, or other institution controlled by any religious creed, church, or sectarian denomination whatever; nor shall any grant or donation of personal property or real estate ever be made by the state, or any city, city and county, town, or other municipal corporation for any religious creed, church, or sectarian purpose whatever”. The City will accept applications for grants of these City public funds from religious schools, but will have language in the grant agreements to address the possibility and consequences of legal challenges and new court decisions on this and related topics. ** Future Grant Opportunities If you are interested in remaining up-to-date on available grants from the City of Rancho Cordova, click here to sign up for the Grants Interest List. A separate call for programming opportunities with the Rancho Cordova Youth Center is anticipated later in 2026. The list is also used to advertise separate art programs when funds are available. Ongoing Grant Opportunity The City of Rancho Cordova offers a microgrant opportunity. Learn more about those grants online.
Is this your first time applying for grant funding from the City of Rancho Cordova? As a first-time applicant, Community Enhancement & Investment Fund (CEIF) staff will contact you to discuss your project and grant application process.	No: Not a First Time Applicant

	1 - Project/Program Information Note: You can add a collaborator to this form to assist you in completing this application! A collaborator can help you complete this form by filling in fields for you, although only you can submit this form. You can add a collaborator by navigating to the top of the form and clicking on the 'Manage Collaborators' button. Simply enter their email address and click 'invite' to invite them as a collaborator. If you need further assistance, you may consult this Help article for more information.
Project/Program Name. Assign a project name to your project/program.	NorCal Arts Theatre classes and After School Theatre production at Williamson, Cordova Gardens and Cordova Villa Elementary schools
Which category does your Project/Program align with?	Youth Programs & Services
Provide a Project/Program Synopsis	NorCal Arts will provide every classroom at Williamson Elementary, Cordova Gardens Elementary, and Cordova Villa Elementary with 10 Theater Arts and Conflict Resolution (Social Emotional Learning) integrated classes. NorCal Arts will also provide all 3 schools with an after-school production and after-school performing arts classes for students.
Provide a Project/Program Description	During the 2026-27 school year, the NorCal Arts Outreach Program will offer our integrated theatre arts and conflict resolution (social-emotional learning -SEL) residency and after-school theatre production to 460 students at Williamson Elementary, 271 students at Cordova Gardens Elementary, and 440 students at Cordova Villa Elementary, serving a total of 1,171 students. All three schools are located within FCUSD and have a Title I designation. Students interested in expanding their connection to theatre arts have the option to participate in a musical theatre production during the spring of 2027 in the after-school space. Integrated Theatre Arts and Conflict Resolution program classes are delivered throughout the regular school day in collaboration with classroom teachers. These classes are led by a NorCal Teaching Artist who weaves social-emotional learning and conflict resolution capacity-building signature practices into the arts lessons. Classes support emerging bilingual learners in a culturally responsive and inclusive environment. This culturally responsive classroom program challenges students to utilize their creativity while learning vital collaboration and communication skills. Through the application of the creative process, students learn empathy and resiliency while participating in a curriculum that includes theatre, music, poetry, improvisation, dance, and creative writing. The active and engaged learning environment provides meaningful ways for students to develop new skills. Students build empathy muscles when they step into a character role and have to understand the character’s motivations and experiences. This skill transfers to other areas of the student’s life and creates a practical experience they can reflect on when compassion is needed. Mental wellness is addressed by creating a vehicle for self-expression in a safe and supportive environment. Students learn to trust themselves and their

	decision-making abilities while developing higher-order thinking skills during improvisation exercises. These classes act as a professional development opportunity for the classroom teachers by providing resources to learn how to integrate SEL strategies through theatre arts as they participate in the process. Curriculum and lesson plans align with the CA State Arts and English Language Art (ELA) Standards and are shared with teachers so exercises can continue once the program concludes. During the spring of 2027, students interested in expanding their theatre arts experience participate in an after-school project-based learning model that culminates in a family and community engagement event. This theatrical musical production includes sets, costumes, lighting, sound, and the cutest talent you have ever seen! Families are proud of their children as they sing, dance, and act their way through shows like Finding Nemo Kids, Disney's The Little Mermaid, or The Lion King Jr. This collaborative project engages students in the arts, supports self-expression and provides multiple pathways for student self-exploration. This positively responds to mental health, isolation, and socialization challenges resulting from COVID and the overuse of technology while increasing confidence, creating a sense of belonging, and building authentic connections to self, peers, and the community. Through the City of Rancho Cordova Community Enhancement and Investment Fund, students benefit from SEL and conflict resolution training, arts engagement, theatre training, and a theatrical music production they would not otherwise have access to.
Tell us about your Project/Program Team	NorCal Arts staff are responsible for the delivery of the project. Michele Hillen-Noufer, M. Ed., AEA, SAG, Executive Director, is an arts advocate and administrator, arts integration specialist, and adjunct faculty member at California State University, Sacramento. Emilee Mercado, Outreach Director, has more than a decade of experience in dance education and youth programming. She is committed to expanding equitable access to arts instruction and fostering opportunities for students. Cynthia Melgoza has been a music educator for 30 years, 18 years as Visual and Performing Arts Department Head at Capital Christian School and currently NorCal Arts music director.

Provide your Project/Program Goals	The NorCal program is intentionally aligned with the City of Rancho Cordova Community Enhancement and Investment Fund priorities and uses qualitative and quantitative program assessments for progress monitoring. Goal 1: Provide integrated arts sessions aligned with CA State Art and ELA Standards to 460 students at Williamson, 271 students at Cordova Gardens Elementary School, and 440 students at Cordova Villa Elementary School. Goal 2: Provide age-appropriate conflict resolution strategies, utilizing theatre as a tool to practice empathy and positive peer communication. Goal 3: Create culturally responsive and inclusive arts learning environments for students, including emerging bilingual learners. Goal 4: Provide SEL, conflict resolution and arts curriculum, resources, and professional development for teachers, equipping them with skills to continue to guide the integrated arts process. Goal 5: Train students on positive self and peer assessment and constructive discernment models. Goal 6: Produce a family and community engagement culminating in a theatrical musical performance showcase featuring students. Goal 7: Utilize Theatre Arts as a tool to increase student confidence, create a sense of belonging, and build authentic personal connections. NorCal Arts' goal at Williamson Elementary, Cordova Gardens Elementary, and Cordova Villa Elementary is to provide theatre arts classes for students that can also act as a professional development for teachers on integrating theatre and social emotional learning (conflict resolution) strategies. These classes will further engage students and support their emotional and academic well-being. NorCal Arts will provide an after-school theatre program at all three schools to help students obtain life skills related to increased ability and confidence with public speaking, self-management, communication, and collaboration. Student involvement in theater arts and SEL-integrated activities provides students with critical thinking opportunities to help them in school and beyond. Student engagement in the arts also positively impacts cognition. Upon the completion of the program, NorCal's Executive Director will provide an impact report to include video and photo documentation of the students' final presentation and the productions. The impact report will include information on the specific ELA, SEL, and Theatre standards achieved, as well as survey results. NorCal management will observe teaching artists in the classroom and review daily reports. After each class, classroom teachers are asked to fill out a survey that is programmed to go directly to the teaching artist and the Executive Director/Program Manager so that feedback can be immediately incorporated into the next lesson. Student progress will be notated throughout the process. Formative assessments will be woven into the lesson plans throughout the artistic process of both the classes and the after-school theater program. The curriculum will be created through a backward design approach, with the summative assessment (final outcomes) referred to during the curriculum creation process.

Optional File Upload: Provide any additional records to supplement your program/project application. Note: Combine multiple files in one pdf before uploading.

Williamson_Aristocats_Performance_Flyer.pdf

	2 - Funding & Costs
Funding Request - Complete this section with total dollar amounts for your project/program's costs	Funds are generally not intended to be used for deferred maintenance and ongoing operational needs. The funds are intended for enhancing and investing in the City of Rancho Cordova. If your project/program is awarded, the costs identified below would be reviewed and potentially open to modification during a contracting phase (if a grant is awarded by the City Council). If awarded, grant funds are not available until a contract is executed during Fiscal Year 2026-2027.
Total project/program cost*	97470
What is the amount of Community Enhancement & Investment Fund grant monies requested?	75000
Does your project/program involve construction of any facilities or improvements upon any property?	No
What is the total cost of personnel for your project/program?	79470
What is the total cost of supplies for your project/program?	0
What is the total cost of transportation for your project/program?	0
What is the total cost of equipment for your project/program?	18000
What is the total cost of any miscellaneous expenses for your project/program?	0

Upload your project/program's budget as a .pdf file. Include the categories and their dollar amounts along with information about any other funding sources to demonstrate your project/program's total budget. Note, the sum of all categories must match the total project or program cost, or the amount requested of CEIF if there is no other funding source. Please clearly illustrate any matching funds or funding from other sources in your project/program budget, including in-kind sources. Note: Combine multiple files in one pdf before uploading.

NorCal_Arts_at_Williamson_Cordova_Gardens_Cordova_Villa_-_Sheet1.pdf

Has your organization sought or will seek other funding for this project/program?	Yes, actively seeking funding support or have secured additional funding support for this project/program.
Describe any funding secured or being sought for this project/program.	We are seeking additional funding for this project from the California Arts Council.
Please describe any ongoing operations and maintenance costs beyond Fiscal Year 2026/2027, if applicable.	NA
Do you have volunteer or in-kind support for your project? This could include volunteers for an activity/event that is ongoing or a one-time experience.	No
Is this a single year request or a request for funding for multiple years?	Single Year
Has your project/program received funding from the Community Enhancement & Investment Fund previously?	Yes

How many years has your project/program received funding from the Community Enhancement & Investment Fund?	5 or more years
How much funding has your organization received from the Community Enhancement & Investment Fund through our traditional grants (not including microgrants)?	147,375
	3 - Project/Program Details Grant applications are typically approved to occur between July 2026 through June 2027. What is your plan to complete this project/program within this time frame?
Anticipated Start Date (July 1 is the soonest available start date)	8/1/2026
Anticipated End Date (typically projects/programs end by June 30)	5/1/2027

Please describe your project/program schedule	NorCal Arts Timeline: August/September 2026 - Meet with school principals to schedule classroom visitations and a regular day/time for each classroom, decide on the show title for the spring show, and discuss goals. October-December 2026 - NorCal School staff will implement 10 theater arts/SEL integrated classes in each classroom at Williamson Elementary School, Cordova Gardens Elementary, and Cordova Villa Elementary School. This will have the added benefit of generating excitement about a spring musical. The final class of the 10-class series will include a final presentation for students to share skills obtained. January 2027 - Auditions and registration take place for April productions. NorCal Arts (NorCal) invites parent involvement through organized parent meetings that solicit parent engagement (community building) by explaining the process, rehearsal schedules, and time commitment. January-April 2027 - Rehearsals take place 3-4 days a week, after school, 3 to 4 days a week for 1-2 hours of rehearsal each day. Community and parent engagement occurs by actively getting them involved in helping backstage, costume and props coordination, and helping to engage parents and the community to support the final production. April 2027 - Dress and tech rehearsals, final presentation, performance, and assessments Note: At all 3 schools, the principals (Leslee Cottrell, Amber Carter, John Bliss) are extremely supportive of NorCal Arts' programming and realize the need for the students and teachers to have SEL strategies integrated into the arts. This grant would provide an amazing opportunity for students to participate in the arts while receiving the added benefit of addressing student emotional wellness. Theater Arts and SEL integrated classes and rehearsals include: physical and vocal exercises; improvisation games and SEL welcoming signature activities; movement and main lesson. Students devise a final piece and engage in the creative process together to support building community.
What challenges do you anticipate in your project/program's implementation? What is your plan to complete your project/program should those or other challenges arise?	The biggest challenge continues to be performance space and where the students perform for their final presentation. Due to a lack of a stage at Williamson and Cordova Villa we utilize the floor of the cafeteria which makes viewing the show challenging for parents. We will continue to use the space provided and make sure the students and the school have the best experience possible.
How many individuals does your project/program serve?	1,171

How many Rancho Cordova residents does your project/program serve?	Directly 1,201 and indirectly, approximately 3,003, accounting for families.
	4 - Project/Program Location
Address Verification	If you need to check if your project is in Rancho Cordova, type in your program/project's location in the Assessor Parcel Viewer: https://assessorparcelviewer.saccounty.gov/jsviewer/assessor.html
School and park related applications are due before Noon (12:00 p.m.) on March 6, 2026, to allow for the endorsement process.	Please note that projects or programs that are proposed on property owned or operated by outside agencies or a private party will require coordination with and potentially approvals from outside agencies, organizations, and/or the private party. Include whether you have received a letter of support for the project/program from the property owner. Upload any letters of support with your application. City staff will verify third-party permits have been discussed. In your planning discussions, be sure to discuss any necessary insurance or volunteer requirements that may increase budget costs. School Sites If your project/program is intended to operate at a public K-12 school site, your application is due by March 6 at Noon (12:00 p.m.). City staff will work with the school districts to confirm an endorsement for your project/program. It's the applicant's responsibility to communicate with school site and district representatives before applying so there is clarity during the endorsement process. Districts will only consider endorsement for applications submitted to the Community Enhancement & Investment Fund by the March 6 at Noon (12:00 p.m.). deadline. Each participating school superintendent reserves the right to withhold their endorsement of a project/program. Parks If your project/program is intended to operate at a park or community center site, your application is due by the March 6 at Noon (12:00 p.m.). deadline. City staff will work with the Cordova Recreation & Park District to confirm an endorsement for your project/program. It's the applicant's responsibility to communicate with district representatives before applying so there is clarity during the endorsement process. A special use permit application is required for any program or event planned at a CRPD facility. The special use application can be found at the CRPD website: https://www.cordovarpd.gov/. CRPD will only consider endorsement for applications submitted to the Community Enhancement & Investment Fund by the March 6 at Noon (12:00 p.m.). deadline. The Cordova Recreation & Park District reserves the right to withhold their endorsement of a project/program. Below is the list of staff to communicate with at school and park organizations: Folsom Cordova Unified School District: mwest@fcusd.org Cordova Recreation & Park District: cmichelotti@cordovarpd.gov Elk Grove Unified School District: mgulden@egusd.net Sacramento City Unified School District: Tuan-Duong@scusd.edu for Winn and Carver and Enrique-Flores@scusd.edu for Lincoln.

Primary street address of project/program	Williamson Elementary: 2275 Benita Dr
List the city location of the project/program.	Rancho Cordova
Select State	CA
Provide the zip code for your project/program's primary location.	95670
If your project/program takes place at multiple locations, please list other or secondary locations.	Cordova Gardens Elementary: 2400 Dawes St, Rancho Cordova, CA 95670 Cordova Villa Elementary: 10359 S White Rock Rd, Rancho Cordova, CA 95670

Third Party Letters of Support (Note: Combine multiple files in one pdf before uploading)

FCUSD_Letters_of_Endorsement_RanchoEnhancementGrant_26-27.pdf

Does your project/program involve one of Rancho Cordova's school districts?	Yes
Is the project/program requesting facility use only or is this a request to partner with the school district?	Partner with school on project/program
Please select all the school districts which your project/program intends to involve:	Folsom Cordova USD
Please select one or more of the Folsom Cordova Unified School District school facilities which your project/program will involve:	Cordova Gardens Elementary School Cordova Villa Elementary School Williamson Elementary School

Have you reached out to a contact at the school(s) you indicated above?	Yes
Please provide the names of your contacts at the school(s) or district(s) who are familiar with your project/program.	Williamson Elementary School: Principal Leslee Cottrell Cordova Villa Elementary School: Principal Amber Carter Cordova Gardens Elementary School: Principal John Bliss
Does your project/program involve the Cordova Recreation & Park District?	No
	5 - Applicant Information
Name	Michele Hillen-Noufer
Is this project/program on behalf of an organization?	Yes
What is the name of your organization?	NorCal Arts (dba Nu Art Education, Inc.)
What is your title and/or role at your organization?	Executive Director
Provide contact phone number:	[redacted]
Provide contact email:	michele.hillen@norcalsota.org
Are you the primary point of contact on this project/program?	Yes
If your project/program was awarded the requested funds, are you authorized to sign the contract for your organization?	No, someone else would sign the contract

If selected by the City Council to receive an award, what is the name of the person at your organization who would sign the contract?	Michele Hillen-Noufer
What is the title of this individual?	Executive Director, NorCal Arts
What is the best phone number where we could contact the signatory?	+[redacted]
What is the best email address to contact the signatory?	michele.hillen@norcalsota.org
By checking here, I confirm that I am aware that my application materials will become public record.	checked
	Thank you for applying to the Community Enhancement & Investment Fund Fiscal Year 2026-2027 Grant Cycle. Applicants will receive an automated response through the grant portal. Community Enhancement & Investment Fund (CEIF) Staff will follow up with any questions regarding your Fiscal Year 2026-2027 application. For information about the next steps in the CEIF grant process, visit our website for more information. It is anticipated that applications will be reviewed by the City Council starting in April 2026 with adoption in June 2026. Should applicants be awarded by the City Council, funding would not be available to grantees until the start of Fiscal Year 2026-2027 and the completion of a contract. Please send an email to CEIFGrants@cityofranchocordova.org with any questions or comments.

Internal Form

Score	n/a

NorCal Arts at Williamson Elementary, Cordova Gardens Elementary and Cordova Villa Elementary	
	Total Budget
Personal for 3 schools	
Program administrator for 3 schools Sept - April	$15,000.00
Teaching Artists teaching ($55/hour, 57 total classrooms)	$31,350.00
Teaching Artists planning ($16/hour, 57 total classrooms)	$9,120.00
Creative Staff (Director, Choreographer, Music Director, Stage Manager)	$24,000.00
Production/Equipment Costs (set, costume materials, costume design, light rental, sound equipment rental)	$18,000.00
Total Cost	$97,470.00
Matching funds	$22,470.00
Enhancement fund ask	$75,000.00

Williamson Elementary School

Home of the Wildcats

March 3, 2026

To Whom It May Concern,

I am writing to offer my full support for Norcal Arts and the meaningful work they are bringing to our campus. Their partnership has provided our students with valuable access to the performing arts through the production of a school play year after year. The addition of skill-building classes in music, theatre, and dance would be a great opportunity for the students of Williamson Elementary School.

The opportunity for students to participate in a live theatrical production has been transformative. Through this experience, students are developing confidence, collaboration skills, perseverance, and a stronger sense of belonging within our school community. The structured rehearsal process and performance expectations foster responsibility and teamwork while allowing students to discover and showcase their individual talents.

In addition to the play, the supplemental classes in music, theatre, and dance would be an enriching addition to our instructional program. These classes support creativity, self-expression, and discipline skills that positively impact students' academic performance and social-emotional growth. For many of our students, this would be their first exposure to formal arts instruction, and it will broadened their understanding of what is possible for themselves both inside and outside the classroom.

As a school committed to supporting the whole child, we deeply value partnerships that expand opportunities for our students. Norcal Arts has demonstrated professionalism, organization, and a clear commitment to equitable access to the arts. Their work aligns with our mission to create high levels of learning for all students.

I strongly support the continued collaboration with Norcal Arts and the expansion of their programming. The positive impact on our students and school community is evident, and we are grateful for their dedication to arts education.

Please feel free to contact me if you need any additional information.

Sincerely,

Kayla R. Yates

Kayla Yates
Assistant Principal
Williamson Elementary School

Cordova Gardens Academy of Arts and Sciences
2400 Dawes Street, Rancho Cordova, CA 95670
(916) 294-9115
Principal John Bliss

To Whom it may concern,

It is with great enthusiasm that I recommend the continued funding and implementation of **NorCal Arts** programs within the Folsom Cordova Unified School District (FCUSD) for the 2026-27 school year. Based on the collective testimony from leadership at Williamson Elementary, Cordova Gardens Academy of Arts and Sciences, and Cordova Villa Elementary, these programs have become an essential pillar of student development and school culture.

Prior to the support of the City of Rancho Cordova Enhancement fund, these schools lacked the necessary resources to provide comprehensive theater programming. The partnership with NorCal Arts has successfully filled this gap, delivering high-quality, fully produced musical experiences—such as The Lion King Kids, Finding Nemo Jr., and Flat Stanley Jr.—that include professional-grade sets, lighting, and costumes.

The impact of these programs extends far beyond the stage, offering critical benefits in several key areas:

- **Social-Emotional Learning (SEL):** The curriculum effectively integrates theater arts with conflict resolution strategies, providing students with a creative outlet to develop empathy and self-expression.
- **Academic and Literacy Support:** Participation in these productions increases student engagement in storytelling and literacy while sharpening critical thinking and collaboration skills.
- **Inclusivity and Equity:** These programs are particularly transformative for special needs students and emerging bilingual students, as well as those who excel through movement and verbal expression.

The presence of NorCal Arts also serves as a vital professional development resource for classroom teachers, equipping them with arts-integration strategies to better address the emotional needs of their students. Furthermore, these productions serve as a bridge to the community, bringing families together and fostering a deep sense of pride within the school neighborhoods.

As noted by the educators on the front lines, this program is a "dream come true" for students who might not otherwise have access to the arts. I strongly recommend your continued investment in NorCal School of the Arts to ensure these students are prepared for a successful future through the power of creative expression.

We are committed to using this opportunity to drive positive change and look forward to the possibility of your support. I can be reached at [redacted], if you have any questions.

Regards,

John P. Bliss
Principal

Soar like a HAWK!

Cordova Villa Elementary School
Amber Carter, Principal
Leonardo Zamudio, Asst Principal
Becky Muir, Admin Assistant

10359 South White Rock Road
Rancho Cordova, CA 95670
916.294.9125 Fax 916.294.2483

March 6, 2026

Re: Continued partnership with NorCal School of the Arts

To whom it may concern:

I am writing to express our support for NorCal Arts continuing to provide a Theater Arts Program integrated with Conflict Resolution strategies as well as an after school production at Cordova Villa Elementary. I strongly feel our students at Cordova Villa would benefit from 10 weeks of this program during the school year to support conflict resolution concepts. The arts are a perfect way to deliver Social Emotional Learning and Conflict Resolution strategies, as the Arts already provide so many opportunities for students to connect, build community and act as an outlet for self-expression and creativity.

Teachers and families at Cordova Villa Elementary have seen that bringing the arts into our school deepens the concepts that they are trying to teach in their class and engages students to want to come to school. Prior to NorCal Arts, our resources were unable to support a theater program at our school for many years. Partnering with NorCal Arts has benefited all students, but especially students who learn differently and excel in other ways such as through movement, singing and verbal expression. It has helped students connect to each other in a meaningful way and this Arts Integration program in the classroom also was a professional development for the classroom teachers, providing arts integration strategies and perspectives to address students' emotional needs.

In 2024, NorCal Arts brought Lion King Kids to Cordova Villa Elementary, and the production was amazing! It provided extended learning and enrichment for our expanded learning program and provided so many life skill lessons for our students

including collaboration, critical thinking and increased engagement in storytelling and literacy. We would love to bring another production to Cordova Villa Elementary in the 2026-27 school year.

Thank you for your consideration for Cordova Villa Elementary. Thank you for investing in the children in Rancho Cordova as we continue to try to nurture their talents and prepare them for a successful future.

Sincerely,

Amber Carter

Amber Carter

NORCAL ARTS & WILLIAMSON ELEMENTARY PRESENT

THE ARISTOCATS: KIDS

This program is supported by a grant from the City of Rancho Cordova's Community Enhancement & Investment Fund.

PERFORMANCES:

THURSDAY,
FEB. 12TH AT 6PM
&
FRIDAY,
FEB 13TH AT 6PM

Williamson Elementary invites you to jam out with some cool cats on Thursday, February 12th & Friday, February 13th!

In the heart of Paris, a kind and eccentric millionairess wills her entire estate to Duchess, her high-society cat, and her three little kittens. Laughs and adventure ensue as the greedy, bumbling butler pulls off the ultimate catnap caper. Now it's up to the rough-and-tumble alley cat, Thomas O'Malley, and his band of swingin' jazz cats to save the day.

House opens 30 minutes before each performance.
Hope to see you there!

WWW.NORCALARTS.ORG 916-955-9462 INFO@NORCALSOTA.ORG

Title

Peers Inspiring Learning, Leadership and Responsible Service (PILLARS): Mentoring Rancho Cordova's Youth

03/06/2026

id. 53409893

by **Terry Raymond** in **Fiscal Year 2026-2027 Community Enhancement & Investment Fund Grant Application**

[redacted]
South Lake Tahoe, California
96150
California
United States
[redacted]

Original Submission

03/06/2026

Score n/a

	Thank you for your interest in applying to the City of Rancho Cordova's Community Enhancement & Investment Fund. Applications are open from February 9, 2026, to March 13, 2026, Noon (12:00 p.m.) with a specific deadline of March 6th Noon (12:00 p.m.) for certain applications**. Before you begin, please read the notes about deadlines and certain types of grant applications/grants below. **School/Park Application Deadline **Note that projects or programs involving a park or school district have a deadline of March 6 Noon (12:00 p.m.) to allow for the third-party endorsement process by the grant deadline.** A Note about Religious Schools and the Application/Grant Process **Note for grant applications from religious schools. The United States Supreme Court has recently ruled in part that: “denying a generally available benefit [from government] solely on account of religious identity imposes a penalty on the free exercise of religion that can be justified only by a state interest of the highest order.” The City is of the opinion that not all grants to religious schools are prohibited under this and other similar rulings. However, these United States Supreme Court decisions remain in conflict with a section of the California State Constitution that says: “[n]either the Legislature, nor any county, city and county, township, school district, or other municipal corporation, shall ever make an appropriation, or pay from any public fund whatever, or grant anything to or in aid of any religious sect, church, creed, or sectarian purpose, or help to support or sustain any school, college, university, hospital, or other institution controlled by any religious creed, church, or sectarian denomination whatever; nor shall any grant or donation of personal property or real estate ever be made by the state, or any city, city and county, town, or other municipal corporation for any religious creed, church, or sectarian purpose whatever”. The City will accept applications for grants of these City public funds from religious schools, but will have language in the grant agreements to address the possibility and consequences of legal challenges and new court decisions on this and related topics. ** Future Grant Opportunities If you are interested in remaining up-to-date on available grants from the City of Rancho Cordova, click here to sign up for the Grants Interest List. A separate call for programming opportunities with the Rancho Cordova Youth Center is anticipated later in 2026. The list is also used to advertise separate art programs when funds are available. Ongoing Grant Opportunity The City of Rancho Cordova offers a microgrant opportunity. Learn more about those grants online.
Is this your first time applying for grant funding from the City of Rancho Cordova? As a first-time applicant, Community Enhancement & Investment Fund (CEIF) staff will contact you to discuss your project and grant application process.	Yes: First Time Applicant

	1 - Project/Program Information Note: You can add a collaborator to this form to assist you in completing this application! A collaborator can help you complete this form by filling in fields for you, although only you can submit this form. You can add a collaborator by navigating to the top of the form and clicking on the 'Manage Collaborators' button. Simply enter their email address and click 'invite' to invite them as a collaborator. If you need further assistance, you may consult this Help article for more information.
Project/Program Name. Assign a project name to your project/program.	Peers Inspiring Learning, Leadership and Responsible Service (PILLARS): Mentoring Rancho Cordova's Youth
Which category does your Project/Program align with?	Youth Programs & Services
Provide a Project/Program Synopsis	PILLARS is a community-based mentoring program focused on middle and high school students within the Folsom Cordova Unified School District (FCUSD), and potentially other districts servicing Rancho Cordova. The program's aim is to promote positive behavior, academic improvement, community service, and vocational skill development, while rewarding participants for their accomplishments.

Provide a Project/Program Description	The mission of PILLARS is to empower youth in the Rancho Cordova community to make positive life choices that enable each participant to maximize their personal potential both at school and in the community to better prepare them for life after high school. We believe this will be achieved by providing participants with the opportunity to earn while they learn and serve the Rancho Cordova community by providing them with supplemental educational, social, vocational and community service opportunities. PILLARS envisions a community in which every youth experiences encouraging relationships and an overwhelming sense of academic and community support. This program addresses the need for strong schools and strong communities, through a partnership involving the City of Rancho Cordova (including not only city government, but its residents, local school districts, local businesses, and community organizations). The program focuses on students who lack resources and under-achieving scholastically in the Rancho Cordova area. It also brings together city leaders, teachers, community members, and alumni to fulfill mentor rolls for school students in need. By building strong relationships with the city and school districts, students who need mentors will be identified each year based on staff and teacher recommendations. These students will then be invited to join PILLARS. The program will benefit these students by providing them with various growth opportunities such as educational forums, teambuilding projects, and community service. The community service aspect of the program provides considerable benefits to the city of Rancho Cordova and its community, while simultaneously providing character building growth for the students who learn the mutual benefits of serving the community. The success of the program will be measured in multiple ways including, but not limited to, the following: · Schools should see improved school attendance, lower tardiness rates, fewer suspensions, improved grades, and fewer behavioral issues. All of which will provide improved school experience for both students and faculty. · Students will also leave high school with a better sense of self-worth and be more prepared for life after high school, which will translate to them being more productive citizens of Rancho Cordova. · Volunteer hours spent improving the esthetics of Rancho Cordova, supporting community events, as well as supporting individual citizens and businesses with the city.

Tell us about your Project/Program Team	PILLARS Team Board Leader, Terry Raymond Board Member, Veronica Lane Board Member, Perry Mansch School Facilitator, Kiari Savorn (Cordova High School) School Facilitator, Mike Brannon (Cordova High School) School Facilitator, Peter Lane (Mitchell Middle School) School Facilitator, Eric Mejia (Mills Middle School)
Provide your Project/Program Goals	**1. Project Goals** Startup Activities • Establish PILLARS as a 501(C)(3). • Create mentor onboarding and training curriculum, ensure all mentors successfully complete training. • Create new PILLARS website. • Create new brand marketing materials. Program Goals • Maintain ~150 participants (75 at Cordova, 25 at Mitchell and 50 at Mills) in the Program at any given time, with participants hand selected by the program coordinator and through teacher/staff referrals from each school. Note: Students are being added to the program throughout the year as they are identified or removed from the program as they transfer out of the district. • Improve both attendance and GPA for students in the program, with a minimum 2.3 GPA as demonstrated by school attendance records. • Provide a minimum of 1500 hours of community service supporting the city of Rancho Cordova and the community in general as demonstrated by attendance and time sheets at each event. • Build lasting connections with school administrators, counselors, teachers, coaches, school resource officers, and police officers as demonstrated by feedback and surveys from these community members. • Provide student participants with academic and health/wellness resources as needed as demonstrated by tracking sheets, providing anonymity when appropriate. * A Key Performance Indicator (KPI) tracker will be updated monthly with all results reviewed by the Board monthly to ensure adequate focus is maintained and goals are achieved or adjusted as needed.

Optional File Upload: Provide any additional records to supplement your program/project application. Note: Combine multiple files in one pdf before uploading.	
	2 - Funding & Costs
Funding Request - Complete this section with total dollar amounts for your project/program's costs	Funds are generally not intended to be used for deferred maintenance and ongoing operational needs. The funds are intended for enhancing and investing in the City of Rancho Cordova. If your project/program is awarded, the costs identified below would be reviewed and potentially open to modification during a contracting phase (if a grant is awarded by the City Council). If awarded, grant funds are not available until a contract is executed during Fiscal Year 2026-2027.
Total project/program cost*	203885
What is the amount of Community Enhancement & Investment Fund grant monies requested?	141500
Does your project/program involve construction of any facilities or improvements upon any property?	No
What is the total cost of personnel for your project/program?	62500
What is the total cost of supplies for your project/program?	5000
What is the total cost of transportation for your project/program?	10000
What is the total cost of equipment for your project/program?	0

What is the total cost of any miscellaneous expenses for your project/program?	64000

Upload your project/program's budget as a .pdf file. Include the categories and their dollar amounts along with information about any other funding sources to demonstrate your project/program's total budget. Note, the sum of all categories must match the total project or program cost, or the amount requested of CEIF if there is no other funding source. Please clearly illustrate any matching funds or funding from other sources in your project/program budget, including in-kind sources. Note: Combine multiple files in one pdf before uploading.

2026_2027_PILLARS_Grant_Budget.pdf

Has your organization sought or will seek other funding for this project/program?	Yes, actively seeking funding support or have secured additional funding support for this project/program.
Describe any funding secured or being sought for this project/program.	We will be seeking other youth grant opportunities from local Service Organizations through partnerships on events and projects.
Please describe any ongoing operations and maintenance costs beyond Fiscal Year 2026/2027, if applicable.	N/A
Do you have volunteer or in-kind support for your project? This could include volunteers for an activity/event that is ongoing or a one-time experience.	Yes
Please share the total dollar amount for volunteer/in-kind support using $34.79 as the national rate for a volunteer hour. Source: Value of Volunteer Time	62385

Please provide a worksheet explaining your volunteer/in-kind contribution. You may upload a file in the following formats: CSV, DOC, DOCX, or PDF.

2026_2027_PILLARS_Grant_Budget.pdf

Is this a single year request or a request for funding for multiple years?	Single Year
Has your project/program received funding from the Community Enhancement & Investment Fund previously?	No
	3 - Project/Program Details Grant applications are typically approved to occur between July 2026 through June 2027. What is your plan to complete this project/program within this time frame?
Anticipated Start Date (July 1 is the soonest available start date)	7/1/2026
Anticipated End Date (typically projects/programs end by June 30)	6/30/2027
Please describe your project/program schedule	In June, 2026 we will begin preparations for the 2026/2-27 school year. I anticipate this to be an ongoing program following the school year cycle.
What challenges do you anticipate in your project/program's implementation? What is your plan to complete your project/program should those or other challenges arise?	Should the three schools not support our involvement as an official Associated Student Body (ASB) Club, then we would pursue running this program as an after school program off campus. This is not my preference, but we will be prepared to pivot if needed.
How many individuals does your project/program serve?	~150 on average per school year.
How many Rancho Cordova residents does your project/program serve?	~150 on average per school year.
	4 - Project/Program Location

Address Verification	If you need to check if your project is in Rancho Cordova, type in your program/project's location in the Assessor Parcel Viewer: https://assessorparcelviewer.saccounty.gov/jsviewer/assessor.html
School and park related applications are due before Noon (12:00 p.m.) on March 6, 2026, to allow for the endorsement process.	Please note that projects or programs that are proposed on property owned or operated by outside agencies or a private party will require coordination with and potentially approvals from outside agencies, organizations, and/or the private party. Include whether you have received a letter of support for the project/program from the property owner. Upload any letters of support with your application. City staff will verify third-party permits have been discussed. In your planning discussions, be sure to discuss any necessary insurance or volunteer requirements that may increase budget costs. School Sites If your project/program is intended to operate at a public K-12 school site, your application is due by March 6 at Noon (12:00 p.m.). City staff will work with the school districts to confirm an endorsement for your project/program. It's the applicant's responsibility to communicate with school site and district representatives before applying so there is clarity during the endorsement process. Districts will only consider endorsement for applications submitted to the Community Enhancement & Investment Fund by the March 6 at Noon (12:00 p.m.). deadline. Each participating school superintendent reserves the right to withhold their endorsement of a project/program. Parks If your project/program is intended to operate at a park or community center site, your application is due by the March 6 at Noon (12:00 p.m.). deadline. City staff will work with the Cordova Recreation & Park District to confirm an endorsement for your project/program. It's the applicant's responsibility to communicate with district representatives before applying so there is clarity during the endorsement process. A special use permit application is required for any program or event planned at a CRPD facility. The special use application can be found at the CRPD website: https://www.cordovarpd.gov/. CRPD will only consider endorsement for applications submitted to the Community Enhancement & Investment Fund by the March 6 at Noon (12:00 p.m.). deadline. The Cordova Recreation & Park District reserves the right to withhold their endorsement of a project/program. Below is the list of staff to communicate with at school and park organizations: Folsom Cordova Unified School District: mwest@fcusd.org Cordova Recreation & Park District: cmichelotti@cordovarpd.gov Elk Grove Unified School District: mgulden@egusd.net Sacramento City Unified School District: Tuan-Duong@scusd.edu for Winn and Carver and Enrique-Flores@scusd.edu for Lincoln.
Primary street address of project/program	2239 Chase Drive
List the city location of the project/program.	Rancho Cordova
Select State	CA

Provide the zip code for your project/program's primary location.	95670
If your project/program takes place at multiple locations, please list other or secondary locations.	We are working with each school to receive approval to hold weekly meeting on each school campus. The two additional sites are listed below: Mills Middle School - 10439 Coloma Road, Rancho Cordova, CA 95670 Mitchell Middle School - 2100 Zinfandel Drive, Rancho Cordova, CA 95670
Third Party Letters of Support (Note: Combine multiple files in one pdf before uploading)	
Does your project/program involve one of Rancho Cordova's school districts?	Yes
Is the project/program requesting facility use only or is this a request to partner with the school district?	Partner with school on project/program
Please select all the school districts which your project/program intends to involve:	Folsom Cordova USD
Please select one or more of the Folsom Cordova Unified School District school facilities which your project/program will involve:	Mills Middle School Mitchell Middle School Cordova High School
Have you reached out to a contact at the school(s) you indicated above?	Yes

Please provide the names of your contacts at the school(s) or district(s) who are familiar with your project/program.	Amy Strawn: Principal, Cordova High School Dana Carrigan: Principal, Mills Middle School Dr. Sandra Garcia: Principal, Mitchell Middle School Angela Griffin Ankhelyi: FCUSD Chief Officer, Communications & Community Engagement
Does your project/program involve the Cordova Recreation & Park District?	No
	5 - Applicant Information
Name	Terry Raymond
Is this project/program on behalf of an organization?	Yes
What is the name of your organization?	Peers Inspiring Learning, Leadership And Responsible Service (PILLARS)
What is your title and/or role at your organization?	President, PILLARS
Provide contact phone number:	+[redacted]
Provide contact email:	[redacted]
Are you the primary point of contact on this project/program?	Yes
If your project/program was awarded the requested funds, are you authorized to sign the contract for your organization?	Yes, I would be the one to sign the contract

By checking here, I confirm that I am aware that my application materials will become public record.	checked

Thank you for applying to the Community Enhancement & Investment Fund Fiscal Year 2026-2027 Grant Cycle. Applicants will receive an automated response through the grant portal. Community Enhancement & Investment Fund (CEIF) Staff will follow up with any questions regarding your Fiscal Year 2026-2027 application. For information about the next steps in the CEIF grant process, visit our website for more information. It is anticipated that applications will be reviewed by the City Council starting in April 2026 with adoption in June 2026. Should applicants be awarded by the City Council, funding would not be available to grantees until the start of Fiscal Year 2026-2027 and the completion of a contract. Please send an email to CEIFGrants@cityofranchocordova.org with any questions or comments.

Internal Form

Score	n/a

Title

Peers Inspiring Learning, Leadership and Responsible Service (PILLARS): Mentoring Rancho Cordova's Youth

03/06/2026

id. 53409893

by **Terry Raymond** in **Fiscal Year 2026-2027 Community Enhancement & Investment Fund Grant Application**

Average score: n/a

Reviewed by: Mina West (Score:)

03/20/2026

Which organization(s) are you completing this form on behalf of? (Select all that apply)	A school district
Which school district are you completing this form on behalf of?	FCUSD
Which FCUSD school facility	Mills Middle School Mitchell Middle School Cordova High School
For Mills Middle School, the school district's acknowledgement is:	Conditional Endorsement (Notes Provided)
Notes providing rationale	For Mills Middle School, endorsement is conditional on the establishment of a formal, compliant organizational structure. Middle school students require heightened supervision and clearly defined roles for external partners. Principal approval, established organizational status, and completion of FCUSD fingerprinting and compliance processes are required before the program could be considered for implementation at this site.
For Mitchell Middle School, the school district's acknowledgement is:	Conditional Endorsement (Notes Provided)

Notes providing rationale	At Mitchell Middle School, participation is similarly conditional on the establishment of a formal, compliant organizational structure. The proposed mentoring model would require clear protocols for student selection, supervision, and coordination with existing school supports. Until these elements are addressed and the program demonstrates readiness for safe, structured implementation, it cannot be integrated at this campus.
For Cordova High School, the school district's acknowledgement is:	Conditional Endorsement (Notes Provided)
Notes providing rationale	At Cordova High School, endorsement is conditional on the establishment of a formal, compliant organizational structure. Given the high school campus environment and existing student support systems, any external mentoring program must demonstrate clear alignment with site priorities, compliance with district background.check requirements, and a defined operational framework. Until organizational readiness and site.level approval are confirmed, the program cannot be integrated on campus.
Organizations may provide PDF or JPG documentation regarding their endorsement.	
Name of Superintendent, Manager, or Designee completing this form:	Mina West
Title of individual completing this form	Administrative Assistant - Communications and Community Engagement
By checking here, I verify that I have the authority at my organization to provide an endorsement.	True

Expense Category	Measure H Funding	PILLARS & Other In Kind Contributions and/or monetary donations
Contracted Services: PILLARS Program coordinator Consulting Fees School Facilitator stipends (6-7 across 3 schools)	 $5,000 $18,000 $35,000	 $0 $0 $0
Professional Math Tutoring Support at rate of $45 per hour (4 hours per week x 40 weeks – includes summer school)	$4,500	$2,700
PILLARS Program Mentors and volunteers	$0	$52,185 (estimated in kind value of 1500 donated hours @ national average of $34.79 per hour)
PILLARS Program Support @ Cordova (~75 students) - Educational Activities & Rewards - School Based Activities & Rewards - Social Rewards - Parent Engagement Activities - Materials/Website PILLARS Program Support @ Mills (~50 students) - Educational Activities & Rewards - School Based Activities & Rewards	$40,000 $26,000	$2,000 (in kind & cash contributions combined) $1,000 (in kind & cash contributions combined)

- Social Rewards - Parent Engagement Activities - Materials PILLARS Program Support @ Mitchell (25 students) - Educational Activities & Rewards - School Based Activities & Rewards - Social Rewards - Parent Engagement Activities - Materials	$13,000	$1,000 (in kind & cash contributions combined)
Program Insurance	$0	$3,500
Total	$141,500	$62,385

Title

Rancho Cordova Student Athlete Coalition- Athletic Improvement Plan

03/06/2026

id. 53410986

by **Jennifer Laret** in **Fiscal Year 2026-2027 Community Enhancement & Investment Fund Grant Application**

11230 Gold Express Drive, Ste 310-197
Rancho Cordova, California
95670
CA
United States
[redacted]

Original Submission

03/06/2026

Score n/a

	Thank you for your interest in applying to the City of Rancho Cordova's Community Enhancement & Investment Fund. Applications are open from February 9, 2026, to March 13, 2026, Noon (12:00 p.m.) with a specific deadline of March 6th Noon (12:00 p.m.) for certain applications**. Before you begin, please read the notes about deadlines and certain types of grant applications/grants below. **School/Park Application Deadline **Note that projects or programs involving a park or school district have a deadline of March 6 Noon (12:00 p.m.) to allow for the third-party endorsement process by the grant deadline.** A Note about Religious Schools and the Application/Grant Process **Note for grant applications from religious schools. The United States Supreme Court has recently ruled in part that: “denying a generally available benefit [from government] solely on account of religious identity imposes a penalty on the free exercise of religion that can be justified only by a state interest of the highest order.” The City is of the opinion that not all grants to religious schools are prohibited under this and other similar rulings. However, these United States Supreme Court decisions remain in conflict with a section of the California State Constitution that says: “[n]either the Legislature, nor any county, city and county, township, school district, or other municipal corporation, shall ever make an appropriation, or pay from any public fund whatever, or grant anything to or in aid of any religious sect, church, creed, or sectarian purpose, or help to support or sustain any school, college, university, hospital, or other institution controlled by any religious creed, church, or sectarian denomination whatever; nor shall any grant or donation of personal property or real estate ever be made by the state, or any city, city and county, town, or other municipal corporation for any religious creed, church, or sectarian purpose whatever”. The City will accept applications for grants of these City public funds from religious schools, but will have language in the grant agreements to address the possibility and consequences of legal challenges and new court decisions on this and related topics. ** Future Grant Opportunities If you are interested in remaining up-to-date on available grants from the City of Rancho Cordova, click here to sign up for the Grants Interest List. A separate call for programming opportunities with the Rancho Cordova Youth Center is anticipated later in 2026. The list is also used to advertise separate art programs when funds are available. Ongoing Grant Opportunity The City of Rancho Cordova offers a microgrant opportunity. Learn more about those grants online.
Is this your first time applying for grant funding from the City of Rancho Cordova? As a first-time applicant, Community Enhancement & Investment Fund (CEIF) staff will contact you to discuss your project and grant application process.	No: Not a First Time Applicant

	1 - Project/Program Information Note: You can add a collaborator to this form to assist you in completing this application! A collaborator can help you complete this form by filling in fields for you, although only you can submit this form. You can add a collaborator by navigating to the top of the form and clicking on the 'Manage Collaborators' button. Simply enter their email address and click 'invite' to invite them as a collaborator. If you need further assistance, you may consult this Help article for more information.
Project/Program Name. Assign a project name to your project/program.	Rancho Cordova Student Athlete Coalition- Athletic Improvement Plan
Which category does your Project/Program align with?	Youth Programs & Services
Provide a Project/Program Synopsis	For the 2026–2027 fiscal year, the Coalition seeks financial support to expand participation, increase student access to athletic development opportunities, and strengthen community partnership between the athletic teams and the Rancho Cordova Community.
Provide a Project/Program Description	The Rancho Cordova Student Athlete Coalition (RCSAC) is committed to supporting student-athletes by providing resources, equipment, athletic training opportunities, and community engagement that promote athletic excellence, academic success, and leadership development.
Tell us about your Project/Program Team	The Rancho Cordova Student Athlete Coalition is made up of local community members. Madelaine Sanderson- President Logan Blower- Treasurer Krista Mayfield- Secretary Jennifer Laret- Member at Large Mike Mirando- Member at Large Conrade Mayer- Member at Large Anthony Davis- Member at Large Jason Harper- Member at Large Liane Sousa- Member at Large

Provide your Project/Program Goals	1. **Support Student-Athlete Development** ◦ Provide training camps, clinics, and mentorship programs. 1. **Promote Academic Excellence** ▪ Offer academic support resources and scholarships. 1. **Expand Youth Athletic Opportunities** ▪ Increase access to invitationals, tournaments, and camps. 1. **Strengthen Community Engagement** ▪ Build partnerships between Cordova High athletics, businesses, and civic organizations.

Optional File Upload: Provide any additional records to supplement your program/project application. Note: Combine multiple files in one pdf before uploading.

CHS_Athletic_Budget_Proposal_2026-27.pdf

	2 - Funding & Costs
Funding Request - Complete this section with total dollar amounts for your project/program's costs	Funds are generally not intended to be used for deferred maintenance and ongoing operational needs. The funds are intended for enhancing and investing in the City of Rancho Cordova. If your project/program is awarded, the costs identified below would be reviewed and potentially open to modification during a contracting phase (if a grant is awarded by the City Council). If awarded, grant funds are not available until a contract is executed during Fiscal Year 2026-2027.
Total project/program cost*	361500
What is the amount of Community Enhancement & Investment Fund grant monies requested?	265000
Does your project/program involve construction of any facilities or improvements upon any property?	No
What is the total cost of personnel for your project/program?	80000
What is the total cost of supplies for your project/program?	61955

What is the total cost of transportation for your project/program?	0
What is the total cost of equipment for your project/program?	105000
What is the total cost of any miscellaneous expenses for your project/program?	80000

Upload your project/program's budget as a .pdf file. Include the categories and their dollar amounts along with information about any other funding sources to demonstrate your project/program's total budget. Note, the sum of all categories must match the total project or program cost, or the amount requested of CEIF if there is no other funding source. Please clearly illustrate any matching funds or funding from other sources in your project/program budget, including in-kind sources. Note: Combine multiple files in one pdf before uploading.

RCSAC_26-27_Financial_Proposal.pdf

Has your organization sought or will seek other funding for this project/program?	Yes, actively seeking funding support or have secured additional funding support for this project/program.
Describe any funding secured or being sought for this project/program.	We will be looking for corporate sponsors, holding fundraising events, and seeking individual donations. RCSAC will be supporting the teams in their fundraising efforts.
Please describe any ongoing operations and maintenance costs beyond Fiscal Year 2026/2027, if applicable.	
Do you have volunteer or in-kind support for your project? This could include volunteers for an activity/event that is ongoing or a one-time experience.	No
Is this a single year request or a request for funding for multiple years?	Single Year

Has your project/program received funding from the Community Enhancement & Investment Fund previously?	Yes
How many years has your project/program received funding from the Community Enhancement & Investment Fund?	3
How much funding has your organization received from the Community Enhancement & Investment Fund through our traditional grants (not including microgrants)?	$590,000
	3 - Project/Program Details Grant applications are typically approved to occur between July 2026 through June 2027. What is your plan to complete this project/program within this time frame?
Anticipated Start Date (July 1 is the soonest available start date)	7/1/2026
Anticipated End Date (typically projects/programs end by June 30)	6/30/2027
Please describe your project/program schedule	We will be initiating funding immediately on July 1st to support our fall teams, and anticipate fall spending for the winter teams, and then winter spending for the spring teams. The last of the invoices for the coaching stipends will come in at the end of May/1st week of June.

What challenges do you anticipate in your project/program's implementation? What is your plan to complete your project/program should those or other challenges arise?	The biggest challenge will be finding our corporate sponsors. Many youth and school sports teams pull from the same base but we are confident with our connections that we can find those sponsorships.
How many individuals does your project/program serve?	550 plus athletes
How many Rancho Cordova residents does your project/program serve?	550 plus
	4 - Project/Program Location
Address Verification	If you need to check if your project is in Rancho Cordova, type in your program/project's location in the Assessor Parcel Viewer: https://assessorparcelviewer.saccounty.gov/jsviewer/assessor.html

School and park related applications are due before Noon (12:00 p.m.) on March 6, 2026, to allow for the endorsement process.	Please note that projects or programs that are proposed on property owned or operated by outside agencies or a private party will require coordination with and potentially approvals from outside agencies, organizations, and/or the private party. Include whether you have received a letter of support for the project/program from the property owner. Upload any letters of support with your application. City staff will verify third-party permits have been discussed. In your planning discussions, be sure to discuss any necessary insurance or volunteer requirements that may increase budget costs. School Sites If your project/program is intended to operate at a public K-12 school site, your application is due by March 6 at Noon (12:00 p.m.). City staff will work with the school districts to confirm an endorsement for your project/program. It's the applicant's responsibility to communicate with school site and district representatives before applying so there is clarity during the endorsement process. Districts will only consider endorsement for applications submitted to the Community Enhancement & Investment Fund by the March 6 at Noon (12:00 p.m.). deadline. Each participating school superintendent reserves the right to withhold their endorsement of a project/program. Parks If your project/program is intended to operate at a park or community center site, your application is due by the March 6 at Noon (12:00 p.m.). deadline. City staff will work with the Cordova Recreation & Park District to confirm an endorsement for your project/program. It's the applicant's responsibility to communicate with district representatives before applying so there is clarity during the endorsement process. A special use permit application is required for any program or event planned at a CRPD facility. The special use application can be found at the CRPD website: https://www.cordovarpd.gov/. CRPD will only consider endorsement for applications submitted to the Community Enhancement & Investment Fund by the March 6 at Noon (12:00 p.m.). deadline. The Cordova Recreation & Park District reserves the right to withhold their endorsement of a project/program. Below is the list of staff to communicate with at school and park organizations: Folsom Cordova Unified School District: mwest@fcusd.org Cordova Recreation & Park District: cmichelotti@cordovarpd.gov Elk Grove Unified School District: mgulden@egusd.net Sacramento City Unified School District: Tuan-Duong@scusd.edu for Winn and Carver and Enrique-Flores@scusd.edu for Lincoln.
Primary street address of project/program	2239 Chase Drive
List the city location of the project/program.	Rancho Cordova
Select State	CA
Provide the zip code for your project/program's primary location.	95670

If your project/program takes place at multiple locations, please list other or secondary locations.	
Third Party Letters of Support (Note: Combine multiple files in one pdf before uploading)	
Does your project/program involve one of Rancho Cordova's school districts?	Yes
Is the project/program requesting facility use only or is this a request to partner with the school district?	Partner with school on project/program
Please select all the school districts which your project/program intends to involve:	Folsom Cordova USD
Please select one or more of the Folsom Cordova Unified School District school facilities which your project/program will involve:	Cordova High School
Have you reached out to a contact at the school(s) you indicated above?	Yes
Please provide the names of your contacts at the school(s) or district(s) who are familiar with your project/program.	Peter Maroon, Erin Kalusa

Does your project/program involve the Cordova Recreation & Park District?	No
	5 - Applicant Information
Name	Jennifer Laret
Is this project/program on behalf of an organization?	Yes
What is the name of your organization?	Rancho Cordova Student Athlete Coalition
What is your title and/or role at your organization?	Board Member at Large
Provide contact phone number:	+ [redacted]
Provide contact email:	[redacted]
Are you the primary point of contact on this project/program?	No
What is the name of this project or program's primary contact if not the person submitting this application?	Madelaine Sanderson
What is the email of the primary contact?	[redacted]
If your project/program was awarded the requested funds, are you authorized to sign the contract for your organization?	No, someone else would sign the contract

If selected by the City Council to receive an award, what is the name of the person at your organization who would sign the contract?	Madelaine Sanderson
What is the title of this individual?	President
What is the best phone number where we could contact the signatory?	+[redacted]
What is the best email address to contact the signatory?	[redacted]
By checking here, I confirm that I am aware that my application materials will become public record.	checked
	Thank you for applying to the Community Enhancement & Investment Fund Fiscal Year 2026-2027 Grant Cycle. Applicants will receive an automated response through the grant portal. Community Enhancement & Investment Fund (CEIF) Staff will follow up with any questions regarding your Fiscal Year 2026-2027 application. For information about the next steps in the CEIF grant process, visit our website for more information. It is anticipated that applications will be reviewed by the City Council starting in April 2026 with adoption in June 2026. Should applicants be awarded by the City Council, funding would not be available to grantees until the start of Fiscal Year 2026-2027 and the completion of a contract. Please send an email to CEIFGrants@cityofranchocordova.org with any questions or comments.

Internal Form

Score	n/a

Cordova High School
Athletic Budget Report 2026-27

	2026-27	2027-28	2028-29	2029-30
Fall				
Football	$78,323			
Girls Flag Football	$19,071			
Girls Tennis	$1,710			
Girls Volleyball	$11,958			
Cross Country	$20,868			
Girls Golf	$2,360			
Total	$134,290			
Winter				
Boys Basketball	$23,277			
Girls Basketball	$23,277			
Boys Soccer	$3,500			
Girls Soccer	$11,023			
Wrestling	$33,077			
Total	$94,154			
Spring				
Track n Field	$30,558			
Swimming	$5,000			
Baseball	$21,996			
Softball	$14,627			
Boys Tennis	$1,710			
Stunt (Cheer)	$19,458			
Boys Golf	$2,360			
Boys Volleyball	$11,958			
Total	$107,667			
Yearly Totals	$336,111			

Transportation cost is include in the proposal for each program for a total of:

Fall	$	27,000.00
Winter	$	38,000.00
Spring	$	34,500.00
	$	99,500.00

* these are estimate based upon previous years amounts.

Financial Proposal

Rancho Cordova Student Athlete Coalition

2026–2027 Fiscal Year

Executive Summary

The Rancho Cordova Student Athlete Coalition (RCSAC) is committed to supporting student-athletes by providing resources, equipment, athletic training opportunities, and community engagement that promote athletic excellence, academic success, and leadership development.

For the 2026–2027 fiscal year, the Coalition seeks financial support to expand participation, increase student access to athletic development opportunities, and strengthen community partnership between the athletic teams and the Rancho Cordova Community.

The proposed annual operating budget for the 2026–2027 year is **$361,500.00**

Organizational Goals for 2026–2027

1. **Support Student-Athlete Development**
    - Provide training camps, clinics, and mentorship programs.
2. **Promote Academic Excellence**
    - Offer academic support resources and scholarships.
3. **Expand Youth Athletic Opportunities**
    - Increase access to invitationals, tournaments, and camps.
4. **Strengthen Community Engagement**
    - Build partnerships with local schools, businesses, and civic organizations.

Proposed Budget (2026–2027)

Program Expenses

Category	Estimated Cost
Coaching Stipends for Assistant Coaches	$80,000
Uniforms & Equipment	$105,000
Entries for Invitationals & Tournaments	$22,000

Category	Estimated Cost
Student Athlete Recognition/Awards	$25,000
Advertising/Marketing/Community Outreach	$30,000
Transportation	$99,500
Total Program Expenses	$361,500.00

Funding Strategy

To support the 2026–2027 budget, RCSAC will pursue the following funding sources:

CEIF Grant Request

RCSAC is seeking a CEIF Grant from the City of Rancho Cordova. The Grant monies would be used to cover all items with the exception of the transportation.

Projected Grant Revenue: **$265,000**

Sponsorships

Local businesses will be invited to become coalition sponsors through tiered sponsorship packages.

Sponsorship Level	Contribution
Champion Sponsor	$10,000
Gold Sponsor	$5,000
Silver Sponsor	$2,500
Community Sponsor	$1,000

Projected Sponsorship Revenue: **$35,000**

Fundraising Events

Planned events include:

- Jamborees
- CHS Hosted Invitationals/Tournaments for Various Teams

Projected Event Revenue: **$35,000**

Donations

Individual donors and community members will be encouraged to contribute through online campaigns and community outreach.

Projected Donation Revenue: **$25,000**

Expected Outcomes

Through the 2026–2027 funding initiative, the Rancho Cordova Student Athlete Coalition expects to:

- Serve 500+ student athletes
- Provide support for Fundraising Events
- Create greater connectivity between the Rancho Cordova community and the Cordova High Athletic Programs

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Community Impact

The Rancho Cordova Student Athlete Coalition plays a critical role in strengthening the local athletic community. By investing in student-athletes, the Coalition helps build confidence, leadership, and academic success that extends far beyond sports.

This proposal represents an opportunity for community partners to help shape the next generation of leaders while promoting healthy lifestyles and positive youth development.

Conclusion

The Rancho Cordova Student Athlete Coalition respectfully requests financial support to implement its 2026–2027 program initiatives. Through collaboration with community leaders, schools, businesses, and supporters, we can ensure that student-athletes in Rancho Cordova have the opportunities and resources they need to succeed.

Together, we can build a stronger future for our student-athletes and our community.

Title

Rancho Cordova Track Club Throwing Cage Safety & Enhancement Project

03/05/2026

id. 53401188

by **Jennifer Laret** in **Fiscal Year 2026-2027 Community Enhancement & Investment Fund Grant Application**

11230 Gold Express Drive, Ste 310-197
Rancho Cordova, California
95670
CA
United States
[redacted]

Original Submission

03/05/2026

Score n/a

	Thank you for your interest in applying to the City of Rancho Cordova's Community Enhancement & Investment Fund. Applications are open from February 9, 2026, to March 13, 2026, Noon (12:00 p.m.) with a specific deadline of March 6th Noon (12:00 p.m.) for certain applications**. Before you begin, please read the notes about deadlines and certain types of grant applications/grants below. **School/Park Application Deadline **Note that projects or programs involving a park or school district have a deadline of March 6 Noon (12:00 p.m.) to allow for the third-party endorsement process by the grant deadline.** A Note about Religious Schools and the Application/Grant Process **Note for grant applications from religious schools. The United States Supreme Court has recently ruled in part that: “denying a generally available benefit [from government] solely on account of religious identity imposes a penalty on the free exercise of religion that can be justified only by a state interest of the highest order.” The City is of the opinion that not all grants to religious schools are prohibited under this and other similar rulings. However, these United States Supreme Court decisions remain in conflict with a section of the California State Constitution that says: “[n]either the Legislature, nor any county, city and county, township, school district, or other municipal corporation, shall ever make an appropriation, or pay from any public fund whatever, or grant anything to or in aid of any religious sect, church, creed, or sectarian purpose, or help to support or sustain any school, college, university, hospital, or other institution controlled by any religious creed, church, or sectarian denomination whatever; nor shall any grant or donation of personal property or real estate ever be made by the state, or any city, city and county, town, or other municipal corporation for any religious creed, church, or sectarian purpose whatever”. The City will accept applications for grants of these City public funds from religious schools, but will have language in the grant agreements to address the possibility and consequences of legal challenges and new court decisions on this and related topics. ** Future Grant Opportunities If you are interested in remaining up-to-date on available grants from the City of Rancho Cordova, click here to sign up for the Grants Interest List. A separate call for programming opportunities with the Rancho Cordova Youth Center is anticipated later in 2026. The list is also used to advertise separate art programs when funds are available. Ongoing Grant Opportunity The City of Rancho Cordova offers a microgrant opportunity. Learn more about those grants online.
Is this your first time applying for grant funding from the City of Rancho Cordova? As a first-time applicant, Community Enhancement & Investment Fund (CEIF) staff will contact you to discuss your project and grant application process.	No: Not a First Time Applicant

	1 - Project/Program Information Note: You can add a collaborator to this form to assist you in completing this application! A collaborator can help you complete this form by filling in fields for you, although only you can submit this form. You can add a collaborator by navigating to the top of the form and clicking on the 'Manage Collaborators' button. Simply enter their email address and click 'invite' to invite them as a collaborator. If you need further assistance, you may consult this Help article for more information.
Project/Program Name. Assign a project name to your project/program.	Rancho Cordova Track Club Throwing Cage Safety & Enhancement Project
Which category does your Project/Program align with?	Youth Programs & Services
Provide a Project/Program Synopsis	Funding is requested to purchase and install a **new Lance Deal–designed throwing cage system**, which addresses current operational hazards and significantly enhances safety, durability, and usability for athletes and the community.
Provide a Project/Program Description	The Rancho Cordova Track Club seeks funding to replace the existing hammer/discus throwing cage structure with a modern, safer, and more durable cage design. The current cage — originally sourced from Sacramento State — has reached the end of its useful life. The nylon netting is severely sun-damaged and repeatedly torn from implement impacts and structural contact. Continuous patching has become both labor-intensive and insufficient to guarantee long-term safety.
Tell us about your Project/Program Team	The **Rancho Cordova Track Club** (often called **RCTC**) is a youth running and track-and-field program based in Rancho Cordova, California. It focuses on helping young athletes develop skills, fitness, and confidence through track, cross country, and running events.
Provide your Project/Program Goals	**Safety & Liability** The existing structure has multiple safety vulnerabilities: • Netting is frayed and patched, increasing risk of implements passing through weakened areas. • Exposed support posts and bolts are frequently struck by hammers, creating rebound hazards. • Gate nets cannot be fully lowered for wind protection in the current design, exposing the system to increased wind damage and risk. Incremental repair is expensive and does not eliminate hazards inherent in the outdated design. Replacing the system with a modern engineered solution will significantly reduce safety risks and liability exposure moving forward.

Optional File Upload: Provide any additional records to supplement your program/project application. Note: Combine multiple files in one pdf before uploading.

	2 - Funding & Costs
Funding Request - Complete this section with total dollar amounts for your project/program's costs	Funds are generally not intended to be used for deferred maintenance and ongoing operational needs. The funds are intended for enhancing and investing in the City of Rancho Cordova. If your project/program is awarded, the costs identified below would be reviewed and potentially open to modification during a contracting phase (if a grant is awarded by the City Council). If awarded, grant funds are not available until a contract is executed during Fiscal Year 2026-2027.
Total project/program cost*	69495
What is the amount of Community Enhancement & Investment Fund grant monies requested?	69495
Does your project/program involve construction of any facilities or improvements upon any property?	Yes
If your project/program involves construction, please indicate your project budget?	7500
What is the total cost of personnel for your project/program?	0
What is the total cost of supplies for your project/program?	61955
What is the total cost of transportation for your project/program?	0
What is the total cost of equipment for your project/program?	61995

What is the total cost of any miscellaneous expenses for your project/program?	0

Upload your project/program's budget as a .pdf file. Include the categories and their dollar amounts along with information about any other funding sources to demonstrate your project/program's total budget. Note, the sum of all categories must match the total project or program cost, or the amount requested of CEIF if there is no other funding source. Please clearly illustrate any matching funds or funding from other sources in your project/program budget, including in-kind sources. Note: Combine multiple files in one pdf before uploading.

Rancho_Cordova_CEIF_Budget_FY2026_2027_FINAL_v2.pdf

Has your organization sought or will seek other funding for this project/program?	Yes, actively seeking funding support or have secured additional funding support for this project/program.
Describe any funding secured or being sought for this project/program.	We have potential cash support of $35,000. $15,000 previous budgeted for concrete work $20,000 RCAA Youth Sports Facility Upgrade Fees Penitential sale of existing cage
Please describe any ongoing operations and maintenance costs beyond Fiscal Year 2026/2027, if applicable.	We are anticipating a 20 year life on this item. RCTC would have the funds to maintain any maintenance costs on this item.
Do you have volunteer or in-kind support for your project? This could include volunteers for an activity/event that is ongoing or a one-time experience.	No
Is this a single year request or a request for funding for multiple years?	Single Year
Has your project/program received funding from the Community Enhancement & Investment Fund previously?	Yes

How many years has your project/program received funding from the Community Enhancement & Investment Fund?	3
How much funding has your organization received from the Community Enhancement & Investment Fund through our traditional grants (not including microgrants)?	$240,000
	3 - Project/Program Details Grant applications are typically approved to occur between July 2026 through June 2027. What is your plan to complete this project/program within this time frame?
Anticipated Start Date (July 1 is the soonest available start date)	7/1/2026
Anticipated End Date (typically projects/programs end by June 30)	2/1/2027
Please describe your project/program schedule	We would hope to order this in July, have the cage manufactured and installed by February 1st.
What challenges do you anticipate in your project/program's implementation? What is your plan to complete your project/program should those or other challenges arise?	The biggest challenge to this project is the funding. We were hoping to fundraise more but due to the football field replacement at Cordova High this season, we are unable to host as many meets as we would need to cover the costs. The field replacement is anticipated to take most of the summer hindering our ability to host the additional 2 meets we would have hosted.
How many individuals does your project/program serve?	150

How many Rancho Cordova residents does your project/program serve?	125
	4 - Project/Program Location
Address Verification	If you need to check if your project is in Rancho Cordova, type in your program/project's location in the Assessor Parcel Viewer: https://assessorparcelviewer.saccounty.gov/jsviewer/assessor.html
School and park related applications are due before Noon (12:00 p.m.) on March 6, 2026, to allow for the endorsement process.	Please note that projects or programs that are proposed on property owned or operated by outside agencies or a private party will require coordination with and potentially approvals from outside agencies, organizations, and/or the private party. Include whether you have received a letter of support for the project/program from the property owner. Upload any letters of support with your application. City staff will verify third-party permits have been discussed. In your planning discussions, be sure to discuss any necessary insurance or volunteer requirements that may increase budget costs. School Sites If your project/program is intended to operate at a public K-12 school site, your application is due by March 6 at Noon (12:00 p.m.). City staff will work with the school districts to confirm an endorsement for your project/program. It's the applicant's responsibility to communicate with school site and district representatives before applying so there is clarity during the endorsement process. Districts will only consider endorsement for applications submitted to the Community Enhancement & Investment Fund by the March 6 at Noon (12:00 p.m.). deadline. Each participating school superintendent reserves the right to withhold their endorsement of a project/program. Parks If your project/program is intended to operate at a park or community center site, your application is due by the March 6 at Noon (12:00 p.m.). deadline. City staff will work with the Cordova Recreation & Park District to confirm an endorsement for your project/program. It's the applicant's responsibility to communicate with district representatives before applying so there is clarity during the endorsement process. A special use permit application is required for any program or event planned at a CRPD facility. The special use application can be found at the CRPD website: https://www.cordovarpd.gov/. CRPD will only consider endorsement for applications submitted to the Community Enhancement & Investment Fund by the March 6 at Noon (12:00 p.m.). deadline. The Cordova Recreation & Park District reserves the right to withhold their endorsement of a project/program. Below is the list of staff to communicate with at school and park organizations: Folsom Cordova Unified School District: mwest@fcusd.org Cordova Recreation & Park District: cmichelotti@cordovarpd.gov Elk Grove Unified School District: mgulden@egusd.net Sacramento City Unified School District: Tuan-Duong@scusd.edu for Winn and Carver and Enrique-Flores@scusd.edu for Lincoln.

Primary street address of project/program	2239 Chase Drive
List the city location of the project/program.	Rancho Cordova
Select State	CA
Provide the zip code for your project/program's primary location.	95670
If your project/program takes place at multiple locations, please list other or secondary locations.	
Third Party Letters of Support (Note: Combine multiple files in one pdf before uploading)	
Does your project/program involve one of Rancho Cordova's school districts?	Yes
Is the project/program requesting facility use only or is this a request to partner with the school district?	Facility Use Only. Visit the school district website for facility use information.
Please select all the school districts which your project/program intends to involve:	Folsom Cordova USD

Please select one or more of the Folsom Cordova Unified School District school facilities which your project/program will involve:	Cordova High School
Have you reached out to a contact at the school(s) you indicated above?	Yes
Please provide the names of your contacts at the school(s) or district(s) who are familiar with your project/program.	Craig Rouse
Does your project/program involve the Cordova Recreation & Park District?	No
	5 - Applicant Information
Name	Jennifer Laret
Is this project/program on behalf of an organization?	Yes
What is the name of your organization?	Rancho Cordova Track Club
What is your title and/or role at your organization?	Treasurer
Provide contact phone number:	+[redacted]
Provide contact email:	[redacted]
Are you the primary point of contact on this project/program?	Yes

If your project/program was awarded the requested funds, are you authorized to sign the contract for your organization?	Yes, I would be the one to sign the contract
By checking here, I confirm that I am aware that my application materials will become public record.	checked
	Thank you for applying to the Community Enhancement & Investment Fund Fiscal Year 2026-2027 Grant Cycle. Applicants will receive an automated response through the grant portal. Community Enhancement & Investment Fund (CEIF) Staff will follow up with any questions regarding your Fiscal Year 2026-2027 application. For information about the next steps in the CEIF grant process, visit our website for more information. It is anticipated that applications will be reviewed by the City Council starting in April 2026 with adoption in June 2026. Should applicants be awarded by the City Council, funding would not be available to grantees until the start of Fiscal Year 2026-2027 and the completion of a contract. Please send an email to CEIFGrants@cityofranchocordova.org with any questions or comments.

Internal Form

Score	n/a

Dumble Athletics LLC

QUOTE

1440 Laurel Heights Dr NW
Albany, OR 97321
Phone: (541) 841-8604

Estimate #	DATE
2069	6/20/2025

BILL TO	CUSTOMER ID	TERMS
Henry Sharoyan Rancho Cordova Track Club		Quote Valid for 60 Days

ITEM	DESCRIPTION	QTY	UNIT PRICE	AMOUNT
The Big Deal Hammer Cage	NCAA Rules Hammer Cage with 10m gates. Includes all parts and hardware to connect to customer's in-ground infrastructure	1	61,995.00	61,995.00
				-
	Delivery and Installation		7,500.00	7,500.00
				-
				-
	Deposit Due 30 Days Prior to Installation			-
				-
				-
				-
				-
				-
				-
				-
				-

Thank you for your business!

TOTAL	69,495.00
50% Deposit	34,747.50
Remaining Balance	34,747.50

If you have any questions about this quote, please contact
David Dumble, (541)841-8604, [redacted]

RANCHO CORDOVA TRACK CLUB

Community Enhancement & Investment Fund (CEIF)

Fiscal Year 2026/2027 Project Budget

Project Name: Rancho Cordova Throwing Cage Safety & Enhancement Project

EXPENSES	Amount
Hammer Cage with 10M Gates & All Necessary Hardware	$61,995
Installation	$7,500
Ground Modifications (Volunteer Labor – In-Kind)	Value TBD
Total Project Cost (Cash)	$69,495

REVENUE / LEVERAGE	Amount
Concrete Work Savings (Previously Budgeted)	$15,000
RCAA Youth Sports Facility Upgrade Fees (2026 & 2027 Allocations)	$20,000
RCTC Direct Contribution (Cash)	Amount TBD
Volunteer Ground Modification Labor (In-Kind)	Value TBD
Potential Sale of Existing Cage	Value TBD
Total Potential Cash Support	$35,000

Remaining CEIF Funding Request (based on identified support): $34,495. Additional RCTC contributions, in-kind labor, and resale revenue will further reduce the net funding request if realized.

Title

River View STEM, Afterschool Enrichment Program

03/04/2026

id. 53392749

by **Ashwin Thirunahari** in **Fiscal Year 2026-2027 Community Enhancement & Investment Fund Grant Application**

Falkon Academy
[redacted]
Folsom, California
95630
CA
United States
[redacted]

Original Submission

03/04/2026

Score n/a

	Thank you for your interest in applying to the City of Rancho Cordova's Community Enhancement & Investment Fund. Applications are open from February 9, 2026, to March 13, 2026, Noon (12:00 p.m.) with a specific deadline of March 6th Noon (12:00 p.m.) for certain applications**. Before you begin, please read the notes about deadlines and certain types of grant applications/grants below. **School/Park Application Deadline **Note that projects or programs involving a park or school district have a deadline of March 6 Noon (12:00 p.m.) to allow for the third-party endorsement process by the grant deadline.** A Note about Religious Schools and the Application/Grant Process **Note for grant applications from religious schools. The United States Supreme Court has recently ruled in part that: “denying a generally available benefit [from government] solely on account of religious identity imposes a penalty on the free exercise of religion that can be justified only by a state interest of the highest order.” The City is of the opinion that not all grants to religious schools are prohibited under this and other similar rulings. However, these United States Supreme Court decisions remain in conflict with a section of the California State Constitution that says: “[n]either the Legislature, nor any county, city and county, township, school district, or other municipal corporation, shall ever make an appropriation, or pay from any public fund whatever, or grant anything to or in aid of any religious sect, church, creed, or sectarian purpose, or help to support or sustain any school, college, university, hospital, or other institution controlled by any religious creed, church, or sectarian denomination whatever; nor shall any grant or donation of personal property or real estate ever be made by the state, or any city, city and county, town, or other municipal corporation for any religious creed, church, or sectarian purpose whatever”. The City will accept applications for grants of these City public funds from religious schools, but will have language in the grant agreements to address the possibility and consequences of legal challenges and new court decisions on this and related topics. ** Future Grant Opportunities If you are interested in remaining up-to-date on available grants from the City of Rancho Cordova, click here to sign up for the Grants Interest List. A separate call for programming opportunities with the Rancho Cordova Youth Center is anticipated later in 2026. The list is also used to advertise separate art programs when funds are available. Ongoing Grant Opportunity The City of Rancho Cordova offers a microgrant opportunity. Learn more about those grants online.
Is this your first time applying for grant funding from the City of Rancho Cordova? As a first-time applicant, Community Enhancement & Investment Fund (CEIF) staff will contact you to discuss your project and grant application process.	No: Not a First Time Applicant

	1 - Project/Program Information Note: You can add a collaborator to this form to assist you in completing this application! A collaborator can help you complete this form by filling in fields for you, although only you can submit this form. You can add a collaborator by navigating to the top of the form and clicking on the 'Manage Collaborators' button. Simply enter their email address and click 'invite' to invite them as a collaborator. If you need further assistance, you may consult this Help article for more information.
Project/Program Name. Assign a project name to your project/program.	River View STEM, Afterschool Enrichment Program
Which category does your Project/Program align with?	Youth Programs & Services
Provide a Project/Program Synopsis	Falkon Academy and Skyhawks Sports Sacramento (Single Entity) propose a comprehensive After-School Enrichment Program for River View STEM School serving, PreK–Grade 6. The program integrates robotics, drone engineering, academic support, strategic thinking, and multi-sport development, aligning with Expanded Learning goals to promote engagement, confidence, collaboration, and whole-child growth.
Provide a Project/Program Description	**Project Description** The River View STEM After-School Enrichment Program is a structured, year-long expanded learning initiative operating Monday through Friday from 3:30 p.m. to 5:30 p.m., August through May, with select components optionally delivered during recess periods. Designed to serve approximately 25 students daily in two cohorts of up to 15 students, the program provides balanced academic support, STEM enrichment, strategic thinking development, and structured physical activity in a safe and engaging environment. The program is operated by Falkon Academy and Skyhawks Sports Sacramento, programs of Greater Sacramento Investments LLC. The proposed enrichment model has been reviewed with Principal Lari Powell and aligns with River View's academic priorities and Expanded Learning Opportunities Program (ELO-P) goals. **Program Structure and Daily Flow** Each day begins with a structured transition and attendance check-in to ensure safety and readiness. The two-hour enrichment block is divided into focused segments that balance academic reinforcement with hands-on learning and physical activity. Homework Support sessions are integrated twice weekly, providing guided assistance with assignments, organization, and study skills. This ensures participation enhances classroom learning rather than competing with it. Students build responsibility, confidence, and stronger homework completion habits.

Students then rotate into grade-appropriate enrichment modules. Small cohort sizes and a 1:15 staff-to-student ratio ensure individualized attention, effective classroom management, and meaningful engagement. Operating five days per week provides consistency, routine, and diverse learning opportunities.

Academic Enrichment and Strategic Thinking

Academic growth remains central to program design.

- **Homework Support (Twice Weekly):** Structured academic assistance in a supervised, focused setting.
- **Kangaroo Math Club:** Multi-step problem-solving activities that develop reasoning, perseverance, and mathematical confidence.
- **Board Game Strategy League (Fridays):** Structured league-style competitions using games such as Blokus (spatial reasoning), Dixit (creative thinking), Qwirkle or Rummikub (patterns and math), Battleship (logic and coordinates), and Sushi Go! (quick strategy and probability).

These components strengthen analytical thinking, communication skills, and classroom readiness in an engaging and low-pressure format.

STEM and Innovation Programming

Hands-on STEM modules encourage curiosity, collaboration, and real-world problem solving.

- **Drone Engineering Lab (Grades 3–6):** Students explore aerodynamics, basic coding, navigation challenges, and math-integrated flight tasks. Real-world applications such as agriculture and environmental monitoring are discussed.
- **Pop-Up Book Mechanical Engineering (Grades 1–5):** Students design interactive paper mechanisms using levers, sliders, and linkages, combining storytelling with engineering principles.
- **LEGO Imagineering & Innovation Lab (PreK–5):** Each session begins with a real-world theme such as sustainability or inclusive design. Students brainstorm solutions, prototype with LEGO bricks, test structural integrity, and present their innovations while applying engineering concepts such as balance and stability.
- **VEX GO Robotics (Grades 1–3):** Students build and program robots using the VEX Robotics GO system, learning gears, motion, sensors, and introductory coding through collaborative team challenges.
- **Special STEM Days:** 3D Printing workshops, Physics Experiment Days, and Quiz Bowl competitions.

Sports: Physical Development and Social-Emotional Learning

The physical enrichment component includes rotating sports modules such as soccer, basketball, baseball, volleyball, and seasonal offerings including track & field and cheer. Sessions emphasize skill progression, teamwork, coordination, and sportsmanship.

Short reflective discussions and **integrated worksheets** reinforce vocabulary, math concepts such as measurement and scoring, and social-

emotional skills including leadership, inclusion, and respect. This integrated model ensures athletics complement academic enrichment and whole-child development.

Program Flexibility & School-Day Integration

In coordination with school leadership, select components such as the Board Game Strategy League and structured sports skill sessions may also be implemented during recess or designated activity periods. This flexible model supports positive student engagement during unstructured times while reinforcing teamwork, inclusion, and campus culture beyond traditional after-school hours.

Program Impact and Sustainability

Operating daily from August through May provides consistency and reliable support for families. The balanced combination of academics, STEM innovation, strategic thinking, and physical activity promotes increased student engagement, improved confidence, collaboration skills, and long-term interest in learning.

Maintaining a 1:15 staff-to-student ratio ensures safety, instructional quality, and mentorship. This initiative is not simply after-school supervision; it is a structured enrichment ecosystem designed to build curiosity, resilience, academic growth, and foundational skills for future success.

Websites:
https://www.falkonacademy.com
https://skyhawks.com/sacramento-east-ca/

Facebook:
https://www.facebook.com/falkonacademy
https://www.facebook.com/SkyhawksSAC/

Tell us about your Project/Program Team

Ashwin Thirunahari serves as Director of Falkon Academy and Skyhawks Sports Sacramento. Since 2021, he has overseen youth enrichment and sports programs across the Sacramento region in partnership with local schools and park districts including including at Rancho Cordova Youth Club and W.E. Mitchell Middle School. He holds a Master's degree in Electrical Engineering.

Additional coaches will be hired based on enrollment and will maintain a 1:15 student-to-coach ratio. All staff will complete Live Scan fingerprinting, background checks, Mandated Reporter training, First Aid/CPR certification, and youth development training to ensure safety and high-quality instruction.

Provide your Project/Program Goals

Project Goals:

1. Increase Student Engagement in Expanded Learning

The primary goal is to provide structured, meaningful after-school enrichment that integrates STEM innovation, academic reinforcement, and physical development.

Metrics for Success:

- 85% or higher average attendance
- Positive student engagement survey results

2. Strengthen Academic Reinforcement Through Integrated Learning

The program integrates academic elements across both STEM and sports modules. Structured Homework Support sessions assist with assignment completion, organization skills, and study habits.

Additionally, sports sessions incorporate short, age-appropriate workbooks and reflection sheets that reinforce vocabulary, basic math concepts (scoring, measurement, counting), and social-emotional learning principles.

Metrics for Success:

- 80% of students demonstrate improved homework completion habits
- Completion of sports reflection worksheets in each seasonal module

3. Expand Access to STEM and Innovation Opportunities

Provide equitable access to robotics, drone engineering, mechanical design, and LEGO-based real-world problem-solving experiences that may not be available during the regular school day.

Metrics for Success:

- Completion of at least one major STEM project per student per term
- Pre/post surveys indicating increased interest in STEM
- Participation across multiple grade levels

4. Promote Social-Emotional Growth and Teamwork

Develop leadership, collaboration, communication, and resilience through team-based STEM projects, strategic thinking activities, and structured sports participation.

Sports workbook activities - reinforce lessons on respect, sportsmanship, and leadership, math, logic and problem solving through sports.

Metrics for Success:

- Student self-assessments reflecting growth in teamwork and confidence
- Positive behavioral feedback during program hours

5. Maintain High-Quality, Safe Programming

Operate under a 1:15 staff-to-student ratio with trained, fingerprinted instructors to ensure safety and instructional quality.

Metrics for Success:

- 100% compliance with safety and background requirements
- Parent satisfaction surveys

- Strong retention between Fall and Spring sessions

Optional File Upload: Provide any additional records to supplement your program/project application. Note: Combine multiple files in one pdf before uploading.

RANCHO_Proposal_RiverView_Enrichment_26_27_and_Menu.pdf

	2 - Funding & Costs
Funding Request - Complete this section with total dollar amounts for your project/program's costs	Funds are generally not intended to be used for deferred maintenance and ongoing operational needs. The funds are intended for enhancing and investing in the City of Rancho Cordova. If your project/program is awarded, the costs identified below would be reviewed and potentially open to modification during a contracting phase (if a grant is awarded by the City Council). If awarded, grant funds are not available until a contract is executed during Fiscal Year 2026-2027.
Total project/program cost*	41441.26
What is the amount of Community Enhancement & Investment Fund grant monies requested?	41441.26
Does your project/program involve construction of any facilities or improvements upon any property?	No
What is the total cost of personnel for your project/program?	25625
What is the total cost of supplies for your project/program?	6400
What is the total cost of transportation for your project/program?	0
What is the total cost of equipment for your project/program?	5000

What is the total cost of any miscellaneous expenses for your project/program?	4416.26

Upload your project/program's budget as a .pdf file. Include the categories and their dollar amounts along with information about any other funding sources to demonstrate your project/program's total budget. Note, the sum of all categories must match the total project or program cost, or the amount requested of CEIF if there is no other funding source. Please clearly illustrate any matching funds or funding from other sources in your project/program budget, including in-kind sources. Note: Combine multiple files in one pdf before uploading.

RANCHO_Proposal_RiverView_Enrichment_26_27_Budget_Only.pdf

Has your organization sought or will seek other funding for this project/program?	No, not seeking any other funding support.
Please explain why you are not seeking any other funding support for your project/program.	This proposal is being submitted as a direct partnership opportunity with River View STEM School to ensure alignment with campus priorities, scheduling, and student needs. At this time, we are not pursuing additional funding sources to avoid duplicating requests or creating overlapping reporting requirements that may complicate implementation. If partial funding is awarded, the program's modular structure allows for prioritization of key components, and supplemental support—such as optional parent contributions or negotiated facility arrangements—may be explored in coordination with school leadership. Our goal is to maintain flexibility while ensuring the program remains sustainable and aligned with school expectations.
Please describe any ongoing operations and maintenance costs beyond Fiscal Year 2026/2027, if applicable.	NONE
Do you have volunteer or in-kind support for your project? This could include volunteers for an activity/event that is ongoing or a one-time experience.	No
Is this a single year request or a request for funding for multiple years?	Single Year

Has your project/program received funding from the Community Enhancement & Investment Fund previously?	No
	3 - Project/Program Details Grant applications are typically approved to occur between July 2026 through June 2027. What is your plan to complete this project/program within this time frame?
Anticipated Start Date (July 1 is the soonest available start date)	8/17/2026
Anticipated End Date (typically projects/programs end by June 30)	5/15/2026
Please describe your project/program schedule	**Program Timeline/Schedule:** The following schedule outlines the full school-year enrichment program (August through May). Based on approved funding, programming will be delivered five days per week, with most enrichment activities conducted after school (3:30–5:30 p.m.). Select components, such as sports skill sessions and Board Game Strategy League, may be be implemented during recess or designated activity periods in coordination with school administration. **STEM Enrichment Programs** The STEM Enrichment Program provides hands-on innovation, academic reinforcement, and strategic thinking opportunities designed to build curiosity, collaboration, and real-world problem-solving skills. **Drone Engineering Lab (Grades 3–6)** • Tuesday | 1.5 hours, Season: August–December **Pop-Up Book Engineering (Grades 3–6)** • Wednesday | 1.5 hours, Season: August–December **LEGO Imagination World (PreK–5)** • Wednesday | 1.5 hours, Season: January–May **VEX GO Robotics (Grades 1–3)** • Tuesday | 1.5 hours, Season: January–May **Homework Help Block (PreK–6) (Highly valued by principal)**

- Tuesday & Thursday | 1 hour, Season: September–May

Kangaroo Math Club (Grades 1–5)

- Friday | 1 hour, Season: September–May

Board Game Strategy League (Grades 1–5) (High interest for Recess)

- Friday | 1 hour, Season: September–May

Seasonal STEM Rotations

- 3D Printing, Quiz Bowl, Art & Design Weeks, , Introduced/rotated periodically to maintain engagement and introduce diverse skills

Sports Enrichment Programs

The Sports Enrichment Program promotes physical development, teamwork, character building, and social-emotional learning while integrating short academic reflection workbooks into each session.

Soccer Skills Program (PreK–5)

- Tuesday | 45 minutes, Season: September–December

Basketball Skills Program (PreK–5)

- Tuesday | 45 minutes, Season: September–December

Baseball Skills Program (PreK–5)

- Thursday | 45 minutes, Season: January–May

Volleyball Skills Program (PreK–5)

- Thursday | 45 minutes, Season: January–May

Seasonal Sports Rotation

- Cheer, Track & Field, Football, Field Hockey, Introduced/rotated periodically to maintain engagement and introduce diverse athletic skills

What challenges do you anticipate in your project/program's implementation? What is your plan to complete your project/program should those or other challenges arise?	Several potential challenges may arise during implementation. The primary challenge is maintaining consistent enrollment and attendance across the full August–May program year. After-school participation can fluctuate due to competing activities, transportation limitations, or family scheduling conflicts. To address this, we will conduct early outreach, provide clear communication to families, offer flexible program modules, and coordinate closely with school administration to align schedules with campus priorities. Staffing for a 3:30–5:30 p.m. daily program may also present challenges. We will maintain a qualified substitute pool and staggered staffing model to ensure consistent 1:15 supervision ratios. All instructors will be pre-screened and trained prior to program launch.

How many individuals does your project/program serve?	250
How many Rancho Cordova residents does your project/program serve?	250
	4 - Project/Program Location
Address Verification	If you need to check if your project is in Rancho Cordova, type in your program/project's location in the Assessor Parcel Viewer: https://assessorparcelviewer.saccounty.gov/jsviewer/assessor.html

School and park related applications are due before Noon (12:00 p.m.) on March 6, 2026, to allow for the endorsement process.	Please note that projects or programs that are proposed on property owned or operated by outside agencies or a private party will require coordination with and potentially approvals from outside agencies, organizations, and/or the private party. Include whether you have received a letter of support for the project/program from the property owner. Upload any letters of support with your application. City staff will verify third-party permits have been discussed. In your planning discussions, be sure to discuss any necessary insurance or volunteer requirements that may increase budget costs. School Sites If your project/program is intended to operate at a public K-12 school site, your application is due by March 6 at Noon (12:00 p.m.). City staff will work with the school districts to confirm an endorsement for your project/program. It's the applicant's responsibility to communicate with school site and district representatives before applying so there is clarity during the endorsement process. Districts will only consider endorsement for applications submitted to the Community Enhancement & Investment Fund by the March 6 at Noon (12:00 p.m.). deadline. Each participating school superintendent reserves the right to withhold their endorsement of a project/program. Parks If your project/program is intended to operate at a park or community center site, your application is due by the March 6 at Noon (12:00 p.m.). deadline. City staff will work with the Cordova Recreation & Park District to confirm an endorsement for your project/program. It's the applicant's responsibility to communicate with district representatives before applying so there is clarity during the endorsement process. A special use permit application is required for any program or event planned at a CRPD facility. The special use application can be found at the CRPD website: https://www.cordovarpd.gov/. CRPD will only consider endorsement for applications submitted to the Community Enhancement & Investment Fund by the March 6 at Noon (12:00 p.m.). deadline. The Cordova Recreation & Park District reserves the right to withhold their endorsement of a project/program. Below is the list of staff to communicate with at school and park organizations: Folsom Cordova Unified School District: mwest@fcusd.org Cordova Recreation & Park District: cmichelotti@cordovarpd.gov Elk Grove Unified School District: mgulden@egusd.net Sacramento City Unified School District: Tuan-Duong@scusd.edu for Winn and Carver and Enrique-Flores@scusd.edu for Lincoln.
Primary street address of project/program	River View Stem Academy
List the city location of the project/program.	Rancho Cordova
Select State	CA
Provide the zip code for your project/program's primary location.	95670

If your project/program takes place at multiple locations, please list other or secondary locations.	NONE
Third Party Letters of Support (Note: Combine multiple files in one pdf before uploading)	
Does your project/program involve one of Rancho Cordova's school districts?	Yes
Is the project/program requesting facility use only or is this a request to partner with the school district?	Partner with school on project/program
Please select all the school districts which your project/program intends to involve:	Folsom Cordova USD
Please select one or more of the Folsom Cordova Unified School District school facilities which your project/program will involve:	Riverview STEM Academy
Have you reached out to a contact at the school(s) you indicated above?	Yes
Please provide the names of your contacts at the school(s) or district(s) who are familiar with your project/program.	Lari Powell - Riverview STEM Academy, Principal Folsom Cordova Unified School District Email: LPowell@fcusd.org [redacted]

Does your project/program involve the Cordova Recreation & Park District?	No
	5 - Applicant Information
Name	Ashwin Thirunahari
Is this project/program on behalf of an organization?	Yes
What is the name of your organization?	Falkon Academy/Skyhawks Sports
What is your title and/or role at your organization?	Director, Falkon Academy Director, Skyhawks Sports
Provide contact phone number:	[redacted]
Provide contact email:	[redacted]
Are you the primary point of contact on this project/program?	Yes
If your project/program was awarded the requested funds, are you authorized to sign the contract for your organization?	Yes, I would be the one to sign the contract
By checking here, I confirm that I am aware that my application materials will become public record.	checked

Thank you for applying to the Community Enhancement & Investment Fund Fiscal Year 2026-2027 Grant Cycle. Applicants will receive an automated response through the grant portal. Community Enhancement & Investment Fund (CEIF) Staff will follow up with any questions regarding your Fiscal Year 2026-2027 application. For information about the next steps in the CEIF grant process, visit our website for more information. It is anticipated that applications will be reviewed by the City Council starting in April 2026 with adoption in June 2026. Should applicants be awarded by the City Council, funding would not be available to grantees until the start of Fiscal Year 2026-2027 and the completion of a contract. Please send an email to CEIFGrants@cityofranchocordova.org with any questions or comments.

Internal Form

Score	n/a

Funding and Costs:

Funding Flexibility:

The proposed program is modular and scalable. If full funding is not available, the program may be partially implemented based on the funding awarded. In collaboration with the school principal, priority programs will be selected and executed to align with campus goals, student needs, and available budget.

If needed, a **modest optional parent contribution**—up to approximately 25% of program costs—may be explored to supplement funding and sustain program delivery. Any parent contribution structure would be coordinated with school administration and include scholarship or waiver options to ensure equitable access for all students.

School Site Rental: School site facility rental costs may also be discussed and negotiated with the school if needed to support successful program implementation.

Costs:

- **Rate:** $4.85 per student per hour
- **25 students**
- **Hourly Value:** $121.25 (for 25 students per hour)
- **Jan–May = 18 weeks**
- **Aug–Dec = 16 weeks**
- **Sept–May = 34 weeks**

Program	Season	Weeks	Sessions/Week	Total Hours	Calculation	School Site Rental	Total Cost
Homework Support	Aug–May	34	2 × 1 hr	68 hrs	68 × $121.25	$1,600	$9,845.00
TOTAL COST							$9,845.00

Program	Season	Weeks	Duration	Total Hours	Calculation	School Site Rental	Total Cost
Kangaroo Math	Aug–May	34	1 hr	34 hrs	34 × $121.25	$800	$4,922.50
Board Game Leagues	Aug–May	34	1 hr	34 hrs	34 × $121.25	$800	$4,922.50
TOTAL COST							$9,845.00

Program	Season	Weeks	Duration	Total Hours	Calculation	School Site Rental	Total Cost
Drone Engineering	Aug–Dec	16	1.5 hr	24 hrs	24 × $121.25	$400	$3,310.00
Pop-Up Book STEM Art	Aug–Dec	16	1.5 hr	24 hrs	24 × $121.25	$400	$3,310.00
LEGO Engineering	Jan–May	18	1.5 hr	27 hrs	27 × $121.25	$400	$3,673.75
VEX GO Robotics	Jan–May	18	1.5 hr	27 hrs	27 × $121.25	$400	$3,673.75
TOTAL COST							**$13,967.50**

Program	Season	Weeks	Duration	Total Hours	Calculation	School Site Rental	Total Cost
Soccer	Aug–Dec	16	0.75 hr	12 hrs	12 × $121.25	$400	$1,855.00
Basketball	Aug–Dec	16	0.75 hr	12 hrs	12 × $121.25	$400	$1,855.00
Baseball	Jan–May	18	0.75 hr	13.5 hrs	13.5 × $121.25	$400	$2,036.88
Volleyball	Jan–May	18	0.75 hr	13.5 hrs	13.5 × $121.25	$400	$2,036.88
TOTAL COST							**$7,783.76**

COMPLETE PROGRAM COST: $41,441.26 (if all programs are funded and executed)

Cost Break Down:

Type	Season
Wages	$25,625.00
Supplies	$5000.00
Facility Rental	$6,400.00
Insurance, Overhead	$4,416.26
TOTAL COST	**$41,441.26**

Is this a multiyear request? NO

How many years have you received funding for this project? 1

Do you plan to ask annually for funding?

Yes. To pay for the facilities and coaching.

CITY OF RANCHO CORDOVA
FISCAL YEAR 2026/2027 GRANT APPLICATION
COMMUNITY ENHANCEMENT & INVESTMENT FUND

"Bring STEM Education to the community in need."

Project Name : River View STEM, Afterschool Enrichment Program

Contact: Falkon Academy,
Director, Ashwin Thirunahari

[redacted]

Email: info@falkonacademy.com

Project Synopsis:

Falkon Academy and Skyhawks Sports Sacramento propose a comprehensive After-School Enrichment Program for River View STEM School serving 30 students, PreK–Grade 6. The program integrates robotics, drone engineering, academic support, strategic thinking, and multi-sport development, aligning with Expanded Learning goals to promote engagement, confidence, collaboration, and whole-child growth.

Project Description

The River View STEM After-School Enrichment Program is a structured, year-long expanded learning initiative operating Monday through Friday from 3:30 p.m. to 5:30 p.m., August through May, with select components optionally delivered during recess periods. Designed to serve approximately 25 students daily in two cohorts of up to 15 students, the program provides balanced academic support, STEM enrichment, strategic thinking development, and structured physical activity in a safe and engaging environment.

The program is operated by Falkon Academy and Skyhawks Sports Sacramento, programs of Greater Sacramento Investments LLC. The proposed enrichment model has been reviewed with Principal Lari Powell and aligns with River View's academic priorities and Expanded Learning Opportunities Program (ELO-P) goals.

Program Structure and Daily Flow

Each day begins with a structured transition and attendance check-in to ensure safety and readiness. The two-hour enrichment block is divided into focused segments that balance academic reinforcement with hands-on learning and physical activity.

Homework Support sessions are integrated twice weekly, providing guided assistance with assignments, organization, and study skills. This ensures participation enhances classroom learning rather than competing with it. Students build responsibility, confidence, and stronger homework completion habits.

Students then rotate into grade-appropriate enrichment modules. Small cohort sizes and a 1:15 staff-to-student ratio ensure individualized attention, effective classroom management, and meaningful engagement. Operating five days per week provides consistency, routine, and diverse learning opportunities.

Academic Enrichment and Strategic Thinking

Academic growth remains central to program design.

- **Homework Support (Twice Weekly):** Structured academic assistance in a supervised, focused setting.
- **Kangaroo Math Club:** Multi-step problem-solving activities that develop reasoning, perseverance, and mathematical confidence.
- **Board Game Strategy League (Fridays):** Structured league-style competitions using games such as Blokus (spatial reasoning), Dixit (creative thinking), Qwirkle or Rummikub (patterns and math), Battleship (logic and coordinates), and Sushi Go! (quick strategy and probability).

These components strengthen analytical thinking, communication skills, and classroom readiness in an engaging and low-pressure format.

STEM and Innovation Programming

Hands-on STEM modules encourage curiosity, collaboration, and real-world problem solving.

- **Drone Engineering Lab (Grades 3–6):** Students explore aerodynamics, basic coding, navigation challenges, and math-integrated flight tasks. Real-world applications such as agriculture and environmental monitoring are discussed.
- **Pop-Up Book Mechanical Engineering (Grades 1–5):** Students design interactive paper mechanisms using levers, sliders, and linkages, combining storytelling with engineering principles.
- **LEGO Imagineering & Innovation Lab (PreK–5):** Each session begins with a real-world theme such as sustainability or inclusive design. Students brainstorm solutions, prototype with LEGO bricks, test structural integrity, and present their innovations while applying engineering concepts such as balance and stability.
- **VEX GO Robotics (Grades 1–3):** Students build and program robots using the VEX Robotics GO system, learning gears, motion, sensors, and introductory coding through collaborative team challenges.
- **Special STEM Days:** 3D Printing workshops, Physics Experiment Days, and Quiz Bowl competitions.

Sports: Physical Development and Social-Emotional Learning

The physical enrichment component includes rotating sports modules such as soccer, basketball, baseball, volleyball, and seasonal offerings including track & field and cheer. Sessions emphasize skill progression, teamwork, coordination, and sportsmanship.

Short reflective discussions and **integrated worksheets** reinforce vocabulary, math concepts such as measurement and scoring, and social-emotional skills including leadership, inclusion, and respect. This integrated model ensures athletics complement academic enrichment and whole-child development.

Program Flexibility & School-Day Integration

In coordination with school leadership, select components such as the Board Game Strategy League and structured sports skill sessions may also be implemented during recess or designated activity periods. This flexible model supports positive student engagement during unstructured times while reinforcing teamwork, inclusion, and campus culture beyond traditional after-school hours.

Program Impact and Sustainability

Operating daily from August through May provides consistency and reliable support for families. The balanced combination of academics, STEM innovation, strategic thinking,

and physical activity promotes increased student engagement, improved confidence, collaboration skills, and long-term interest in learning.

Maintaining a 1:15 staff-to-student ratio ensures safety, instructional quality, and mentorship. This initiative is not simply after-school supervision; it is a structured enrichment ecosystem designed to build curiosity, resilience, academic growth, and foundational skills for future success.

Websites:
https://www.falkonacademy.com
https://skyhawks.com/sacramento-east-ca/

Facebook:
https://www.facebook.com/falkonacademy
https://www.facebook.com/SkyhawksSAC/

Project Team:

Ashwin Thirunahari serves as Director of Falkon Academy and Skyhawks Sports Sacramento. Since 2021, he has overseen youth enrichment and sports programs across the Sacramento region in partnership with local schools and park districts including including at Rancho Cordova Youth Club and W.E. Mitchell Middle School. He holds a Master's degree in Electrical Engineering.

Additional coaches will be hired based on enrollment and will maintain a 1:15 student-to-coach ratio. All staff will complete Live Scan fingerprinting, background checks, Mandated Reporter training, First Aid/CPR certification, and youth development training to ensure safety and high-quality instruction.

Project Timeline:

Academic Enrichment and Strategic Thinking

Program	Grades	Day	Duration	Season	Focus Area
Homework Help Block	PreK-6	Tuesday & Thursday	1hr	Sept-May	Academic Support & Assignment Completion
Kangaroo Math Club	1–5	Friday	1hr	Sept-May	Problem Solving & Critical Thinking
Board Game League	1–5	Fridays OR Everyday Recess	1hr	Sept-May	Logic, Strategy, Collaboration

STEM Enrichment Programs

Program	Grades	Day	Duration	Season	Focus Area
Drone Engineering Lab	3-6	Tuesday	1.5hrs	Aug-Dec	Flight, Automation, Aerospace STEM
Pop-Up Book Engineering	3-6	Wednesday	1.5hrs	Aug-Dec	Mechanical Motion, Paper Engineering
LEGO Imagineering	PreK-5	Wednesday	1.5hrs	Jan-May	Structural Design, Creativity, Teamwork
VEX GO Robotics	1-3	Tuesday	1.5hrs	Jan-May	Robotics, Coding, Engineering Design

Seasonal STEM Rotation: 3D Printing, Quiz Bowl, Art & Design Weeks, ,
Introduced/rotated periodically to maintain engagement and introduce diverse skills

SPORTS PROGRAMS (Recess or After School)

Program	Grades	Day	Duration	Season	Focus Area
Soccer Skills	PreK–5	Tuesday	45min	Sept–Dec	Footwork, Team Play, SEL Integration
Basketball Skills	PreK–5	Tuesday	45min	Sept–Dec	Dribbling, Passing, Coordination
Baseball Skills	PreK–5	Thursday	45min	Jan-May	Throwing, Catching, Motor Skills
Volleyball Skills	PreK-5	Thursday	45min	Jan-May	Passing, Serving, Teamwork

Seasonal Sports Rotation: Cheer / Track & Field / Football / Field Hockey are rotated into the above sports schedule to keep the programs new and interesting.

Project Goals:

1. Increase Student Engagement in Expanded Learning

The primary goal is to provide structured, meaningful after-school enrichment that integrates STEM innovation, academic reinforcement, and physical development.

Metrics for Success:

- 85% or higher average attendance
- Positive student engagement survey results

2. Strengthen Academic Reinforcement Through Integrated Learning

The program integrates academic elements across both STEM and sports modules. Structured Homework Support sessions assist with assignment completion, organization skills, and study habits.

Additionally, sports sessions incorporate short, age-appropriate workbooks and reflection sheets that reinforce vocabulary, basic math concepts (scoring, measurement, counting), and social-emotional learning principles.

Metrics for Success:

- 80% of students demonstrate improved homework completion habits
- Completion of sports reflection worksheets in each seasonal module

3. Expand Access to STEM and Innovation Opportunities

Provide equitable access to robotics, drone engineering, mechanical design, and LEGO-based real-world problem-solving experiences that may not be available during the regular school day.

Metrics for Success:

- Completion of at least one major STEM project per student per term
- Pre/post surveys indicating increased interest in STEM
- Participation across multiple grade levels

4. Promote Social-Emotional Growth and Teamwork

Develop leadership, collaboration, communication, and resilience through team-based STEM projects, strategic thinking activities, and structured sports participation.

Sports workbook activities - reinforce lessons on respect, sportsmanship, and leadership, math, logic and problem solving through sports.

Metrics for Success:

- Student self-assessments reflecting growth in teamwork and confidence
- Positive behavioral feedback during program hours

5. Maintain High-Quality, Safe Programming

Operate under a 1:15 staff-to-student ratio with trained, fingerprinted instructors to ensure safety and instructional quality.

Metrics for Success:

- 100% compliance with safety and background requirements
- Parent satisfaction surveys
- Strong retention between Fall and Spring sessions

Metrics for Progress Measurement:

Enrollment Rates: Track the number of students enrolled in each session, comparing the enrollment figures between the two sessions.

Student Retention: Monitor the number of students completing the program and returning for subsequent sessions, identifying any drop-offs and addressing reasons for discontinuation.

Participant Feedback: Gather feedback from both students and parents regarding their experience, satisfaction, and suggestions for improvement.

Funding and Costs:

Funding Flexibility:

The proposed program is modular and scalable. If full funding is not available, the program may be partially implemented based on the funding awarded. In collaboration with the school principal, priority programs will be selected and executed to align with campus goals, student needs, and available budget.

If needed, a **modest optional parent contribution**—up to approximately 25% of program costs—may be explored to supplement funding and sustain program delivery. Any parent contribution structure would be coordinated with school administration and include scholarship or waiver options to ensure equitable access for all students.

School Site Rental: School site facility rental costs may also be discussed and negotiated with the school if needed to support successful program implementation.

Costs:

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- **25 students**
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TOTAL COST							$9,845.00

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TOTAL COST							$9,845.00

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TOTAL COST							**$13,967.50**

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TOTAL COST							**$7,783.76**

COMPLETE PROGRAM COST: $41,441.26 (if all programs are funded and executed)

Cost Break Down:

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Supplies	$5000.00
Facility Rental	$6,400.00
Insurance, Overhead	$4,416.26
TOTAL COST	**$41,441.26**

Is this a multiyear request? NO

How many years have you received funding for this project? 1

Do you plan to ask annually for funding?

Yes. To pay for the facilities and coaching.

What other funding will you seek to support your project? None

Please explain why you are not seeking any other funding support for your project/program.(required)

This proposal is being submitted as a direct partnership opportunity with River View STEM School to ensure alignment with campus priorities, scheduling, and student needs. At this time, we are not pursuing additional funding sources to avoid duplicating requests or creating overlapping reporting requirements that may complicate implementation.

If partial funding is awarded, the program's modular structure allows **for prioritization of key components**, and supplemental support—such as **optional parent contributions** or negotiated facility arrangements—may be explored in coordination with school leadership. Our goal is to maintain flexibility while ensuring the program remains sustainable and aligned with school expectations.

What challenges do you anticipate in your project/program's implementation? What is your plan to complete your project/program should those or other challenges arise?(required)

Several potential challenges may arise during implementation. The primary challenge is maintaining consistent enrollment and attendance across the full August–May program year. After-school participation can fluctuate due to competing activities, transportation limitations, or family scheduling conflicts. To address this, we will conduct early outreach, provide clear communication to families, offer flexible program modules, and coordinate closely with school administration to align schedules with campus priorities.

Staffing for a 3:30–5:30 p.m. daily program may also present challenges. We will maintain a qualified substitute pool and staggered staffing model to ensure consistent 1:15 supervision ratios. All instructors will be pre-screened and trained prior to program launch.

How many individuals does your project/program serve?(required)

The program will serve approximately 25 students per module, resulting in over 250 total enrichment participation opportunities across STEM, academic, and sports programs during the school year. (Homework help could have two different groups)

(That's 10 major modules × 25 students = 250 participant-slots.)

How many Rancho Cordova residents does your project/program serve?(required)

Its only open to Rancho Cordova residents.

Please provide the names of your contacts at the school(s) or district(s) who are familiar with your project/program.(required)

Lari Powell - Riverview STEM Academy, Principal
Folsom Cordova Unified School District

Email: LPowell@fcusd.org
[redacted]

Physical Address/School District

The program will be run at “River View Stem” in Rancho Cordova. We have already discussed the possibility of running this program with the principal.

Application Submitted by

Name: Ashwin Thirunahari
Title: Director
[redacted]
Organization’s Legal Name (if applicable): Falkon Academy
[redacted]

Signatory (Same as above)

Signatory’s Name: Ashwin Thirunahari
Title: Director
[redacted]

Closing Comments:

There is a growing need for structured, high-quality after-school enrichment programs that extend learning beyond the traditional classroom. As technology advances—from artificial intelligence and automation to emerging STEM industries—students must be equipped not only with technical knowledge, but also with critical thinking, collaboration, resilience, and leadership skills.

At the same time, academic reinforcement and physical wellness remain essential components of student success. Many families do not have access to comprehensive enrichment programs that combine STEM innovation, homework support, strategic thinking, and structured athletics in one coordinated model.

This proposal represents more than an after-school program; it is a structured enrichment ecosystem designed to build curiosity, confidence, academic growth, and

healthy development. With thoughtful implementation and partnership, River View STEM School can become a model campus for integrated expanded learning.

Together, we can strengthen academic achievement, inspire innovation, and prepare students with the foundational skills needed for future success.

Past Pictures:

The Robotics class with, Dr. Garcia – Principal of Mitchell Middle School , Siri Pulipati – Rancho Cordova City Mayor, Chris Clark FCUSD Board Member – Parents and all the wonderful coaches and most importantly the kids who participated in the program and competed.

On the competition day with Mr. Eric Swanson FCUSD Superintendent.

Cheer Program

Drone Program

Volleyball Program

Basketball Program

FALKON

ACADEMY

Skyhawks SPORTS

Program Offering Menu

FALKON

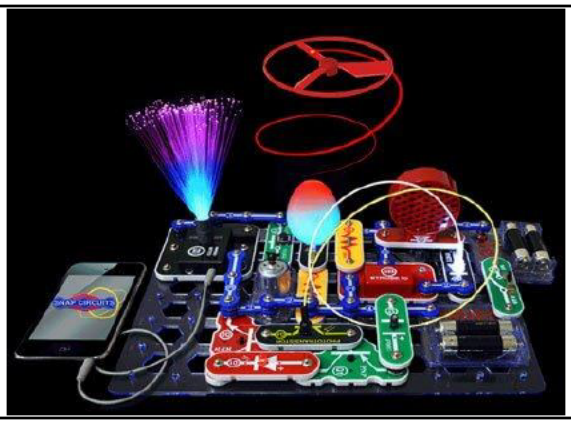
[redacted] | www.falkonacademy.com | facebook.com/falkonacademy |

[redacted]

Fun and exciting after-school programs! Explore robotics, unleash creativity in art, craft with Cricut, build with Legos, strategize in board games and many other programs. Each program offers engaging activities over two-hour sessions planned for once a week for 4 to 5 weeks - perfect for students in 1st to 8th grade.

Circuit Creators Lab – Grades 3 to 8

In the Circuit Creators Lab, budding engineers and innovators will delve into the exciting world of electronics and circuitry. Through hands-on activities and guided experiments, students will learn the fundamentals of circuit design, component functionality, and basic electronics principles. From building simple circuits to exploring more complex projects, participants will gain valuable STEM skills while fostering creativity and problem-solving abilities. Join us for an electrifying journey of discovery and innovation!

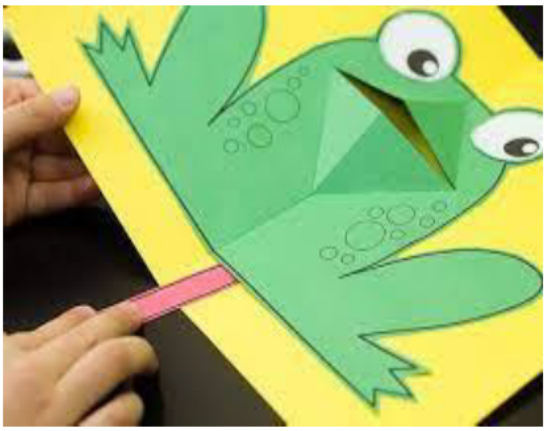


Engineering STEM Art – Grades 2 to 6

A hands-on, imaginative camp where kids design and build moving creations using paper, levers, linkages, cams and simple mechanisms. They'll explore basic automation concepts while bringing their characters and inventions to life through motion. Combines **art, storytelling, and engineering in a fun and approachable way**. Projects include animal movements, themed scenes, and student-designed contraptions. Encourages teamwork, iteration, and playful experimentation. No screens—just creativity, motion, and hands-on learning! **A great early introduction to engineering** through art and mechanics.

Pop-Up Book STEM Art – Gr 2 to 6

Bring Stories to Life. 2 to 6 In this imaginative, hands-on program, students combine **engineering and storytelling** to design and build their own interactive pop-up books. Using paper, scissors, and creativity, they'll explore the mechanics behind folds, levers, and motion to create moving scenes that leap off the page. Along the way, they'll learn about geometry, symmetry, and simple mechanical principles—all while crafting meaningful, original stories. It's the perfect blend of **art, design, and engineering**, giving kids a unique and playful way to explore STEM through visual storytelling.



Program Offering Menu

FALKON

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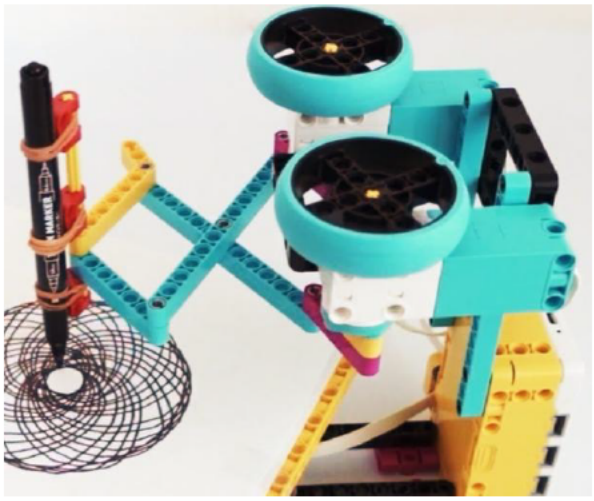
Lego Robotics Lab – Grades 3 to 8

Perfect for young creators, this program introduces students to essential STEM and engineering concepts through **hands-on building with LEGO bricks and simple motors**. Using intuitive, kid-friendly tools, students learn how gears, pulleys, levers, and sensors work by constructing **interactive, mechanical models**. From spinning animals to themed machines, each session offers a fun opportunity to explore real-world mechanisms in a playful and engaging way. This is a fantastic starting point for kids to develop curiosity, creativity, and confidence in STEM—**all while building with the bricks they love!**



VEX Robotics Lab – Grades 3 to 8

Step into the world of robotics with VEX GO! Designed for aspiring young engineers, VEX GO offers an exciting introduction to STEM concepts through hands-on building and programming activities. With easy-to-use snap-together pieces and intuitive coding software, students can unleash their creativity and problem-solving skills as they **design and build their own robots**. From **navigating obstacle courses to completing challenges**, participants will gain valuable insights into engineering and technology while having fun along the way. Join us on an unforgettable journey of discovery with VEX GO!

Drone Lab – Grades 3 to 12

Take flight in this action-packed STEM program where students explore the exciting world of drones! Campers will **build and test fly drones**, learn the fundamentals of **aerial robotics**, and use **block-based coding** to complete in-class flight challenges such as obstacle navigation and precision landing. Students in **grades 7 and above** will take their learning to the next level by **coding drones in Python**, gaining real-world programming skills used in professional applications. From design and control to automation and teamwork, Drone Lab is the perfect mix of **engineering, coding, and airborne fun!**

Program Offering Menu

FALKON

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[redacted]

NeuroExplorer Lab – Grades 4–12

Dive into the world of **neuroscience** with **hands-on experiments**! Students explore how the **brain** sends signals, how **muscles** respond, and how **neurons** communicate. They'll conduct experiments using **muscle sensors** and **neuroscience tools**. Learn how the brain controls **movement** and **reactions** through live **demos** and **recordings**. Projects include viewing their own **EMG signals**, creating a **neuron simulator**, and building **circuits** that mimic **reflexes**. Perfect for curious students who love **biology**, **STEM**, or exploring how the **body works**. No experience needed—just a love for **learning**!

Cricut Digital Design & Art – Gr 1 to 5

Cricut Art Class - offers an engaging after-school program designed for students from Pre-K to 5th grade. In this dynamic course, participants **delve into the realm of digital design**, learning how to **create captivating artwork using computer software**. From custom graphics and intricate patterns to personalized decorations and more, students explore the limitless possibilities of design. They then bring their creations to life using the innovative Cricut machine, mastering the art of precision cutting and assembly. Join us for an inspiring journey where imagination meets technology, and every project becomes a unique masterpiece!

E-Sports Jr. Grades 1 to 12

Falkon E-Sports Jr. introduces students to the world of gaming with a focus on **teamwork, problem-solving, and digital skills**. This fun, after-school program uses kid-friendly games to teach strategic thinking, communication, and good digital habits. Students learn to **work together**, practice **good sportsmanship**, and develop basic **reflex and coordination skills** in safe, monitored play sessions. We include activities like **creative Minecraft building**, **Rocket League teamwork**, and **Mario Kart time trials**. Perfect for beginners, casual players, or curious kids who want to play and learn in a positive, supervised environment.

Program Offering Menu

FALKON

[redacted] | www.falkonacademy.com | facebook.com/falkonacademy |

[redacted]

FRIDAY FUN DAY PROGRAMS

Art in Action – Grades Pre K to 8

Each of Art in Action's age-appropriate themed lessons provide a high-quality visual art curriculum. As an example, "Around the world, where students learn to draw shapes, patterns, faces and landscapes by studying Persian miniatures, Japanese prints and Byzantine mosaics". The multifaceted lessons develop students' critical-thinking skills, creative confidence, hands-on skills, visual literacy, self-esteem, and an appreciation of other cultures.

Board Game League – After School Fun!

Grades Pre K-12 Join our exciting after-school **Board Game League**, where strategy, teamwork, and fun collide! Each week, students compete in classic and modern games like **Qwirkle, Blokus, Sleeping Queens, Dragonwood and others**. Kids build skills in **logic, planning, and friendly competition** while making new friends. Perfect for grades 1–12—no screens, just face-to-face fun! Games rotate weekly with a running scoreboard and mini-prizes. No experience needed—just a love for games and a great attitude! Spots are limited. Come play, compete, and have a blast!

Lego Imagination Station – PreK to 5

where creativity knows no bounds! In this innovative after-school class, children are **empowered to tackle real-world challenges through the lens of imaginative play.** Each session begins with an inspiring theme, such as "**Clean Oceans from Pollution,**" sparking curiosity and environmental awareness. Armed with Lego bricks and boundless imagination, young builders embark on a journey of innovation, designing and constructing solutions to address the issue at hand. Join us as we transform imagination into action, one Lego brick at a time!

Program Offering Menu

FALKON

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Physics Explorers – Grades 4–8

Unlock the secrets of motion, energy, and forces—through hands-on experiments! From catapults to circuits, kids explore physics in a fun, engaging way. Build real projects like rubber band cars, balloon rockets, and pendulums. Learn Newton's Laws, Gravity, magnetism, Sound Waves, Fricton etc. Perfect for curious minds who love building, testing, and asking "Why?" Open to Grades 4–8 | No prior experience needed—just a love for science!

Build and Fly Airplane – Gr 6 - 9

Take to the skies with this exciting hands-on aviation camp! Campers will explore the **history of flight**, learn the basics of **aerodynamics**, and discover how airplanes are engineered to fly. Each student will **assemble a foam RC airplane**, **practice flying with a simulator**, and then take their creation to the **field for real flight** using a remote controller. Perfect for future pilots, tinkerers, and curious minds who want to experience the thrill of aviation—on the ground and in the air! Summer Camp Only

Falkon Homework Help & Learning Lab

A supportive space where students get help with **Math, English, and Science homework**. Tutors guide students through tough concepts and build academic confidence. When kids done with homework, they get to participate in other enriching activities. We make learning fun with **spelling bees**, **quiz bowls**, and **reading incentives**. We use tools like **Kahoot**, **Blooket**, and **Gimkit** to enhance enrichment . A perfect balance of study and interactive learning tools. Great for building motivation, consistency, and core skills!

Program Offering Menu

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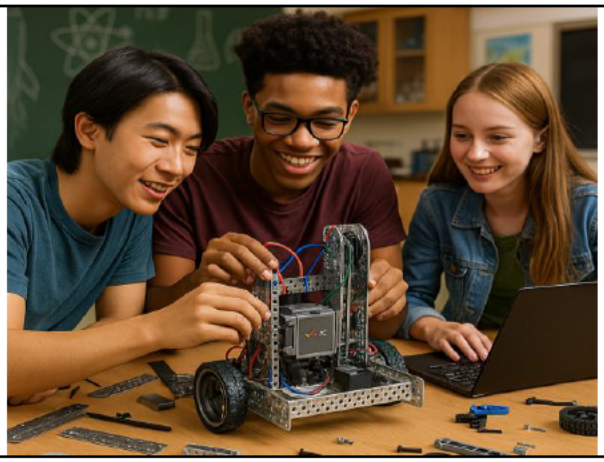
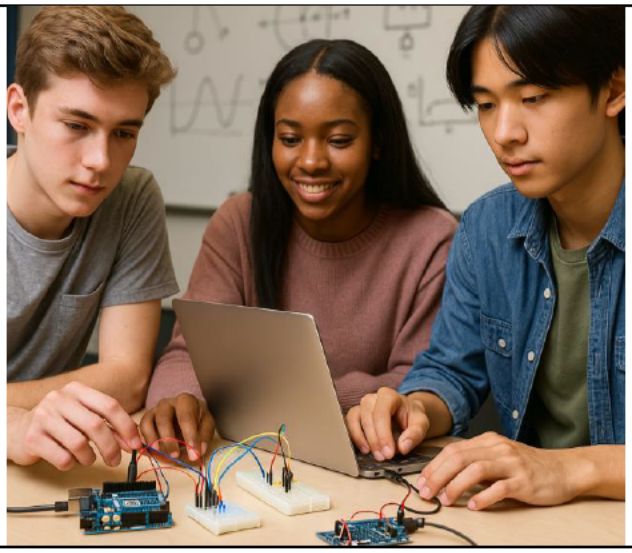


VEX V5 Robotics Lab6–12

Designed for middle and high school students ready for advanced robotics. Students build metal-frame robots using the VEX V5 platform. Learn coding, engineering, and design thinking through hands-on challenges. Collaborate in teams to solve real-world problems and strategize for competitions. Gain experience with autonomous programming and competition scoring systems. Perfect for students aiming to compete in official VEX tournaments and beyond

Audrino Python Engr. Lab – Gr 6 - 12

In this engineering and coding lab, students explore the intersection of hardware and software using **Arduino microcontrollers** and the **Python programming language**. Participants learn how to wire circuits, connect sensors, and write Python code to collect data, control LEDs, motors, and more. Each session challenges students to build real-world tech projects—from weather stations to motion detectors. This program builds critical thinking, logical reasoning, and tech fluency, for future engineers or anyone curious about how smart devices work!



AI & Agentic Coding Lab – Grades 7–12

Step into the future with this cutting-edge course that teaches **Python**, **AI fundamentals**, and how to build your own **AI agents**. Students will learn to write intelligent programs that can plan, respond, and adapt to changing tasks. Explore real-world tools like **LangChain**, **OpenAI APIs**, and basic neural networks. Work on exciting challenges like building chatbots, game-playing agents, and task-solving AI systems. No advanced coding experience required—just a desire to think big and build smart. Perfect for future coders, engineers, and innovators shaping tomorrow's tech!

Program Offering Menu

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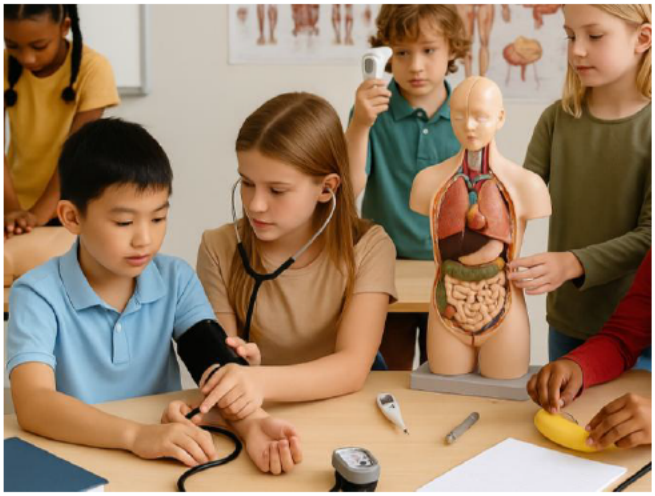
Kangaroo & Math Counts Pre K–8

Boost your child's math skills with engaging, hands-on coaching for **Grades Pre K–8**. Topics—problem solving, logic, number sense, geometry, algebra, and more. Weekly sessions blend **concept coaching** with practice on real competition-style problems. Students participate in **mock tests** to build confidence and test-taking strategies. Accredited **Kangaroo Math** and **MathCounts** testing included. Top performers are celebrated with **awards, medals, and certificates**. A fun, structured pathway to sharpen math skills and excel in national competitions!

Jurassic Park Ranger – Gr 1 - 8

Step into the prehistoric world as a **Junior Jurassic Park Ranger**! Students will **learn about different types of dinosaurs**, their habitats, diets, and survival skills. Hands-on activities include **digging for fossils**, identifying bones, and simulating real paleontology fieldwork. Rangers will also design safe dinosaur enclosures, solve "park emergencies," and explore how ecosystems worked millions of years ago. Each week brings new challenges that blend **STEM, problem-solving, and creativity**. The program concludes with the **Ranger Badge & Certificate Ceremony.**



STEM Medical / STEM VET – Gr 1-8

Step into the world of healthcare with our **STEM Medical** program! Students will explore **human and animal anatomy**, learn life-saving skills like **CPR**, and practice using real medical tools such as **blood pressure cuffs, thermometers, and oxygen monitors**. Through exciting class experiments, kids will model how the **lungs and digestive system work**, and even practice safe **suturing skills on bananas**. Participant receives a workbook for guided practice and reflection. The program also introduces careers and paths ways in healthcare—inspiring the next generation of doctors, nurses, and vets.

Program Offering Menu

FALKON

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Summer Only Programs (PreK - 8)

3D Printing & Design – Learn Simple CAD + print their own tokens, keychains, etc.

Rocketry (Paper & Water Rockets) – Engineering, launch competitions.

Coding Adventures – Scratch, Minecraft Education, or simple Python intro.

Maker Tinkering Labs – Circuits, LED art, cardboard automata.

Film & Media Studio – Storyboarding, green screen, safe video editing.

Music & Rhythm Lab – Percussion circles, beat-making, sound experiments. (3rd Party)

Cultural Arts Weeks – Rotating focus (African Arts, Indian rangoli, Japanese water painting)

Quiz Bowls – Science, Math, History, Literature, Todays news, Culture, Art, Geography

Escape Rooms / Puzzle Hunts – Collaborative problem-solving.

Space Station Ranger -

American Doll Adventures -

Talent Show Fridays – Student-driven performances

Board Games & Competitions (great for afternoons & SEL)

Elementary (K–5):

- Candy Land, Guess Who?, Jenga, Uno, Connect 4, Zingo!, Sequence for Kids.

Upper Elementary & Middle (2–8):

- Chess & Checkers(strategy), Ticket to Ride (geography/strategy), Codenames (language/logic)
- Blokus (spatial reasoning), Dixit (creativity), Quirkle or Rummikub (patterns, math)
- Battleship (logic, coordinates), Sushi Go! (quick strategy, math-friendly)

Competition-Friendly: Chess Ladder Tournament, Uno Knockout, Connect 4 Brackets, Puzzle Races, Cooperative "Escape the Room" style board games

RESPECT TEAMWORK INCLUSION LEADERSHIP SPORTSMANSHIP

Skyhawks SPORTS™

Program Offering Menu

www.skyhawks.com

Who is Skyhawks?

"Teaching Life Skills through Sports"

Skyhawks was founded in 1979 with a profound vision that all children, regardless of their athletic abilities, should have the opportunity to experience the joy and benefits of sports. The founders recognized there was a gap in opportunities for children who were not elite athletes but still aspired to improve their sports skills. Skyhawks' commitment was, and always will be, to create a nurturing environment where all children learn, have fun, are safe, and apply new skills to their everyday lives.

Skyhawks stands as a testament to the belief that sports are a powerful tool for development, offering more than just physical benefits but also fostering crucial life skills. Skyhawks is dedicated to making sports accessible and enjoyable for all children, helping them grow both on and off the field.

Skyhawks Sports

Skyhawks program offerings include over a dozen sports. Serving ages 4 to 14, these programs feature skill-based sports instruction with a focus on teaching life skills through sports.

Programs Offered: *Camps, year-round classes, clinics, after-school enrichment, and instructional leagues*

SuperTots Sports

SuperTots classes offer children ages 18 months to 5 years one-of-a-kind development opportunities across eight different sports. These game-based programs promote childhood development, improve physical literacy, and instill a love for sports.

Programs Offered: *Year-round classes*

Skyhawks - Serving Ages 4 to 14

Multi-Sport

Gear up for Skyhawks Multi-Sport! Perfect for kids eager to try multiple sports, this program teaches essential skills and rules across different games. Beyond skill development, participants learn sportsmanship and teamwork, making new friends and memories. Each day is a new and exciting adventure!

Mini-Hawk

Embark on an adventure with Skyhawks Mini-Hawk where younger children can explore a variety of sports. Mini-Hawk programs offer a fun, structured learning environment while enhancing balance and coordination. Campers improve athletically while learning sportsmanship and teamwork. Perfect for a playful introduction to athletics!

Soccer

Kickstart a soccer journey with Skyhawks Soccer! This program boosts young athletes by teaching key skills like dribbling, passing, shooting, and ball control. Each session focuses on enhancing core skills while instilling teamwork and sportsmanship. Participants will improve their soccer abilities and embrace the game's spirit. Grow and score with Skyhawks Soccer!

Basketball

Dribble, shoot, score with Skyhawks Basketball! Perfect for developing athletes, this program sharpens passing, shooting, and dribbling skills, emphasizing sportsmanship and teamwork. Participants develop defensive and rebounding abilities in a dynamic setting that promotes personal and athletic growth. Get involved and make a difference on and off the court!

Flag Football

Score a touchdown with Skyhawks Flag Football! This program teaches passing, receiving, kicking, and flag pulling, all while emphasizing heart and spirit. Participants gain confidence and learn life lessons like teamwork and leadership in a fun, supportive environment. Suit up and get in the game with Skyhawks Flag Football!

Volleyball

Dig deep with Skyhawks Volleyball! This program combines the thrill of volleyball with fun while focusing on passing, setting, spiking, hitting, and serving. Beyond skills, volleyball programs emphasize leadership and teamwork, fostering growth as players and team members.

Tennis

Serve up fun with Skyhawks Tennis! This program elevates tennis skills by focusing on the techniques of forehand, backhand and scoring while utilizing practice sessions and match play to develop consistent, well-rounded players. Each session also fosters personal growth, emphasizing sportsmanship and perseverance.

Baseball

Swing for the stars with Skyhawks Baseball! This program teaches young sluggers essential skills like fielding, catching, and hitting, all while fostering teamwork and responsibility. Each fun-packed session aims to develop athletic prowess and character. Step up to the plate and become a star on and off the field!

Skyhawks - Serving Ages 4 to 14

Beginning Golf

Swing into Skyhawks Beginning Golf, powered by Payne Stewart Golf Experiences. This beginning program focuses on fun and repetition with a games-based approach that can be played on any surface. Specialized equipment is used to ensure early success for young players. Key skills like putting and chipping are taught through engaging activities. Ideal for beginners and those improving, join Skyhawks for rewarding progress with every shot!

Field Hockey

Join Skyhawks for an exciting introduction to Field Hockey, a sport with a global appeal! Developed with USA Field Hockey, this program teaches basics like stick-handling and passing in a game-based environment. Perfect for young athletes looking for a fast-paced sport that focuses on teamwork. Come discover Field Hockey!

Flag Rugby

Crouch, bind, set into a thrilling Skyhawks Flag Rugby experience, in partnership with Imagine Rugby and Major League Rugby! This program focuses on fun, safety, and fundamental skills like passing and flag-pulling. Skyhawks Flag Rugby also teaches life skills while emphasizing teamwork and sportsmanship. It's an exciting mix of sport and character development for memorable flag rugby moments.

Pickleball

Get in the game with Skyhawks Pickleball, gateway to the fastest-growing paddle sport! This program develops and sharpens pickleball skills like groundstrokes, volleys, and serves in a fun environment while focusing on teamwork, sportsmanship, and respect. Come experience this lively sport while building confidence and appreciation for pickleball!

Track and Field

Dash, jump, and throw with Skyhawks Track & Field! This program teaches young athletes track and field essentials, from body positioning and stride to stretching and cool-downs. Participants try events like javelin, discus, and hurdles (events vary by location). Each session builds skills, discipline, and sportsmanship. Get on track with Skyhawks for athletic and personal growth!

Cheerleading

Get ready to rally with Skyhawks Cheerleading! This fun-filled program teaches a variety of cheers, hand and body movements, and jumping techniques, all stunt-free. Participants will also learn valuable teamwork and leadership skills. The program ends with a performance where each cheerleader shines. Become a cheer champion with Skyhawks!

Lacrosse

Charge into a thrilling experience with Skyhawks Lacrosse! This program teaches young athletes essential lacrosse skills like stick-handling and shooting in a supportive, non-contact setting. All equipment is provided (although personal sticks are welcome). Lacrosse programs foster a sense of teamwork while participating in this fun and fast-paced sport.

STEM & Play

Unlock the power of play and learning with STEM & Play! This program blends sports skills with cognitive challenges through sports like basketball and soccer. Each session enhances STEM literacy and fosters a love for learning and sports. Join STEM & Play for an adventure into the world of STEM, where every game is a learning opportunity!

Explore SuperTots: A Foundation for Young Athletes

SuperTots was founded in 2002 with the goal of introducing young children to sports in a fun and engaging way for each stage of childhood development. SuperTots fills a crucial gap of sports programming for young children by providing programs that teach sports skills while enhancing motor development and emotional growth.

At a SuperTots program, young kids learn through play in fun and structured environments. These classes let children explore the importance of taking turns and following directions in a sports setting. Through age-appropriate games and activities, focus is placed on enhancing motor skills to support physical development. Social interaction is also encouraged by helping kids communicate and collaborate with their peers. These classes are designed to build athletic abilities, foster listening skills and boost self-confidence to help lay the foundation for well-rounded growth.

Aligned with Skyhawks Sports, SuperTots serves as the foundational stage for young athletes, setting them on a path to discover and develop their abilities. Together, SuperTots and Skyhawks offer a seamless transition in sports education, supporting children from their first steps into sports up to their early teens, fostering lifelong skills and a love for active play.

SuperTots - Serving Ages 18 Months to 5 Years

Multi-SportTots

Begin an athletic journey with Multi-SportTots! This program offers a variety of sports through fun, age-appropriate activities, enhancing balance, coordination, and fitness. This engaging introduction to multiple sports is packed with learning and teamwork! Parent participation is required with children 3.5 years and younger.

SoccerTots

Kickstart a passion for soccer with SoccerTots, an active, game-based introduction for young athletes. This program enhances motor skills and self-confidence with engaging activities that focus on developing core soccer skills and introducing friendly competition. Parent participation is required with children 3.5 years and younger.

HoopsterTots

Discover the joy of basketball with HoopsterTots! This fun program focuses on dribbling, shooting, passing, and teamwork using adjustable hoops for age-appropriate challenges. Join HoopsterTots to shoot and score foundational skills! Parent participation is required with children 3.5 years and younger.

1stDownTots

Get ready to huddle up with 1stDownTots and learn about football in a safe, non-contact environment. This program is focused on enhancing fitness, coordination, and fundamental skills while fostering a love for the game. Each session is packed with excitement and learning, perfect for kickstarting a lifelong passion for football where teamwork and fun rule the field!

BaseballTots

Step up to the plate with BaseballTots! These classes focus on developing motor skills and baseball basics like throwing, catching, hitting, and running. It's all about fun, skill development, and creating memorable moments. BaseballTots is a great way to introduce baseball to young kids! Parent participation is required with children 3.5 years and younger.

CheerTots

Get ready to jump and cheer with CheerTots! This vibrant program enhances cheerleading skills, personal expression, agility, and teamwork by boosting self-confidence and promoting joy. Young cheerleaders will shine in routines and life. Parent participation is required with children 3.5 years and younger.

HockeyTots

Slide into fun with HockeyTots! Learn hockey fundamentals in a safe environment, focusing on passing, puck handling, and shooting. Safety is prioritized by using appropriately-sized equipment in a non-contact setting. HockeyTots ignites a passion for hockey and develops teamwork and sportsmanship! Parent participation is required with children 3.5 years and younger.

VolleyKats

Jump into volleyball with VolleyKats! Tailored for young learners, this program offers a supportive environment to work on challenging skills like bumping, setting, and spiking. Participants also develop agility, reaction time, and speed, while learning about teamwork in a fun group setting. Parent participation is required with children 3.5 years and younger.

Skyhawks SPORTS™

Get in touch.

1826 E Sprague Ave
Spokane, WA 99202

(800) 804-3509

www.skyhawks.com
skyhawks@skyhawks.com

Title

Riverview STEM Academy Competitive VEX IQ Robotics Program

03/09/2026

id. 53430987

by **Ashwin Thirunahari** in **Fiscal Year 2026-2027 Community Enhancement & Investment Fund Grant Application**

Falkon Academy
[redacted]
Folsom, California
95630
CA
United States
[redacted]

Original Submission

03/09/2026

Score n/a

	Thank you for your interest in applying to the City of Rancho Cordova's Community Enhancement & Investment Fund. Applications are open from February 9, 2026, to March 13, 2026, Noon (12:00 p.m.) with a specific deadline of March 6th Noon (12:00 p.m.) for certain applications**. Before you begin, please read the notes about deadlines and certain types of grant applications/grants below. **School/Park Application Deadline **Note that projects or programs involving a park or school district have a deadline of March 6 Noon (12:00 p.m.) to allow for the third-party endorsement process by the grant deadline.** A Note about Religious Schools and the Application/Grant Process **Note for grant applications from religious schools. The United States Supreme Court has recently ruled in part that: “denying a generally available benefit [from government] solely on account of religious identity imposes a penalty on the free exercise of religion that can be justified only by a state interest of the highest order.” The City is of the opinion that not all grants to religious schools are prohibited under this and other similar rulings. However, these United States Supreme Court decisions remain in conflict with a section of the California State Constitution that says: “[n]either the Legislature, nor any county, city and county, township, school district, or other municipal corporation, shall ever make an appropriation, or pay from any public fund whatever, or grant anything to or in aid of any religious sect, church, creed, or sectarian purpose, or help to support or sustain any school, college, university, hospital, or other institution controlled by any religious creed, church, or sectarian denomination whatever; nor shall any grant or donation of personal property or real estate ever be made by the state, or any city, city and county, town, or other municipal corporation for any religious creed, church, or sectarian purpose whatever”. The City will accept applications for grants of these City public funds from religious schools, but will have language in the grant agreements to address the possibility and consequences of legal challenges and new court decisions on this and related topics. ** Future Grant Opportunities If you are interested in remaining up-to-date on available grants from the City of Rancho Cordova, click here to sign up for the Grants Interest List. A separate call for programming opportunities with the Rancho Cordova Youth Center is anticipated later in 2026. The list is also used to advertise separate art programs when funds are available. Ongoing Grant Opportunity The City of Rancho Cordova offers a microgrant opportunity. Learn more about those grants online.
Is this your first time applying for grant funding from the City of Rancho Cordova? As a first-time applicant, Community Enhancement & Investment Fund (CEIF) staff will contact you to discuss your project and grant application process.	No: Not a First Time Applicant

	1 - Project/Program Information Note: You can add a collaborator to this form to assist you in completing this application! A collaborator can help you complete this form by filling in fields for you, although only you can submit this form. You can add a collaborator by navigating to the top of the form and clicking on the 'Manage Collaborators' button. Simply enter their email address and click 'invite' to invite them as a collaborator. If you need further assistance, you may consult this Help article for more information.
Project/Program Name. Assign a project name to your project/program.	Riverview STEM Academy Competitive VEX IQ Robotics Program
Which category does your Project/Program align with?	Youth Programs & Services
Provide a Project/Program Synopsis	**Falkon Academy** will provide a **VEX IQ Competitive Robotics program** for 3rd–8th grade students at Riverview STEM Academy and other kids from Rancho Cordova. Students will build, code, and **compete in competitive robotics competitions** while developing problem-solving, teamwork, and STEM skills. Revitalizing the program at Riverview STEM.
Provide a Project/Program Description	Falkon Academy proposes to restart and operate a **VEX IQ Competitive Robotics Program** at Riverview STEM Academy serving students in grades 3–8. The program will run from **August through February**, aligning with the official VEX IQ competition season, and will be open to students from Riverview as well as other interested participants from the Rancho Cordova community. **River View STEM Elementary already possesses VEX IQ robotics equipment**; **however**, the competitive robotics program has **not been consistently active** in recent years, and participation in regional robotics tournaments has been limited. This project aims to **revitalize** the program by providing structured coaching, consistent weekly team practices, and guidance throughout the full robotics competition season. The program will meet **two times per week** and will focus on preparing student teams to participate in official VEX IQ robotics competitions held throughout Northern California. Students will work in small teams to design, build, and program robots capable of completing the annual VEX IQ robotics challenge. Through this process, participants will learn core engineering principles including mechanical design, drivetrain construction, gear ratios, structural stability, sensors, and block-based programming. Competitive robotics encourages students to apply the **engineering design process**, which includes brainstorming solutions, building prototypes, testing robot performance, identifying improvements, and refining designs through iterative problem-solving. Teams will also develop competition strategies, practice match play, and participate in scrimmages that simulate real tournament environments. Operating a competitive robotics program requires a higher level of commitment compared to introductory STEM activities. Students will attend

	two structured practices each week, while coaches provide additional preparation time supporting robot development, programming, and competition readiness. The program will include **two coaches** who will collectively dedicate approximately **seven hours per week** to instruction, mentoring, and preparation. Students participating in the program will have opportunities to attend regional VEX IQ robotics tournaments during the competition season. These events typically occur on weekends and bring together robotics teams from across Northern California. Competitions provide students with valuable opportunities to test their robots, collaborate with other teams, and experience the excitement of STEM competitions. Parent participation is an important component of competitive robotics programs and helps support transportation, team coordination, and student engagement during competition events. Falkon Academy has extensive experience delivering robotics programs and mentoring competitive teams across the Sacramento region. Each year, Falkon Academy coaches multiple teams that participate in regional robotics competitions. In the most recent season, **three Falkon Academy teams qualified for the VEX IQ State Championship**, and in a previous season one team advanced to the **VEX World Championship**. This experience provides participating students with strong technical mentorship, structured training, and guidance through the competitive robotics process. By revitalizing the competitive robotics program at Riverview STEM Academy, this project will strengthen Rancho Cordova's representation in regional robotics competitions and provide students with advanced STEM learning opportunities. The program will help students develop technical problem-solving skills, teamwork, leadership, and confidence while fostering long-term interest in science, engineering, and technology. This program is designed to be flexible based on available funding. If the project is fully funded, the program will be fully supported through grant funding. If partial funding is awarded, the program may still proceed with a portion of the remaining costs supported through modest parent participation fees to ensure the sustainability of the robotics teams and competition participation. Website: https://www.falkonacademy.com Facebook: https://www.facebook.com/falkonacademy
Tell us about your Project/Program Team	**Ashwin Thirunahari** Ashwin Thirunahari has master's in electrical engineering. And has patents on drone technology. Besides Robotics he taught Drone Programming, RC Airplanes, 3D CAD, 3D Printing and other programming classes. **Maurice Velandia** has a degree in electrical engineering, and retired working as computer engineer. He has previously coached underwater robotics team and took them to worlds. This year he coached kids at Mitchell Middle School and Rolling Hills Middle School.

Provide your Project/Program Goals	**1. Increase STEM Engagement Through Competitive Robotics** Strengthen student interest and confidence in STEM by engaging grades 3–8 students in hands-on robotics design, programming, and competition preparation. Success will be measured by enrolling **up to 30 students**, maintaining at least **80% program completion**, and student surveys indicating increased confidence in engineering and technology concepts. **2. Revitalize Competitive Robotics Program at Riverview** Form and mentor **six student robotics teams** that will design, build, and program robots to compete in official VEX IQ challenges. Such a program used to run at Riverview STEM before. **3. Expand STEM Opportunities for Rancho Cordova Students** Provide students from Riverview STEM Academy and neighboring Rancho Cordova schools with access to a structured competitive robotics program. Success will be measured by enrollment of students from multiple schools and increased representation of Rancho Cordova teams in regional robotics competitions. **4. Encourage Parent and Community Engagement** Promote family involvement in student STEM learning through robotics showcases, competition events, and volunteer opportunities. Success will be measured by parent participation in team activities, competition attendance, and positive feedback from families. **5. Maintain High Program Participation and Retention** Provide structured **twice-weekly robotics practices** throughout the August–February competition season to maintain strong student engagement. Success will be measured by maintaining at least **80% attendance**, consistent team participation, and student satisfaction with the robotics experience.

Optional File Upload: Provide any additional records to supplement your program/project application. Note: Combine multiple files in one pdf before uploading.

RANCHO_Proposal_Falkon_River_IQ_26_27_Budget.pdf

	2 - Funding & Costs
Funding Request - Complete this section with total dollar amounts for your project/program's costs	Funds are generally not intended to be used for deferred maintenance and ongoing operational needs. The funds are intended for enhancing and investing in the City of Rancho Cordova. If your project/program is awarded, the costs identified below would be reviewed and potentially open to modification during a contracting phase (if a grant is awarded by the City Council). If awarded, grant funds are not available until a contract is executed during Fiscal Year 2026-2027.
Total project/program cost*	18220

What is the amount of Community Enhancement & Investment Fund grant monies requested?	12020
Does your project/program involve construction of any facilities or improvements upon any property?	No
What is the total cost of personnel for your project/program?	10920
What is the total cost of supplies for your project/program?	1300
What is the total cost of transportation for your project/program?	0
What is the total cost of equipment for your project/program?	800
What is the total cost of any miscellaneous expenses for your project/program?	5200

Upload your project/program's budget as a .pdf file. Include the categories and their dollar amounts along with information about any other funding sources to demonstrate your project/program's total budget. Note, the sum of all categories must match the total project or program cost, or the amount requested of CEIF if there is no other funding source. Please clearly illustrate any matching funds or funding from other sources in your project/program budget, including in-kind sources. Note: Combine multiple files in one pdf before uploading.

RANCHO_Proposal_Falkon_River_IQ_26_27_Budget.pdf

Has your organization sought or will seek other funding for this project/program?	No, not seeking any other funding support.

Please explain why you are not seeking any other funding support for your project/program.	At this time, we are not actively pursuing additional grant funding sources for this project in order to maintain clarity in program administration and reporting. This proposal is being submitted as a direct partnership opportunity with Riverview STEM Academy to support local STEM education and expand competitive robotics opportunities for students in the Rancho Cordova community. While Falkon Academy continues to explore future partnerships and district-level opportunities for STEM programming, this specific project is being proposed independently to avoid overlapping funding requests. If additional funding opportunities arise that support the same program, we will fully disclose and coordinate with CEIF to ensure transparency and avoid duplication of funding. If the project receives partial funding, the program may still proceed with a portion of the remaining costs supported through modest parent participation contributions. This approach helps ensure the sustainability of the robotics teams while maintaining access for committed students.
Please describe any ongoing operations and maintenance costs beyond Fiscal Year 2026/2027, if applicable.	NONE
Do you have volunteer or in-kind support for your project? This could include volunteers for an activity/event that is ongoing or a one-time experience.	No
Is this a single year request or a request for funding for multiple years?	Single Year
Has your project/program received funding from the Community Enhancement & Investment Fund previously?	No
	3 - Project/Program Details Grant applications are typically approved to occur between July 2026 through June 2027. What is your plan to complete this project/program within this time frame?

Anticipated Start Date (July 1 is the soonest available start date)	8/1/2026
Anticipated End Date (typically projects/programs end by June 30)	2/28/2027
Please describe your project/program schedule	August – September Marketing to parents/kids to all Rancho Cordova schools September Start forming teams and have regular classes. November Attend one competitition January Attend 2nd Competition February Attend 3rd competition and program concludes.

What challenges do you anticipate in your project/program's implementation? What is your plan to complete your project/program should those or other challenges arise?	One anticipated challenge is achieving sufficient enrollment and sustained participation for a competitive robotics program. Competitive robotics requires a higher level of commitment compared to traditional after-school activities, including regular weekly practices and occasional weekend competitions. Some families may have scheduling conflicts with sports or other extracurricular activities, and in cases of partial funding, not all families may be able to contribute participation fees. To address this, Falkon Academy will conduct outreach through school announcements, flyers, informational meetings, and robotics demonstration events to build interest among students and families. The program will also remain open to students from neighboring Rancho Cordova schools to broaden the potential participant pool. If enrollment is lower than expected, teams may be formed with smaller groups while maintaining a strong learning experience for participating students. A second challenge involves the time commitment required for competitive robotics coaching and tournament participation. The program requires consistent mentoring, approximately seven hours of coaching support per week, as well as coordination for regional competitions that may occur on weekends. Falkon Academy has experience operating competitive robotics teams and maintains a network of trained robotics instructors who can assist with coaching responsibilities. Two coaches will be assigned to the program to ensure consistent support for teams, technical guidance for robot development, and supervision during practices and competitions. Finally, participation in robotics tournaments requires logistical coordination including registration, transportation, and communication with parents. Falkon Academy will work closely with school administration and participating families to coordinate competition schedules and ensure students are well prepared for events. Through proactive outreach, flexible team organization, experienced coaching support, and strong collaboration with the school community, Falkon Academy is prepared to address these challenges and successfully implement the competitive robotics program at Riverview STEM Academy.
How many individuals does your project/program serve?	25
How many Rancho Cordova residents does your project/program serve?	25
	4 - Project/Program Location
Address Verification	If you need to check if your project is in Rancho Cordova, type in your program/project's location in the Assessor Parcel Viewer: https://assessorparcelviewer.saccounty.gov/jsviewer/assessor.html

School and park related applications are due before Noon (12:00 p.m.) on March 6, 2026, to allow for the endorsement process.	Please note that projects or programs that are proposed on property owned or operated by outside agencies or a private party will require coordination with and potentially approvals from outside agencies, organizations, and/or the private party. Include whether you have received a letter of support for the project/program from the property owner. Upload any letters of support with your application. City staff will verify third-party permits have been discussed. In your planning discussions, be sure to discuss any necessary insurance or volunteer requirements that may increase budget costs. School Sites If your project/program is intended to operate at a public K-12 school site, your application is due by March 6 at Noon (12:00 p.m.). City staff will work with the school districts to confirm an endorsement for your project/program. It's the applicant's responsibility to communicate with school site and district representatives before applying so there is clarity during the endorsement process. Districts will only consider endorsement for applications submitted to the Community Enhancement & Investment Fund by the March 6 at Noon (12:00 p.m.). deadline. Each participating school superintendent reserves the right to withhold their endorsement of a project/program. Parks If your project/program is intended to operate at a park or community center site, your application is due by the March 6 at Noon (12:00 p.m.). deadline. City staff will work with the Cordova Recreation & Park District to confirm an endorsement for your project/program. It's the applicant's responsibility to communicate with district representatives before applying so there is clarity during the endorsement process. A special use permit application is required for any program or event planned at a CRPD facility. The special use application can be found at the CRPD website: https://www.cordovarpd.gov/. CRPD will only consider endorsement for applications submitted to the Community Enhancement & Investment Fund by the March 6 at Noon (12:00 p.m.). deadline. The Cordova Recreation & Park District reserves the right to withhold their endorsement of a project/program. Below is the list of staff to communicate with at school and park organizations: Folsom Cordova Unified School District: mwest@fcusd.org Cordova Recreation & Park District: cmichelotti@cordovarpd.gov Elk Grove Unified School District: mgulden@egusd.net Sacramento City Unified School District: Tuan-Duong@scusd.edu for Winn and Carver and Enrique-Flores@scusd.edu for Lincoln.
Primary street address of project/program	Riverview STEM Academy,10700 Ambassador Dr, Rancho Cordova, CA
List the city location of the project/program.	Rancho Cordova
Select State	CA
Provide the zip code for your project/program's primary location.	95670

If your project/program takes place at multiple locations, please list other or secondary locations.	
Third Party Letters of Support (Note: Combine multiple files in one pdf before uploading)	
Does your project/program involve one of Rancho Cordova's school districts?	Yes
Is the project/program requesting facility use only or is this a request to partner with the school district?	Partner with school on project/program
Please select all the school districts which your project/program intends to involve:	Folsom Cordova USD
Please select one or more of the Folsom Cordova Unified School District school facilities which your project/program will involve:	Riverview STEM Academy
Have you reached out to a contact at the school(s) you indicated above?	Yes
Please provide the names of your contacts at the school(s) or district(s) who are familiar with your project/program.	Riverview STEM Academy 10700 Ambassador Dr, Rancho Cordova, CA Principal: Lari Powell Email: **LPowell@fcusd.org** Phone: [redacted]

Does your project/program involve the Cordova Recreation & Park District?	No
	5 - Applicant Information
Name	Ashwin Thirunahari
Is this project/program on behalf of an organization?	Yes
What is the name of your organization?	Falkon Academy
What is your title and/or role at your organization?	Director
Provide contact phone number:	[redacted]
Provide contact email:	[redacted]
Are you the primary point of contact on this project/program?	Yes
If your project/program was awarded the requested funds, are you authorized to sign the contract for your organization?	Yes, I would be the one to sign the contract
By checking here, I confirm that I am aware that my application materials will become public record.	checked

Thank you for applying to the Community Enhancement & Investment Fund Fiscal Year 2026-2027 Grant Cycle. Applicants will receive an automated response through the grant portal. Community Enhancement & Investment Fund (CEIF) Staff will follow up with any questions regarding your Fiscal Year 2026-2027 application. For information about the next steps in the CEIF grant process, visit our website for more information. It is anticipated that applications will be reviewed by the City Council starting in April 2026 with adoption in June 2026. Should applicants be awarded by the City Council, funding would not be available to grantees until the start of Fiscal Year 2026-2027 and the completion of a contract. Please send an email to CEIFGrants@cityofranchocordova.org with any questions or comments.

Internal Form

Score	n/a

Expenses Outline:

Equipment Costs	Cost
5 VEX IQ Competition Kit (School already has)	$0
1 VEX IQ Pitching Field. (School already has)	$0
2 VEX IQ Field Elements	$300
Replacement Parts	$1000
Total Cost of Equipment	**$1300**

Execution Costs	Cost
Cost of Coaching: 2hrs a week Two coaches and a partial manager One coach per 14kids.	
Session Aug'26 to Feb'27	$10,920
Competition Registration Fee (5 teams)	$3,500
School Room Rental for 150hrs payment to FCUSD	$800
Insurance and overhead	$1400
Marketing Costs (Flyers)	$300
Total cost of Execution	**$16,920**

Total Cost of the program: $18,220

Option 1:

Fully funded by CEIF: $18,220

Option 2:

Parent Funding: 33% = $6200

CEIF Funding = $12,020

Is this a multiyear request? NO

Title

Industrial AI Agent Development Program

02/26/2026

id. 53297389

by **Bhaskar Vempati** in **Fiscal Year 2026-2027 Community Enhancement & Investment Fund Grant Application**

[redacted]
Folsom, California
95630
United States
[redacted]

Original Submission

03/05/2026

Score n/a

	Thank you for your interest in applying to the City of Rancho Cordova's Community Enhancement & Investment Fund. Applications are open from February 9, 2026, to March 13, 2026, Noon (12:00 p.m.) with a specific deadline of March 6th Noon (12:00 p.m.) for certain applications**. Before you begin, please read the notes about deadlines and certain types of grant applications/grants below. **School/Park Application Deadline **Note that projects or programs involving a park or school district have a deadline of March 6 Noon (12:00 p.m.) to allow for the third-party endorsement process by the grant deadline.** A Note about Religious Schools and the Application/Grant Process **Note for grant applications from religious schools. The United States Supreme Court has recently ruled in part that: “denying a generally available benefit [from government] solely on account of religious identity imposes a penalty on the free exercise of religion that can be justified only by a state interest of the highest order.” The City is of the opinion that not all grants to religious schools are prohibited under this and other similar rulings. However, these United States Supreme Court decisions remain in conflict with a section of the California State Constitution that says: “[n]either the Legislature, nor any county, city and county, township, school district, or other municipal corporation, shall ever make an appropriation, or pay from any public fund whatever, or grant anything to or in aid of any religious sect, church, creed, or sectarian purpose, or help to support or sustain any school, college, university, hospital, or other institution controlled by any religious creed, church, or sectarian denomination whatever; nor shall any grant or donation of personal property or real estate ever be made by the state, or any city, city and county, town, or other municipal corporation for any religious creed, church, or sectarian purpose whatever”. The City will accept applications for grants of these City public funds from religious schools, but will have language in the grant agreements to address the possibility and consequences of legal challenges and new court decisions on this and related topics. ** Future Grant Opportunities If you are interested in remaining up-to-date on available grants from the City of Rancho Cordova, click here to sign up for the Grants Interest List. A separate call for programming opportunities with the Rancho Cordova Youth Center is anticipated later in 2026. The list is also used to advertise separate art programs when funds are available. Ongoing Grant Opportunity The City of Rancho Cordova offers a microgrant opportunity. Learn more about those grants online.
Is this your first time applying for grant funding from the City of Rancho Cordova? As a first-time applicant, Community Enhancement & Investment Fund (CEIF) staff will contact you to discuss your project and grant application process.	No: Not a First Time Applicant

	1 - Project/Program Information Note: You can add a collaborator to this form to assist you in completing this application! A collaborator can help you complete this form by filling in fields for you, although only you can submit this form. You can add a collaborator by navigating to the top of the form and clicking on the 'Manage Collaborators' button. Simply enter their email address and click 'invite' to invite them as a collaborator. If you need further assistance, you may consult this Help article for more information.
Project/Program Name. Assign a project name to your project/program.	Industrial AI Agent Development Program
Which category does your Project/Program align with?	Youth Programs & Services
Provide a Project/Program Synopsis	The Industrial AI Agent Development Program trains 50 high school and community college students in artificial intelligence and coding. Students progress from foundational concepts to advanced applications while building AI agents that solve industrial challenges. The program strengthens technical and problem solving skills, preparing students for future technology driven careers.
Provide a Project/Program Description	Suvidha International Foundation has successfully hosted two AI Boot Camps for city AI enthusiasts and an After School AI Program for high school students to introduce artificial intelligence and Generative AI concepts. As part of the After School AI Program, students developed two real world AI applications addressing local needs. One was a Customer Service AI Agent for the City of Rancho Cordova to help residents access city service information. The second was an Energy Efficiency AI Agent developed with SMUD to help homeowners, renters, and small businesses better understand energy use and reduce utility costs. The program benefited 32 students and provided hands on experience in Generative AI, Python, machine learning, and natural language processing. Rancho Cordova Mayor Gatewood, Council Members Siri Pulipati and Joe Little, and the City's Chief Technology and Innovation Officer Rita Gass, and local IT professionals attended demo and final showcases and commended Suvidha for preparing students for emerging AI driven careers. Building on this success, Suvidha plans to launch a new Industrial AI Agent Development Program. The program will serve 50 participants (grades 9–12 and community college students), including at least 43 students from Rancho Cordova and up to 7 students from elsewhere in Sacramento County, aligned with a sponsor request for regional representation. One hundred percent of CEIF funds and 50 percent of sponsor funds will support Rancho Cordova youth, while the remaining 50% of the sponsor funds will support non–Rancho Cordova participants. The estimated cost is about $1,400 per student ($70,000 for 50 students), and all expenses will be documented to ensure CEIF funds support only Rancho Cordova residents. The program prioritizes new students, though a few prior participants may join if space allows. It will provide hands-on training in AI and AI agent

development, covering applications such as customer service, banking, career guidance, and business automation.

No prior AI experience is required. The curriculum supports beginners while allowing advanced learners to explore more complex AI solutions. The curriculum is delivered in multiple phases, beginning with the fundamentals of artificial intelligence, machine learning, and natural language processing. Students learn how AI is applied in real world situations and gain an understanding of AI agent design and architecture. They then learn Python and take part in hands-on labs to build practical skills.

In the next phase, students apply their learning to real world problems. Working in teams, they explore industry challenges, identify two to three key problems, and build AI agents using Python. They design conversational logic and connect their solutions to web based platforms. Students build, test, and refine their applications while developing technical, analytical, and teamwork skills. Creativity, problem solving, and user experience are key focus areas. As part of demo, the participants present their projects to city leaders, industry professionals, and community members and receive feedback.

In the following phase, students enhance their applications by adding new features and improving performance. They then present their work at a final showcase event, where participants receive certificates of completion along with awards for innovation and technical excellence.

In the final phase, two student leads will be selected from the current program for an advanced learning and leadership opportunity after the showcase. They will spend an average of four hours per week for 10 plus weeks improving the AI applications developed during the program by collecting real time data, refining system performance, and incorporating user feedback to move the projects closer to practical real world use. The student leads will receive one hour of weekly guidance from experienced program mentors, including structured training in AI application improvement, data collection, system testing, and performance optimization. Deliverables include enhancing the applications presented at the final showcase by improving response accuracy, adding new features, and documenting improvements for a follow up presentation or program report.

The program will maintain the same core measurable outcomes as the previous year, including student enrollment targets, assignment completion rates, development of functional AI applications, and student presentations at a final showcase. The expanded program will include community college students, greater collaboration between high school and college students, and more advanced AI features. Selected student leads will continue refining applications after the showcase to improve accuracy and add new capabilities.

By the end of the program, students gain a strong understanding of AI and AI agent development. They develop hands on experience in designing, coding, and deploying AI solutions while strengthening communication, collaboration, and presentation skills. The program enhances their academic portfolios and prepares them for college and future careers.

Tell us about your Project/Program Team	Suvidha International Foundation is partnering with LLM Scale.AI to launch the Industrial AI Agent Development Program. The initiative is led by Bhaskar Vempati, Manish Ved, and Vandna Sharma, along with youth directors Sriram Vempati and Arjun Dhulipala. The program will be facilitated by Mr. Jothi Periyasamy, a Stanford graduate and AI expert with 20 years of experience, supported by his LLM at Scale.AI team. Deep Science AI Foundation founder Satvika Jothi will also contribute. Together, the team will provide expert mentorship and hands on training to prepare students to build real world AI solutions.
Provide your Project/Program Goals	**Project Goals and How We Measure Success** The goal of the Industrial AI Agent Development Program is to teach high school and community college students practical AI skills and help them build real world AI solutions. The program prepares students for college and future careers in technology by combining learning with hands on projects. **Goals and Measurable Results** **Student Participation and Completion** • Enroll 50 students. • A minimum of 43 students from Rancho Cordova and additional students from outside Rancho Cordova. • Ensure at least 80 percent of students complete the program. **Skill Development** • Conduct assessments to measure learning progress. • Ensure at least 80 percent of students complete required labs and assignments. **AI Project Development** • Develop at least 2 working AI agent applications. • Have mentors and industry professionals evaluate the projects. **Career Readiness** • Survey students to measure increased interest in STEM careers, targeting at least 80 percent positive responses. **Ongoing Impact** • Hire two students (referred as student leads earlier) from the current program participants to continue improving selected AI applications. • Track improvements such as better system performance, higher response accuracy, and user feedback over time. **Keeping the Team Focused** The program will follow a structured schedule with clear phases, milestones, and deliverables. Regular mentor check ins, project reviews, and progress tracking will help students stay aligned with program goals. Feedback from city leaders and industry professionals will ensure the projects remain practical and relevant.

	Long Term Program Outcomes & Industrial Associations Suvidha International Foundation will track several long-term outcomes to measure the program's impact, including continued student engagement in AI and STEM activities, participation in advanced technology projects, and interest in pursuing STEM or AI related college majors and careers. We will also monitor whether students continue improving their AI applications, participate in future programs, or take on leadership roles in similar initiatives. In addition to partnerships with the City, the school district, and regional sponsors, we are working to engage technology professionals and companies to support the program through mentorship, guest lectures, and guidance on real world AI applications. We are also exploring technological support from organizations such as Amazon Web Services and other industry partners. By setting clear goals and measuring outcomes consistently, the program will stay focused and deliver strong educational and community impact.
Optional File Upload: Provide any additional records to supplement your program/project application. Note: Combine multiple files in one pdf before uploading.	
	2 - Funding & Costs
Funding Request - Complete this section with total dollar amounts for your project/program's costs	Funds are generally not intended to be used for deferred maintenance and ongoing operational needs. The funds are intended for enhancing and investing in the City of Rancho Cordova. If your project/program is awarded, the costs identified below would be reviewed and potentially open to modification during a contracting phase (if a grant is awarded by the City Council). If awarded, grant funds are not available until a contract is executed during Fiscal Year 2026-2027.
Total project/program cost*	70000
What is the amount of Community Enhancement & Investment Fund grant monies requested?	50000
Does your project/program involve construction of any facilities or improvements upon any property?	No

What is the total cost of personnel for your project/program?	16000
What is the total cost of supplies for your project/program?	5000
What is the total cost of transportation for your project/program?	2500
What is the total cost of equipment for your project/program?	17500
What is the total cost of any miscellaneous expenses for your project/program?	29000

Upload your project/program's budget as a .pdf file. Include the categories and their dollar amounts along with information about any other funding sources to demonstrate your project/program's total budget. Note, the sum of all categories must match the total project or program cost, or the amount requested of CEIF if there is no other funding source. Please clearly illustrate any matching funds or funding from other sources in your project/program budget, including in-kind sources. Note: Combine multiple files in one pdf before uploading.

2026_Budget_-_Industrial_AI_Agent_Development_R1.pdf

Has your organization sought or will seek other funding for this project/program?	Yes, actively seeking funding support or have secured additional funding support for this project/program.
Describe any funding secured or being sought for this project/program.	We are expecting $20,000 from a Sacramento region sponsors. Based on their request, the program will include about 7 students from the Sacramento region outside Rancho Cordova.
Please describe any ongoing operations and maintenance costs beyond Fiscal Year 2026/2027, if applicable.	None
Do you have volunteer or in-kind support for your project? This could include volunteers for an activity/event that is ongoing or a one-time experience.	Yes

Please share the total dollar amount for volunteer/in-kind support using $34.79 as the national rate for a volunteer hour. Source: Value of Volunteer Time	18264

Please provide a worksheet explaining your volunteer/in-kind contribution. You may upload a file in the following formats: CSV, DOC, DOCX, or PDF.

Volunteer_InKind_Support-AI_Program.csv

Is this a single year request or a request for funding for multiple years?	Single Year
Has your project/program received funding from the Community Enhancement & Investment Fund previously?	Yes
How many years has your project/program received funding from the Community Enhancement & Investment Fund?	1
How much funding has your organization received from the Community Enhancement & Investment Fund through our traditional grants (not including microgrants)?	Approximately 145000
	3 - Project/Program Details Grant applications are typically approved to occur between July 2026 through June 2027. What is your plan to complete this project/program within this time frame?
Anticipated Start Date (July 1 is the soonest available start date)	7/1/2026

Anticipated End Date (typically projects/programs end by June 30)	5/31/2027
Please describe your project/program schedule	**Implementation Plan** ***July 1 – August 31, 2026*** • Finalize the curriculum, recruit instructors and mentors, and prepare all materials, equipment, AI tools, and lab access for program delivery. • Coordinate with school partners and promote the program through schools and community channels, including hosting informational sessions. • Enroll students with a focused outreach to underserved populations. ***September 01 – November 20, 2026*** • Deliver structured AI instruction sessions covering AI fundamentals, machine learning basics, and AI agent development using real-world examples. • Guide students in team-based, hands-on AI projects focused on practical applications such as community services, banking, energy efficiency, or sustainability • Provide ongoing mentorship, lab access, and technical support to help students design, build, and test AI projects. • Demo the projects and collect feedback for additional enhancements ***November 21 – December 12, 2026*** • Conduct final project presentations, allowing students to demonstrate learning outcomes and practical applications ***December 12 – March 31, 2027*** • Student leads test and enhance AI applications for additional features ***March 31 – May 31, 2027*** • Submit final project reports including expenses to the CEIF Team

What challenges do you anticipate in your project/program's implementation? What is your plan to complete your project/program should those or other challenges arise?	One of the key challenges in implementing the Industrial AI Agent Development Program is accommodating the wide range of technical skill levels among participating students. The program includes both high school and community college students, and their backgrounds in coding, mathematics, and artificial intelligence may vary significantly. Ensuring that all students can effectively grasp AI and AI agent development concepts within a limited timeframe requires thoughtful instructional design and differentiated support. Another anticipated challenge is scheduling conflicts caused by academic workloads, exams, and sports or other extracurricular commitments. Many students balance rigorous coursework along with athletic participation, which can impact attendance, consistent engagement, and overall participation throughout the program. To address this, we have allocated a $3,000 budget to reward students and motivate them to stay engaged and complete 100% of their assignments on time. Additionally, access to reliable hardware, software, and internet connectivity may vary among participants, potentially impacting their ability to complete assignments or projects outside of in-person sessions. Maintaining engagement can also be challenging, as AI concepts are complex and require sustained focus and hands-on practice. To address these challenges, we will provide foundational learning materials to help students build essential skills before progressing to advanced AI agent development. Instruction will be structured with tiered assignments, small-group mentoring, and peer collaboration so that beginners receive additional support while advanced students remain challenged. We will ensure that all required software tools are accessible through cloud-based platforms and provide in-person technical assistance as needed. To accommodate academic and sports commitments, we will offer a hybrid structure with flexible scheduling, recorded sessions, and makeup sessions. Engagement will be strengthened through interactive labs, real-world case studies, industry guest speakers, and milestone-based project reviews. If additional challenges arise, we will adapt through personalized mentoring, schedule adjustments, and continuous feedback to ensure successful completion and meaningful learning outcomes for all participants.
How many individuals does your project/program serve?	50
How many Rancho Cordova residents does your project/program serve?	43
	4 - Project/Program Location
Address Verification	If you need to check if your project is in Rancho Cordova, type in your program/project's location in the Assessor Parcel Viewer: https://assessorparcelviewer.saccounty.gov/jsviewer/assessor.html

School and park related applications are due before Noon (12:00 p.m.) on March 6, 2026, to allow for the endorsement process.	Please note that projects or programs that are proposed on property owned or operated by outside agencies or a private party will require coordination with and potentially approvals from outside agencies, organizations, and/or the private party. Include whether you have received a letter of support for the project/program from the property owner. Upload any letters of support with your application. City staff will verify third-party permits have been discussed. In your planning discussions, be sure to discuss any necessary insurance or volunteer requirements that may increase budget costs. School Sites If your project/program is intended to operate at a public K-12 school site, your application is due by March 6 at Noon (12:00 p.m.). City staff will work with the school districts to confirm an endorsement for your project/program. It's the applicant's responsibility to communicate with school site and district representatives before applying so there is clarity during the endorsement process. Districts will only consider endorsement for applications submitted to the Community Enhancement & Investment Fund by the March 6 at Noon (12:00 p.m.). deadline. Each participating school superintendent reserves the right to withhold their endorsement of a project/program. Parks If your project/program is intended to operate at a park or community center site, your application is due by the March 6 at Noon (12:00 p.m.). deadline. City staff will work with the Cordova Recreation & Park District to confirm an endorsement for your project/program. It's the applicant's responsibility to communicate with district representatives before applying so there is clarity during the endorsement process. A special use permit application is required for any program or event planned at a CRPD facility. The special use application can be found at the CRPD website: https://www.cordovarpd.gov/. CRPD will only consider endorsement for applications submitted to the Community Enhancement & Investment Fund by the March 6 at Noon (12:00 p.m.). deadline. The Cordova Recreation & Park District reserves the right to withhold their endorsement of a project/program. Below is the list of staff to communicate with at school and park organizations: Folsom Cordova Unified School District: mwest@fcusd.org Cordova Recreation & Park District: cmichelotti@cordovarpd.gov Elk Grove Unified School District: mgulden@egusd.net Sacramento City Unified School District: Tuan-Duong@scusd.edu for Winn and Carver and Enrique-Flores@scusd.edu for Lincoln.
Primary street address of project/program	2239 Chase Dr, Rancho Cordova, CA 95670
List the city location of the project/program.	Cordova High School
Select State	CA
Provide the zip code for your project/program's primary location.	95670

If your project/program takes place at multiple locations, please list other or secondary locations.	Demo and showcasing events at City Hall, Rancho Cordova

Third Party Letters of Support (Note: Combine multiple files in one pdf before uploading)

FCUSDs_Planned_Endorsement_of_After_School_AI_Program_at_Cordova_High_School.pdf

Does your project/program involve one of Rancho Cordova's school districts?	Yes
Is the project/program requesting facility use only or is this a request to partner with the school district?	Partner with school on project/program
Please select all the school districts which your project/program intends to involve:	Folsom Cordova USD
Please select one or more of the Folsom Cordova Unified School District school facilities which your project/program will involve:	Cordova High School Kinney High School Innovations Academy Walnutwood High School
Have you reached out to a contact at the school(s) you indicated above?	Some, but not all
Are there still schools you need to contact? If so, please list them below.	Cordova High School (have already contacted them)

Please provide the names of your contacts at the school(s) or district(s) who are familiar with your project/program.	Cordova High School Principal: Ms. Amy Strawn FCUSD Superintendent: Erik Swanson FCUSD Board President: Jennifer Laret FCUSD Board Vice President: Y.K.Chalamcherla
Does your project/program involve the Cordova Recreation & Park District?	No
	5 - Applicant Information
Name	Bhadraiah (Bhaskar) Vempati
Is this project/program on behalf of an organization?	No
Provide contact phone number:	+[redacted]
Provide contact email:	[redacted]
Are you the primary point of contact on this project/program?	Yes
If your project/program was awarded the requested funds, are you authorized to sign the contract for your organization?	Yes, I would be the one to sign the contract
By checking here, I confirm that I am aware that my application materials will become public record.	checked

Thank you for applying to the Community Enhancement & Investment Fund Fiscal Year 2026-2027 Grant Cycle. Applicants will receive an automated response through the grant portal. Community Enhancement & Investment Fund (CEIF) Staff will follow up with any questions regarding your Fiscal Year 2026-2027 application. For information about the next steps in the CEIF grant process, visit our website for more information. It is anticipated that applications will be reviewed by the City Council starting in April 2026 with adoption in June 2026. Should applicants be awarded by the City Council, funding would not be available to grantees until the start of Fiscal Year 2026-2027 and the completion of a contract. Please send an email to CEIFGrants@cityofranchocordova.org with any questions or comments.

Internal Form

Score	n/a

		CEIF	Sponsor					
#	Description	Amount, $	Amount, $	Personnel, $	Transportation, $	Supplies, $	Equipment, $	Miscellenous, $
1	Instructor & Mentor Stipend	$10,000.00		$10,000.00				
2	Student Leads for Advance Learning	$3,000.00		$3,000.00				
3	Professional Training Material	$2,000.00	$2,000.00					$4,000.00
4	Lap tops & Wifi Hot Spots for Needy Students	$12,500.00	$5,000.00				$17,500.00	
5	Venue & Logistics	$2,500.00						$2,500.00
6	Lab Licenses & Cloud Storage	$4,000.00	$8,500.00					$12,500.00
7	Marketing & Outreach	$1,000.00	$1,000.00					$2,000.00
8	Projects Demo & Showcasing Events	$2,500.00	$1,000.00					$3,500.00
9	Student Rewards (for completing assignments on time)	$3,000.00		$3,000.00				
10	Student Awards & Volunteer Appreciation	$2,000.00	$500.00					$2,500.00
11	Snacks/Food for Participants	$3,000.00	$500.00			$3,500.00		
12	Student Transportation Support	$2,000.00	$500.00		$2,500.00			
13	Stationary	$1,000.00	$500.00			$1,500.00		
14	Insurance for venues and program	$1,000.00						$1,000.00
15	Photography/Videography	$500.00	$500.00					$1,000.00
Grant Total		**$50,000.00**	**$20,000.00**	**$16,000.00**	**$2,500.00**	**$5,000.00**	**$17,500.00**	**$29,000.00**

Cost,$ / participant (=$70,000/50) $1,400.00

Representation	# Participants	Amount, $
Rancho Cordova	43	$60,200.00
Non-Rancho Cordova	7	$9,800.00
Total	**50**	**$70,000.00**

Item# Description	Description
Instructor & Mentor Stipend	$10,000 towards instructor and mentors stipend from September 2026 to May 2027
Student Leads for Advance Learning	$3,000 contribution for student leads for enhancing AI applications with data collection, testing and optimization of applications
Professional Training Material	$4,000 for creation of professional training material, flyers, posters and similar items. The training material includes advanced topics
Lap tops & Wifi Hot Spots for Needy Students	$17,500 contribution towards new laptops and wifi hot spots for needy students. The students will keep laptops and hot spots after successful program completion. The costs also cover additional hardware purchaes. The previous program laptops were given to students for their successful completion of the program. The new laptops attacts participants and help retain them for the complete program.
Venue & Logistics	$2,500 for venue (classroom, demo and final showcasing) expenses
Lab Licenses & Cloud Storage	$12,500 for AI model, cloud storage and other related expenses. The costs are based on monthly subscriptions and data usage
Marketing & Outreach	$2,000 for marketing and outreach efforts including online promotions, flyers, community stalls
Projects Demo & Showcasing Events	The food and other expenses for demo and show casing events
Student Rewards	$3,000 for students to motivae them to complete assignments and project tasks on time. The costs include referral $ for students to bring their classmates

Student & VolunteerAwards	$2,500 for student awards, mentor and volunteer appreciation plaques
Snacks/Food for Participants	$3,500 for the participant food and beverages. We expect more in-person attendees due to the more flexible schedule. Plan to add weekend sessions as well
Student Transportation Support	$2,500 for student transportation expenses
Stationary	$1,500 for Stationary and related expenses
Insurance for venues and program	$1,000 for venue insurance related expenses
Photography/Videography	$1,000 for photography of sessions, demo and final showcasing events

CEIF

#	Description	# of Volunte	# of Averag	Rate, $	Total Cost, $
1	Adult Volun	15	25	$34.79	$13,046.25
2	High Schoo	6	25	$34.79	$5,218.50
Grant Total		21			$18,264.75

Gmail

Bhaskar Vempati [redacted]

Request for FCUSD Endorsement of After School AI Program at Cordova High School

Erik Swanson <eswanson@fcusd.org> Fri, Feb 13, 2026 at 2:09 PM
To: Suvidha International Foundation [redacted]
Cc: Angela Griffin <agriffin@fcusd.org>, Martha Campos <MCampos@fcusd.org>, Amy Strawn <AStrawn@fcusd.org>

Bhaskar,

Happy Friday! Thanks for all you are doing to support our students at Cordova High School. The district supports the CEIF grant that the Suvidha International Foundation is submitting to the City of Rancho Cordova. Good luck with your application and please let us know if you need anything else.

Sincerely,

Erik Swanson
Superintendent

Folsom Cordova Unified School District
1965 Birkmont Drive
Rancho Cordova, CA 95742

From: Suvidha International Foundation [redacted]
Date: Monday, February 9, 2026 at 5:11 PM
To: Erik Swanson <eswanson@fcusd.org>
Cc: Angela Griffin <agriffin@fcusd.org>, Martha Campos <MCampos@fcusd.org>, Amy Strawn <AStrawn@fcusd.org>
Subject: Request for FCUSD Endorsement of After School AI Program at Cordova High School

You don't often get email from s[redacted] Learn why this is important

[EXTERNAL SENDER]

Mr. Swanson:

I hope you are doing well.

On behalf of Suvidha International Foundation, I would like to thank the Cordova High School administration, including Principal Amy Strawn, and FCUSD for hosting our recent After School AI Program at Cordova High School. I am very glad to let you know that our recent Afterschool AI program at Cordova High School was a great success and provided students with meaningful, real world experience in artificial intelligence.

I had the opportunity to share the success of our After School AI Program at the School Board meeting held on February 5, 2026. Thank you for providing this opportunity.

We were honored to have FCUSD Board President Jennifer attend the final showcasing event and FCUSD Vice President Y.K. Chalamcherla attended the earlier demo session. Their presence and words of appreciation meant a great deal to our students and volunteers. Their recognition highlighted the importance of providing students with access to advanced technology learning opportunities that prepare them for future academic and career success.

Originally, we planned to organize a 20 week GenAI program for high school students at Rancho Cordova City Hall. However, based on the City Council's recommendation, we organized the program at Cordova High School to make it more accessible to students.

I am pleased to share that Suvidha International Foundation will be organizing two additional After School AI Programs at Cordova High School this year. The first program will run from April through June, and the second from September through December. These programs will continue to equip students with practical AI skills while working on real community and industry use cases, building both technical knowledge and confidence. Please note that we will conduct program classes outside of regular school hours and at an outside facility when the school is closed in June.

The City of Rancho Cordova opened its CEIF grants today and confirmed its support for after school efforts in 2026 as well. We respectfully request FCUSD's endorsement of this program so that we may include it in our upcoming application submissions. We respectfully request FCUSD's support in expanding student awareness and participation in these programs.

Suvidha International Foundation remains committed to supporting FCUSD students by providing high quality, workforce relevant AI education at no cost to families. We greatly value our partnership with FCUSD and look forward to continuing to work together to empower students with future ready skills.

Thank you again for your leadership and support. I would be happy to meet to discuss or share information on how we can further strengthen this collaboration.

Sincerely,
Bhaskar Vempati, Ph.D
Suvidha International Foundation
[redacted]

Title

United Way California Capital Region KinderCamp

03/06/2026

id. 53407361

by **Edward King** in **Fiscal Year 2026-2027 Community Enhancement & Investment Fund Grant Application**

[redacted]
Sacramento, California
95827
United States
[redacted]
edward.king@uwccr.org

Original Submission

03/06/2026

Score n/a

	Thank you for your interest in applying to the City of Rancho Cordova's Community Enhancement & Investment Fund. Applications are open from February 9, 2026, to March 13, 2026, Noon (12:00 p.m.) with a specific deadline of March 6th Noon (12:00 p.m.) for certain applications**. Before you begin, please read the notes about deadlines and certain types of grant applications/grants below. **School/Park Application Deadline **Note that projects or programs involving a park or school district have a deadline of March 6 Noon (12:00 p.m.) to allow for the third-party endorsement process by the grant deadline.** A Note about Religious Schools and the Application/Grant Process **Note for grant applications from religious schools. The United States Supreme Court has recently ruled in part that: “denying a generally available benefit [from government] solely on account of religious identity imposes a penalty on the free exercise of religion that can be justified only by a state interest of the highest order.” The City is of the opinion that not all grants to religious schools are prohibited under this and other similar rulings. However, these United States Supreme Court decisions remain in conflict with a section of the California State Constitution that says: “[n]either the Legislature, nor any county, city and county, township, school district, or other municipal corporation, shall ever make an appropriation, or pay from any public fund whatever, or grant anything to or in aid of any religious sect, church, creed, or sectarian purpose, or help to support or sustain any school, college, university, hospital, or other institution controlled by any religious creed, church, or sectarian denomination whatever; nor shall any grant or donation of personal property or real estate ever be made by the state, or any city, city and county, town, or other municipal corporation for any religious creed, church, or sectarian purpose whatever”. The City will accept applications for grants of these City public funds from religious schools, but will have language in the grant agreements to address the possibility and consequences of legal challenges and new court decisions on this and related topics. ** Future Grant Opportunities If you are interested in remaining up-to-date on available grants from the City of Rancho Cordova, click here to sign up for the Grants Interest List. A separate call for programming opportunities with the Rancho Cordova Youth Center is anticipated later in 2026. The list is also used to advertise separate art programs when funds are available. Ongoing Grant Opportunity The City of Rancho Cordova offers a microgrant opportunity. Learn more about those grants online.
Is this your first time applying for grant funding from the City of Rancho Cordova? As a first-time applicant, Community Enhancement & Investment Fund (CEIF) staff will contact you to discuss your project and grant application process.	No: Not a First Time Applicant

	1 - Project/Program Information Note: You can add a collaborator to this form to assist you in completing this application! A collaborator can help you complete this form by filling in fields for you, although only you can submit this form. You can add a collaborator by navigating to the top of the form and clicking on the 'Manage Collaborators' button. Simply enter their email address and click 'invite' to invite them as a collaborator. If you need further assistance, you may consult this Help article for more information.
Project/Program Name. Assign a project name to your project/program.	United Way California Capital Region KinderCamp
Which category does your Project/Program align with?	Youth Programs & Services
Provide a Project/Program Synopsis	United Way California Capital Region's KinderCamp is a four-week, full-day summer readiness program for 160 incoming kindergarteners (ages 4–6) without prior preschool experience at four Folsom Cordova School District campuses. The program builds literacy, math, and social-emotional skills to increase school readiness, confidence, and peer engagement.
Provide a Project/Program Description	United Way seeks support to implement KinderCamp, a four-week, full-day summer school readiness program for children ages 4–6 who will enter kindergarten in the fall and have not had prior preschool experience. The program will be delivered at four elementary school campuses within the Folsom Cordova Unified School District in Rancho Cordova and will serve 160 children. KinderCamp is designed to close opportunity gaps for children impacted by poverty who may otherwise enter kindergarten without exposure to structured early learning environments. KinderCamp aligns with the City of Rancho Cordova's demonstrated commitment to investing Measure H resources in youth development, educational equity, and prevention-focused strategies. Through recent investments in the Rancho Cordova Youth Center, expanded learning programs, and STEM enrichment opportunities, the City has prioritized creating safe, structured environments that strengthen academic foundations and social-emotional growth. KinderCamp directly advances these local priorities by serving as an early intervention strategy for children ages 4–6 who have not had access to preschool. As a four-week summer bridge program, KinderCamp prepares young learners academically, socially, and emotionally for kindergarten, helping to close opportunity gaps before they widen. By strengthening school readiness at the earliest stage, the program supports the City's broader goals of promoting long-term educational success, community safety, and equitable access to opportunity for Rancho Cordova families. The program operates Monday through Friday for eight hours per day over four weeks. Each day follows a structured yet developmentally appropriate routine that blends teacher-led instruction with child-initiated exploration. Activities are intentionally designed to build foundational skills in literacy, numeracy, fine and gross motor development, problem-solving, and peer

interaction. Examples include name-writing practice, letter and sound recognition activities, counting games, puzzles, Legos, arts and crafts that strengthen scissor and pencil skills, songs that reinforce days of the week and classroom routines, and outdoor play to support physical development

The learning environment is intentionally structured to mirror the expectations of a kindergarten classroom. Children practice lining up, transitioning between activities, sharing materials, following directions, and engaging respectfully with peers and adults. These routines help students build classroom readiness and confidence prior to the first day of school. Because programming takes place directly on elementary school campuses within Folsom Cordova Unified School District in Rancho Cordova, children and families also become familiar with the physical school setting, reducing anxiety and increasing comfort when the academic year begins.

KinderCamp incorporates evidence-informed strategies that promote early literacy and school readiness. Each day a child attends, they receive a brand-new book to take home, building home libraries and reinforcing reading habits. In the coming year, UWCCR will further engage families by distributing information about the science of reading through the Book Buddy initiative, encouraging caregivers to read regularly with their children and strengthening parent capacity to support literacy development at home.

The program also supports children's overall well-being. Students receive a healthy lunch daily to ensure they are physically prepared to engage in learning. Additionally, UWCCR sponsors a weekly Kids Farmer's Market activity, allowing children to take home fresh fruits and vegetables. This component reinforces healthy habits while addressing food access challenges that disproportionately impact low-income families.

Recruitment will occur in collaboration with Folsom Cordova Unified School District, which will conduct outreach to families of incoming kindergarteners who meet eligibility criteria. YMCA Superior California will also assist with outreach to families connected to its early childhood and community programs. Retention will be supported through engaging, age-appropriate programming, the provision of free books, and nutritious meals, all of which reduce participation barriers for families.

UWCCR brings extensive organizational capacity to implement KinderCamp. The organization has served the region for 100 years and has operated KinderCamp since 2015. In the past year alone, 80 children participated in KinderCamp, with 85% demonstrating improvements in fine motor skills, classroom readiness, and parental confidence in kindergarten readiness. Program oversight will be provided by Director of Impact Zelene Molina, who brings significant experience in education and youth development, supported by YMCA's credentialed early childhood educators.

Participant enrollment, attendance, and outcomes will be tracked through UWCCR's internal case management system, Apricot. Pre- and post-assessments, including tools such as the DIAL-4 or similar developmental measures, will be used to evaluate gains in readiness and skill development. Data will be analyzed following each session to inform continuous quality improvement and ensure program effectiveness.

	Through intentional curriculum design, strong partnerships, family engagement, and a focus on equity, KinderCamp equips children with the academic foundation, social-emotional skills, and confidence needed to enter kindergarten ready to learn and succeed.
Tell us about your Project/Program Team	KinderCamp is led by United Way California Capital Region's Program Manager , Bianca Solorio, who oversees program design, implementation, reporting, and quality improvement. Ms. Solorio brings extensive experience in education, youth development, and supporting historically underserved students, along with a strong commitment to advancing educational equity. Direct services are delivered by qualified early childhood educators provided through YMCA Superior California, a long-standing partner experienced in operating licensed early learning programs. Each site is staffed by four full-time equivalent educators to ensure high-quality adult-child engagement and appropriate supervision. Together, UWCCR and YMCA provide experienced leadership, instructional expertise, and operational capacity.

Provide your Project/Program Goals	**Primary Goal:** Increase kindergarten readiness among children ages 4–6 who have not had prior preschool experience and are most impacted by poverty. **Academic & Developmental Goals:** 1. At least 65% of participants will score higher on the DIAL-4 or similar assessment compared to peers. 2. At least 75% of participants will move up at least one level from pre- to post-assessment. 3. At least 85% of participants will demonstrate measurable improvement in fine motor skills, classroom readiness, and parental confidence in kindergarten readiness. **Social-Emotional Goals:** 4. Increase peer engagement and positive social interaction skills. 5. Build individual confidence and comfort within a classroom setting. 6. Strengthen students' ability to follow classroom routines and behavioral expectations. **Family Engagement Goals:** 7. Increase caregiver involvement in early literacy through daily book distribution and reading encouragement. 8. Strengthen parents' understanding of kindergarten expectations and strategies to support learning at home. **Long-Term Impact Goal:** Ensure children enter kindergarten safe, healthy, confident, and equipped with foundational academic and social-emotional skills that support long-term educational success.
Optional File Upload: Provide any additional records to supplement your program/project application. Note: Combine multiple files in one pdf before uploading.	
	2 - Funding & Costs

Funding Request - Complete this section with total dollar amounts for your project/program's costs	Funds are generally not intended to be used for deferred maintenance and ongoing operational needs. The funds are intended for enhancing and investing in the City of Rancho Cordova. If your project/program is awarded, the costs identified below would be reviewed and potentially open to modification during a contracting phase (if a grant is awarded by the City Council). If awarded, grant funds are not available until a contract is executed during Fiscal Year 2026-2027.
Total project/program cost*	224953
What is the amount of Community Enhancement & Investment Fund grant monies requested?	182400
Does your project/program involve construction of any facilities or improvements upon any property?	No
What is the total cost of personnel for your project/program?	160000
What is the total cost of supplies for your project/program?	22400
What is the total cost of transportation for your project/program?	0
What is the total cost of equipment for your project/program?	0
What is the total cost of any miscellaneous expenses for your project/program?	0

Upload your project/program's budget as a .pdf file. Include the categories and their dollar amounts along with information about any other funding sources to demonstrate your project/program's total budget. Note, the sum of all categories must match the total project or program cost, or the amount requested of CEIF if there is no other funding source. Please clearly illustrate any matching funds or funding from other sources in your project/program budget, including in-kind sources. Note: Combine multiple files in one pdf before uploading.

United_Way_KinderCamp_Program_Budget_26_27.pdf

Has your organization sought or will seek other funding for this project/program?	Yes, actively seeking funding support or have secured additional funding support for this project/program.
Describe any funding secured or being sought for this project/program.	We continue to seek funding to expand educational opportunities to marganlized communities, especially those with limited educational enrichment resources. We continue to work with our financial and health partners to secure resources for these types of services, incuding commitments from US Bank and will be reapplying for services through Health Net.
Please describe any ongoing operations and maintenance costs beyond Fiscal Year 2026/2027, if applicable.	
Do you have volunteer or in-kind support for your project? This could include volunteers for an activity/event that is ongoing or a one-time experience.	No
Is this a single year request or a request for funding for multiple years?	Single Year
Has your project/program received funding from the Community Enhancement & Investment Fund previously?	No
	3 - Project/Program Details Grant applications are typically approved to occur between July 2026 through June 2027. What is your plan to complete this project/program within this time frame?
Anticipated Start Date (July 1 is the soonest available start date)	5/1/2027

Anticipated End Date (typically projects/programs end by June 30)	6/30/2026

Please describe your project/program schedule

Program Implementation Timeline

Planning and Program Development

September – February

United Way California Capital Region coordinates with Folsom Cordova Unified School District and YMCA of Superior California to prepare for program implementation.

Key Activities

- **Secure elementary school campus in Rancho Cordova**
- **Finalize curriculum aligned with kindergarten readiness standards**
- **Hire and train teaching staff and classroom assistants**
- **Order classroom supplies, books, and instructional materials**
- **Coordinate meal service and Kids Farmer's Market logistics**
- **Set up program tracking and evaluation systems (Apricot)**
- **Prepare readiness assessment tools (DIAL-4 or similar)**

Outreach and Enrollment

March – May

Recruitment focuses on incoming kindergarten students who have not attended preschool and may benefit from additional school readiness support.

Key Activities

- **FCUSD conducts outreach to eligible families**
- **YMCA supports recruitment through early childhood programs**
- **Enrollment forms distributed and completed**
- **Parent information sessions and program orientation**
- **Finalize participant roster (40 students)**

KinderCamp Summer Program

June 8 – July 10

Monday – Friday | 8 Hours per Day

KinderCamp operates as a full-day summer bridge program designed to mirror the expectations of a kindergarten classroom while maintaining developmentally appropriate learning through play and exploration.

Children practice classroom routines including lining up, transitioning between activities, sharing materials, and following directions to build confidence before the start of the school year.

Daily Learning Activities Include

- **Early literacy instruction (letter recognition, name writing, story time)**
- **Numeracy and problem-solving games**
- **Arts, crafts, and fine motor skill development**
- **Outdoor play and gross motor development**
- **Songs and routines reinforcing classroom expectations**
- **Cooperative play and social-emotional learning**

Enrichment Supports

- **Each child receives a new book daily to build their home library and encourage reading at home.**
- **Students receive a healthy lunch each day to support well-being and learning readiness.**
- **A weekly Kids Farmer's Market provides fresh fruits and vegetables for families, reinforcing healthy habits.**

Evaluation and Reporting

July – August

Following program completion, UWCCR will analyze program outcomes and participant progress.

Evaluation Measures

- **Pre- and post-program developmental assessments**
- **Attendance and engagement tracking**
- **Parent feedback and program satisfaction**
- **Improvements in:**
- **classroom readiness**
- **fine motor development**
- **early literacy skills**
- **parental confidence in kindergarten readiness**

Evaluation results will inform program improvement and future KinderCamp implementation.

Students Served: 160

Program Length: 4 Weeks

Total Instructional Time: 160 Hours

What challenges do you anticipate in your project/program's implementation? What is your plan to complete your project/program should those or other challenges arise?	No current issues anticipated in the timeline.
How many individuals does your project/program serve?	160
How many Rancho Cordova residents does your project/program serve?	160
	4 - Project/Program Location
Address Verification	If you need to check if your project is in Rancho Cordova, type in your program/project's location in the Assessor Parcel Viewer: https://assessorparcelviewer.saccounty.gov/jsviewer/assessor.html

School and park related applications are due before Noon (12:00 p.m.) on March 6, 2026, to allow for the endorsement process.	Please note that projects or programs that are proposed on property owned or operated by outside agencies or a private party will require coordination with and potentially approvals from outside agencies, organizations, and/or the private party. Include whether you have received a letter of support for the project/program from the property owner. Upload any letters of support with your application. City staff will verify third-party permits have been discussed. In your planning discussions, be sure to discuss any necessary insurance or volunteer requirements that may increase budget costs. School Sites If your project/program is intended to operate at a public K-12 school site, your application is due by March 6 at Noon (12:00 p.m.). City staff will work with the school districts to confirm an endorsement for your project/program. It's the applicant's responsibility to communicate with school site and district representatives before applying so there is clarity during the endorsement process. Districts will only consider endorsement for applications submitted to the Community Enhancement & Investment Fund by the March 6 at Noon (12:00 p.m.). deadline. Each participating school superintendent reserves the right to withhold their endorsement of a project/program. Parks If your project/program is intended to operate at a park or community center site, your application is due by the March 6 at Noon (12:00 p.m.). deadline. City staff will work with the Cordova Recreation & Park District to confirm an endorsement for your project/program. It's the applicant's responsibility to communicate with district representatives before applying so there is clarity during the endorsement process. A special use permit application is required for any program or event planned at a CRPD facility. The special use application can be found at the CRPD website: https://www.cordovarpd.gov/. CRPD will only consider endorsement for applications submitted to the Community Enhancement & Investment Fund by the March 6 at Noon (12:00 p.m.). deadline. The Cordova Recreation & Park District reserves the right to withhold their endorsement of a project/program. Below is the list of staff to communicate with at school and park organizations: Folsom Cordova Unified School District: mwest@fcusd.org Cordova Recreation & Park District: cmichelotti@cordovarpd.gov Elk Grove Unified School District: mgulden@egusd.net Sacramento City Unified School District: Tuan-Duong@scusd.edu for Winn and Carver and Enrique-Flores@scusd.edu for Lincoln.
Primary street address of project/program	[redacted]
List the city location of the project/program.	Sactamento
Select State	CA
Provide the zip code for your project/program's primary location.	95827

If your project/program takes place at multiple locations, please list other or secondary locations.	Rancho Cordova Elementary Cordova Villa Elementary Cordova Gardens Elementary White Rock Elementary
Third Party Letters of Support (Note: Combine multiple files in one pdf before uploading)	
Does your project/program involve one of Rancho Cordova's school districts?	Yes
Is the project/program requesting facility use only or is this a request to partner with the school district?	Partner with school on project/program
Please select all the school districts which your project/program intends to involve:	Folsom Cordova USD
Please select one or more of the Folsom Cordova Unified School District school facilities which your project/program will involve:	Cordova Gardens Elementary School Cordova Villa Elementary School Rancho Cordova Elementary School White Rock Elementary School
Have you reached out to a contact at the school(s) you indicated above?	Yes
Please provide the names of your contacts at the school(s) or district(s) who are familiar with your project/program.	Channa Pitt, Assistant Superintendent

Does your project/program involve the Cordova Recreation & Park District?	No
	5 - Applicant Information
Name	Edward King
Is this project/program on behalf of an organization?	Yes
What is the name of your organization?	United Way California Capital Region
What is your title and/or role at your organization?	Chief Program Offiver
Provide contact phone number:	[redacted]
Provide contact email:	edward.king@uwccr.org
Are you the primary point of contact on this project/program?	Yes
If your project/program was awarded the requested funds, are you authorized to sign the contract for your organization?	No, someone else would sign the contract
If selected by the City Council to receive an award, what is the name of the person at your organization who would sign the contract?	Dawnte Early
What is the title of this individual?	President and CEO

What is the best phone number where we could contact the signatory?	[redacted]
What is the best email address to contact the signatory?	dawnte.early@uwccr.org
By checking here, I confirm that I am aware that my application materials will become public record.	checked
	Thank you for applying to the Community Enhancement & Investment Fund Fiscal Year 2026-2027 Grant Cycle. Applicants will receive an automated response through the grant portal. Community Enhancement & Investment Fund (CEIF) Staff will follow up with any questions regarding your Fiscal Year 2026-2027 application. For information about the next steps in the CEIF grant process, visit our website for more information. It is anticipated that applications will be reviewed by the City Council starting in April 2026 with adoption in June 2026. Should applicants be awarded by the City Council, funding would not be available to grantees until the start of Fiscal Year 2026-2027 and the completion of a contract. Please send an email to CEIFGrants@cityofranchocordova.org with any questions or comments.

Internal Form

Score	n/a

United Way California Capital Region KinderCamp Budget

Staffing	Projected	CEIF	Other Funders	IN-Kind	Notes
Summer Counselors	$ 160,000.00	$ 160,000.00	$ -	$ -	Program staffing supported through YMCA
Program Manager	$ 10,275.00	$ -	$ 10,275.00	$ -	Program administration provided by UWCCR
Total Staffing	$ 170,275.00	$ 160,000.00	$ 10,275.00	$ -	
SUPPLIES					
Books	$ 22,400.00	$ 22,400.00	$ -	$ -	Daily book per child to develop home library
T-shirts	$ 1,980.00	$ -	$ 1,980.00	$ -	High quality shirt for graduation ceremony
Backpacks	$ 2,880.00	$ -	$ 2,880.00	$ -	Backpack provided as graduation gift
Graduation materials	$ 4,000.00	0	$ 4,000.00	$ -	School supplies and games provided to graduating particiapnts
Total Supplies	$ 31,260.00	$ 22,400.00	$ 8,860.00	$ -	
Transportation					
Mileage	$ 580.00	$ -	$ 580.00	$ -	Program oversight/site visits during programming
Graduation mileage	$ 1,087.50	$ -	$ 1,087.00	$ -	Volunteer mileage related to graduation activities
Total Transportation	$ 1,667.50	$ -	$ 1,667.00	$ -	
Miscellaneous					
Graduation Food	$ 4,000.00	$ -	$ 4,000.00	$ -	Food services related to graduation ceremonies
Social Media Ads	$ 750.00	$ -	$ 750.00	$ -	Updates to website and targetted outreach
Program flyers and handouts	$ 1,000.00	$ -	$ 1,000.00	$ -	Printed materials for distribution at outreach events
Program Food Services	$ 16,000.00	$ -	$ -	$ 16,000.00	Daily food service for access to healthy lunch
Total Transportation	$ 21,750.00	$ -	$ 5,750.00	$ 16,000.00	
TOTAL COSTS	**$ 224,952.50**	**$ 182,400.00**	**$ 26,552.00**	**$ 16,000.00**	

Title

W. E. Mitchell Middle VEX IQ Robotics Program

03/04/2026

id. 53382509

by **Ashwin Thirunahari** in **Fiscal Year 2026-2027 Community Enhancement & Investment Fund Grant Application**

Falkon Academy
[redacted]
Folsom, California
95630
CA
United States
[redacted]

Original Submission

03/04/2026

Score n/a

	Thank you for your interest in applying to the City of Rancho Cordova's Community Enhancement & Investment Fund. Applications are open from February 9, 2026, to March 13, 2026, Noon (12:00 p.m.) with a specific deadline of March 6th Noon (12:00 p.m.) for certain applications**. Before you begin, please read the notes about deadlines and certain types of grant applications/grants below. **School/Park Application Deadline **Note that projects or programs involving a park or school district have a deadline of March 6 Noon (12:00 p.m.) to allow for the third-party endorsement process by the grant deadline.** A Note about Religious Schools and the Application/Grant Process **Note for grant applications from religious schools. The United States Supreme Court has recently ruled in part that: “denying a generally available benefit [from government] solely on account of religious identity imposes a penalty on the free exercise of religion that can be justified only by a state interest of the highest order.” The City is of the opinion that not all grants to religious schools are prohibited under this and other similar rulings. However, these United States Supreme Court decisions remain in conflict with a section of the California State Constitution that says: “[n]either the Legislature, nor any county, city and county, township, school district, or other municipal corporation, shall ever make an appropriation, or pay from any public fund whatever, or grant anything to or in aid of any religious sect, church, creed, or sectarian purpose, or help to support or sustain any school, college, university, hospital, or other institution controlled by any religious creed, church, or sectarian denomination whatever; nor shall any grant or donation of personal property or real estate ever be made by the state, or any city, city and county, town, or other municipal corporation for any religious creed, church, or sectarian purpose whatever”. The City will accept applications for grants of these City public funds from religious schools, but will have language in the grant agreements to address the possibility and consequences of legal challenges and new court decisions on this and related topics. ** Future Grant Opportunities If you are interested in remaining up-to-date on available grants from the City of Rancho Cordova, click here to sign up for the Grants Interest List. A separate call for programming opportunities with the Rancho Cordova Youth Center is anticipated later in 2026. The list is also used to advertise separate art programs when funds are available. Ongoing Grant Opportunity The City of Rancho Cordova offers a microgrant opportunity. Learn more about those grants online.
Is this your first time applying for grant funding from the City of Rancho Cordova? As a first-time applicant, Community Enhancement & Investment Fund (CEIF) staff will contact you to discuss your project and grant application process.	No: Not a First Time Applicant

	1 - Project/Program Information Note: You can add a collaborator to this form to assist you in completing this application! A collaborator can help you complete this form by filling in fields for you, although only you can submit this form. You can add a collaborator by navigating to the top of the form and clicking on the 'Manage Collaborators' button. Simply enter their email address and click 'invite' to invite them as a collaborator. If you need further assistance, you may consult this Help article for more information.
Project/Program Name. Assign a project name to your project/program.	W. E. Mitchell Middle VEX IQ Robotics Program
Which category does your Project/Program align with?	Youth Programs & Services
Provide a Project/Program Synopsis	Falkon Academy will offer VEX IQ programs for 4th–8th grade students at W.E. Mitchell Middle School: a Robotics Beginners program introducing building and coding fundamentals, and a Recreational Robotics League focused on team challenges and friendly competition. Together, these promote STEM engagement, problem-solving, and teamwork in Rancho Cordova.
Provide a Project/Program Description	Falkon Academy proposes to implement two structured VEX IQ Robotics programs at W.E. Mitchell Middle School serving up to 50 students in grades 4–8. The project includes (1) a Robotics Beginners Program focused on foundational STEM learning and (2) a Recreational Robotics League centered on collaborative team challenges and friendly in-class competition. Both programs aim to cultivate awareness, confidence, and long-term interest in technology and engineering within the Rancho Cordova community. VEX IQ Robotics was selected as the instructional platform because it provides an accessible, hands-on entry point into science, technology, engineering, and mathematics. Using snap-together robotics components and age-appropriate coding software, students learn mechanical design, structural stability, gear systems, sensors, drivetrain concepts, and block-based programming. Participants build functional robots, test improvements, solve design challenges, and apply coding logic to real-world scenarios. The goal is to demonstrate that technology is engaging, creative, and achievable—not intimidating. The Robotics Beginners Program introduces core engineering principles through guided instruction and small-team collaboration. The Recreational Robotics League extends this learning through structured challenges and friendly competitions that emphasize teamwork, sportsmanship, strategic thinking, and iterative problem-solving. Unlike high-pressure travel competitions, the league format provides an inclusive, low-barrier environment where students can experience the excitement of robotics in a supportive setting. The program will be offered on campus at W.E. Mitchell Middle School and will be open to students from neighboring Rancho Cordova schools to

increase community access. Each season will run two hours per week and will be divided into two segments to maintain engagement and improve attendance consistency:

• Fall Season (September–December): Recreational Robotics League
• Spring Season (March–May): Robotics Beginners Program

Falkon Academy has been successfully operating the VEX IQ Robotics program at W.E. Mitchell Middle School for several years, with steady growth in participation. During the most recent cycle, expanded outreach through Back-to-School Nights, Science Days, community events, and targeted social media **resulted in interest from more than 70 students**—exceeding available capacity. Due to staffing and space limitations, several students were placed on a waitlist. This demonstrated demand highlights the need for continued and expanded STEM programming in Rancho Cordova.

Falkon Academy hosted a **final recreation league robotics competition** at Mitchell Middle School that brought together students from Rancho Cordova, Folsom, and El Dorado Hills. The final competition showcase was attended by School Board Member YK Chalam, district leadership including Superintendent Eric Swanson, Principal Dr. Garcia, City Representative Lindsey Samples on behalf of Mayor Siri Pulipati, and numerous parents and community members. This strong regional participation and community presence reflect the program's growing impact and credibility.

VEX Robotics, developed by Innovation First International, is a nationally recognized classroom robotics platform used in schools across the country, including within FCUSD. The VEX IQ system is specifically designed for elementary and middle school students, using durable plastic components and plug-and-play electronics that make engineering concepts approachable while maintaining academic rigor.

Falkon Academy, established in 2022, has served over 200 students in robotics programs. One team has qualified for the VEX World Championship, and four teams have advanced to the State Championship level. Programs are currently offered at Folsom Middle School, Marina Village Middle School, Pleasant Grove Middle School, and through partnerships with Folsom and Rocklin Parks & Recreation. Our mission is to bring high-quality STEM opportunities to local communities and inspire students to pursue future pathways in science and technology.

A central component of this project is equitable access. CEIF funding will reduce financial barriers and allow underserved youth to participate. Funding will support:

1. **Staff Compensation:** Qualified instructors will provide structured curriculum delivery and supervision.
2. **School Room Rental:** Classroom and facility use to ensure a consistent learning environment.
3. **Scholarships and Incentives:** Students facing financial hardship may participate at no cost. Students who maintain at least 80% attendance will receive a $50 STEM Kit upon completion to reinforce commitment and continued hands-on learning beyond the program.

	Through structured robotics instruction, collaborative challenges, and strong community engagement, this project will continue building technical skills, confidence, and sustained interest in STEM among Rancho Cordova youth while strengthening the city's reputation as a growing hub for innovation and education.
Tell us about your Project/Program Team	Organization Name Falkon Academy Some of the key members are: Director/Coach Ashwin Thirunahari Coach Maurice Velandia Coach Cassandra Chen Coach Ayesha Coach Jason Many other Volunteers. **Ashwin Thirunahari** Ashwin Thirunahari has master's in electrical engineering. And has patents on drone technology. Besides Robotics he taught Drone Programming, RC Airplanes, 3D CAD, 3D Printing and other programming classes. **Maurice Velandia** has a degree in electrical engineering, and retired working as computer engineer. He has previously coached underwater robotics team and took them to worlds. This year he coached kids at Mitchell Middle School and Rolling Hills Middle School.

Provide your Project/Program Goals	**1. Increase STEM Awareness and Engagement** Enhance interest and confidence in STEM among 4th–8th grade students through hands-on robotics learning. Success will be measured by enrollment of up to 50 students, completion rates of at least 80%, and post-program surveys indicating increased interest and confidence in STEM concepts. **2. Engage Underserved Students** Targeting underserved communities, we aim to bridge the education gap by providing access to STEM programs. Measurable outcomes include the number of students from underserved backgrounds participating in the VEX IQ Robotics program. **3. Encourage Parental Involvement** Strengthen parent engagement through outreach at school events, informational sessions, and competition showcase days. Success will be measured by parent attendance at program events, volunteer involvement, and parent feedback surveys. **4. Improve Program Retention and Consistency** Implement seasonal, two-hour weekly sessions to maintain student focus and sustained engagement. Success metrics include maintaining at least 80% average attendance and achieving high student satisfaction ratings through end-of-season feedback. **5. Expand Community Reach** Open enrollment to students from neighboring Rancho Cordova schools to broaden community participation. Success will be measured by participation from multiple schools and the number of new students joining the program each season.

Optional File Upload: Provide any additional records to supplement your program/project application. Note: Combine multiple files in one pdf before uploading.

RANCHO_Proposal_Falkon_Mitchell_IQ_26_27.pdf

	2 - Funding & Costs
Funding Request - Complete this section with total dollar amounts for your project/program's costs	Funds are generally not intended to be used for deferred maintenance and ongoing operational needs. The funds are intended for enhancing and investing in the City of Rancho Cordova. If your project/program is awarded, the costs identified below would be reviewed and potentially open to modification during a contracting phase (if a grant is awarded by the City Council). If awarded, grant funds are not available until a contract is executed during Fiscal Year 2026-2027.
Total project/program cost*	11010

What is the amount of Community Enhancement & Investment Fund grant monies requested?	11010
Does your project/program involve construction of any facilities or improvements upon any property?	No
What is the total cost of personnel for your project/program?	6100
What is the total cost of supplies for your project/program?	0
What is the total cost of transportation for your project/program?	0
What is the total cost of equipment for your project/program?	1010
What is the total cost of any miscellaneous expenses for your project/program?	3900

Upload your project/program's budget as a .pdf file. Include the categories and their dollar amounts along with information about any other funding sources to demonstrate your project/program's total budget. Note, the sum of all categories must match the total project or program cost, or the amount requested of CEIF if there is no other funding source. Please clearly illustrate any matching funds or funding from other sources in your project/program budget, including in-kind sources. Note: Combine multiple files in one pdf before uploading.

RANCHO_Proposal_RiverView_Enrichment_26_27_Budget_Only.pdf

Has your organization sought or will seek other funding for this project/program?	No, not seeking any other funding support.

Please explain why you are not seeking any other funding support for your project/program.	Falkon Academy prioritizes keeping this program accessible and affordable for Rancho Cordova families. While we actively invest internal resources into curriculum development, equipment, and administrative coordination, after-school programs at a single school site typically do not generate sufficient revenue to fully cover staffing, facility rental, and scholarship costs—especially when equitable access is a priority. We are not seeking additional overlapping grant funding for this specific program in order to maintain clarity, accountability, and alignment with CEIF's community-focused objectives. CEIF support allows us to directly serve Rancho Cordova students without duplicating funding sources or creating administrative complexity. Our goal is to ensure that funding provided through CEIF remains dedicated to local youth, supports scholarships, and sustains high-quality instruction at W.E. Mitchell Middle School. Continued partnership with CEIF enables us to responsibly scale and maintain this impactful community-based STEM initiative.
Please describe any ongoing operations and maintenance costs beyond Fiscal Year 2026/2027, if applicable.	NONE
Do you have volunteer or in-kind support for your project? This could include volunteers for an activity/event that is ongoing or a one-time experience.	No
Is this a single year request or a request for funding for multiple years?	Single Year
Has your project/program received funding from the Community Enhancement & Investment Fund previously?	Yes

How many years has your project/program received funding from the Community Enhancement & Investment Fund?	2
How much funding has your organization received from the Community Enhancement & Investment Fund through our traditional grants (not including microgrants)?	$20,000
	3 - Project/Program Details Grant applications are typically approved to occur between July 2026 through June 2027. What is your plan to complete this project/program within this time frame?
Anticipated Start Date (July 1 is the soonest available start date)	8/10/2026
Anticipated End Date (typically projects/programs end by June 30)	5/15/2027
Please describe your project/program schedule	August – September Marketing to parents/kids at Mitchell Middle School and Williamson Elementary – through Parent nights. Build 5 teams. With 5 members each. September Start Recreation League Program. January Run Recreation league Competition. 1st program completes. March Start Beginners Program April Run in class competition and conclude the program.

What challenges do you anticipate in your project/program's implementation? What is your plan to complete your project/program should those or other challenges arise?	One anticipated challenge is achieving sufficient enrollment. While interest has grown significantly in recent years, after-school programs can experience fluctuations in participation due to competing activities, transportation constraints, or family schedules. To address this, Falkon Academy will continue multi-channel outreach including flyers, school announcements, parent information nights, science events, and social media promotion. We will also work closely with school administration and counselors to identify students who would benefit from STEM enrichment. If enrollment is lower than expected, we will expand outreach to neighboring schools within Rancho Cordova and offer targeted scholarship placements to increase accessibility. A second challenge is staffing availability. Because the program begins at 3:30 p.m. immediately after school dismissal, it can be difficult to secure qualified instructors who are available during those hours. To mitigate this, Falkon Academy maintains a roster of trained robotics instructors and assistant coaches who can rotate schedules as needed. We also recruit from local colleges and STEM graduates seeking part-time teaching experience. When necessary, we adjust instructor-to-student ratios while maintaining safety and instructional quality. Through proactive recruitment strategies, flexible staffing models, and strong collaboration with school leadership, Falkon Academy is prepared to navigate these challenges and ensure successful implementation of the program.
How many individuals does your project/program serve?	50
How many Rancho Cordova residents does your project/program serve?	50
	4 - Project/Program Location
Address Verification	If you need to check if your project is in Rancho Cordova, type in your program/project's location in the Assessor Parcel Viewer: https://assessorparcelviewer.saccounty.gov/jsviewer/assessor.html

School and park related applications are due before Noon (12:00 p.m.) on March 6, 2026, to allow for the endorsement process.	Please note that projects or programs that are proposed on property owned or operated by outside agencies or a private party will require coordination with and potentially approvals from outside agencies, organizations, and/or the private party. Include whether you have received a letter of support for the project/program from the property owner. Upload any letters of support with your application. City staff will verify third-party permits have been discussed. In your planning discussions, be sure to discuss any necessary insurance or volunteer requirements that may increase budget costs. School Sites If your project/program is intended to operate at a public K-12 school site, your application is due by March 6 at Noon (12:00 p.m.). City staff will work with the school districts to confirm an endorsement for your project/program. It's the applicant's responsibility to communicate with school site and district representatives before applying so there is clarity during the endorsement process. Districts will only consider endorsement for applications submitted to the Community Enhancement & Investment Fund by the March 6 at Noon (12:00 p.m.). deadline. Each participating school superintendent reserves the right to withhold their endorsement of a project/program. Parks If your project/program is intended to operate at a park or community center site, your application is due by the March 6 at Noon (12:00 p.m.). deadline. City staff will work with the Cordova Recreation & Park District to confirm an endorsement for your project/program. It's the applicant's responsibility to communicate with district representatives before applying so there is clarity during the endorsement process. A special use permit application is required for any program or event planned at a CRPD facility. The special use application can be found at the CRPD website: https://www.cordovarpd.gov/. CRPD will only consider endorsement for applications submitted to the Community Enhancement & Investment Fund by the March 6 at Noon (12:00 p.m.). deadline. The Cordova Recreation & Park District reserves the right to withhold their endorsement of a project/program. Below is the list of staff to communicate with at school and park organizations: Folsom Cordova Unified School District: mwest@fcusd.org Cordova Recreation & Park District: cmichelotti@cordovarpd.gov Elk Grove Unified School District: mgulden@egusd.net Sacramento City Unified School District: Tuan-Duong@scusd.edu for Winn and Carver and Enrique-Flores@scusd.edu for Lincoln.
Primary street address of project/program	W. E. Mitchell Middle School
List the city location of the project/program.	Rancho Cordova
Select State	CA
Provide the zip code for your project/program's primary location.	95670

If your project/program takes place at multiple locations, please list other or secondary locations.	NONE
Third Party Letters of Support (Note: Combine multiple files in one pdf before uploading)	
Does your project/program involve one of Rancho Cordova's school districts?	Yes
Is the project/program requesting facility use only or is this a request to partner with the school district?	Partner with school on project/program
Please select all the school districts which your project/program intends to involve:	Folsom Cordova USD
Please select one or more of the Folsom Cordova Unified School District school facilities which your project/program will involve:	Mitchell Middle School
Have you reached out to a contact at the school(s) you indicated above?	Yes
Please provide the names of your contacts at the school(s) or district(s) who are familiar with your project/program.	Dr. Sandra Garcia Principal, W.E. Mitchell Middle School Email: sgarcia@fcusd.org

Does your project/program involve the Cordova Recreation & Park District?	No
	5 - Applicant Information
Name	Ashwin Thirunahari
Is this project/program on behalf of an organization?	Yes
What is the name of your organization?	Falkon Academy
What is your title and/or role at your organization?	Director
Provide contact phone number:	[redacted]
Provide contact email:	info@falkonacademy.com
Are you the primary point of contact on this project/program?	Yes
If your project/program was awarded the requested funds, are you authorized to sign the contract for your organization?	Yes, I would be the one to sign the contract
By checking here, I confirm that I am aware that my application materials will become public record.	checked

Thank you for applying to the Community Enhancement & Investment Fund Fiscal Year 2026-2027 Grant Cycle. Applicants will receive an automated response through the grant portal. Community Enhancement & Investment Fund (CEIF) Staff will follow up with any questions regarding your Fiscal Year 2026-2027 application. For information about the next steps in the CEIF grant process, visit our website for more information. It is anticipated that applications will be reviewed by the City Council starting in April 2026 with adoption in June 2026. Should applicants be awarded by the City Council, funding would not be available to grantees until the start of Fiscal Year 2026-2027 and the completion of a contract. Please send an email to CEIFGrants@cityofranchocordova.org with any questions or comments.

Internal Form

Score	n/a

Project Name : W. E. Mitchell Middle VEX IQ Robotics Program

Contact: Falkon Academy,
Director, Ashwin Thirunahari
Phone Number: [redacted]

[redacted]

Expenses Outline:

Equipment Costs	Cost
5 VEX IQ Competition Kit (one spare) ($650 each) Paid through 2023-2024 Funding	$0
1 VEX IQ Pitching Field. Paid through 2023-2024 Funding	$0
2 VEX IQ Brain and Remote replacements	$510
2 VEX IQ Field Elements	$200
Spare parts/Replacements	$500
Mini Competition Costs	$0
Total Cost of Equipment	**$1010**

Note: The kits and the fields have been purchased in year 2023-2024. The Kits last around 3yrs.

Execution Costs	Cost
Cost of Coaching: 2hrs a week Three coaches and a manager. One coach per 12kids.	
Session 1 (Sep to Jan)	$4600
Session 2 (Mar to May)	$1500
School Room Rental for 150hrs payment to FCUSD	$800
Insurance and overhead	$800
Marketing Costs (Flyers)	$300
Incentives/Rewards for 80% attendance. $40 each for 50kids	$2000
Total cost of Execution	**$10,000**

Total Cost of the program: $11,010

CITY OF RANCHO CORDOVA
FISCAL YEAR 2026/2027 GRANT APPLICATION
COMMUNITY ENHANCEMENT & INVESTMENT FUND

"Bring STEM Education to the community in need."

Project Name : W. E. Mitchell Middle VEX IQ Robotics Program

Contact: Falkon Academy
Director, Ashwin Thirunahari

[redacted]

[redacted]

Project Synopsis:

Falkon Academy will provide a **VEX IQ Robotics program** for 4th–8th grade students at W.E. Mitchell Middle School, introductory instruction with a recreational robotics league. Students will build, code, and compete while developing problem-solving, teamwork, and STEM skills, expanding access to engaging, hands-on learning opportunities in Rancho Cordova.

Falkon Academy will offer VEX IQ programs for 4th–8th grade students at W.E. Mitchell Middle School: a Robotics Beginners program introducing building and coding fundamentals, and a Recreational Robotics League focused on team challenges and friendly competition. Together, these promote STEM engagement, problem-solving, and teamwork in Rancho Cordova.

Project Description:

Falkon Academy proposes to implement two structured VEX IQ Robotics programs at W.E. Mitchell Middle School serving up to 50 students in grades 4–8. The project includes (1) a Robotics Beginners Program focused on foundational STEM learning and (2) a Recreational Robotics League centered on collaborative team challenges and friendly in-class competition. Both programs aim to cultivate awareness, confidence, and long-term interest in technology and engineering within the Rancho Cordova community.

VEX IQ Robotics was selected as the instructional platform because it provides an accessible, hands-on entry point into science, technology, engineering, and mathematics. Using snap-together robotics components and age-appropriate coding software, students learn mechanical design, structural stability, gear systems, sensors, drivetrain concepts, and block-based programming. Participants build functional robots, test improvements, solve design challenges, and apply coding logic to real-world scenarios. The goal is to demonstrate that technology is engaging, creative, and achievable—not intimidating.

The Robotics Beginners Program introduces core engineering principles through guided instruction and small-team collaboration. The Recreational Robotics League extends this learning through structured challenges and friendly competitions that emphasize teamwork, sportsmanship, strategic thinking, and iterative problem-solving. Unlike high-pressure travel competitions, the league format provides an inclusive, low-barrier environment where students can experience the excitement of robotics in a supportive setting.

The program will be offered on campus at W.E. Mitchell Middle School and will be open to students from neighboring Rancho Cordova schools to increase community access. Each season will run two hours per week and will be divided into two segments to maintain engagement and improve attendance consistency:

- Fall Season (September–December): Recreational Robotics League
- Spring Season (March–May): Robotics Beginners Program

Falkon Academy has been successfully operating the VEX IQ Robotics program at W.E. Mitchell Middle School for several years, with steady growth in participation. During the most recent cycle, expanded outreach through Back-to-School Nights, Science Days, community events, and targeted social media **resulted in interest from more than 70 students**—exceeding available capacity. Due to staffing and space limitations, several students were placed on a waitlist. This demonstrated demand highlights the need for continued and expanded STEM programming in Rancho Cordova.

Falkon Academy hosted a **final recreation league robotics competition** at Mitchell Middle School that brought together students from Rancho Cordova, Folsom, and El Dorado Hills. The final competition showcase was attended by School Board Member YK Chalam, district leadership including Superintendent Eric Swanson, Principal Dr. Garcia, City Representative Lindsey Samples on behalf of Mayor Siri Pulipati, and numerous parents and community members. This strong regional participation and community presence reflect the program's growing impact and credibility.

VEX Robotics, developed by Innovation First International, is a nationally recognized classroom robotics platform used in schools across the country, including within FCUSD. The VEX IQ system is specifically designed for elementary and middle school students, using durable plastic components and plug-and-play electronics that make engineering concepts approachable while maintaining academic rigor.

Falkon Academy, established in 2022, has served over 200 students in robotics programs. One team has qualified for the VEX World Championship, and four teams have advanced to the State Championship level. Programs are currently offered at Folsom Middle School, Marina Village Middle School, Pleasant Grove Middle School, and through partnerships with Folsom and Rocklin Parks & Recreation. Our mission is to bring high-quality STEM opportunities to local communities and inspire students to pursue future pathways in science and technology.

A central component of this project is equitable access. CEIF funding will reduce financial barriers and allow underserved youth to participate. Funding will support:

1. **Staff Compensation:** Qualified instructors will provide structured curriculum delivery and supervision.
2. **School Room Rental:** Classroom and facility use to ensure a consistent learning environment.
3. **Scholarships and Incentives:** Students facing financial hardship may participate at no cost. Students who maintain at least 80% attendance will receive a $50 STEM Kit upon completion to reinforce commitment and continued hands-on learning beyond the program.

Through structured robotics instruction, collaborative challenges, and strong community engagement, this project will continue building technical skills, confidence, and sustained interest in STEM among Rancho Cordova youth while strengthening the city's reputation as a growing hub for innovation and education.

Website : https://www.falkonacademy.com

Facebook: https://www.facebook.com/falkonacademy

Below is a description of VEX IQ kits:

	VEX IQ is a snap-together **robotics** system, making it fast and easy to build an endless variety of robots. Watch code come alive on a physical robot and apply key STEM skills. Organized parts storage reduces classroom clutter **IQ** Electronics are Simple, Flexible and Powerful Students can build and change their robots fast. This is for kids from 4th grade to 7th grade.

Falkon Robotics Project Team:

Organization Name	Falkon Academy
Some of the key members are:	
Director/Coach	Ashwin Thirunahari
Coach	Maurice Velandia

About Falkon Academy: Founded by Ashwin Thirunahari**,** has offered VEX IQ and VEX V5 Robotics classes in Folsom Middle School, Marina Village Middle School and Pleasant Grove Middle School. This organization has taught robotics to more than 200kids since yr 2022. We had representation from Mangini Ranch Elementary, Russell Ranch Elementary, Mather Heights Elementary, Lake Forest Elementary in this program.

Ashwin Thirunahari Ashwin Thirunahari has master's in electrical engineering. And has patents on drone technology. Besides Robotics he taught Drone Programming, RC Airplanes, 3D CAD, 3D Printing and other programming classes.

Maurice Velandia has a degree in electrical engineering, and retired working as computer engineer. He has previously coached underwater robotics team and took them to worlds. This year he coached kids at Mitchell Middle School and Rolling Hills Middle School.

Project Timeline:

August – September	Marketing to parents/kids at Mitchell Middle School and Williamson Elementary – through Parent nights. Build 5 teams. With 5 members each.
September	Start Recreation League across schools.
January	Run league competition. 1st program completes.
March	Start Beginners Program
April	Run in class competition and conclude the program.

Project Goals:

1. Increase STEM Awareness and Engagement
Enhance interest and confidence in STEM among 4th–8th grade students through hands-on robotics learning. Success will be measured by enrollment of up to 50 students, completion rates of at least 80%, and post-program surveys indicating increased interest and confidence in STEM concepts.

2. Engage Underserved Students
Targeting underserved communities, we aim to bridge the education gap by providing access to STEM programs. Measurable outcomes include the number of students from underserved backgrounds participating in the VEX IQ Robotics program.

3. Encourage Parental Involvement
Strengthen parent engagement through outreach at school events, informational sessions, and competition showcase days. Success will be measured by parent attendance at program events, volunteer involvement, and parent feedback surveys.

4. Improve Program Retention and Consistency
Implement seasonal, two-hour weekly sessions to maintain student focus and sustained engagement. Success metrics include maintaining at least 80% average attendance and achieving high student satisfaction ratings through end-of-season feedback.

5. Expand Community Reach
Open enrollment to students from neighboring Rancho Cordova schools to broaden community participation. Success will be measured by participation from multiple schools and the number of new students joining the program each season.

Metrics for Progress Measurement:

Enrollment Rates: Track the number of students enrolled in each session, comparing the enrollment figures between the two sessions.

Student Retention: Monitor the number of students completing the program and returning for subsequent sessions, identifying any drop-offs and addressing reasons for discontinuation.

Participant Feedback: Gather feedback from both students and parents regarding their experience, satisfaction, and suggestions for improvement.

Expenses Outline:

Equipment Costs	Cost
5 VEX IQ Competition Kit (one spare) ($650 each) Paid through 2023-2024 Funding	$0
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Marketing Costs (Flyers)	$300
Incentives/Rewards for 80% attendance. $40 each for 50kids	$2000
Total cost of Execution	**$10,000**

Total Cost of the program: $11,010

Is this a multiyear request? NO

How many years have you received funding for this project? 1

Do you plan to ask annually for funding?

Yes. To pay for the facilities and coaching.

What other funding will you seek to support your project? None

Adaptability

Although Robotics Programs are better experienced at a central location in a classroom setting. But we can still run the programs virtually.

We can run Virtual Reality Robotics Programs. This is another great learning experience. This builds a different set of programming skills and is very innovative.

What challenges do you anticipate in your project/program's implementation? What is your plan to complete your project/program should those or other challenges arise?(required)

One anticipated challenge is achieving sufficient enrollment. While interest has grown significantly in recent years, after-school programs can experience fluctuations in participation due to competing activities, transportation constraints, or family schedules. To address this, Falkon Academy will continue multi-channel outreach including flyers, school announcements, parent information nights, science events, and social media promotion. We will also work closely with school administration and counselors to identify students who would benefit from STEM enrichment. If enrollment is lower than expected, we will expand outreach to neighboring schools within Rancho Cordova and offer targeted scholarship placements to increase accessibility.

A second challenge is staffing availability. Because the program begins at 3:30 p.m. immediately after school dismissal, it can be difficult to secure qualified instructors who are available during those hours. To mitigate this, Falkon Academy maintains a roster of trained robotics instructors and assistant coaches who can rotate schedules as needed. We also recruit from local colleges and STEM graduates seeking part-time teaching experience. When necessary, we adjust instructor-to-student ratios while maintaining safety and instructional quality.

Through proactive recruitment strategies, flexible staffing models, and strong collaboration with school leadership, Falkon Academy is prepared to navigate these challenges and ensure successful implementation of the program.

Physical Address/School District

The program will be run at “W. E. Mitchell Middle School” in Rancho Cordova. We have already discussed the possibility of running this program with the principal.

Application Submitted by

Name:	Ashwin Thirunahari
Title:	Director
[redacted]	[redacted]
[redacted]	[redacted]
Organization's Legal Name (if applicable):	Falkon Academy
[redacted]	[redacted]

Signatory (Same as above)

Signatory's Name:	Ashwin Thirunahari
Title:	Director
Phone:	[redacted]
Email:	[redacted]
Mailing Address:	1992 Larkhall Cir. Folsom CA 95630

Closing Comments:

As outlined in this proposal, there is a growing need for accessible STEM programs such as robotics within our community. With rapid advancements in autonomous vehicles, robotics in agriculture, and artificial intelligence applications, exposure to technology and engineering concepts is more critical than ever. Preparing students for tomorrow's workforce requires more than traditional classroom instruction—it requires hands-on, applied learning experiences.

However, high-quality technology programs come with significant costs, including specialized equipment and trained instructional staff. Without grant support, these opportunities can remain out of reach for many families, particularly those facing financial hardship.

CEIF funding plays a vital role in bridging this gap. By supporting this initiative, we can expand equitable access to robotics education, inspire innovation, and strengthen Rancho Cordova's position as a forward-thinking community invested in preparing its youth for the future.

Together, we can build the next generation of problem-solvers, engineers, and technology leaders.

Below are some of the pictures:

	The Robotics class with coach, Dr. Garcia – Principal of Mitchell Middle School , Siri Pulipati – Rancho Cordova City Mayor, Chris Clark FCUSD Board Member – Parents and all the wonderful coaches and most importantly the kids who participated in the program and competed.
	On the competition day with Mr. Eric Swanson FCUSD Superintendent.

FALKON

NOTES:

Link used to apply:
https://accounts.submittable.com/u/login/identifier?state=hKFo2SBBLXFlaWpKTVhrU3Y3cVlJVEhaVm1tUENmeGlOb0Rzb6Fur3VuaXZlcnNhbC1sb2dpbqN0aWTZIFItbTkyZm4yc3phRkp0ZVItSkhuWGxpWnBSWUFKZ2pwo2NpZNkgRmZpZ1l1TFp1VFVQdkNKQktxWlBOcHIzMzBtRk1lM3M

Title

Project Optimism Mentoring Sessions (POMS)

03/05/2026

id. 53393951

by **Kyari Cail** in **Fiscal Year 2026-2027 Community Enhancement & Investment Fund Grant Application**

2815 Gunn Road
Sacramento, California
95608
CA
United States
[redacted]
kcail@projectoptimism.org

Original Submission

03/05/2026

Score n/a

	Thank you for your interest in applying to the City of Rancho Cordova's Community Enhancement & Investment Fund. Applications are open from February 9, 2026, to March 13, 2026, Noon (12:00 p.m.) with a specific deadline of March 6th Noon (12:00 p.m.) for certain applications**. Before you begin, please read the notes about deadlines and certain types of grant applications/grants below. **School/Park Application Deadline **Note that projects or programs involving a park or school district have a deadline of March 6 Noon (12:00 p.m.) to allow for the third-party endorsement process by the grant deadline.** A Note about Religious Schools and the Application/Grant Process **Note for grant applications from religious schools. The United States Supreme Court has recently ruled in part that: “denying a generally available benefit [from government] solely on account of religious identity imposes a penalty on the free exercise of religion that can be justified only by a state interest of the highest order.” The City is of the opinion that not all grants to religious schools are prohibited under this and other similar rulings. However, these United States Supreme Court decisions remain in conflict with a section of the California State Constitution that says: “[n]either the Legislature, nor any county, city and county, township, school district, or other municipal corporation, shall ever make an appropriation, or pay from any public fund whatever, or grant anything to or in aid of any religious sect, church, creed, or sectarian purpose, or help to support or sustain any school, college, university, hospital, or other institution controlled by any religious creed, church, or sectarian denomination whatever; nor shall any grant or donation of personal property or real estate ever be made by the state, or any city, city and county, town, or other municipal corporation for any religious creed, church, or sectarian purpose whatever”. The City will accept applications for grants of these City public funds from religious schools, but will have language in the grant agreements to address the possibility and consequences of legal challenges and new court decisions on this and related topics. ** Future Grant Opportunities If you are interested in remaining up-to-date on available grants from the City of Rancho Cordova, click here to sign up for the Grants Interest List. A separate call for programming opportunities with the Rancho Cordova Youth Center is anticipated later in 2026. The list is also used to advertise separate art programs when funds are available. Ongoing Grant Opportunity The City of Rancho Cordova offers a microgrant opportunity. Learn more about those grants online.
Is this your first time applying for grant funding from the City of Rancho Cordova? As a first-time applicant, Community Enhancement & Investment Fund (CEIF) staff will contact you to discuss your project and grant application process.	Yes: First Time Applicant

	1 - Project/Program Information Note: You can add a collaborator to this form to assist you in completing this application! A collaborator can help you complete this form by filling in fields for you, although only you can submit this form. You can add a collaborator by navigating to the top of the form and clicking on the 'Manage Collaborators' button. Simply enter their email address and click 'invite' to invite them as a collaborator. If you need further assistance, you may consult this Help article for more information.
Project/Program Name. Assign a project name to your project/program.	Project Optimism Mentoring Sessions (POMS)
Which category does your Project/Program align with?	Youth Programs & Services
Provide a Project/Program Synopsis	Project Optimism (PO) will implement a culturally responsive mentorship and leadership development program that provides school-based mentoring and social-emotional learning enrichment activities for youth. The program strengthens identity, belonging, and leadership skills that support positive youth development and success coaching.
Provide a Project/Program Description	Project Optimism (PO) proposes to implement the Project Optimism Mentoring Sessions (POMS) program in partnership with Folsom Cordova Unified School District, specifically serving students at Cordova Villa Elementary and Cordova Meadows Elementary through a structured cohort-based model of 30 students per cohort per school (60 students total). This school-based mentorship and social-emotional learning initiative is designed to support at-promise youth through culturally responsive programming that strengthens belonging, positive identity, and academic engagement, while aligning with the City's Community Enhancement & Investment priorities related to youth development, community well-being, and educational support. The program also aligns with Folsom Cordova Unified School District's vision of empowering students to thrive through educational excellence and its commitment to transformative social-emotional learning and culturally responsive instruction. Through this partnership, PO will deliver consistent, on-campus mentoring sessions, small-group social-emotional learning workshops, and youth listening sessions tailored to each cohort. Each school will host a cohort of 30 students, identified through nominations from school site personnel such as counselors, teachers, and administrators, ensuring that students who would most benefit from additional social-emotional and mentorship support are intentionally prioritized. Programming is grounded in trauma-informed practices, the Search Institute's Developmental Assets framework, and culturally affirming curriculum that reflects the lived experiences of the students served. Core workshop topics include sense of belonging, emotional regulation, peer relationships, confidence building, and leadership development. The need for these supports is significant. At Cordova Villa Elementary, 86.5% of students are socioeconomically disadvantaged and 33.9% are English

Learners, while Cordova Meadows serves 89.3% socioeconomically disadvantaged students and nearly half of students are English Learners.

These demographics highlight the importance of culturally responsive mentorship and social-emotional supports that strengthen student engagement and well-being. While our signature program operates in a structured cohort model, PO also adapts services to meet broader campus needs. In collaboration with Folsom Cordova Unified staff, we will provide school-wide engagement opportunities such as lunch-time engagement, interactive workshops, Optimism Family Days, and other partner-requested activities that promote positive school climate and community connection.

This flexible approach allows the program to impact not only the 30-student cohorts at each school but also the wider student body and families through inclusive programming that reinforces social-emotional learning and belonging across the campus environment. These efforts support the district's community school model, which emphasizes integrated student support, family engagement, collaborative leadership, and expanded learning opportunities.

This tailored service model benefits the community by providing intensive, relationship-centered support while also contributing to overall campus culture. Many students at these campuses experience social-emotional stressors, academic disengagement, and limited access to consistent mentorship. Serving 30 students per cohort per school allows PO to provide individualized attention, consistent mentor check-ins, and measurable progress tracking, while campus-wide engagements create safe spaces for peer connection, identity affirmation, and positive youth interaction.

A key component of the project is the intentional recruitment and training of culturally responsive mentors, including transitional-age young adults (ages 18–26) who receive professional development in youth development, facilitation, and leadership. These mentors serve as near-peer role models who reflect the identities and experiences of the students, strengthening relational trust and cultural relevance within the school environment.

PO will measure success through cohort attendance tracking, pre- and post-assessments, mentor observation logs, campus engagement participation data, and ongoing feedback from school staff. Expected outcomes include increased student sense of belonging, improved social-emotional competencies, stronger peer and mentor relationships, enhanced classroom engagement, and strengthened family-school-community connections.

Overall, this partnership with Folsom Cordova Unified represents a strategic, high-impact investment in youth development and community enhancement by strengthening school climate, expanding access to mentorship, and fostering positive outcomes for students, families, and the broader school community.

Tell us about your Project/Program Team	The project will be implemented by Project Optimism's experienced youth development team. The Director of Youth Programs provides strategic oversight and program quality assurance. The Program Manager oversees implementation and coordination with Folsom Cordova Unified School District. Two Program Coordinators manage day-to-day operations at Cordova Villa and Cordova Meadows. Four Youth Mentor Leads facilitate curriculum delivery and student success coaching, while four trained After School Youth Mentors provide direct mentoring, individualized success coaching, small-group sessions, and campus engagement activities to ensure consistent, culturally responsive support for participating students.
Provide your Project/Program Goals	**Goal 1: Increase students' sense of belonging and social-emotional competencies.** PO will serve two cohorts of 30 students (one per school) through consistent mentoring and SEL sessions. Progress will be measured through pre- and post-surveys, reflection journals, and attendance logs, with a target of at least a 20% increase in reported belonging and emotional skill growth. **Goal 2: Improve student engagement and positive school climate.** The program will provide weekly cohort sessions and frequent campus-wide engagement activities. Metrics include participation rates and teacher/staff feedback, with a goal of 75% average attendance and increased positive classroom participation among cohort students. **Goal 3: Provide culturally responsive mentorship and individualized support.** Students will receive success coaching delivered by trained Youth Mentor Leads. Progress will be tracked through mentor observation logs, student goal trackers, and case notes to ensure tailored support and measurable developmental growth. **Goal 4: Maintain focused and high-quality program implementation.** The project team will remain focused through structured session plans, weekly staff check-ins, data tracking systems, and ongoing coordination with Folsom Cordova Unified staff. Continuous review of attendance, survey data, and partner feedback will guide program adjustments and ensure alignment with project goals and community needs.
Optional File Upload: Provide any additional records to supplement your program/project application. Note: Combine multiple files in one pdf before uploading.	
	2 - Funding & Costs

Funding Request - Complete this section with total dollar amounts for your project/program's costs	Funds are generally not intended to be used for deferred maintenance and ongoing operational needs. The funds are intended for enhancing and investing in the City of Rancho Cordova. If your project/program is awarded, the costs identified below would be reviewed and potentially open to modification during a contracting phase (if a grant is awarded by the City Council). If awarded, grant funds are not available until a contract is executed during Fiscal Year 2026-2027.
Total project/program cost*	237893.50
What is the amount of Community Enhancement & Investment Fund grant monies requested?	157400.18
Does your project/program involve construction of any facilities or improvements upon any property?	No
What is the total cost of personnel for your project/program?	226013.50
What is the total cost of supplies for your project/program?	10800
What is the total cost of transportation for your project/program?	0
What is the total cost of equipment for your project/program?	0
What is the total cost of any miscellaneous expenses for your project/program?	1080

Upload your project/program's budget as a .pdf file. Include the categories and their dollar amounts along with information about any other funding sources to demonstrate your project/program's total budget. Note, the sum of all categories must match the total project or program cost, or the amount requested of CEIF if there is no other funding source. Please clearly illustrate any matching funds or funding from other sources in your project/program budget, including in-kind sources. Note: Combine multiple files in one pdf before uploading.

Has your organization sought or will seek other funding for this project/program?	Yes, actively seeking funding support or have secured additional funding support for this project/program.
Describe any funding secured or being sought for this project/program.	Project Optimism has secured and continues to leverage multiple funding sources to support this program and ensure long-term sustainability. Current funding includes state and city-level investments, such as Sierra Health Foundation – Elevate Youth California Standard Track 7, the City of Sacramento – Sacramento Children's Fund, and California Volunteers – California Men's Service Challenge. These investments support personnel, mentorship programming, and youth leadership development activities aligned with the proposed project. In addition, aside from our Director of Operations who oversees all grant management and compliance, Project Optimism has recently retained a fund development consultant to support diversifying funding opportunities and strengthening long-term revenue strategies. As part of our 2030 Sustainability Plan, we are intentionally leveraging current state and city funding to pursue additional federal funding opportunities, positioning the organization for greater stability and expanded impact over the next several fiscal years.
Please describe any ongoing operations and maintenance costs beyond Fiscal Year 2026/2027, if applicable.	N/A
Do you have volunteer or in-kind support for your project? This could include volunteers for an activity/event that is ongoing or a one-time experience.	No
Is this a single year request or a request for funding for multiple years?	Multiple Years
If requesting CEIF grant funding for multiple years, please share how many years?	3

For requests spanning multiple years, share the dollar amount requested per year.	FY 2026–2027, $150,400.18 FY 2027–2028, $150,000 FY 2028-2029: $150,000
For projects/programs that span multiple years, please describe your sustainability plan and whether it is viable as a single year request.	PO's sustainability plan focuses on diversifying funding sources and leveraging existing public and philanthropic investments to sustain programming over time. Current state and city-level funding supports core program infrastructure, while additional revenue is pursued through federal grants, private foundations, and local partnerships. To strengthen these efforts, PO has designated staff with specific time and effort allocated toward sustainability and fund development activities, including grant management, partnership cultivation, and identifying new funding opportunities. This work is further supported by a fund development consultant who is helping guide diversification strategies as part of the organization's 2030 Sustainability Plan. While this project is designed to operate across multiple years to ensure continuity of services for students and school partners, the program is viable as a single-year request. If funded for one year, PO would implement the full program cycle while continuing to pursue complementary funding sources to sustain and expand services in subsequent years.
Has your project/program received funding from the Community Enhancement & Investment Fund previously?	No
	3 - Project/Program Details Grant applications are typically approved to occur between July 2026 through June 2027. What is your plan to complete this project/program within this time frame?
Anticipated Start Date (July 1 is the soonest available start date)	7/1/2026
Anticipated End Date (typically projects/programs end by June 30)	6/30/2027

Please describe your project/program schedule	The proposed program will operate on a 12-month schedule, beginning July 1, 2026 and concluding June 30, 2027, in partnership with Folsom Cordova Unified School District at Cordova Villa Elementary and Cordova Meadows Elementary. During July–August 2026, the team will conduct planning, staff training, school coordination, and student cohort nominations in collaboration with school site personnel. From September 2026 through May 2027, program implementation will begin with weekly cohort-based mentoring sessions (30 students per cohort per school), small-group social-emotional learning workshops, and ongoing mentor check-ins aligned with the academic calendar. Even further, services will include consistent success coaching, campus-wide engagements, an annual Family Experience, as well as progress monitoring through attendance tracking, surveys, and staff coordination meetings. By June 2027, the project will conclude with final evaluations, data analysis, partner feedback collection, and a program reflection process to assess outcomes, sustainability, and future service alignment with district and community needs.
What challenges do you anticipate in your project/program's implementation? What is your plan to complete your project/program should those or other challenges arise?	Potential challenges include student attendance fluctuations, competing school priorities, and scheduling coordination with school staff. To mitigate this, PO maintains strong communication with school partners, adapts programming to site needs, and offers flexible engagement formats such as lunch sessions and workshops to ensure consistent participation and successful program delivery.
How many individuals does your project/program serve?	300
How many Rancho Cordova residents does your project/program serve?	60
	4 - Project/Program Location
Address Verification	If you need to check if your project is in Rancho Cordova, type in your program/project's location in the Assessor Parcel Viewer: https://assessorparcelviewer.saccounty.gov/jsviewer/assessor.html

School and park related applications are due before Noon (12:00 p.m.) on March 6, 2026, to allow for the endorsement process.	Please note that projects or programs that are proposed on property owned or operated by outside agencies or a private party will require coordination with and potentially approvals from outside agencies, organizations, and/or the private party. Include whether you have received a letter of support for the project/program from the property owner. Upload any letters of support with your application. City staff will verify third-party permits have been discussed. In your planning discussions, be sure to discuss any necessary insurance or volunteer requirements that may increase budget costs. School Sites If your project/program is intended to operate at a public K-12 school site, your application is due by March 6 at Noon (12:00 p.m.). City staff will work with the school districts to confirm an endorsement for your project/program. It's the applicant's responsibility to communicate with school site and district representatives before applying so there is clarity during the endorsement process. Districts will only consider endorsement for applications submitted to the Community Enhancement & Investment Fund by the March 6 at Noon (12:00 p.m.). deadline. Each participating school superintendent reserves the right to withhold their endorsement of a project/program. Parks If your project/program is intended to operate at a park or community center site, your application is due by the March 6 at Noon (12:00 p.m.). deadline. City staff will work with the Cordova Recreation & Park District to confirm an endorsement for your project/program. It's the applicant's responsibility to communicate with district representatives before applying so there is clarity during the endorsement process. A special use permit application is required for any program or event planned at a CRPD facility. The special use application can be found at the CRPD website: https://www.cordovarpd.gov/. CRPD will only consider endorsement for applications submitted to the Community Enhancement & Investment Fund by the March 6 at Noon (12:00 p.m.). deadline. The Cordova Recreation & Park District reserves the right to withhold their endorsement of a project/program. Below is the list of staff to communicate with at school and park organizations: Folsom Cordova Unified School District: mwest@fcusd.org Cordova Recreation & Park District: cmichelotti@cordovarpd.gov Elk Grove Unified School District: mgulden@egusd.net Sacramento City Unified School District: Tuan-Duong@scusd.edu for Winn and Carver and Enrique-Flores@scusd.edu for Lincoln.
Primary street address of project/program	2550 La Loma Dr
List the city location of the project/program.	Rancho Cordova
Select State	CA
Provide the zip code for your project/program's primary location.	95670

If your project/program takes place at multiple locations, please list other or secondary locations.	Cordova Villa Elementary, 10359 S White Rock Rd, Rancho Cordova, CA 95670

Third Party Letters of Support (Note: Combine multiple files in one pdf before uploading)

FCUSD_LOS_March_2026.pdf

Does your project/program involve one of Rancho Cordova's school districts?	Yes
Is the project/program requesting facility use only or is this a request to partner with the school district?	Partner with school on project/program
Please select all the school districts which your project/program intends to involve:	Folsom Cordova USD
Please select one or more of the Folsom Cordova Unified School District school facilities which your project/program will involve:	Cordova Meadows Elementary School Cordova Villa Elementary School
Have you reached out to a contact at the school(s) you indicated above?	Yes
Please provide the names of your contacts at the school(s) or district(s) who are familiar with your project/program.	Carla Gaymon-Davis; cgaymondavis@fcusd.org; [redacted]

Does your project/program involve the Cordova Recreation & Park District?	No
	5 - Applicant Information
Name	Kyari Cail
Is this project/program on behalf of an organization?	Yes
What is the name of your organization?	Project Optimsim
What is your title and/or role at your organization?	Director of Operations
Provide contact phone number:	+[redacted]
Provide contact email:	kcail@projectoptimism.org
Are you the primary point of contact on this project/program?	Yes
If your project/program was awarded the requested funds, are you authorized to sign the contract for your organization?	No, someone else would sign the contract
If selected by the City Council to receive an award, what is the name of the person at your organization who would sign the contract?	Ishmael Pruitt
What is the title of this individual?	CEO

What is the best phone number where we could contact the signatory?	+[redacted]
What is the best email address to contact the signatory?	ipruitt@projectoptimism.org
By checking here, I confirm that I am aware that my application materials will become public record.	checked
	Thank you for applying to the Community Enhancement & Investment Fund Fiscal Year 2026-2027 Grant Cycle. Applicants will receive an automated response through the grant portal. Community Enhancement & Investment Fund (CEIF) Staff will follow up with any questions regarding your Fiscal Year 2026-2027 application. For information about the next steps in the CEIF grant process, visit our website for more information. It is anticipated that applications will be reviewed by the City Council starting in April 2026 with adoption in June 2026. Should applicants be awarded by the City Council, funding would not be available to grantees until the start of Fiscal Year 2026-2027 and the completion of a contract. Please send an email to CEIFGrants@cityofranchocordova.org with any questions or comments.

Internal Form

Score	n/a

PROGRAM PROJECT BUDGET			
Organization Name: Project Optimism			
Project Name: Project Optimism Mentoring Sessions (POMS)			
PROJECT EXPENSES	**COLUMN A** Amount of Project Expense *from source other than CEIF Grant*	**COLUMN B** Amount Requested from CEIF Grant	**COLUMN A+B =** Grand Total
Personnel:			
Title: Program Coordinator 1| FTE (33%)	$ 4,024.70	$ 16,100.30	$ 20,125.00
Title: Program Coordinator 2| FTE (33%)	$ -	$ 20,125.38	$ -
Title: Youth Mentor Leads (6) | PTE	$ -	$ 85,146.00	$ 85,146.00
Title: Program Manager | FTE (50%)	$ 33,831.00	$ -	
Title: Director of Operations | FTE (25%)	$ 24,148.50	$ -	$ 24,148.50
Title: Director of Youth Programs | FTE (50%)	$ 72,445.50	$ 24,148.50	$ 96,594.00
Operating/Production Expenses:			
Facilities (rent or overhead expenses)	$ -	$ -	$ -
Equipment (rental or purchase)	$ -	$ -	$ -
Supplies	$ -	$ 10,800.00	$ 10,800.00
Printing	$ -	$ -	$ -
Advertising, promotion	$ -	$ -	$ -
Meeting/Travel	$ -	$ -	$ -
Optimism Family Experience Events (2)	$ -	$ 1,080.00	$ 1,080.00
TOTAL PROJECT EXPENSES	**$ 134,449.70**	**$ 157,400.18**	**$ 237,893.50**

SOURCES OF PROJECT REVENUE:	COLUMN A Secured Funding	COLUMN B Pending Funding	COLUMN A + B = Grand Total
Sierra Heatlh Foundation: Elevate Youth California Standard Track 7	$ 96,594.00	$ -	$ -
City of Sacramento: Sacramento Children's Fund	$ 112,989.70		$ -
California Volunteers: California Men's Service Challenge	$ 16,250.00	$ -	$ -
TOTAL PROJECT REVENUE	**$ 225,833.70**	**$ -**	**$ -**

TOTAL PROJECT EXPENSE	**$ 237,893.50**
TOTAL SECURED FUNDING	$ 225,833.70
TOTAL PROJECT EXPENSE LESS SECURED	$ 12,059.80

Budget Narrative

Program Coordinator 1 (FTE, 33%): This position has an annual cost of $60,986, based on $26 per hour for a full-time schedule (40 hours/week for 52 weeks) and including 12.77% payroll taxes and fringe benefits. 33% of the staff member's time (approximately 13 hours per week) will support implementation of program activities, totaling $20,125.38. However, PO is requesting $16,100.30 toward this position from the grant, with the remaining cost supported through other funding sources.

Program Coordinator 2 (FTE, 33%): This position has an annual cost of $60,986, based on $26 per hour for a full-time schedule (40 hours/week for 52 weeks) and including 12.77% payroll taxes and fringe benefits. 33% of the staff member's time (approximately 13 hours per week) will support implementation of program activities, totaling $20,125.38.

Youth Mentor Leads (PTE, 6 total):Part-time employees who are additional administrative support for the Program Coordinator, who are also trained to facilitate all program activities. Each individual wages is $22.00 per hour for approximately 12 hours a week for 52 weeks during the grant term. Includes 12.77% fringe benefits and payroll taxes, totalling $85,146.00

Program Manager (FTE, 50%): This expenditure is supported through our funding partners listed. This full-time employee supports overall program implementation and administrative coordination. The position has an annual salary of $60,000, and with 12.77% fringe benefits and payroll taxes, the total annual personnel cost is $67,662.00. 50% of the employee's time and effort (approximately 20 hours per week) will be dedicated to grant-supported activities, totaling $33,831.00 allocated to the project.

Director of Operations (FTE, 25%): This expenditure is supported through our funding partners listed. This full-time employee oversees grant management deliverables, reporting, and compliance. The position has an annual salary of $85,000, and with 13.64% fringe benefits and payroll taxes, the total annual personnel cost is $96,594.00. 25% of the employee's time and effort (approximately 10 hours per week) will support grant-related activities, totaling 24,148.50 allocated to the project.

Director of Youth Programs (FTE, 50%): This full-time employee leads school-site stakeholder partnerships, curriculum development, and program assessment and evaluation. The position has an annual salary of $85,000, and with 13.64% fringe benefits and payroll taxes, the total annual personnel cost is $96,594.00. 50% of the employee's time and effort (approximately 20 hours per week) supports grant-related activities; however, 75% of the total salary cost is supported through other funding sources, with only the remaining portion attributed to this project, totaling $24,148.50.

Supplies: Program supplies support the culturally centered mentorship curriculum and include leadership journals, backpacks/tote bags, printed workbooks, neutritional snacks, inentives, and art and facilitation materials. Costs are $680 per cohort per month from October–May (8 months), totaling $5,400 per cohort and $10,800 for two cohorts.

Family Experience: Funds will support an Optimism Family Experience for each cohort to strengthen family engagement and celebrate student growth, with an estimated cost of $540 per cohort, totalling $1,080.00.

Cordova Villa Elementary School
10359 South White Rock Road, Rancho Cordova CA 95760 916-294-9125 https://cve.fcusd.org/

March 2, 2026

To Whom It May Concern,

I am writing in strong support of the Project Optimism Mentoring Program (POMS) and the meaningful impact it has had at Cordova Villa Elementary School in Rancho Cordova over the past three years.

Cordova Villa is a Title I school serving a richly diverse student population, including many multilingual learners. During their time on our campus, POMS has met our students where they are, building identity, belonging, and confidence through consistent, culturally relevant mentorship. They have become a valued and trusted part of our school community. Unfortunately, our state grant funding for Community Schools is coming to a close, and without a new funding source, we risk losing this impactful program.

Each Wednesday, students remain on campus from 2:45–5:15 p.m. to participate in POMS. The excitement is evident. Students speak about the program with pride, and many others regularly ask how they can join. What makes POMS especially powerful is that it supports not only students who are struggling, but also those developing the skills to become future leaders, students who benefit just as much from encouragement, mentorship, and high expectations.

One moment illustrates the program's influence. A POMS mentor greeted a fifth-grade student who had previously struggled to feel connected at school. They shared their POMS handshake, and the student demonstrated it with visible pride. What began as a mentoring interaction has evolved into a daily ritual of connection, a simple yet powerful example of belonging in action. Many other students have benefitted from the interactions, mentoring, activities and overall presence of POMS on our campus.

Representation matters deeply for our students. When Black, Latino, and brown students are mentored by young adults who reflect their cultural backgrounds and lived experiences, it strengthens identity and reinforces the belief that leadership, higher education, and long-term success are within reach. POMS intentionally cultivates these connections, and the impact is clear.

POMS is more than an after-school program. It builds confidence, strengthens relationships, and fosters a strong sense of community. I fully support the continued funding of the Project Optimism Mentoring Program and the opportunity for our students to continue benefiting from this transformative work.

In Partnership,

Amber Carter

Amber Carter
Principal, Cordova Villa Elementary School

Cordova Meadows Elementary School

2550 La Loma Drive, Rancho Cordova CA 95760 916-294-9120 https://cme.fcusd.org/

March 3, 2026

Dear City of Rancho Cordova Leadership,

I am writing on behalf of Cordova Meadows Elementary School to express our strong support for the POMS mentoring program and its continued presence in our school community.

For the past two years, POMS has been a vital partner in supporting our most vulnerable scholars. Through consistent mentoring, relationship-building, and culturally responsive support, the program helps students feel seen, valued, and connected. Many of the students who served face academic, social-emotional, and environmental challenges, and the presence of trusted mentors has made a meaningful difference in their engagement, confidence, and overall well-being.

As a Community School, Cordova Meadows is committed to equity, collaboration, and shared responsibility for student success. We recognize that schools cannot do this work alone. POMS demonstrates the power of collective impact, bringing together schools, families, and community partners to address student needs holistically and proactively.

We respectfully urge the City of Rancho Cordova to continue its support of POMS so that this impactful mentoring work remains accessible to the students who need it most. Sustaining this partnership strengthens our collective investment in prevention, belonging, and long-term success for our scholars and families.

Thank you for your continued commitment to our youth and for recognizing the importance of community-driven solutions. Please feel free to contact me if you would like any additional information or perspective on the impact of this program.

In Community,

Amber Fontaine
Principal
Cordova Meadows Elementary School
AFontain@fcusd.org [redacted]

Title

Culturally Relevant Book Give Away

03/06/2026

id. 53403743

by **Rigo Tovar** in **Fiscal Year 2026-2027 Community Enhancement & Investment Fund Grant Application**

2901 K St. Suite 204
Sacramento, California
95816
United States
[redacted]
info@sacramentoliteracy.org

Original Submission

03/06/2026

Score n/a

	Thank you for your interest in applying to the City of Rancho Cordova's Community Enhancement & Investment Fund. Applications are open from February 9, 2026, to March 13, 2026, Noon (12:00 p.m.) with a specific deadline of March 6th Noon (12:00 p.m.) for certain applications**. Before you begin, please read the notes about deadlines and certain types of grant applications/grants below. **School/Park Application Deadline **Note that projects or programs involving a park or school district have a deadline of March 6 Noon (12:00 p.m.) to allow for the third-party endorsement process by the grant deadline.** A Note about Religious Schools and the Application/Grant Process **Note for grant applications from religious schools. The United States Supreme Court has recently ruled in part that: “denying a generally available benefit [from government] solely on account of religious identity imposes a penalty on the free exercise of religion that can be justified only by a state interest of the highest order.” The City is of the opinion that not all grants to religious schools are prohibited under this and other similar rulings. However, these United States Supreme Court decisions remain in conflict with a section of the California State Constitution that says: “[n]either the Legislature, nor any county, city and county, township, school district, or other municipal corporation, shall ever make an appropriation, or pay from any public fund whatever, or grant anything to or in aid of any religious sect, church, creed, or sectarian purpose, or help to support or sustain any school, college, university, hospital, or other institution controlled by any religious creed, church, or sectarian denomination whatever; nor shall any grant or donation of personal property or real estate ever be made by the state, or any city, city and county, town, or other municipal corporation for any religious creed, church, or sectarian purpose whatever”. The City will accept applications for grants of these City public funds from religious schools, but will have language in the grant agreements to address the possibility and consequences of legal challenges and new court decisions on this and related topics. ** Future Grant Opportunities If you are interested in remaining up-to-date on available grants from the City of Rancho Cordova, click here to sign up for the Grants Interest List. A separate call for programming opportunities with the Rancho Cordova Youth Center is anticipated later in 2026. The list is also used to advertise separate art programs when funds are available. Ongoing Grant Opportunity The City of Rancho Cordova offers a microgrant opportunity. Learn more about those grants online.
Is this your first time applying for grant funding from the City of Rancho Cordova? As a first-time applicant, Community Enhancement & Investment Fund (CEIF) staff will contact you to discuss your project and grant application process.	No: Not a First Time Applicant

	1 - Project/Program Information Note: You can add a collaborator to this form to assist you in completing this application! A collaborator can help you complete this form by filling in fields for you, although only you can submit this form. You can add a collaborator by navigating to the top of the form and clicking on the 'Manage Collaborators' button. Simply enter their email address and click 'invite' to invite them as a collaborator. If you need further assistance, you may consult this Help article for more information.
Project/Program Name. Assign a project name to your project/program.	Culturally Relevant Book Give Away
Which category does your Project/Program align with?	Youth Programs & Services
Provide a Project/Program Synopsis	This program will put (5) high-quality culturally relevant books into the hands and homes of 4,951 of Sacramento County's most under resourced Tk-2nd grade students. CEIF funding would enable us to reach Abraham Lincoln, Cordova Meadows, Cordova Villa, and White Rock Elementary. This project delivers dimensional literacy impact.
Provide a Project/Program Description	The Culturally Relevant Book Giveaway program may sound simple, but these bags of books are packed with tons of research. The City of Rancho Cordova CEIF funding will help us reach 1,034 kids in the Folsom Cordova and Sacramento City Unified School Districts. Each student will receive 5 brand new books that reflect their gender and ethnicity. We give kids Culturally Relevant books because mirrors (of oneself) and windows (into new worlds) are critical parts of developing a reader. By having kids see themselves in their stories, they can pull from their lived experiences to become faster and more confident readers. We give kids 5 books because 5 books is what a child needs to read to hold onto their previously achieved reading level. And finally, we want books in the kids' homes because books in the home are as important to a child's future educational attainment as their parents' education and career level. Included in every bag is a parent handout, in English and Spanish, detailing the 6 pillars of literacy with tips on how parents can participate in their child's literacy education. We align our work with the most current research and measure our results by the relationships we build and the data we gather from the California Literacy Map to make sure we are relevant to all our stakeholders Our culturally relevant book giveaway program supports the literacy education of the children we reach. We reach the most under-resourced children because we know, often, they don't have books in their home. Abraham Lincoln, Cordova Meadows, Cordova Villa, and White Rock have the highest Title I rates in Rancho Cordova with an average of 90%. CEIF funding will help us reach the most under-resourced children in Rancho Cordova. Our program aligns with several of Rancho Cordova's key focus areas including Arts and Culture, and Youth Program Services. Culturally Relevant books by BIPOC authors enrich the lives of the students (and families) that receive them. By supporting early readers to achieve literacy

	proficiency we are directly enhancing education outcomes and, ultimately, economic development. When children cannot read, they grow up to be adults who cannot read and cannot fully participate in our democracy. Sacramento was identified as the 2nd most diverse city in the 2020 census. Our Book Giveaway program is set in this context. Our work in matching the cultures of our communities to the books we give, is recognized by the families we impact and is core to our work. We ensure that every child sees themselves in their bag of books by using demographic data from the California Literacy Map and gender data provided by the school site. We have generated over 200 unique book curations to cater to the demographic and gender breakdowns of each school site we have served since 2021. Bilingual Spanish/English books are included in most curations and are based on the rate of the school sites Latine population. Simplified Chinese, Haitian Creole, and Filipino Sign Language are other bilingual titles we have included when copies are available. In each bag of books, we include information to help parents help their kids learn to read. We have learned that often parents see themselves for the first time in a book through this program. This increases parent engagement with the program and makes it more likely that these books will be utilized in the home. Reading is, without a doubt, the most critical equity skill a person can learn. Reading is agency. Because Sacramento is the most diverse city in America, and reading is the most critical equity skill that can be taught to these children, we work intentionally to include all voices at all levels.
Tell us about your Project/Program Team	The Sacramento Literacy Foundation has 2 full time employees: 1. Executive Director, April Javist, has a BA in Theater and an MBA in Finance, and has 33 years of experience growing youth programs. 2. Program Manager Rigo Tovar, a former teacher, has a BA in Sociology, he has developed and curated this program for 2 years and has worked with under-resourced kids for 4 years, understanding their unique and diverse needs. Board and staff all believe literacy is the #1 equity skill.

Provide your Project/Program Goals	At the Sacramento Literacy Foundation our mission is to help all children read at grade-level. Our book giveaway program, putting culturally relevant high-quality books in the hands and homes of our most under-resourced kids, is a concrete step in providing tools to our youngest and most vulnerable students and their parents. We have given out 125,000 books and we estimate that we have put a book in approximately 32% of the homes that previously had no books. Our goals with this program are: 1. Putting books in homes. 2. Making sure that the students we reach receive a book where they are the protagonist. 3. Supporting kids to hold onto previously gained reading skills. Our goal is to get all kids' reading! In our work, we are measuring the number of books we can put in kids' hands and homes. We are measuring program expansion through partnerships, and we are measuring school site reading and chronic absenteeism rates detailed by our GIS mapping tool, the California Literacy Map. In our Book Giveaway program, we measure success by the number of kids reached and increasing and sustaining that number year-over-year. We estimate that there are another 20,000 under-resourced homes that do not have books. Program sustainability relies on our ability to secure funds year-over-year to continue to support the schools we are already in. Program expansion relies on our ability to build successful relationships with schools, parents, and funders. And finally, to expand we must build more relationships with individual and institutional funders who want to extend themselves into the early literacy space through their philanthropy. This is why we are reapplying for CEIF funds this year. Our request in 2025 put us in 3 school sites in Rancho Cordova. We will be reaching those schools in April 2026 and would like to continue that support the following year while including 1 more high title 1 school. Big picture, we use The California Literacy Map - a tool we created in 2016 to measure where kids were reading and where they were not reading. The map details literacy rates, chronic absenteeism rates and provides school site data that is useful to literacy providers, educators, policy makers and philanthropists. The map is available to the public and has experienced slow but increased use over time. In conclusion, we measure our success by increasing the number of books we can put in the homes of children who do not have them, coupled with increasing the relationships that are required to achieve those increases. We use the California Literacy map to both assess where we expand to and to measure increases and decreases in literacy rates at the school site, district, county and State level.

Optional File Upload: Provide any additional records to supplement your program/project application. Note: Combine multiple files in one pdf before uploading.

SLF_Supplemental_Documents_2026.pdf

2 - Funding & Costs

Funding Request - Complete this section with total dollar amounts for your project/program's costs	Funds are generally not intended to be used for deferred maintenance and ongoing operational needs. The funds are intended for enhancing and investing in the City of Rancho Cordova. If your project/program is awarded, the costs identified below would be reviewed and potentially open to modification during a contracting phase (if a grant is awarded by the City Council). If awarded, grant funds are not available until a contract is executed during Fiscal Year 2026-2027.
Total project/program cost*	285888
What is the amount of Community Enhancement & Investment Fund grant monies requested?	35563
Does your project/program involve construction of any facilities or improvements upon any property?	No
What is the total cost of personnel for your project/program?	1085
What is the total cost of supplies for your project/program?	34478
What is the total cost of transportation for your project/program?	0
What is the total cost of equipment for your project/program?	0
What is the total cost of any miscellaneous expenses for your project/program?	0

Upload your project/program's budget as a .pdf file. Include the categories and their dollar amounts along with information about any other funding sources to demonstrate your project/program's total budget. Note, the sum of all categories must match the total project or program cost, or the amount requested of CEIF if there is no other funding source. Please clearly illustrate any matching funds or funding from other sources in your project/program budget, including in-kind sources. Note: Combine multiple files in one pdf before uploading.

CEIFBudgetSLFOrgBudget_2026.pdf

Has your organization sought or will seek other funding for this project/program?	Yes, actively seeking funding support or have secured additional funding support for this project/program.
Describe any funding secured or being sought for this project/program.	We are seeking funding from donors and grantors who have previously funded the program. The Sacramento Literacy Foundation's raises funds from individual donors at our annual gala, Authors on the Move (SM), explicitly for this program. We raise approximately $120,000 and have built donor base that believes in our mission and wants to get these books in these kids' hands and homes. Previous grantors of this program include Kelly Foundation, Sierra Health, Elk Grove Rotary, RCA Foundation, and the CEIF Grant 2025. We will go back to all of these folks for the 2026-2027 book giveaways.
Please describe any ongoing operations and maintenance costs beyond Fiscal Year 2026/2027, if applicable.	
Do you have volunteer or in-kind support for your project? This could include volunteers for an activity/event that is ongoing or a one-time experience.	Yes
Please share the total dollar amount for volunteer/in-kind support using $34.79 as the national rate for a volunteer hour. Source: Value of Volunteer Time	3618

Please provide a worksheet explaining your volunteer/in-kind contribution. You may upload a file in the following formats: CSV, DOC, DOCX, or PDF.

CEIF2026_-_SLF-Volunteer-In-Kind-Breakout.pdf

Is this a single year request or a request for funding for multiple years?	Single Year
Has your project/program received funding from the Community Enhancement & Investment Fund previously?	Yes
How many years has your project/program received funding from the Community Enhancement & Investment Fund?	1
How much funding has your organization received from the Community Enhancement & Investment Fund through our traditional grants (not including microgrants)?	$19,995
	3 - Project/Program Details Grant applications are typically approved to occur between July 2026 through June 2027. What is your plan to complete this project/program within this time frame?
Anticipated Start Date (July 1 is the soonest available start date)	8/1/2026
Anticipated End Date (typically projects/programs end by June 30)	9/30/2026

Please describe your project/program schedule	The entire project occurs between May and October of each year. We commence in May when we deliver books to Twin Rivers elementary schools. Beginning in August we deliver books to Sac City, Elk Grove, San Juan and Robla School Districts. The portion of this project being funded by CEIF will take place In August 2025 and the preliminary timeline for Abraham Lincoln and Cordova Meadows will be as follows: May 2026/August 2026: Curate and purchase books for school sites in our Culturally Relevant Book Giveaway Program. · September 2026 Deliver books to Abraham Lincoln Cordova Meadows, Cordova Villa, and White Rock Elementary during classroom visits.
What challenges do you anticipate in your project/program's implementation? What is your plan to complete your project/program should those or other challenges arise?	The biggest challenges our program could potentially face is the national tariffs on goods imported from China. More than 90% of children's books are published in China. Previously children's books were exempt from any tariffs but as of now, children's books have been added to the list of items that will have a 10% tariff. We anticipated this in last year's grant and adjusted the cost per book accordingly. We have adjusted the cost of books this year for inflation to avoid this problem the same way we did last year. We also anticipate that the supply of books we get now will be depleted for the same reasons. Because the Foundation's primary source of funding comes from private philanthropy, we have not had to rely on federal funding for programing although we are looking to local government grant opportunities to help expand this program. If local government grants, such as the CEIF are negatively impacted by federal cuts, then this will negatively impact our ability to expand the program. In conclusion, as the cost of these books increases, we will have to increase our capacity to raise additional private funds or reduce the number of children that receive a bag of books
How many individuals does your project/program serve?	5985
How many Rancho Cordova residents does your project/program serve?	898
	4 - Project/Program Location
Address Verification	If you need to check if your project is in Rancho Cordova, type in your program/project's location in the Assessor Parcel Viewer: https://assessorparcelviewer.saccounty.gov/jsviewer/assessor.html

School and park related applications are due before Noon (12:00 p.m.) on March 6, 2026, to allow for the endorsement process.	Please note that projects or programs that are proposed on property owned or operated by outside agencies or a private party will require coordination with and potentially approvals from outside agencies, organizations, and/or the private party. Include whether you have received a letter of support for the project/program from the property owner. Upload any letters of support with your application. City staff will verify third-party permits have been discussed. In your planning discussions, be sure to discuss any necessary insurance or volunteer requirements that may increase budget costs. School Sites If your project/program is intended to operate at a public K-12 school site, your application is due by March 6 at Noon (12:00 p.m.). City staff will work with the school districts to confirm an endorsement for your project/program. It's the applicant's responsibility to communicate with school site and district representatives before applying so there is clarity during the endorsement process. Districts will only consider endorsement for applications submitted to the Community Enhancement & Investment Fund by the March 6 at Noon (12:00 p.m.). deadline. Each participating school superintendent reserves the right to withhold their endorsement of a project/program. Parks If your project/program is intended to operate at a park or community center site, your application is due by the March 6 at Noon (12:00 p.m.). deadline. City staff will work with the Cordova Recreation & Park District to confirm an endorsement for your project/program. It's the applicant's responsibility to communicate with district representatives before applying so there is clarity during the endorsement process. A special use permit application is required for any program or event planned at a CRPD facility. The special use application can be found at the CRPD website: https://www.cordovarpd.gov/. CRPD will only consider endorsement for applications submitted to the Community Enhancement & Investment Fund by the March 6 at Noon (12:00 p.m.). deadline. The Cordova Recreation & Park District reserves the right to withhold their endorsement of a project/program. Below is the list of staff to communicate with at school and park organizations: Folsom Cordova Unified School District: mwest@fcusd.org Cordova Recreation & Park District: cmichelotti@cordovarpd.gov Elk Grove Unified School District: mgulden@egusd.net Sacramento City Unified School District: Tuan-Duong@scusd.edu for Winn and Carver and Enrique-Flores@scusd.edu for Lincoln.
Primary street address of project/program	3324 Glenmoor Dr, Sacramento, CA 95827
List the city location of the project/program.	Rancho Cordova
Select State	CA
Provide the zip code for your project/program's primary location.	95827

If your project/program takes place at multiple locations, please list other or secondary locations.	Cordova Meadows Elementary - 2550 La Loma Dr, Rancho Cordova, CA 95670 Cordova Villa Elementary - 10359 S White Rock Rd, Rancho Cordova, CA 95670 White Rock Elementary - 10487 White Rock Rd, Rancho Cordova, CA 95670

Third Party Letters of Support (Note: Combine multiple files in one pdf before uploading)

CEIF-SLFThirdPartyLettersofSupport.pdf

Does your project/program involve one of Rancho Cordova's school districts?	Yes
Is the project/program requesting facility use only or is this a request to partner with the school district?	Partner with school on project/program
Please select all the school districts which your project/program intends to involve:	Sacramento City USD Folsom Cordova USD
Please select one or more of the Sacramento City Unified School District school facilities which your project/program will involve:	Abraham Lincoln Elementary School
Please select one or more of the Folsom Cordova Unified School District school facilities which your project/program will involve:	Cordova Meadows Elementary School Cordova Villa Elementary School White Rock Elementary School
Have you reached out to a contact at the school(s) you indicated above?	Yes

Please provide the names of your contacts at the school(s) or district(s) who are familiar with your project/program.	Abraham Lincoln - Anuja Ramil (Community School Specialist) [redacted] Anuja-Ramil@scusd.edu Cordova Meadows - Veronica Pesavento (Community Schools Facilitator) [redacted] vpesavento@fcusd.org Cordova Villa - Amber Carter (Principal) ([redacted] acarter@fcusd.org White Rock - Derek Charlebois (Community Schools Facilitator) [redacted] dcharlebois@fcusd.org
Does your project/program involve the Cordova Recreation & Park District?	No
	5 - Applicant Information
Name	Rigo Tovar
Is this project/program on behalf of an organization?	Yes
What is the name of your organization?	Sacramento Literacy Foundation
What is your title and/or role at your organization?	Program Manager
Provide contact phone number:	+[redacted]
Provide contact email:	rigo@sacramentoliteracy.org
Are you the primary point of contact on this project/program?	Yes
If your project/program was awarded the requested funds, are you authorized to sign the contract for your organization?	No, someone else would sign the contract

If selected by the City Council to receive an award, what is the name of the person at your organization who would sign the contract?	April Javist
What is the title of this individual?	Executive Director
What is the best phone number where we could contact the signatory?	+[redacted]
What is the best email address to contact the signatory?	april@sacramentoliteracy.org
By checking here, I confirm that I am aware that my application materials will become public record.	checked
	Thank you for applying to the Community Enhancement & Investment Fund Fiscal Year 2026-2027 Grant Cycle. Applicants will receive an automated response through the grant portal. Community Enhancement & Investment Fund (CEIF) Staff will follow up with any questions regarding your Fiscal Year 2026-2027 application. For information about the next steps in the CEIF grant process, visit our website for more information. It is anticipated that applications will be reviewed by the City Council starting in April 2026 with adoption in June 2026. Should applicants be awarded by the City Council, funding would not be available to grantees until the start of Fiscal Year 2026-2027 and the completion of a contract. Please send an email to CEIFGrants@cityofranchocordova.org with any questions or comments.

Internal Form

Score	n/a

Title

Culturally Relevant Book Give Away

03/06/2026

id. 53403743

by **Rigo Tovar** in **Fiscal Year 2026-2027 Community Enhancement & Investment Fund Grant Application**

Average score: n/a

Reviewed by: enrique flores (Score:)

03/13/2026

Which organization(s) are you completing this form on behalf of? (Select all that apply)	A school district
Which school district are you completing this form on behalf of?	SCUSD
Which SCUSD school facility	Abraham Lincoln Elementary School
For Abraham Lincoln Elementary, the school district's acknowledgement is:	Endorsement given
Notes providing rationale	supports the literacy education of the children. We reach the most under-resourced children because we know, often, they don't have books in their home. Abraham Lincoln is a title 1 school with a very transient population, and it is important to get books into the hands of young students
Organizations may provide PDF or JPG documentation regarding their endorsement.	
Name of Superintendent, Manager, or Designee completing this form:	enrique flores

Title of individual completing this form	Instructional Assistant Superintendent
By checking here, I verify that I have the authority at my organization to provide an endorsement.	True

Which organization(s) are you completing this form on behalf of? (Select all that apply)	A school district
Which school district are you completing this form on behalf of?	FCUSD
Which FCUSD school facility	White Rock Elementary School Cordova Meadows School Cordova Villa Elementary School
For Cordova Meadows School, the school district's acknowledgement is:	Endorsement given
Notes providing rationale	This project supports early literacy development at Cordova Meadows Elementary by providing TK–2 students with high.quality, culturally relevant books to take home and keep. Serving a school community with a high Title I population, the program addresses barriers to literacy by increasing access to books in the home and helping students see themselves reflected in the stories they read. Endorsing this initiative aligns with district and City priorities by strengthening foundational reading skills, increasing family engagement, and supporting long.term academic success for under.resourced students.
For Cordova Villa Elementary, the school district's acknowledgement is:	Endorsement given
Notes providing rationale	At Cordova Villa Elementary School, the Culturally Relevant Book Give Away promotes literacy equity by placing new, culturally responsive books directly into students' homes during the critical early.learning years. By ensuring students receive books that reflect their identities and lived experiences, the program builds reading confidence, sustains early literacy gains, and encourages regular reading at home. This initiative supports district and City goals focused on early intervention, family partnership, and improved educational outcomes for high.need student populations.
For White Rock Elementary, the school district's acknowledgement is:	Endorsement given

Notes providing rationale	This program supports White Rock Elementary students by expanding access to age.appropriate, culturally relevant books for TK–2 learners in a community with significant economic need. Providing books for home use strengthens reading practice beyond the classroom and reinforces the connection between school and family literacy efforts. Endorsement of this initiative aligns with district and City priorities to close early literacy gaps, promote educational equity, and ensure students have the resources necessary to build strong reading foundations.
For Williamson Elementary, the school district's acknowledgement is:	Endorsement given
Organizations may provide PDF or JPG documentation regarding their endorsement.	
Name of Superintendent, Manager, or Designee completing this form:	Mina West
Title of individual completing this form	Administrative Assistant - Communications and Community Engagement
By checking here, I verify that I have the authority at my organization to provide an endorsement.	True

Title

Culturally Relevant Book Give Away

03/06/2026

id. 53403743

by **Rigo Tovar** in **Fiscal Year 2026-2027 Community Enhancement & Investment Fund Grant Application**

Average score: n/a

Reviewed by: Mina West (Score:)

03/19/2026

Which organization(s) are you completing this form on behalf of? (Select all that apply)	A school district
Which school district are you completing this form on behalf of?	FCUSD
Which FCUSD school facility	Cordova Villa Elementary School Cordova Meadows School White Rock Elementary School
For Cordova Meadows School, the school district's acknowledgement is:	Endorsement given
Notes providing rationale	This project supports early literacy development at Cordova Meadows Elementary by providing TK–2 students with high.quality, culturally relevant books to take home and keep. Serving a school community with a high Title I population, the program addresses barriers to literacy by increasing access to books in the home and helping students see themselves reflected in the stories they read. Endorsing this initiative aligns with district and City priorities by strengthening foundational reading skills, increasing family engagement, and supporting long.term academic success for under.resourced students.
For Cordova Villa Elementary, the school district's acknowledgement is:	Endorsement given

Notes providing rationale	At Cordova Villa Elementary School, the Culturally Relevant Book Give Away promotes literacy equity by placing new, culturally responsive books directly into students' homes during the critical early.learning years. By ensuring students receive books that reflect their identities and lived experiences, the program builds reading confidence, sustains early literacy gains, and encourages regular reading at home. This initiative supports district and City goals focused on early intervention, family partnership, and improved educational outcomes for high.need student populations.
For White Rock Elementary, the school district's acknowledgement is:	Endorsement given
Notes providing rationale	This program supports White Rock Elementary students by expanding access to age.appropriate, culturally relevant books for TK–2 learners in a community with significant economic need. Providing books for home use strengthens reading practice beyond the classroom and reinforces the connection between school and family literacy efforts. Endorsement of this initiative aligns with district and City priorities to close early literacy gaps, promote educational equity, and ensure students have the resources necessary to build strong reading foundations.
For Williamson Elementary, the school district's acknowledgement is:	Endorsement given
Organizations may provide PDF or JPG documentation regarding their endorsement.	
Name of Superintendent, Manager, or Designee completing this form:	Mina West
Title of individual completing this form	Administrative Assistant - Communications and Community Engagement
By checking here, I verify that I have the authority at my organization to provide an endorsement.	True

Line Item	Abraham Lincoln Elementary School	Cordova Meadows Elementary School	Cordova Villa Elementary School	White Rock Elementary	Total
COMMUNITY ENHANCEMENT AND INVESTMENT FUND (CEIF) Grants					
Personnel	$ 249	$ 276	$ 307	$ 254	$ 1,085
Supplies					
Books	$ 7,735	$ 8,561	$ 8,966	$ 7,886	$ 33,149
Bags	$ 305	$ 337	$ 376	$ 311	$ 1,329
Total	$ 8,289	$ 9,174	$ 9,649	$ 8,450	$ 35,563
VOLUNTEER IN-KIND CONTRIBUTION					
Book Giveaway Volunteers	$ 830	$ 919	$ 1,023	$ 846	$ 3,618
SACRAMENTO LITERACY FOUNDATION					
Labor					
Personnel Grant Administration	$ 1,058	$ 1,058	$ 1,058	$ 1,058	$ 4,231
Personnel Benefits	$ 327	$ 333	$ 341	$ 328	$ 1,329
Parent Collateral	$ 103	$ 114	$ 127	$ 105	$ 449
Tape/Boxes/Labels/misc.	$ 115	$ 127	$ 141	$ 117	$ 500
	$ 2,432	$ 2,551	$ 2,691	$ 2,454	$ 6,509
Number of books	1030	1140	1270	1050	4490
Number of book bags	206	228	254	210	898
Title I Rate	**88%**	**92%**	**88%**	**93%**	**90%**
Percent of Students Served	23%	25%	28%	23%	100%

Sacramento Literacy Foundation -Budget 2025-26

	2025-26 Projected Budget	Book Giveaway Breakout 2025-26	Book Giveaway Rancho Cordova
Program Revenue			
Books in Kids Hands and Homes	452,267	104,032	35,563
AOM Fund-A-Need (Books in Kids Hands)	140,000	140,000	
CLE Distributions Release/Summer Reading	40,000		
Community Literacy Map	33,000		
Literacy Summit			
Other	-	-	-
Total Progam Revenue	**665,267**	**244,032**	**35,563**
Operations Revenue			
Direct Mail Giving			
Annual Giving (4420)	60,000	21,856	
YE Appeal (4450)	45,000		
Newsletter (4430)	30,000		
Literacy Map	-	-	
Sub Total Direct Mail	**135,000**	**21,856**	
Special Event			
Authors	140,000		
Literacy Summit	15,000		
BigDOG	40,000		
Sub Total Special Events	**195,000**		
General Unrestricted			
Board Contributions			
Bequests & Planned Giving			
Management Fee Income	10,000		
Operations Grants	20,000		
Operations Endowment Income	20,000	20,000	6,011
Walk4Literacy Earned Revenue			
Planned Giving	120,000	-	-
Sub Total General Unrestricted	**170,000**	**20,000**	**6,011**
Total Operations Revenue	**500,000**	**41,856**	**6,011**
Total Revenue	**1,365,267**	**285,888**	**41,574**
Program Expenses			
Books in Kids homes	450,000	239,059	34,429
Literacy Map	50,000		
Authors on the Move	75,000		
Literacy Summit	15,000		
Summer Reading CLE Endowment Distribution	40,000	-	-
Total Foundation Program Expenses	**630,000**	**239,059**	**34,429**
Administrative Expense			
Total Payroll and Benefits	318,000	46,829	6,645
Total Office	44,000		500
Total Staff and Board	10,000		
Total Insurance - Legal - Audit	55,000	-	-
Total Administrative Expense	**427,000**	**46,829**	**7,145**
Total Fund Development Expenses	**81,000**	**-**	**-**
TOTAL OPERATIONS (Admin + Fund Dev)	**508,000**	**46,829**	**7,145**
TOTAL OPERATIONS & PROGRAM	**1,138,000**	**285,888**	**41,574**
SURPLUS/(DEFICIT)	**227,267**	**0**	**(0)**
NET INVESTMENT REVENUE			
NET INCOME			

ASSUMPTION TABLE

Task	hrs	Staff	Volunteers	Total
Volunteer coordination	8	$ 241.20		$ 241.20
Prep	4	$ 120.60		$ 120.60
ordering	8	$ 241.20		$ 241.20
sorting	12	$ 361.80	$ 2,504.88	$ 2,866.68
giveaway	8	$ 241.20	$ 1,113.28	$ 1,354.48
	32	$ 1,206.00	$ 3,618.16	$ 4,824.16

Volunteer Rate	$	34.79
Program Staff Rate	$	30.15
Cost per bag	$	1.48
Shipping per book	$	0.45

Sacramento City Unified School District

Abraham Lincoln Elementary School

3324 Glenmoor Drive ❖ Sacramento, CA 95827
Phone: (916) 395-4500 ❖ Fax: (916) 228-5834

Laura Butler, Principal
laura-butler@scusd.edu

March 5, 2026

Dear CEIF Committee,

I am writing to express Abraham Lincoln Elementary School's enthusiastic support for the Sacramento Literacy Foundation and the valuable work it is doing to promote literacy and foster a love of books. As a passionate advocate for education and community engagement, I wholeheartedly believe that reading is one of the most powerful tools we must use to empower individuals and transform communities.

The Sacramento Literacy Foundation donated over 250 diverse books to kindergarten, first grade, and second grade students at our Back to School Night in 2024. Students and families were excited to be able to have access to books to support their literacy at home. This access to books helps bridge gaps and provide children and adults with the resources and skills they need to succeed academically and personally. Furthermore, the joy of reading has the power to unlock new possibilities, ignite imaginations, and foster a lifelong love of learning.

The ability of the Sacramento Literacy Foundation to provide access to high quality diverse books, encourage literacy, and inspire readers of all ages is vital, especially in today's world where access to educational resources can often be limited. Their dedication to expanding literacy opportunities is making a tangible difference, and I am confident that their efforts will continue to have a lasting impact on the lives of many individuals. I commend their work in organizing and making accessible book drives and promoting literacy in underserved communities.

Please know that our school supports the Sacramento Literacy Foundation and its mission to promote literacy. We look forward to being able to continue to partner with them in the future. It is inspiring to see how the foundation is positively influencing the future, one book at a time.

Sincerely,

Anuja Ramil
Community School Specialist
Abraham Lincoln Elementary School
Sacramento City Unified School District
School: 916-395-4500
[redacted]

March 5, 2026

Dear CEIF Committee,

I am writing to express Cordova Meadows Elementary School's enthusiastic endorsement of the Sacramento Literacy Foundation. We would want the funding for the culturally relevant books for our TK-2nd grade students to continue for next years students. I have connected with the foundation and believe this book giveaway program will provide our students with valuable literacy tools to assist in better reading outcomes. The development of effective reading skills will empower our students to be successful in life and be transformational for the community of Rancho Cordova.

Providing students with culturally relevant reading materials is becoming increasingly difficult, especially in communities where educational resources are limited. I believe these books will allow our students to see themselves in their stories, making it more likely that they will read them.

Our school is supportive of the Sacramento Literacy Foundation's mission to promote literacy. We hope that this funding will lead to a partnership with them in the future.

Sincerely,

Veronica Pesavento

Community Schools Facilitator

Vpesavento@fcusd.org

(916)294-9120 ext. 615603

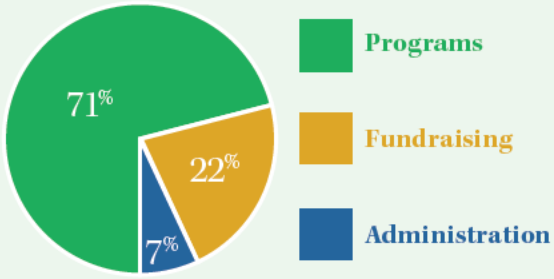
SACRAMENTO LITERACY FOUNDATION 2024-2025 Annual Report

Financial Overview

Each year we hire an independent auditor to ensure our donors are confident that our financial policies and procedures meet and exceed financial requirements set forward by the IRS and the California Attorney General. We will complete our financial review in early December of 2025 and anticipate receiving an unmodified opinion for the 15th consecutive year. ■

Where your Support Went:
BY THE NUMBERS

Projects and Programs	$	586,620
Foundation Administration	$	55,328
Foundation Fundraising	$	181,911



Endowment Performance (July 1, 2024- June 30, 2025)

	June 30, 2024	June 30, 2025	Annual Return*
Children's Literacy Endowment	$ 1,072,182	$ 1,230,171	11%
Lawrence Family Endowment for Sustainability	$ 625,493	$ 744,148	10%

** Includes distributions, deposits, withdrawals, and fees. Our 990s and audited financial statements will be available on our website on February 1, 2026 at www.sacramentoliteracy.org/financial-information.*

Where your Support Went:
Books in Kids' Hands and Homes

In the 2024-2025 fiscal year, we gave out 23,805 diverse high-quality books to 4,761 Tk-2nd graders in and near the Promise Zone.

Unfortunately, we were unable to maintain the expansion we received in 2023-2024 but we established 2 new book giveaway programs. We focused our book giveaways in schools that have a Title 1 rate of 85% or greater (Title 1 rates are measurements of poverty.)

We distributed books at 22 school sites and built relationships with principals, teachers and parents. Each bag of books came with an informational handout about ways to help kids read that parents could place on their refrigerator.

The intentionality of what we do is what makes us unique: we reach the most under-resourced kids who, often, don't have books in their homes. We make sure each child sees themselves in their bag of books and we give parents tools so they can help their kids read. School sites appreciate our approach and are willing to engage with us on how to incorporate the Science of Reading into their classrooms. ■

SACRAMENTO LITERACY FOUNDATION 2024-2025 Annual Report

Summer Reading Grants

In the 2024/25 fiscal year we were able to make summer reading grants to Escape Velocity, Korean Language and Cultural Center of Sacramento, La Familia, LifeSTEPS, Roberts Family Development Center, The Center (SCCSC), Single Mom Strong, Suvidha International Foundation, Teach for America, and United Way California Capital Region.

Grant recipients provide a report at the end of their summer program. Below is an excerpt from the Teach for America report:

> "For the second year in a row, families of children who attended the Summer Reading camp provided positive feedback — 100% of families were satisfied with their child's experience and would recommend other families to register for the program. The program's qualitative impact was best captured by one of the camp's teachers, Natalia Cuellar, "The summer school program gave students the opportunity to strengthen their skills before the start of the year. Many were able to build confidence, improve their reading and math abilities, and feel more prepared for what's ahead."" ■

Sacramento Literacy Coalition

On the first Wednesday of each month, the Foundation hosts the Sacramento Literacy Coalition's Literacy Check-In. This year has been a busy year for Sacramento's Literacy Advocates.

- In the fall of 2024, the Sacramento Literacy Coalition hosted the 11th annual literacy festival.
- In the winter of 2024, the Coalition went to several school district board meetings to ask them to adopt a resolution similiar to SCOE's Literacy Resolution (RES NO 24-18) passed on September 10, 2024.
- Throughout the year, we invited Ed Voice to come to every coalition meeting to make sure Sacramento advocates had consistent and up-to-date information about the Science of Reading Bill, AB 1454, which was unanimously passed by both the Legislature and the Senate and signed by Governor Newsom on October 9, 2025.

Now that we have legislation we need implementation. With the successful passage of the Science of Reading, we will go back to each district's school board meetings to let them know about the new education legislation and ask them to work with their Superintendents to integrate new curriculum and the necessary teacher training.

If you would like to join these advocacy efforts please visit us online at www.sacramentoliteracy.org/slc-signup/ ■

California Literacy Map

The California Literacy Map continues to be a great tool for literacy advocates.

While passing policy, we used the map to understand reading rates per Assembly and Senate Districts, making it easy for advocates to talk to their elected officials. As we go forward, we hope to advance the map, to help monitor and advocate for Science of Reading implementation and teacher training across the State. If California is to remain the top economic engine for the United States, we must make sure all our citizens can read. ■

SACRAMENTO LITERACY FOUNDATION

Sacramento County | 2024-2025 School Year

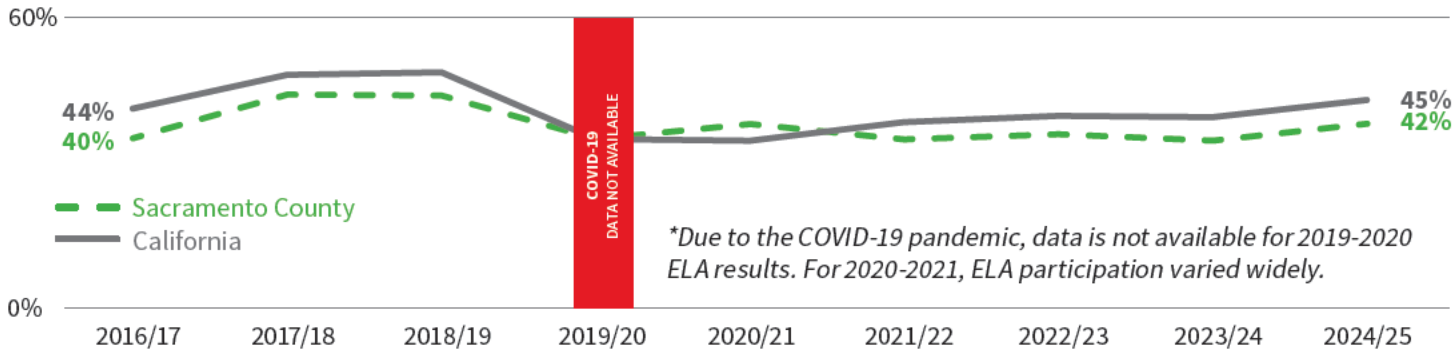
LITERACY REPORT CARD

LITERACY INDICATORS | TRENDS

These graphs compare trends for California and Sacramento County on key literacy indicators. Trend years are based on the most current data available. *See Page 2 for additional definitions and sources.*

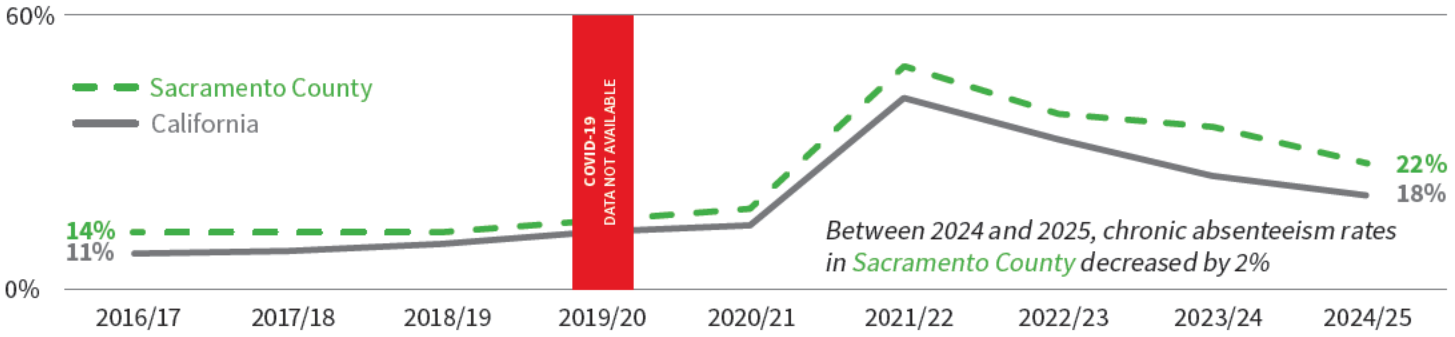
ENGLISH LANGUAGE ARTS (ELA) Percent of students who met/exceeded CAASPP ELA standards.

ELA PROFICIENCY | 3RD GRADERS



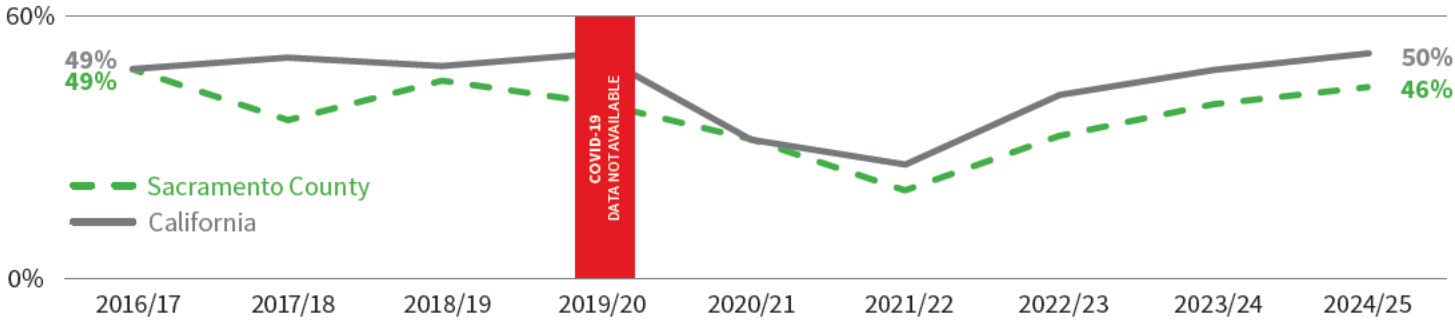
CHRONIC ABSENCES Percent of students reported chronically absent per enrollment.

CHRONICALLY ABSENT STUDENTS



EARLY CHILDHOOD EDUCATION Percent of children ages 3-4 enrolled in preschool.

PRESCHOOL ENROLLMENT



SACRAMENTO LITERACY FOUNDATION

Sacramento County | 2024-2025 School Year

LITERACY REPORT CARD

LITERACY INDICATORS | TRENDS

LITERACY INSIGHTS

This is the seventh annual report card detailing Sacramento County Literacy rates. The California Literacy Map details 3rd grade reading rates measured by the California Department of Education. We are focused on the 3rd grade because children "LEARN TO READ" through the 3rd grade. In the 4th grade children are expected to "READ TO LEARN". A 3rd grade student who is not proficient in reading will become a 4th grade student who struggles in all subjects.

WHAT THE RESULTS SHOW:

- The 2024-2025 report shows that more kids cannot read at grade-level than can in Sacramento County and California.
- The 2024-2025 report shows a 1.5% increase in 3rd grade reading proficiency.
- The 2024-2025 report shows a 2% decrease in chronic absenteeism. Chronic Abscenteeism has has been a top priority for all districts.
- The 2024-2025 report shows preschool enrollment is up 2%. Preschool helps kids become kindergarten ready.
- In 2023-2024 only 217 kids received 1:1 tutoring and 142 kids received small group tutoring at their school sites from contracted literacy programs. We did not measure 2024-2025 but anecdotally, we do not see an increase in programming.

LITERACY PHILANTHROPY IN SACRAMENTO

Right now, there are very few early literacy providers in Sacramento and congruently there is very little philanthropy dedicated to early literacy. We reviewed the Big Day of Giving results from 2024 and 2025 by comparing mission categories and we continue to see a philanthropic gap between the reading crisis and the support provided to remedy the crisis. Last year, 2025, the Education category had 13% of the participating nonprofit organizations (or 109) and received 8% of all funds raised on the Big Day. Of those 109 education nonprofits, eleven nonprofit organizations (1.3%) are addressing early childhood literacy, and they received 1.8% of all funds raised on the Big Day. Data from 2024 was nearly the same. This philanthropic gap in literacy funding will have to change. In the next few years, we need to increase investments in one-on-one and small group literacy tutoring interventions.

Equally as problematic is having very few literacy tutoring programs established in our school districts. We need more programs that give struggling students the extra tutoring help they need to succeed as readers. Over the next several years, as we grow our programming endowment, and as schools adopt evidence- based teaching instruction due to new legislation, we will look to support evidence-based tutoring programs.

DEFINITIONS OF LITERACY INDICATORS & SOURCES

Early Childhood Education: The percent of children ages three to four who are enrolled in school (i.e., nursery school, preschool). *Source: US Census Bureau, American Community Survey, 1-Year Estimates, Table S1401: School Enrollment https://data.census.gov/cedsci/*

Chronic Absence: Chronic absenteeism rate. Students are determined to be chronically absent if they were enrolled for a total of 30 days or more at the selected reporting level during the academic year and they were absent for 10% or more of the days they were expected to attend. CDE began tracking this data in 2016/17. *Source: California Department of Education, DataQuest https://dq.cde.ca.gov/dataquest/*

Note: Chronic Absenteeism replaced Truancy as a measure of school attendance in 2016. Truancy is no longer reported in DataQuest.

English Language Arts (ELA) Proficiency | 3rd Grade/All Grades: California Assessment of Student Performance and Progress (CAASPP) outcomes are reported in terms of four levels of achievement: Level 1 (standard not met), Level 2 (standard nearly met), Level 3 (standard met), and Level 4 (standard exceeded). These correspond to a set of achievement level descriptors that are aligned with the Common Core State Standards (CCSS) and the Smarter Balanced assessment. Based on their CAASPP scaled scores, students fall into one of the four categories of performance. Students performing at Level 3 (standard met) and Level 4 (standard exceeded) are considered on track to demonstrating the knowledge and skills necessary for college and career readiness. *Source: California Department of Education, CAASPP https://caaspp.cde.ca.gov/*

Total Youth Ages 0-17 in County: The total number of children and youth in Sacramento County aged 0-17 years old. *Source: US Census Bureau, American Community Survey, Table B09001: Population Under 18 Years by Age https://data.census.gov*

SACRAMENTO LITERACY FOUNDATION

The graphic below defines each area of Literacy and suggests activities that parents, teachers, tutors, and mentors can do to support it.

ORAL LANGUAGE

The ability to talk and hear.

TO DO

Talk to your child and listen responsively. Ask and answer questions.

PHONEMIC AWARENESS

The ability to hear, identify, and manipulate sounds in spoken words.

TO DO

When you say a word to your child, sound out every letter: c-a-t and then rhyme it with a few others: h-a-t, b-a-t, s-a-t.

PHONICS

Recognizing the relationship between sounds and letters, letter combinations, and words.

TO DO

When in doubt, sound it out! Sound out a word your child is struggling with and show them how its done.

FLUENCY

The ability to read with speed, accuracy, and appropriate expression.

TO DO

Ask your child to read to you and then talk about what you read.

VOCABULARY

Understanding words, their definitions, and their context.

TO DO

Try and introduce new words to yourself and your kids every week.

COMPREHENSION

Learning to understand and make meaning of a wide variety of texts.

TO DO

Read to your child as much as you can and find opportunities to put books in their hands.

For further assistance, call 916-836-3540, e-mail info@sacramentoliteracy.org, or go to www.sacramentoliteracy.org

SACRAMENTO LITERACY FOUNDATION

El siguiente gráfico define cada área de la alfabetización y sugiere actividades que - padres, maestros, tutores y mentores pueden hacer para apoyarlo.

LENGUAJE ORAL

La capacidad de hablar y oír.

PRÁCTICA

Hable con su hijo y escúchelo atentamente. Haga y responda preguntas.

CONCIENCIA FONÉMICA

La capacidad de escuchar, identificar y manipular sonidos en palabras habladas.

PRÁCTICA

Cuando le diga una palabra a su hijo, pronuncie la palabra letra por letra: g-a-t-o y luego haga rimar esa palabra con otras: p-a-t-o, p-l-a-t-o, r-a-t-o.

MÉTODO FONÉTICO

Reconocer la relación entre los sonidos y las letras, las combinaciones de letras y las palabras.

PRÁCTICA

En caso de duda, ¡escríbelo! Pronuncie una palabra con la que su hijo tenga dificultades y muéstrele cómo se hace.

FLUIDEZ

La capacidad de leer con velocidad, precisión y expresión apropiada.

PRÁCTICA

Pídale a su hijo que le lea y luego hablen sobre lo que leyó.

VOCABULARIO

Comprender las palabras, sus definiciones y su contexto.

PRÁCTICA

Trate de incorporar palabras nuevas para usted y para sus hijos cada semana.

COMPRENSIÓN

Aprender a comprender y dar sentido a una amplia variedad de textos. contexto.

PRÁCTICA

Léale a su hijo todo lo que pueda y busque oportunidades para acercarle libros a su hijo.

Para obtener más ayuda, llame al 916-836-3540, envíe un correo electrónico a info@sacramentoliteracy.org o visite www.sacramentoliteracy.org

Title

Capital Airshow Group: Fueling Futures Through Aviation-Based Educational Programming

03/09/2026

id. 53435082

by **Marya Sahota** in **Fiscal Year 2026-2027 Community Enhancement & Investment Fund Grant Application**

10425 Norden Ave
Mather, California
95655
United States
[redacted]
partnerships@californiacapitalairshow.com

Original Submission

03/09/2026

Score n/a

	Thank you for your interest in applying to the City of Rancho Cordova's Community Enhancement & Investment Fund. Applications are open from February 9, 2026, to March 13, 2026, Noon (12:00 p.m.) with a specific deadline of March 6th Noon (12:00 p.m.) for certain applications**. Before you begin, please read the notes about deadlines and certain types of grant applications/grants below. **School/Park Application Deadline **Note that projects or programs involving a park or school district have a deadline of March 6 Noon (12:00 p.m.) to allow for the third-party endorsement process by the grant deadline.** A Note about Religious Schools and the Application/Grant Process **Note for grant applications from religious schools. The United States Supreme Court has recently ruled in part that: “denying a generally available benefit [from government] solely on account of religious identity imposes a penalty on the free exercise of religion that can be justified only by a state interest of the highest order.” The City is of the opinion that not all grants to religious schools are prohibited under this and other similar rulings. However, these United States Supreme Court decisions remain in conflict with a section of the California State Constitution that says: “[n]either the Legislature, nor any county, city and county, township, school district, or other municipal corporation, shall ever make an appropriation, or pay from any public fund whatever, or grant anything to or in aid of any religious sect, church, creed, or sectarian purpose, or help to support or sustain any school, college, university, hospital, or other institution controlled by any religious creed, church, or sectarian denomination whatever; nor shall any grant or donation of personal property or real estate ever be made by the state, or any city, city and county, town, or other municipal corporation for any religious creed, church, or sectarian purpose whatever”. The City will accept applications for grants of these City public funds from religious schools, but will have language in the grant agreements to address the possibility and consequences of legal challenges and new court decisions on this and related topics. ** Future Grant Opportunities If you are interested in remaining up-to-date on available grants from the City of Rancho Cordova, click here to sign up for the Grants Interest List. A separate call for programming opportunities with the Rancho Cordova Youth Center is anticipated later in 2026. The list is also used to advertise separate art programs when funds are available. Ongoing Grant Opportunity The City of Rancho Cordova offers a microgrant opportunity. Learn more about those grants online.
Is this your first time applying for grant funding from the City of Rancho Cordova? As a first-time applicant, Community Enhancement & Investment Fund (CEIF) staff will contact you to discuss your project and grant application process.	No: Not a First Time Applicant

	1 - Project/Program Information Note: You can add a collaborator to this form to assist you in completing this application! A collaborator can help you complete this form by filling in fields for you, although only you can submit this form. You can add a collaborator by navigating to the top of the form and clicking on the 'Manage Collaborators' button. Simply enter their email address and click 'invite' to invite them as a collaborator. If you need further assistance, you may consult this Help article for more information.
Project/Program Name. Assign a project name to your project/program.	Capital Airshow Group: Fueling Futures Through Aviation-Based Educational Programming
Which category does your Project/Program align with?	Youth Programs & Services
Provide a Project/Program Synopsis	Through immersive aviation and aerospace STEM programming, Rancho Cordova youth - particularly those from Title I and underserved communities -gain hands-on experience, industry mentorship, and exposure to high-wage career pathways. Fueling Futures builds workforce readiness, strengthens confidence, and connects classroom learning to real opportunities within our region's growing aerospace economy.
Provide a Project/Program Description	The proposed project, Fueling Futures Through Aviation, expands hands-on aviation and aerospace education for Rancho Cordova youth through immersive, real-world STEM experiences led by the Capital Airshow Group. The program connects students—particularly those from economically disadvantaged backgrounds and Title I schools—to high-demand career pathways through direct exposure, mentorship, and applied learning opportunities that are otherwise inaccessible to many families. Students participate in interactive workshops, drone flight activities, mentorship sessions with aviation and aerospace professionals, and behind-the-scenes experiences that bring STEM to life beyond the classroom. Rather than learning abstract concepts alone, participants engage directly with aircraft, equipment, and industry experts, helping them understand how classroom skills translate into real careers. These experiences build confidence, spark curiosity, and increase awareness of viable local workforce pathways. This project aligns closely with the City's Community Enhancement & Investment Fund priorities by strengthening youth development, supporting workforce readiness, and contributing to long-term economic vitality. Rancho Cordova is home to a growing base of aerospace, technology, and skilled-trade employers who rely on a qualified local workforce. Yet many young people—especially those from under-resourced neighborhoods—lack access to career exploration, mentorship, or enrichment experiences that prepare them to enter these fields. This gap limits both individual opportunity and the region's talent pipeline. Fueling Futures addresses this need directly by connecting Rancho Cordova students with real industry professionals and hands-on experiences that increase STEM interest, career awareness, and

	postsecondary readiness. By introducing youth early to aviation and technical careers, the program helps cultivate the next generation of pilots, mechanics, engineers, technicians, and air traffic controllers—fields that offer family-sustaining wages and long-term stability. Beyond student impact, the program provides meaningful community benefit through partnership and economic activity. The Capital Airshow Group's annual event and related educational programming generate an estimated $10.7 million in regional economic impact, drawing visitors, supporting local businesses, and elevating Rancho Cordova as a hub for aviation and STEM engagement. Educational initiatives extend this benefit year-round, creating sustained connections between schools, employers, volunteers, and families. The program leverages hundreds of community volunteers and industry partners who contribute mentorship, equipment, and expertise, maximizing public investment while deepening civic engagement. Importantly, the project is designed to reduce barriers to participation. Many of the students served face financial or transportation limitations that prevent them from accessing enrichment opportunities. By partnering directly with schools and community organizations, we deliver programming where students already are and provide low- or no-cost participation to ensure equitable access. This approach ensures that opportunity is not reserved for those who can afford it, but for those who need it most. Success will be measured through student participation numbers, demographic reach, increases in STEM interest and career awareness, and feedback from educators and caregivers. The program's ultimate goal is measurable growth in confidence, aspiration, and readiness—equipping Rancho Cordova youth with the skills and exposure needed to pursue meaningful futures within their own community. By investing in Fueling Futures Through Aviation, the City is not only supporting an educational program—it is investing in workforce development, economic resilience, and the long-term success of its young residents. This project transforms curiosity into capability and creates a clear bridge between today's students and tomorrow's careers, strengthening both individual lives and the broader Rancho Cordova community. By cultivating local talent, this initiative supports Rancho Cordova employers and reduces long-term workforce shortages within the City's economic base.
Tell us about your Project/Program Team	Fueling Futures Through Aviation is developed and delivered by the Capital Airshow Group in collaboration with experienced staff, educators, and industry professionals. Our team brings deep expertise in youth programming, grant management, volunteer coordination, and community engagement, supported by strong operational systems and fiscal oversight. Local schools and community partners help identify and serve students, while pilots, mechanics, air traffic controllers, engineers, and STEM mentors provide hands-on instruction and real-world career exposure. This collaborative, community-based model ensures high-quality delivery, responsible stewardship, and the capacity to effectively serve Rancho Cordova youth at scale.

Provide your Project/Program Goals	Fueling Futures Through Aviation is guided by clear, measurable goals focused on access, engagement, and workforce readiness for Rancho Cordova youth. **Goal 1: Expand equitable access to hands-on STEM and aviation experiences.** Metrics: Number of students served; number of Rancho Cordova schools and partners engaged; percentage of participants from Title I and economically disadvantaged backgrounds; number of program sessions delivered. **Goal 2: Increase student interest, confidence, and awareness of STEM and aviation career pathways.** Metrics: Pre- and post-program surveys measuring changes in STEM interest, career knowledge, and self-confidence; participation in mentorship and hands-on activities; educator feedback on student engagement. At least 60% of participants will report increased awareness of aviation career pathways. **Goal 3: Strengthen connections between youth and local workforce opportunities.** Metrics: Number of industry volunteers and mentors engaged; hours of direct mentorship provided; student exposure to career pathways and technical skills; follow-up indicators of continued STEM coursework or related activities. Project focus and continuous improvement are supported through structured planning, regular team check-ins, and ongoing data review. In addition, we are currently conducting a community needs assessment with students, educators, and partners to better understand barriers to access and priority needs. Findings directly inform program design, target populations, and resource allocation to ensure programming remains responsive, equitable, and aligned with what Rancho Cordova youth need most.

Optional File Upload: Provide any additional records to supplement your program/project application. Note: Combine multiple files in one pdf before uploading.

RFP_Fueling_Futures_Through_Aviation_Education_March_2026.pdf

	2 - Funding & Costs
Funding Request - Complete this section with total dollar amounts for your project/program's costs	Funds are generally not intended to be used for deferred maintenance and ongoing operational needs. The funds are intended for enhancing and investing in the City of Rancho Cordova. If your project/program is awarded, the costs identified below would be reviewed and potentially open to modification during a contracting phase (if a grant is awarded by the City Council). If awarded, grant funds are not available until a contract is executed during Fiscal Year 2026-2027.
Total project/program cost*	275000

What is the amount of Community Enhancement & Investment Fund grant monies requested?	75000
Does your project/program involve construction of any facilities or improvements upon any property?	No
What is the total cost of personnel for your project/program?	14000
What is the total cost of supplies for your project/program?	37000
What is the total cost of transportation for your project/program?	0
What is the total cost of equipment for your project/program?	24000
What is the total cost of any miscellaneous expenses for your project/program?	0

Upload your project/program's budget as a .pdf file. Include the categories and their dollar amounts along with information about any other funding sources to demonstrate your project/program's total budget. Note, the sum of all categories must match the total project or program cost, or the amount requested of CEIF if there is no other funding source. Please clearly illustrate any matching funds or funding from other sources in your project/program budget, including in-kind sources. Note: Combine multiple files in one pdf before uploading.

CityofRCProjectBudgetForm_CAG_3.2.26.pdf

Has your organization sought or will seek other funding for this project/program?	Yes, actively seeking funding support or have secured additional funding support for this project/program.

Describe any funding secured or being sought for this project/program.	Pending funding via the Sacramento County TOT grant, the Wilkie Foundation, Jet Blue Foundation. Actively applying to all applicable grants.
Please describe any ongoing operations and maintenance costs beyond Fiscal Year 2026/2027, if applicable.	The Airshow's youth education and workforce development programs are ongoing annual initiatives that are incorporated into our regular operating structure. Beyond FY 2026/2027, costs primarily include staffing coordination, curriculum materials, volunteer management, insurance, and event delivery expenses. These costs are sustained through a diversified funding strategy that includes sponsorships, foundation and corporate grants, individual donors, ticketed event revenue, and long-standing community partnerships. The organization has successfully operated and funded these programs for multiple years and does not rely on a single source of support. Grant funding from the Rancho Cordova Community Impact program would enhance and expand access, but core operations will continue regardless. The organization maintains reserve funds and diversified revenue streams to ensure programming continuity regardless of individual grant outcomes, reinforcing long-term sustainability and fiscal responsibility.
Do you have volunteer or in-kind support for your project? This could include volunteers for an activity/event that is ongoing or a one-time experience.	No
Is this a single year request or a request for funding for multiple years?	Single Year
Has your project/program received funding from the Community Enhancement & Investment Fund previously?	Yes
How many years has your project/program received funding from the Community Enhancement & Investment Fund?	2

How much funding has your organization received from the Community Enhancement & Investment Fund through our traditional grants (not including microgrants)?	In prior CEIF-funded years, the organization successfully met all deliverables and reporting requirements. We
	3 - Project/Program Details Grant applications are typically approved to occur between July 2026 through June 2027. What is your plan to complete this project/program within this time frame?
Anticipated Start Date (July 1 is the soonest available start date)	7/1/2026
Anticipated End Date (typically projects/programs end by June 30)	6/30/2027

Please describe your project/program schedule	**Project Timeline (July 1, 2026 – June 30, 2027)** The grant period will begin July 1, 2026, with program launch activities, final curriculum refinement, and integration of findings from our community needs assessment to ensure programming is responsive to Rancho Cordova students and educators. **July–August 2026:** • Implementation of a large-scale Youth STEM Expo serving 1,500+ youth through hands-on aviation and STEM experiences • Delivery of the Positive Altitude program, providing confidence-building and career exploration opportunities for participating students • Volunteer training and partnership coordination • Data collection and participant surveys **September–December 2026:** • Implementation of the Youth STEM Zone at the California Capital Airshow, providing thousands of students with immersive, hands-on aviation learning experiences • Direct engagement with pilots, mechanics, engineers, and aviation professionals • On-site evaluation and community engagement activities **January–May 2027:** • School and community-based outreach and aviation career exploration programming • Planning, curriculum development, and student recruitment for ACE Academy • Targeted outreach to underserved and economically disadvantaged youth • Mid-year evaluation and program refinement **June 2027:** • Implementation of the ACE Academy 5-Day Summer Camp, delivering intensive, project-based aviation and STEM learning • Post-program evaluation and final impact reporting The project concludes June 30, 2027, with final grant reporting, financial reconciliation, and strategic planning for sustained program expansion.
What challenges do you anticipate in your project/program's implementation? What is your plan to complete your project/program should those or other challenges arise?	Potential challenges include aligning school calendars, coordinating transportation for students from underserved neighborhoods, volunteer availability during peak industry periods, weather impacts on outdoor programming, and fluctuations in funding. To mitigate these risks, we conduct early coordination with school districts and community partners, maintain a trained reserve pool of volunteers, diversify funding streams, and design programming that can pivot between indoor and outdoor formats as needed. As a long-standing annual program with established operational systems, the Capital Airshow Group has successfully navigated these variables in prior years and maintains contingency plans to ensure consistent, high-quality program delivery regardless of logistical or environmental disruptions.

How many individuals does your project/program serve?	3500
How many Rancho Cordova residents does your project/program serve?	2000
	4 - Project/Program Location
Address Verification	If you need to check if your project is in Rancho Cordova, type in your program/project's location in the Assessor Parcel Viewer: https://assessorparcelviewer.saccounty.gov/jsviewer/assessor.html

School and park related applications are due before Noon (12:00 p.m.) on March 6, 2026, to allow for the endorsement process.	Please note that projects or programs that are proposed on property owned or operated by outside agencies or a private party will require coordination with and potentially approvals from outside agencies, organizations, and/or the private party. Include whether you have received a letter of support for the project/program from the property owner. Upload any letters of support with your application. City staff will verify third-party permits have been discussed. In your planning discussions, be sure to discuss any necessary insurance or volunteer requirements that may increase budget costs. School Sites If your project/program is intended to operate at a public K-12 school site, your application is due by March 6 at Noon (12:00 p.m.). City staff will work with the school districts to confirm an endorsement for your project/program. It's the applicant's responsibility to communicate with school site and district representatives before applying so there is clarity during the endorsement process. Districts will only consider endorsement for applications submitted to the Community Enhancement & Investment Fund by the March 6 at Noon (12:00 p.m.). deadline. Each participating school superintendent reserves the right to withhold their endorsement of a project/program. Parks If your project/program is intended to operate at a park or community center site, your application is due by the March 6 at Noon (12:00 p.m.). deadline. City staff will work with the Cordova Recreation & Park District to confirm an endorsement for your project/program. It's the applicant's responsibility to communicate with district representatives before applying so there is clarity during the endorsement process. A special use permit application is required for any program or event planned at a CRPD facility. The special use application can be found at the CRPD website: https://www.cordovarpd.gov/. CRPD will only consider endorsement for applications submitted to the Community Enhancement & Investment Fund by the March 6 at Noon (12:00 p.m.). deadline. The Cordova Recreation & Park District reserves the right to withhold their endorsement of a project/program. Below is the list of staff to communicate with at school and park organizations: Folsom Cordova Unified School District: mwest@fcusd.org Cordova Recreation & Park District: cmichelotti@cordovarpd.gov Elk Grove Unified School District: mgulden@egusd.net Sacramento City Unified School District: Tuan-Duong@scusd.edu for Winn and Carver and Enrique-Flores@scusd.edu for Lincoln.
Primary street address of project/program	10425 Norden Ave
List the city location of the project/program.	Mather, CA
Select State	CA
Provide the zip code for your project/program's primary location.	95655

If your project/program takes place at multiple locations, please list other or secondary locations.	Fueling Futures Through Aviation will be delivered through a hub-and-spoke model designed to maximize access for Rancho Cordova youth. The primary program hub is Mather Airport, including California Capital Airshow education programming, ACE Academy summer camp activities, and large-scale youth STEM engagement events. Additional programming will take place at community partner locations hosting outreach workshops, mentorship sessions, and mobile STEM programming. Select program components may also occur at regional aviation, aerospace, education, and workforce partner sites to provide real-world career exposure. These experiences may include industry demonstrations, career exploration visits, and hands-on learning opportunities hosted by aviation training providers, airport operations partners, public safety aviation units, and higher education collaborators. Locations are intentionally distributed across multiple sites to reduce transportation barriers, expand equitable access, and meet students within their own communities while connecting them to regional workforce pathways.

Third Party Letters of Support (Note: Combine multiple files in one pdf before uploading)

LOS_Capital_Airshow_ToT_Grant_1.pdf

Does your project/program involve one of Rancho Cordova's school districts?	No
Does your project/program involve the Cordova Recreation & Park District?	No
	5 - Applicant Information
Name	Marya Sahota
Is this project/program on behalf of an organization?	Yes
What is the name of your organization?	Capital Airshow Group
What is your title and/or role at your organization?	Community Engagement and Partnerships Director

Provide contact phone number:	[redacted]
Provide contact email:	partnerships@californiacapitalairshow.com
Are you the primary point of contact on this project/program?	No
What is the name of this project or program's primary contact if not the person submitting this application?	Darcy Brewer
What is the email of the primary contact?	darcy@californiacapitalairshow.com
If your project/program was awarded the requested funds, are you authorized to sign the contract for your organization?	No, someone else would sign the contract
If selected by the City Council to receive an award, what is the name of the person at your organization who would sign the contract?	Darcy Brewer
What is the title of this individual?	CEO
What is the best phone number where we could contact the signatory?	+[redacted]
What is the best email address to contact the signatory?	darcy@californiacapitalairshow.com

By checking here, I confirm that I am aware that my application materials will become public record.	checked

Thank you for applying to the Community Enhancement & Investment Fund Fiscal Year 2026-2027 Grant Cycle. Applicants will receive an automated response through the grant portal. Community Enhancement & Investment Fund (CEIF) Staff will follow up with any questions regarding your Fiscal Year 2026-2027 application. For information about the next steps in the CEIF grant process, visit our website for more information. It is anticipated that applications will be reviewed by the City Council starting in April 2026 with adoption in June 2026. Should applicants be awarded by the City Council, funding would not be available to grantees until the start of Fiscal Year 2026-2027 and the completion of a contract. Please send an email to CEIFGrants@cityofranchocordova.org with any questions or comments.

Internal Form

Score	n/a

2026-27 Rancho Cordova CEIF GRANT PROGRAM BUDGET FORM

Organization Name: Capital Airshow Group

Project Name: Fueling Futures Through Aviation-Focused Educational Programming

PROJECT EXPENSES	COLUMN A Amount of Project Expense *from source other than City of RC*	COLUMN B Amount Requested from City of RC	COLUMN A+B = Grand Total
Personnel: List project Personnel Expenses. Be specific and identify if employee is full time, half-time or a consultant. Please include the percentage of time the staff person will spend on the project.			
Title: Credentialed Teacher (FT/Contracted): 16%	$ 15,000.00	$ 5,000.00	$ 20,000.00
Title: Community & Engagement Director/Youth Dir (FT/Cont) 30%	$ 20,000.00	$ 5,000.00	$ 25,000.00
Title: Camp Staff (Contracted)	$ 4,000.00	$ -	$ 4,000.00
Title: Media and PR Director (Contracted); Graphic Designer (Cont)	$ 4,500.00	$ 4,000.00	$ 8,500.00
Operating/Production Expenses. Be specific			
Facilities (rent or overhead expenses)	$ -	$ -	$ -
Equipment (rental or purchase) - tables & chair rental, linens	$ 9,400.00	$ 14,000.00	$ 23,400.00
Supplies- Materials, exhibits, décor, activities, crafts	$ 700.00	$ 7,000.00	$ 7,700.00
Printing - lanyards, backpacks, workbooks, t-shirts, signage	$ 17,000.00	$ 15,000.00	$ 32,000.00
Advertising, promotion	$ 5,700.00	$ -	$ 5,700.00
Meeting/Travel - Buses for students, accommodations for speakers	$ 23,500.00	$ -	$ 23,500.00
Other (specify): A/V equipment, screens, staging, technician	$ 6,800.00	$ 10,000.00	$ 16,800.00
Other (specify): Food/beverages for students; graduation event	$ 15,400.00	$ 15,000.00	$ 30,400.00
Other (specify): Scholarship Awards	$ 78,000.00		$ 78,000.00
TOTAL PROJECT EXPENSES	**$ 200,000.00**	**$ 75,000.00**	**$ 275,000.00**

SOURCES OF PROJECT REVENUE:	COLUMN A Secured Funding	COLUMN B Pending Funding	COLUMN A + B = Grand Total
City of Rancho Cordova Grant funding request. This amount should be the amount you are requesting for the described project and be placed in the "Pending Funding" column	$ -	$ 75,000.00	$ 75,000.00
Foundations (please list the names of the Foundations and amounts individually - add lines as needed) - Wilkie Foundation (pending)	$ -	$ 25,000.00	$ 25,000.00
Business and Corporate contributions (please list the names of the Corporations/businesses and amounts individually - add lines as needed) - Verizon - $2000; SW Air - $2500 - Atlas Disposal - $5000	$ 9,500.00	$ -	$ 9,500.00
Individual contributions - Snyder & Taylor Families	$ 5,000.00	$ -	$ 5,000.00
Government Grants (please list the names of the Granting organizations - add lines as needed) - Sac County TOT Grant request	$ -	$ 35,000.00	$ 35,000.00
Other (specify source of funding - add lines as needed) - (Projected Sponsorship & Individual Giving Campaign)		$ 55,500.00	$ 55,500.00
Events or Ticket Sales - MATCHING FUNDS from CA Capital Airshow	$ 50,000.00	$ -	$ 50,000.00
Publications & Products	$ -	$ -	$ -
Membership Income	$ -	$ -	$ -
In-kind Support (please list the type of in-kind support and corresponding value of that contribution) - Teichert Construction equipment, Sunbelt rental equipment, elite power electrical support	$ 20,000.00	$ -	$ 20,000.00
TOTAL PROJECT REVENUE	**$ 84,500.00**	**$ 190,500.00**	**$ 275,000.00**

TOTAL PROJECT EXPENSE	**$ 275,000.00**
TOTAL SECURED FUNDING	$ 84,500.00
TOTAL PROJECT EXPENSE LESS SECURED FUNDING	$ 190,500.00

** It is expected that you may be seeking more funding than the project expense.

Clarifications (details about supplies needed, foundation contributions and amounts, etc.)

Additional funding is being actively pursued through corporate sponsorships, individual donor campaigns, foundation grants, and earned revenue strategies. The Capital Airshow Group maintains a diversified funding model and has a demonstrated history of successfully closing annual budget gaps through strategic fundraising and community partnerships.

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Powering forward. Together.

SMUD®

Sacramento County Transient Occupancy Tax (TOT) Grant Review Committee
Sacramento, California

Re: Letter of Support for Capital Airshow Group's Application to the Transit Occupancy Tax (TOT) Grant Program

Dear Members of the Review Committee,

On behalf of the Sacramento Municipal Utility District (SMUD), I am pleased to express our strong support for the Capital Airshow Group's request for $35,000 in Sacramento County Transient Occupancy Tax (TOT) funding to support its aviation-based youth education and STEM programming.

SMUD recognizes the Capital Airshow Group as a valued community partner committed to expanding access to high-quality STEM education, career exploration, and workforce development opportunities for youth throughout the Sacramento region. While the California Capital Airshow is widely known for its annual world-class event, the organization's year-round educational programming plays a critical role in inspiring the next generation of engineers, innovators, technicians, and aviation professionals.

SMUD is pleased to support this proposal. As the nation's sixth-largest, community-owned, not-for-profit electric service provider, SMUD has been providing low-cost, reliable electricity to Sacramento County for more than 75 years. SMUD is a recognized industry leader and award winner for its innovative energy efficiency programs, renewable power technologies and for its sustainable solutions for a healthier environment. Today, SMUD's power supply is on average about 50 percent carbon free and with a goal to reach zero carbon by 2030. SMUD's rates and customer bills are consistently among the lowest in California, and are, on average, more than 50 percent lower than its neighboring investor-owned utility. For more information on SMUD's Zero Carbon Plan and its customer programs, visit smud.org

The Capital Airshow Group's education initiatives provide hands-on learning experiences, real-world career exposure, and mentorship opportunities—particularly for students from underserved and economically disadvantaged communities who may not otherwise have access to STEM enrichment or industry pathways. These programs align closely with SMUD's commitment to workforce development, equity, and preparing local students for high-demand careers in science, technology, engineering, and energy-related fields.

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TOT funding will directly support the sustainability and growth of these educational efforts, ensuring that thousands of students can continue to benefit from immersive learning experiences that connect classroom concepts to real-world applications. The Capital Airshow Group has demonstrated strong leadership, fiscal responsibility, and a clear vision for long-term community impact.

SMUD fully supports this request and encourages the County to invest in the Capital Airshow Group's educational programming as a meaningful contribution to the region's economic vitality, workforce pipeline, and future innovation.

If you have any questions or concerns, please do not hesitate to contact my delegate at, Tegan.Mauldin@smud.org.

Sincerely,

Signed by:
Markisha Webster
8CCA0D9380CA4D7...

Dr. Markisha Webster
Director of DEIB, Learning, and Sustainable Communities
Sacramento Municipal Utility District

Cc: Lora Anguay
Jose Bodipo-Memba
James Frasher
Corporate Files

FEBRUARY 2026

CALIFORNIA CAPITAL AIRSHOW

HONORING OUR PAST – INSPIRING THE FUTURE

GRANT FUNDING PROPOSAL

FUELING FUTURES THROUGH AVIATION FOCUSED YOUTH PROGRAMMING

PRESENTED TO:

City of Rancho Cordova
CEIF Grant

CALIFORNIA CAPITAL AIRSHOW
HONORING OUR PAST – INSPIRING THE FUTURE

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CALIFORNIA CAPITAL AIRSHOW
HONORING OUR PAST – INSPIRING THE FUTURE

INTRODUCTION AND OVERVIEW

Ask someone to name the kinds of jobs available in aviation, and most people will offer the same three answers: pilot, flight attendant, or air traffic controller. Our programs exist to expand that horizon. When a student completes one of our summer programs, they leave understanding that aviation is not a single pathway—it is a **universe**.

It is aircraft mechanics, technicians, emergency response pilots, TSA specialists, and cargo logistics teams. It is accountants, attorneys, real estate planners, environmental scientists, wildlife biologists, cybersecurity specialists, engineers, communications experts, and the 5,200+ people who keep Sacramento County's airports operating safely every day. Aviation is not one career. It is hundreds of them—spanning every interest, every talent, and every educational level. And most young people have never been exposed to the endless opportunities that exist.

The California Capital Airshow Group respectfully submits this proposal to expand our free, hands-on, aviation-centered STEM and workforce development programs—programs that use the power and magic of flight to open young minds, especially those from underserved and underrepresented communities, to futures they've never been invited to imagine. Each year, more than 3,500 students from eight counties step into flight simulators, program drones, experiment with aerodynamics and robotics, and meet the real professionals who make our region's aviation ecosystem run. Many of these students have never seen the inside of a hangar or watched an aircraft launch up close. But once they do, everything changes.

Our programming transforms "I didn't know this existed" into "I can see myself doing this." With your partnership, we can open the doors even wider—fueling curiosity, confidence, and long-term access to careers that are waiting for the next generation to claim them.

SECTION I — ORGANIZATIONAL INFORMATION

Legal Name of Organization
Capital Airshow Group

[redacted]

Mailing Address
10425 Norden Avenue – Sacramento, CA 95655

Website
www.californiacapitalairshow.com

Primary Contact & Title
Darcy Brewer, CEO

Phone / Email
[redacted]; darcy@californiacapitalairshow.com

Year Founded
2004

Current Annual Operating Budget
$3,070,945.00

Mission, Vision and Values

Mission Statement

The California Capital Airshow uses the power and magic of flight to honor our past, inspire the future, and shine a spotlight on our region.

Vision Statement

The California Capital Airshow is recognized as a premier airshow that promotes educational programs, community engagement, and scholarship opportunities.

Core Values

Honoring our past

Airshow attendees step back in time each year with theatrical tributes that honor Veterans, share the story of our nation's history and show gratitude to the men and women who serve and sacrifice to provide the freedoms we all enjoy today.

CALIFORNIA CAPITAL AIRSHOW
HONORING OUR PAST – INSPIRING THE FUTURE

Inspiring the future

We inspire young people by creating exciting educational environments year-round that showcase science, technology, engineering, and math as the tools needed to accomplish great things.

Shining a spotlight on our region

The Airshow not only serves our regional residents with a thrilling and unforgettable civic amenity but attracts people from all over the nation and beyond to see what's so special about where we live, work, and thrive.

SECTION II — PROGRAM PROPOSAL AND COMMUNITY NEED

Fueling Futures Through Aviation Focused Youth Programming

Problem Statement

Across the aviation and aerospace industries, the workforce crisis is no longer a forecast—it's here. Pilots, engineers, aircraft mechanics, air traffic controllers, emergency responders, and aviation technicians are in critically short supply. Nearly every major aviation employer, from commercial airlines to the FAA, reports shortages that are projected to deepen over the next decade.

And yet, here in Sacramento County—home to more than **253,000 K–12 students**, with **62.6% identified as economically disadvantaged**—most young people have never been meaningfully exposed to what aviation careers actually look like. Especially girls, youth of color, and low-income students, the very populations the industry most needs to diversify.

Most have never:

- Met a pilot, firefighter, aircraft mechanic, drone operator, engineer, or air traffic controller.
- Stepped inside a hangar or onto an active airfield.
- Programmed a drone, touched aircraft tools, or watched a med-evac crew launch.
- Heard that Sacramento County Airports employs **5,200+ people** across operations, engineering, sustainability, fire, security, wildlife management, planning, and more.
- Been told, "You belong here."

Meanwhile, classroom-based science exposure is also falling behind. Statewide, only **10% of elementary students** and **14% of middle schoolers** regularly engage in hands-on science practices. Fewer than half of California's 12th graders complete the A–G

coursework required for UC/CSU admission. The opportunity gap in STEM is widening—and aviation careers are slipping even further out of view.

For many of the young people we serve—especially students in *Positive Altitude* who come from transitional housing, system involvement, or unstable home environments—aviation isn't just a career field. It's a spark, a stabilizer, and a doorway into possibility.

Every barrier stacks against them:

- Parents and guardians working multiple jobs
- Lack of transportation
- No STEM clubs or field trips
- Schools without labs, mentors, or enrichment opportunities
- No discretionary income for summer programss

Yet when these students arrive at Mather Airport, everything shifts – because at Mather, the hangars become classrooms.

Each year, more than **3,500 youth** step into simulators, build drones, experiment with aerodynamics, explore real aircraft systems, and meet professionals who *look like them*, *sound like them*, and *show them what's possible*. For many, it is the first time they see themselves in a future that once felt entirely out of reach.

One guardian said it best:

"He will remember this past week forever. Thank you for helping kids find their path." — Joey Blaine

And that is the heart of the problem: **It is hard to become something you have never seen.**

We turn "I never knew this existed" into: **"I want to do this someday."**

The issue is not ability. **It's access.**
And access is exactly what we deliver

CALIFORNIA CAPITAL AIRSHOW
HONORING OUR PAST – INSPIRING THE FUTURE

Program Explanation

Our Programs to Date

Our youth programming has evolved and shifted over the years, depending on funding availability and staff capacity.

Our programs are not "just events." They are transformational experiences that unfold hour by hour, site by site, mentor by mentor. *See Appendix 3 for more detail.*

For five immersive days, Destination Aviation Camp and ACE Academy take students ages 10–18 across the region to:

- Active hangars
- ARFF (aircraft rescue and firefighting) fire and Metro Fire structural fire stations
- UPS and FedEx air cargo hubs
- Law enforcement and med-evac helicopter bases
- Drone/UAS labs
- Airport operations centers and TRACON
- Maintenance and engineering shops
- Commercial passenger airline partners
- Sustainability, environmental and wildlife management units
- Military installations

They watch aircraft lift off.
They hear communication between pilots and air traffic controllers.
They touch the tools that keep our skies safe.
They stand beside professionals who say, "You can do this too."

Students learn:

- Aerodynamics
- Aircraft systems
- Drone technology & UAS
- Emergency response and air attack
- Robotics, coding, engineering
- Artificial intelligence in aviation
- Airport operations and administration
- Sustainability & environmental management

One student's guardian captured it best:

"I spent more than 30 years in the aviation industry, and these kids had a week of experiences I never had access to. What an incredible opportunity to expose our youth to the wide world of aviation—and how education can launch their future."

Another parent shared:

"Chase will never forget his week with your team…We felt like our whole family was included." — Charles Barfield

For our youngest participants (K–1), **Day at the Airport** offers early exposure—an age group where research shows confidence and curiosity begin to take shape.

Girls in Aviation Day brings together 500 young women and 200 mentors each year—women who look like them, sound like them, and share stories that make once-invisible careers feel possible.

Our **Destination Aviation STEM Expo** is one of the region's largest one-day STEM events, serving 1,500 students with 2.5 hours of presentations and 2.5 hours of hands-on activities.

Our **Positive Altitude Program** provides a safe, empowering pathway for youth ages 8–13 who need a glimpse of positive law enforcement, leadership, and service through aviation.

This is more than exposure.
This is identity-shaping, opportunity-building, life-expanding work.

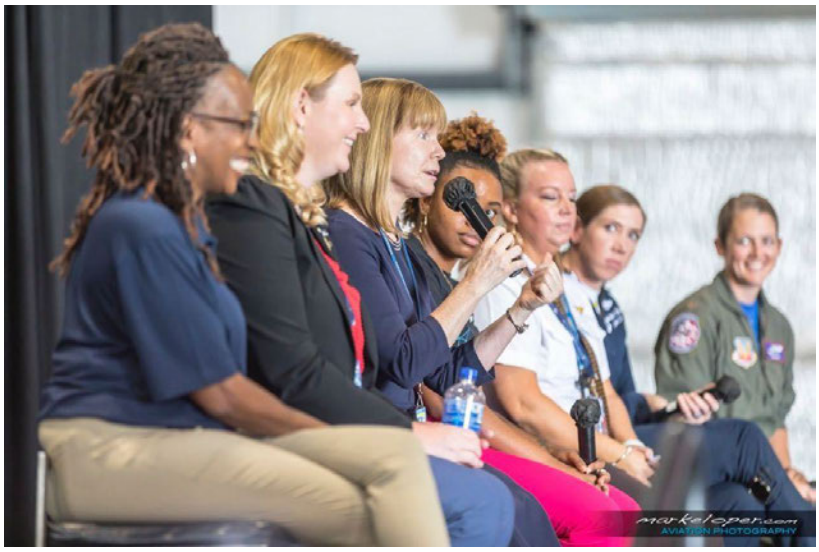
Fueling the Future – Our Program Going Forward

Before we expand any program, we want to be absolutely certain we are expanding it in the right direction. That's why our current priority is a **formal Program Review & Needs Assessment**.

We owe it to our students to understand not just what they *enjoy*, but what will actually change their lives. We want to align our programming with the realities of today's aviation workforce and the needs of Sacramento's youth—many of whom have never been told they belong in these rewarding careers.

This assessment will help us answer the questions that matter:
What jobs exist for a student with a high school diploma? With Career Technical Education? With a college degree? Which paths will be exploding in demand in the next decade—AI, drones, emergency aviation, sustainability, airport operations?

And because we know that women and girls remain dramatically underrepresented in aviation, the Needs Assessment will also help us determine how to thoughtfully expand programs like *Girls in Aviation Day* while remaining compliant with funding restrictions that limit gender-specific programming.



This work is not about exclusion—it is about equity.

Today, women represent just **6% of all pilots**, **approximately 2–3% of aircraft mechanics**, and only **16% of air traffic controllers** nationwide. These figures place aviation among the most gender-imbalanced industries in the country—well behind other STEM fields and far below the national workforce average of 47% women. For many girls, the barrier is not interest or ability—it is visibility. It is hard to imagine yourself in a career when you have

never seen someone who looks like you doing the work. *Please see Appendix 4 for more stats and info.*

The Needs Assessment will allow us to use data—not assumptions—to determine where intentional gender-equity programming is most impactful, and where emerging industry demand may reshape our approach altogether. For example, the rapid growth of **drone operations, unmanned systems, and technology-driven aviation roles** is opening new, accessible pathways that may naturally attract more girls and young women without requiring exclusionary models.

By grounding future programming decisions in both workforce trends and community need, we can ensure that every opportunity we offer—whether through Girls in Aviation Day, STEM Expos, camps, or emerging programs—creates space for girls to see themselves, belong, and lead, while remaining inclusive, strategic, and aligned with our funders' guidelines.

The result is programming that is focused, fair, and forward-looking—designed to close persistent gaps while preparing *all* students for the future of aviation.

Most importantly, the Needs Assessment will tell us exactly **how to deliver the right curriculum, to the right students, in the right way**, so we can create the greatest possible impact.

Program Goals

Through the Needs Assessment and the expanded programming it informs, our goals are to:

- Identify the most effective aviation/STEM curricula for Sacramento-area youth, rooted in local workforce demand and student need.
- Ensure meaningful, equitable access for underserved and economically disadvantaged students.
- Ignite interest in high-need aviation and aerospace careers—not just pilots, but mechanics, emergency responders, drone operators, airport operations, engineering, environmental sustainability, and more.
- Build confidence, leadership, and belonging so that students not only imagine themselves in these careers—they see a path to get there.
- Strengthen long-term youth development pathways, creating a continuum from mentorship → volunteering → internships → apprenticeships → scholarships → workforce.

- Deepen collaboration with public agencies, military partners, and industry, ensuring students are connected to real professionals and real opportunities.

We will measure the success of both the Needs Assessment and our expanded programming through:

- Completion of a comprehensive K–12 needs assessment, identifying the strongest curriculum elements and delivery models.
- Clear measurable objectives based on those findings, such as:
  – Number of students served
  – Number of industry mentors engaged
  – Pre/post growth in STEM awareness
  – Participant satisfaction
  – Number of youth transitioning into internships, apprenticeships, or CTE programs
- Delivery of one aviation-career summer camp in 2026 (ages 10–18).
- Delivery of a large-scale STEM Expo
- By 2027, delivery of three youth programs informed by the Needs Assessment:
  – One full summer camp
  – One large STEM Expo
  – One additional program (Girls in Aviation Day, Positive Altitude, or another offering determined by need)

These measurable outcomes will ensure that all funding goes directly toward programming that is **proven, targeted, and life changing.**

Here are our program goals for this year and next:

2026:

- Complete Needs Assessment
- Refine curriculum, delivery methods & groups served
- Launch one ACE Academy/Destination Aviation camp
- Deliver one major STEM Expo and one aviation day program

2027:

- Implement a *full suite of youth programming* informed by the assessment
- Expand reach and access
- Double engagement and program impact if funding is at the 100k level mark

The Needs Assessment will ensure that every dollar invested is thoughtfully directed toward the highest-impact curriculum and experiences, informing program design, resource allocation, and long-term planning to ensure measurable outcomes and responsible stewardship of funds.

<u>Collaboration and Partnership</u>

No other organization in the Greater Sacramento region can offer what our students experience through the California Capital Airshow Group. Our partnerships are not theoretical—they are lived, trusted relationships that unlock gates, open doors, and create once-in-a-lifetime moments for young people who would never otherwise see these

worlds.

Our staff brings deep expertise of their own: professional pilots, certified flight instructors, and credentialed teachers who work adjacent to the Sacramento County Office of Education headquarters. But it is our partnerships—meticulously built over 15 years—that make our programs unlike anything else in Northern California.

Because we are located at Mather Airport, our presenting sponsor and landlord—**Sacramento County Department of Airports**—provides extraordinary access to secured facilities at both Mather and Sacramento International Airport. This allows students to step far beyond what the public ever sees: cargo operations, fire stations, wildlife and

environmental teams, airport operations centers, law enforcement units, and the complex ecosystem that keeps millions of passengers safe each year.

Our students don't read about aviation—they *step directly into it*.

Through our long-standing partnership with the **Federal Aviation Administration**, students visit air traffic control towers and even the highly restricted **NORCAL TRACON** facility, where controllers manage the airspace for all of Northern California. Fewer than 1% of civilians ever get inside these facilities. Our students don't just get inside—they meet the experts who work there.

Our academic partners—including **William Jessup University**, **Los Rios Community College District**, and Sacramento City College—open their labs, classrooms, and even **commercial-grade flight simulators**. Students sit at the controls, guided by professors, and learn how airplanes fly from the people who teach the next generation of aviators.

Our aviation industry partners—**UPS, FedEx, Mach 5 Aviation, Modern Aviation, REACH**, and more—give students hands-on perspectives across every corner of aviation. They climb into cargo aircraft, explore maintenance hangars mid-repair, sit inside medical helicopters, and see the machinery and teamwork that keep our region moving.

And our military partners—**Air Force, Navy, Army, Marine Corps, Coast Guard**, and guard units from the **California Military Department**—provide experiences so rare they are unforgettable. In 2024, students in ACE Academy witnessed a **live in-flight refueling mission** at Travis Air Force Base—one of the largest humanitarian mobility wings in the world. These young people watched the aircraft connect and fuel at altitude, a moment that simply cannot be replicated in a classroom.

Every partner plays a role in expanding a student's sense of possibility.
Every visit adds another spark.
Every mentor becomes another voice saying, "You belong here."

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Primary Collaborative Partners Include:

- **Sacramento County Department of Airports** (presenting sponsor; access to SMF & Mather)
- **Cargo & passenger airlines** at both regional airports, such as UPS, FedEx, etc
- **Federal Aviation Administration** (ATC towers, NORCAL TRACON)
- **Los Rios Community College District / Sacramento City College** (education in dispatch, ATC, maintenance, aviation technology)
- **William Jessup University** (flight simulators, professors, aviation labs)
- **Mach 5 Aviation** (in-air flight training experiences)
- **United States Military + California Military Department** (aircraft access, humanitarian aviation, rescue operations)
- **Industry & community partners** such as REACH, Modern Aviation, Red Tail Drones, PG&E, and more

Together, these uncommon partnerships create something rare: A full-access, immersive, aviation-forward ecosystem where students don't just *learn*—they experience, they connect, and they begin to imagine themselves in the cockpit, the tower, the hangar, or the operations center.

Our collaborations are not add-ons.
They *are* the magic.
And they are what allow our students to dream bigger, aim higher, and see a future that once felt invisible.

SECTION III — PROGRAM SUSTAINABILITY AND ACCOUNTABILITY

Sustainability is not a buzzword for us, it's a promise. When a student steps into one of our programs, they are not stepping into just a one or five-day experience; they are stepping into a pathway. A future. A community. Our responsibility is to make sure the spark they feel does not fade once they return home.

We want our students talking about aviation at the dinner table. We want them imagining "what's next" the moment they leave the airport. And if they aren't buzzing with excitement long after they go home, then we haven't done our job. In fact, parents/guardians often show up the next morning because their children simply can't stop talking. That is the level of impact we commit to sustaining.

Sustaining the Program

Our Educational & STEM Youth Programs are supported through a deliberately diversified framework that keeps the work strong and stable:

- County partnerships
- Corporate sponsorships
- Foundation grants
- Individual donors
- Airshow revenue (from our annual nonprofit fundraiser)
- In-kind services (electrical, equipment, waste services, rentals, media support etc.)
- Ticket-roundup scholarship contributions (4,300 donors last season)
- Public agency collaboration

Funding will not replace existing support—it would expand, strengthen, and stabilize the long-term capacity needed to meet soaring demand. Each year, our programs fill quickly and waiting lists grow longer, underscoring a simple truth: there is no shortage of young people who want to learn, explore, and belong in these spaces—only a shortage of resources to serve them all.

Staffing and Capacity

Our youth programming is powered by a uniquely qualified team, including:

- A credentialed teacher and trained youth development staff (we are located adjacent

to SCOE to meet ongoing educator needs)
- Veteran aviation educators
- Credentialed pilots, mechanics, firefighters, EMTs, and air-rescue professionals
- Airport operations experts and sustainability teams
- Volunteers with 20–40 years of aviation experience
- Industry mentors who make careers feel relatable and attainable

These adults do more than teach—they connect. They model professionalism, resilience, teamwork, humility, and possibility. They are often the first aviation or STEM professional a child has ever met.

Performance Metrics

We evaluate success using both data and lived impact:

- Total number of students served (target: 3,500+ annually)
- Number of industry tours and partner engagements
- Growth in STEM/aviation career awareness (20–35% increase expected)
- Student confidence and self-efficacy indicators
- Teacher and partner feedback

Reporting Schedule

Per your request, you will receive:

- Quarterly narrative updates
- Quarterly financial summaries
- A full annual report
- Appendices including photos, stories, media coverage, and detailed budget usage

We are a highly transparent, media-forward organization. Every event is photographed, filmed, and shared with the community. We welcome all community investors to roll up their sleeves, step behind the scenes, and join us to see their investment in action anytime.

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Evaluation Method

Our program evaluation is human-centered, practical, and honest. We measure not only what children learn, but how they grow and assess impact through:

- Pre- and post-program surveys
- Parent and guardian reflections
- Student, counselor and partner feedback
- Long-term engagement monitoring (volunteering, internships/apprenticeships)

SECTION IV — FINANCIAL HEALTH & GOVERNANCE REVIEW

Financial Stability

The California Capital Airshow Group maintains a healthy, diversified financial structure. Our nonprofit receives revenue from:

- Airshow proceeds (approx. $3 million annually)
- Government and county partnerships
- Corporate sponsorships
- Ticket-roundup scholarship fund (4,300+ donors last season)
- In-kind operational support and services
- Individual giving and foundations
- Concessions operations and partner events

We pride ourselves on responsible stewardship and on ensuring that every dollar stretches into real community impact.

Administrative Efficiency

Our administrative/overhead rate is approximately 10%, demonstrating lean, efficient management.

Source: IRS Form 990 — $265,215 / $3,070,945, with over $280,000 reinvested back into community benefit.

Audit Status

Our most recent independent financial audit is currently in progress (2025).

Auditing Firm: Mann, Urrutia, Nelson CPAs and Associates LLP
Address: 2515 Venture Oaks Way, Suite 135, Sacramento, CA

In addition, our financials are actively managed on a weekly basis by Katie Williams, CPA, and formally reviewed and reported to our Board of Directors on a monthly basis, ensuring strong fiscal oversight, transparency, and accountability.

Board Engagement

Our Board is entirely volunteer-based and includes leaders with expertise in:

- Aviation
- Education

- Public safety
- Community engagement
- Finance
- Youth development
- Military and emergency operations

Board members meet monthly, maintaining a 90% attendance rate. It is a working board—each member serves on at least one committee, and many serve on two.

Conflict of Interest Policy

CCA maintains a formal, written Conflict of Interest Policy reviewed and signed annually by all board members and key staff.

I am an interested person with regard to this Organization, and have read, understand and agree to comply with this policy in accordance with Article VI (Annual Statements).

_____ _____

Signature Printed Name

_____

Date

SECTION V – FUNDING SCENARIOS AND SCALABILITY

Below is a **clear, investor-friendly funding matrix** showing what funding support makes possible at each level.

Your investment directly expands access, increases program capacity, deepens curriculum, and strengthens long-term career pathways for youth across the Sacramento region. The **California Capital Airshow Group is committed to matching this investment dollar-for-dollar—leveraging more than $200,000 annually** to deliver and sustain our educational and STEM programming. For example, a $75,000 grant would unlock a full $150,000 in impact, ensuring that no student is turned away from these life-changing opportunities. *Please see Appendix 2 for sample budget and cost breakdowns*.

Funding Scenario Table

Funding Level	Needs Assessment	Summer Camp 25-50 students	STEM Expo/Dest Aviation/Positive Altitude 500-1500 students	Additional Aviation Programs 250-500 students	Program Years Impacted
$25,000	✔	—	—	✔	2026
$50,000	✔	**1 Camp**	—	✔	2026
$75,000	✔	**1 Camp**	**1 STEM Expo**	—	2026–2027
$100,000	✔	**1 Camp**	**1 STEM Expo**	✔	2026 2027 (one additional camp or expo)

Tiered a La Carte Descriptions

If awarded up to $25,000, possible activities include:

- Completion of a formal **Needs Assessment** to guide future expansion of CCA's youth programming
- **One family-centered aviation/STEM program** introducing young learners to aviation and hands-on STEM

Impact: This level strengthens CCA's program planning foundation and supports a community-accessible aviation/STEM experience that would otherwise not occur due to budget limitations.

If awarded up to $50,000, possible activities include:

- Needs Assessment
- One Aviation Program
- One 5-Day Camp Session

Impact: This investment funds both the *future* of CCA's youth programming and one of our most impactful *current* programs. Students receive immersive exposure to aviation careers while CCA expands its strategic direction.

If awarded up to $75,000, possible activities include:

- Needs Assessment
- One STEM Expo
- One 5-Day Camp Session

Impact: At this level, you are supporting two of CCA's most high-impact programs—connecting hundreds of young people to hands-on aviation experiences while also building long-term program sustainability.

If awarded up to $100,000, possible activities include:

- Needs Assessment
- One STEM Expo
- One 5-Day Camp Session
- One Aviation Program

Impact: This level transforms regional access to aviation and STEM. It ensures that thousands of young people each year receive education, exposure, and access that simply do not exist anywhere else. It also builds a **stable, multi-year talent pipeline** supporting workforce needs across aviation, aerospace, emergency response, public safety, drone operations, AI technology, and beyond.

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SECTION VI – CONCLUSION

Every child deserves a moment that shifts their horizon—when they suddenly see themselves as capable, worthy, and full of potential they didn't know they had. For many students, our programs provide that moment.

They step inside a hangar and realize their future can look different. They meet a pilot, engineer, or airport firefighter and realize their dreams are valid. They sit in a cockpit, stand beside an air ambulance or fighter jet, watch a drone launch, or talk with an airport sustainability manager—and something inside them lifts.

This is where possibility becomes real. This is where "I never knew this existed" becomes "I can do this someday."

We would be honored to partner with you to create more of these moments—to ignite belief, open doors, and help young people across the Sacramento region rise. Your investment would not simply fund a program; it would change trajectories. It would give students education, exposure, and access at the exact age when it matters most.

Thank you for considering our request and thank you for investing in the children who will shape our future. We warmly invite you—and your team—to join us onsite anytime to participate and see your impact in action: to meet the students whose lives you've touched, watch their confidence grow in real time, and witness firsthand how together, we can help them dream bigger, aim higher, and quite literally—reach for the stars.

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APPENDIX

FUELING FUTURES THROUGH AVIATION FOCUSED YOUTH PROGRAMMING

APPENDIX 1 – Program Impact Media

The following links provide a visual snapshot of the California Capital Airshow Group's Educational & STEM Youth Programs in action. These videos and images capture real moments from Destination Aviation camps, STEM expos, school-year outreach, and hands-on aviation experiences across the Greater Sacramento region.

Together, they show the students we serve, the environments they learn in, and the mentors who walk alongside them—bringing education, exposure, and access to life in ways that words alone cannot fully convey.

- Destination Aviation Camp: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=vOiXw1jyFfQ
- STEM Expo highlights: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Hunwk5qSJcU&feature=youtu.be and https://www.dropbox.com/scl/fi/ngsriq6uzbz0r5kn1qgn5/TB-STEM-Exop-Video-2021.mp4?rlkey=agtu8p9s2hxqfctiwq7xuwtm0&dl=0
- Girls in Aviation Day: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=hL0o0OVXf24 and https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=H6Z9R4TcG4w&feature=youtu.be

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APPENDIX 2 — Sample Program Budgets & Cost Breakdown

These sample budgets provide a transparent snapshot of the real costs associated with delivering the California Capital Airshow Group's hands-on aviation and STEM youth programs. The figures included reflect historical program expenses, vendor pricing, and operational realities based on recent camps and events. While individual line items may fluctuate due to factors such as fuel costs, materials, staffing needs, or program scale, this budget illustrates how funding is thoughtfully allocated to prioritize student access, safety, high-quality instruction, and immersive experiences. Together, these investments ensure that every dollar directly supports meaningful, equitable, and impactful programming for youth across the Greater Sacramento region.

STEM Expo and 'Ask Me Anyting' Conference - 512 Students, 170 mentors/volunteers	
Hangar Space	Sponsored
Moderator	Sponsored
Media Coordinator	650
Décor	750
Graphic Design	300
Conference A/V Equip	5,720
Professional Staffing Support	7,500
Rentals (tables, chairs, table coverings, cleaning fees, delivery)	6,326
Banners/Signage	750
Catering/snacks/service staff	14,800
Water (cases)	600
Credentials (students)	1,000
Credentials (parents, speakers, mentors and volunteers)	1,200
Portable restrooms (rental, janitorial & servicing)	1,275
Speakers/panelists (travel & accomodations)	8,000
EDU materials backpacks	4,500

Student Summer Camp Budget (five days)	Details	Cost
Professional Staffing Support	Staff & Volunteers	$2,375
Rentals	facility, tables, chairs, coverings	$980
Banners/signage/credentials	Alpha Graphics	$375
Lunch, snack and bottled water each travel day	$1,110 per day	$4,440
Student ACE Academy T-shirts		$760
Buses/daily	$950 daily	$4,750
Speakers/panelists (travel & accommodations)		$1,750
Discovery Flights & Drone Training		$5,750
Graduation Day lunch with parents/guardians	$25 x 60 guests	$1,500
PA System (speakers/sound/microphone rental)		$295
EDU material backpacks	30 x $26.50 each	$885
Misc. Supplies & Journals/Pens		$550
PR/Communications/Media Coordination	Niche Communications	$350
Graphic Design	M. Loper	$250
Total Expense		**$25,010**

APPENDIX 3 — A Day in the Life: Destination Aviation Summer Camp

By 8:30 a.m., the vans are already filling up. Some students arrive buzzing with excitement; others are quieter, taking it all in. For many, this is their first time spending a full day at an airport—let alone stepping behind the scenes of one.

The morning begins with a safety briefing and a warm welcome from counselors and mentors. Students introduce themselves, share what brought them to camp, and talk about what they're curious about. For some, it's drones. For others, firefighting, engineering, or flying. For many, the answer is simple: *"I didn't know what this was, but I wanted to see."*

By mid-morning, the learning becomes tangible. Students step into a hangar where aircraft are actively being inspected and maintained. They touch tools, examine engines, and hear mechanics explain how safety, math, and precision come together in real time. Questions fly. Confidence grows.

Later, they meet professionals in uniform—pilots, air traffic controllers, firefighters, med-evac crews, drone operators—people who look them in the eye and say, *"Here's how I got here."* These are not lectures. They are conversations. Stories about mistakes, resilience, teamwork, and pride in meaningful work.

After lunch (often a highlight in itself), the afternoon is hands-on. Students rotate through STEM activities: programming drones, testing aerodynamics, exploring flight simulators, or solving team challenges that mirror real aviation scenarios. Shy students start speaking up. Natural leaders emerge. Friendships form.

As the day winds down, there's a quiet shift. Students reflect on what surprised them, what excited them, and what they might want to learn more about. Many say the same thing in different ways: *"I didn't know this was an option for me."*

By pickup time, parents and guardians can see it instantly—the energy, the stories spilling out, the questions at the dinner table later that night. This isn't just a camp day. It's a turning point.

This is what Destination Aviation looks like in practice:
real exposure, real confidence, and real possibility—one day at a time.

APPENDIX 4 — The Gap We Must Close

Aviation & STEM Workforce Reality — and why action matters now!

Sacramento County is home to **253,331 K–12 students**—and **62.6%** of them are classified as economically disadvantaged. For thousands of young people, access to hands-on STEM learning, enrichment programs, and career exposure simply does not exist outside the classroom.

Statewide, fewer than **half of California's high school seniors** complete the coursework required for admission to the UC/CSU system. Even earlier, the pipeline is already breaking: only **10% of elementary students** and **14% of middle school students** regularly engage in hands-on science practices.

At the same time, aviation and aerospace industries are facing a critical workforce crisis.

Women remain dramatically underrepresented:

- **6% of U.S. pilots**
- **2–3% of aircraft mechanics**
- **16% of air traffic controllers**

These numbers lag far behind nearly every other STEM sector—and far behind the national workforce average of **47% women**.

And yet, demand has never been higher. Pilots, engineers, mechanics, air traffic controllers, emergency responders, drone operators, and airport professionals are urgently needed—locally, nationally, and globally.

The problem is not talent.
The problem is access.

When young people never see these careers—or themselves in them—the pipeline breaks before it ever begins.

This is the moment to act.

With intentional investment, curiosity becomes confidence. Exposure becomes belonging. Opportunity becomes a future.

When **education, exposure, and access** come together, **futures take flight**.

Title

Rancho Cordova Little League Enhancement: Facility & Equipment

03/05/2026

id. 53394252

by **Michele Elkins-Buettner** in **Fiscal Year 2026-2027 Community Enhancement & Investment Fund Grant Application**

11230 Gold Express Drive
Suite 310-197
Gold River, California
95670
California
United States
[redacted]
michele@rcll.org

Original Submission

03/05/2026

Score n/a

	Thank you for your interest in applying to the City of Rancho Cordova's Community Enhancement & Investment Fund. Applications are open from February 9, 2026, to March 13, 2026, Noon (12:00 p.m.) with a specific deadline of March 6th Noon (12:00 p.m.) for certain applications**. Before you begin, please read the notes about deadlines and certain types of grant applications/grants below. **School/Park Application Deadline **Note that projects or programs involving a park or school district have a deadline of March 6 Noon (12:00 p.m.) to allow for the third-party endorsement process by the grant deadline.** A Note about Religious Schools and the Application/Grant Process **Note for grant applications from religious schools. The United States Supreme Court has recently ruled in part that: “denying a generally available benefit [from government] solely on account of religious identity imposes a penalty on the free exercise of religion that can be justified only by a state interest of the highest order.” The City is of the opinion that not all grants to religious schools are prohibited under this and other similar rulings. However, these United States Supreme Court decisions remain in conflict with a section of the California State Constitution that says: “[n]either the Legislature, nor any county, city and county, township, school district, or other municipal corporation, shall ever make an appropriation, or pay from any public fund whatever, or grant anything to or in aid of any religious sect, church, creed, or sectarian purpose, or help to support or sustain any school, college, university, hospital, or other institution controlled by any religious creed, church, or sectarian denomination whatever; nor shall any grant or donation of personal property or real estate ever be made by the state, or any city, city and county, town, or other municipal corporation for any religious creed, church, or sectarian purpose whatever”. The City will accept applications for grants of these City public funds from religious schools, but will have language in the grant agreements to address the possibility and consequences of legal challenges and new court decisions on this and related topics. ** Future Grant Opportunities If you are interested in remaining up-to-date on available grants from the City of Rancho Cordova, click here to sign up for the Grants Interest List. A separate call for programming opportunities with the Rancho Cordova Youth Center is anticipated later in 2026. The list is also used to advertise separate art programs when funds are available. Ongoing Grant Opportunity The City of Rancho Cordova offers a microgrant opportunity. Learn more about those grants online.
Is this your first time applying for grant funding from the City of Rancho Cordova? As a first-time applicant, Community Enhancement & Investment Fund (CEIF) staff will contact you to discuss your project and grant application process.	No: Not a First Time Applicant

	1 - Project/Program Information Note: You can add a collaborator to this form to assist you in completing this application! A collaborator can help you complete this form by filling in fields for you, although only you can submit this form. You can add a collaborator by navigating to the top of the form and clicking on the 'Manage Collaborators' button. Simply enter their email address and click 'invite' to invite them as a collaborator. If you need further assistance, you may consult this Help article for more information.
Project/Program Name. Assign a project name to your project/program.	Rancho Cordova Little League Enhancement: Facility & Equipment
Which category does your Project/Program align with?	Youth Programs & Services
Provide a Project/Program Synopsis	Our baseball facility is a vital community hub that fosters youth development, family engagement, and community pride. Enhancing and maintaining the facility ensures a safe, accessible, and high-quality environment that strengthens local recreation, supports active lifestyles, and brings Rancho Cordova families together through youth sports.
Provide a Project/Program Description	**Enhancing Rancho Cordova Little League Facilities for a Stronger Community** Founded in 1954, Rancho Cordova Little League (RCLL) has served as a long-standing community institution, providing youth ages 4–14 with a safe, structured, and inclusive environment that promotes physical health, social development, teamwork, leadership, and sportsmanship. Today, approximately 500 children participate each spring season, with many continuing into our fall program so hundreds of family members, volunteers, and community supporters visit our fields weekly. In addition, RCLL hosts postseason tournament play, welcoming players and families from surrounding leagues and neighboring communities. As a result, our fields serve as a visible representation of Rancho Cordova. RCLL operates across eight baseball fields located at Cordova Lane Elementary and W.E. Mitchell Middle School (Folsom-Cordova Unified School District) and Ahlstrom Park (Cordova Recreation and Park District). These shared-use public facilities serve not only Little League families, but also the broader community for recreation and gathering. As a nonprofit organization, RCLL takes responsibility for ongoing field preparation, equipment replacement, safety compliance, and facility improvements to ensure these spaces remain accessible, safe, and well-maintained. Previous Community Enhancement & Investment Fund support allowed us to purchase essential field maintenance equipment, upgrade snack bar infrastructure, and improve overall field conditions. Continued investment is critical to sustaining these improvements and meeting the growing needs of our participants. Grant funding will support:

- **Field & Facility Enhancements:** Infield and outfield maintenance, clay and turf replacement, fencing and netting repairs, bleacher and shade improvements, dugout upgrades, signage, and essential groundskeeping equipment.
- **Player & Game Equipment Improvements:** Replacement of worn bases and anchors, baseballs, pitching mounds, home plates, batting cage upgrades, scoreboard enhancements, and updated safety gear for players, coaches, and umpires.
- **Safety & Security Upgrades:** Emergency medical equipment, improved storage systems, and infrastructure improvements that enhance participant safety and operational efficiency.
- **Snack Bar & Facility Improvements:** Upgrades to food service equipment and storage to better serve families and support league sustainability.

These improvements directly align with the City's Community Enhancement & Investment Fund priorities by:

- Promoting youth health and wellness through active recreation
- Strengthening community connections and volunteer engagement
- Preserving and enhancing shared-use public facilities
- Supporting a long-standing nonprofit organization that serves hundreds of local families
- Ensuring safe, inclusive, and accessible recreational opportunities

Through strong collaboration with Folsom-Cordova Unified School District and Cordova Recreation and Park District, RCLL ensures all improvements meet approval standards and benefit the broader public.

This funding will sustain a vital community resource, enhance quality of life for Rancho Cordova families, and preserve youth baseball as a positive, community-building tradition for generations to come.

Tell us about your Project/Program Team	Rancho Cordova Little League is led by a 20-member volunteer Board of Directors elected by the General Membership. The Board oversees league governance, financial stewardship, safety compliance, and the planning and execution of facility improvements. Members bring experience in project management, budgeting, facility maintenance, and community engagement. All serve in an unpaid capacity, contributing thousands of volunteer hours annually. Financial controls ensure transparency and responsible use of funds. RCLL collaborates with Folsom-Cordova Unified School District and Cordova Recreation & Park District to ensure improvements align with shared-use facility standards.

Provide your Project/Program Goals	Rancho Cordova Little League (RCLL) is committed to preserving safe, accessible, and high-quality public recreation spaces that enhance community quality of life and support youth development. A primary goal of this project is to protect and preserve eight shared-use baseball fields through annual safety inspections, timely completion of identified repairs, and full compliance with Little League safety standards. Maintaining high-quality playing conditions includes structured seasonal maintenance cycles and tracking equipment replacement to extend infrastructure lifespan and reduce long-term costs. RCLL will sustain and seek to grow participation beyond 500 youth annually while continuing fall programming and postseason tournament play, measuring year-over-year enrollment, retention, and expanded facility usage. The league will continue to support strong volunteer engagement, monitor participation trends, and evaluate tournament activity and facility usage to demonstrate sustained community impact and regional engagement. The Board of Directors will oversee timelines, expenditures, and measurable benchmarks through structured financial controls and progress reviews to ensure responsible stewardship of City investment and a clear, measurable community return.
Optional File Upload: Provide any additional records to supplement your program/project application. Note: Combine multiple files in one pdf before uploading.	
	2 - Funding & Costs
Funding Request - Complete this section with total dollar amounts for your project/program's costs	Funds are generally not intended to be used for deferred maintenance and ongoing operational needs. The funds are intended for enhancing and investing in the City of Rancho Cordova. If your project/program is awarded, the costs identified below would be reviewed and potentially open to modification during a contracting phase (if a grant is awarded by the City Council). If awarded, grant funds are not available until a contract is executed during Fiscal Year 2026-2027.
Total project/program cost*	45000
What is the amount of Community Enhancement & Investment Fund grant monies requested?	45000

Does your project/program involve construction of any facilities or improvements upon any property?	Yes
If your project/program involves construction, please indicate your project budget?	10000
What is the total cost of personnel for your project/program?	0
What is the total cost of supplies for your project/program?	15000
What is the total cost of transportation for your project/program?	0
What is the total cost of equipment for your project/program?	15000
What is the total cost of any miscellaneous expenses for your project/program?	5000

Upload your project/program's budget as a .pdf file. Include the categories and their dollar amounts along with information about any other funding sources to demonstrate your project/program's total budget. Note, the sum of all categories must match the total project or program cost, or the amount requested of CEIF if there is no other funding source. Please clearly illustrate any matching funds or funding from other sources in your project/program budget, including in-kind sources. Note: Combine multiple files in one pdf before uploading.

Budget_Request_for_Funding_26_27.pdf

Has your organization sought or will seek other funding for this project/program?	Yes, actively seeking funding support or have secured additional funding support for this project/program.

Describe any funding secured or being sought for this project/program.	RCLL actively pursues funding through local business sponsorships, community partnerships, fundraising efforts, and individual contributions to support ongoing operational costs and facility maintenance. These funds help offset expenses related to field upkeep, equipment replacement, and program delivery. In addition to private support, RCLL seeks public funding opportunities, including community-based grants, to ensure long-term sustainability and continued investment in shared-use recreational facilities that benefit Rancho Cordova families.
Please describe any ongoing operations and maintenance costs beyond Fiscal Year 2026/2027, if applicable.	RCLL anticipates ongoing annual costs associated with the operation, maintenance, and improvement of its facilities and equipment beyond Fiscal Year 2026/2027. These recurring expenses include field preparation and repairs, turf and infield materials, fencing and netting upkeep, equipment replacement, safety compliance updates, storage and security enhancements, and general facility maintenance. As a volunteer-led nonprofit, RCLL remains committed to budgeting responsibly, pursuing diversified funding sources, and implementing preventive maintenance practices to ensure the long-term sustainability and preservation of these shared-use public recreation assets.
Do you have volunteer or in-kind support for your project? This could include volunteers for an activity/event that is ongoing or a one-time experience.	Yes
Please share the total dollar amount for volunteer/in-kind support using $34.79 as the national rate for a volunteer hour. Source: Value of Volunteer Time	776968

Please provide a worksheet explaining your volunteer/in-kind contribution. You may upload a file in the following formats: CSV, DOC, DOCX, or PDF.

In-Kind_Contribution__Rancho_Cordova_Little_League_26_27.pdf

Is this a single year request or a request for funding for multiple years?	Single Year

Has your project/program received funding from the Community Enhancement & Investment Fund previously?	Yes
How many years has your project/program received funding from the Community Enhancement & Investment Fund?	3
How much funding has your organization received from the Community Enhancement & Investment Fund through our traditional grants (not including microgrants)?	143,510.00
	3 - Project/Program Details Grant applications are typically approved to occur between July 2026 through June 2027. What is your plan to complete this project/program within this time frame?
Anticipated Start Date (July 1 is the soonest available start date)	7/1/2026
Anticipated End Date (typically projects/programs end by June 30)	6/30/2027
Please describe your project/program schedule	Work will commence upon receipt of funding. Following the conclusion of Tournament Play in July, RCLL conducts a comprehensive audit of all facilities, fields, and equipment. This assessment identifies and prioritizes necessary repairs, replacements, safety updates, and improvements. Planning and procurement occur during late summer and early fall, with maintenance and upgrade projects implemented throughout the fall and winter months. This timeline ensures all improvements are completed prior to the start of spring practices and Opening Day. Ongoing monitoring continues throughout the season to address emerging needs and maintain safe, high-quality playing conditions.

What challenges do you anticipate in your project/program's implementation? What is your plan to complete your project/program should those or other challenges arise?	As a volunteer-led nonprofit operating shared-use public facilities, RCLL recognizes that challenges may include fluctuating material costs, supply chain delays, scheduling coordination with partner agencies, weather-related impacts, and limited volunteer availability during peak seasons. RCLL has extensive experience navigating these variables and maintains a proactive planning process to mitigate risk. Annual post-season audits allow for early identification and prioritization of needs, enabling timely procurement and cost planning. The Board implements structured budgeting, contingency planning, and phased implementation strategies to ensure critical safety-related improvements are addressed first. Strong partnerships with Folsom-Cordova Unified School District and Cordova Recreation & Park District support coordination and approvals. With established financial controls, experienced leadership, and a history of responsible project delivery, RCLL is well-positioned to complete this project efficiently, even if unforeseen challenges arise.
How many individuals does your project/program serve?	RCLL directly serves approximately 500 youth participants each spring season, with additional participation in fall programming and postseason play. When including families, volunteers, and spectators, the program serves well over 1,000 individuals annually, with consistent weekly use of facilities throughout the majority of the year.
How many Rancho Cordova residents does your project/program serve?	Players must reside in or attend school within RCLL boundaries, which include Rancho Cordova, Anatolia, Gold River, Mather, and portions of Sacramento. The majority of participants are Rancho Cordova residents.
	4 - Project/Program Location
Address Verification	If you need to check if your project is in Rancho Cordova, type in your program/project's location in the Assessor Parcel Viewer: https://assessorparcelviewer.saccounty.gov/jsviewer/assessor.html

School and park related applications are due before Noon (12:00 p.m.) on March 6, 2026, to allow for the endorsement process.	Please note that projects or programs that are proposed on property owned or operated by outside agencies or a private party will require coordination with and potentially approvals from outside agencies, organizations, and/or the private party. Include whether you have received a letter of support for the project/program from the property owner. Upload any letters of support with your application. City staff will verify third-party permits have been discussed. In your planning discussions, be sure to discuss any necessary insurance or volunteer requirements that may increase budget costs. School Sites If your project/program is intended to operate at a public K-12 school site, your application is due by March 6 at Noon (12:00 p.m.). City staff will work with the school districts to confirm an endorsement for your project/program. It's the applicant's responsibility to communicate with school site and district representatives before applying so there is clarity during the endorsement process. Districts will only consider endorsement for applications submitted to the Community Enhancement & Investment Fund by the March 6 at Noon (12:00 p.m.). deadline. Each participating school superintendent reserves the right to withhold their endorsement of a project/program. Parks If your project/program is intended to operate at a park or community center site, your application is due by the March 6 at Noon (12:00 p.m.). deadline. City staff will work with the Cordova Recreation & Park District to confirm an endorsement for your project/program. It's the applicant's responsibility to communicate with district representatives before applying so there is clarity during the endorsement process. A special use permit application is required for any program or event planned at a CRPD facility. The special use application can be found at the CRPD website: https://www.cordovarpd.gov/. CRPD will only consider endorsement for applications submitted to the Community Enhancement & Investment Fund by the March 6 at Noon (12:00 p.m.). deadline. The Cordova Recreation & Park District reserves the right to withhold their endorsement of a project/program. Below is the list of staff to communicate with at school and park organizations: Folsom Cordova Unified School District: mwest@fcusd.org Cordova Recreation & Park District: cmichelotti@cordovarpd.gov Elk Grove Unified School District: mgulden@egusd.net Sacramento City Unified School District: Tuan-Duong@scusd.edu for Winn and Carver and Enrique-Flores@scusd.edu for Lincoln.
Primary street address of project/program	2460 Cordova Lane
List the city location of the project/program.	Rancho Cordova
Select State	CA
Provide the zip code for your project/program's primary location.	95670

If your project/program takes place at multiple locations, please list other or secondary locations.	Major field is located at Ahlstrom Park. Junior field is located at W.E. Mitchell Middle School.
Third Party Letters of Support (Note: Combine multiple files in one pdf before uploading)	
Does your project/program involve one of Rancho Cordova's school districts?	Yes
Is the project/program requesting facility use only or is this a request to partner with the school district?	Facility Use Only. Visit the school district website for facility use information.
Please select all the school districts which your project/program intends to involve:	Folsom Cordova USD
Please select one or more of the Folsom Cordova Unified School District school facilities which your project/program will involve:	Other (Please explain in your project/program description)
Have you reached out to a contact at the school(s) you indicated above?	Yes
Please provide the names of your contacts at the school(s) or district(s) who are familiar with your project/program.	Mina West

Does your project/program involve the Cordova Recreation & Park District?	Yes
Is the project/program requesting facility use only or is this a request to partner with the Cordova Recreation & Park District?	Facility Use Only. Visit Cordova Recreation & Park District's website for facility use information.
Please select one or more of the Cordova Recreation & Park District facilities which your project/program will involve:	Ahlstrom Park
Have you already discussed your project/program with staff at the Cordova Recreation & Park District?	Yes
What is the name of your point of contact at the Cordova Recreation & Park District?	Chase Michelotti
What is the email for your point of contact at the Cordova Recreation & Park District?	cmichelotti@crpd.com
	5 - Applicant Information
Name	Michele Elkins-Buettner
Is this project/program on behalf of an organization?	Yes

What is the name of your organization?	Rancho Cordova Little League
What is your title and/or role at your organization?	Vice President
Provide contact phone number:	+[redacted]
Provide contact email:	Michele@rcll.org
Are you the primary point of contact on this project/program?	Yes
If your project/program was awarded the requested funds, are you authorized to sign the contract for your organization?	No, someone else would sign the contract
If selected by the City Council to receive an award, what is the name of the person at your organization who would sign the contract?	Cassie Reyes
What is the title of this individual?	President
What is the best phone number where we could contact the signatory?	+[redacted]
What is the best email address to contact the signatory?	Cassie@rcll.org
By checking here, I confirm that I am aware that my application materials will become public record.	checked

Thank you for applying to the Community Enhancement & Investment Fund Fiscal Year 2026-2027 Grant Cycle. Applicants will receive an automated response through the grant portal. Community Enhancement & Investment Fund (CEIF) Staff will follow up with any questions regarding your Fiscal Year 2026-2027 application. For information about the next steps in the CEIF grant process, visit our website for more information. It is anticipated that applications will be reviewed by the City Council starting in April 2026 with adoption in June 2026. Should applicants be awarded by the City Council, funding would not be available to grantees until the start of Fiscal Year 2026-2027 and the completion of a contract. Please send an email to CEIFGrants@cityofranchocordova.org with any questions or comments.

Internal Form

Score	n/a

Title

Rancho Cordova Little League Enhancement: Facility & Equipment

03/05/2026

id. 53394252

by **Michele Elkins-Buettner** in **Fiscal Year 2026-2027 Community Enhancement & Investment Fund Grant Application**

Average score: n/a

Reviewed by: Mina West (Score:)

03/19/2026

Which organization(s) are you completing this form on behalf of? (Select all that apply)	A school district
Which school district are you completing this form on behalf of?	FCUSD
Which FCUSD school facility	Mitchell Middle School
For Mitchell Middle School, the school district's acknowledgement is:	Conditional approval for rental of facility only
Notes providing rationale	Folsom Cordova Unified School District supports the Rancho Cordova Little League Facility and Equipment Enhancement project because it helps maintain safe, accessible shared.use recreational spaces that benefit students and families. Rancho Cordova Little League provides structured youth sports opportunities that promote physical health, teamwork, and positive youth development. Investments in field safety, equipment, and facility improvements ensure school.adjacent fields remain well.maintained for student and community use, aligning with the District’s commitment to student well.being, community partnerships, and responsible stewardship of shared facilities.
Organizations may provide PDF or JPG documentation regarding their endorsement.	

Name of Superintendent, Manager, or Designee completing this form:	Mina West
Title of individual completing this form	Administrative Assistant - Communications and Community Engagement
By checking here, I verify that I have the authority at my organization to provide an endorsement.	True

BUDGET REQUEST FOR FUNDING 26 / 27

FIELD & FACILITY MAINTENANCE / UPGRADES	CONSTRUCTION & SUPPLIES	
	Field Improvements, Repairs & Construction (Dirt, Sun shades, Lumber, Paint, Dugout repairs, Etc.)	$14,000.00
	Field Maintenance - Morrow's Aerating, John Deere, etc.	$10,000.00
	Field Signage & Supplies	$1,000.00
	TOTAL	$25,000.00

PLAYER & GAME EQUIPMENT		
	Baseballs (FL1, FL5, LL1, Senior)	$11,000.00
	Replacement of Equipment	$4,000.00
	TOTAL	$15,000.00

STORAGE, SAFETY & SECURITY		
	Organizational Systems	$1,000.00
	Emergency Medical Equipment & Supplies	$1,000.00
	Security Enhancements	$1,000.00
	TOTAL	$3,000.00

SNACK BAR & FACILITY IMPROVEMENTS		
	Equipment & Upkeep	$2,000.00
	TOTAL	$2,000.00

TOTALS		
	Construction/Repairs & Supplies	$25,000.00
	Equipment (Player/Game/Etc)	$15,000.00
	Miscellaneous Expenses (Safety/Snack Bar/Etc)	$5,000.00
	TOTAL	$45,000.00

In-Kind Contribution Table

Estimated Volunteer Hours/Value Per Season - Rancho Cordova Little League

Item/Service	Description	Contributor	Estimated Value (Min.)
Volunteer Board Member Labor	Run Entire Organization Field maintenance, repairs & upgrades of RCLL facilities	20 Board Members	$107,168
Volunteer Managers & Coaching Staff	40 Team Managers with 3-4 Coaches per Team for a Total of 200 Volunteers x 100 Hours (Min) x $33.49 per hour	Volunteers	$669,800

*This is merely an estimate of volunteer hours at $33.49 per hour based on the National Volunteer Rate.

Board Volunteers & Time Commitments

Role	Activity	Estimated Hours Per Week	Season Total (Approx. 16 Weeks)
Board Member	Run entire organization, fulfill all required positions & duties	10-20+ hours	160-320+ hours

Total Board Member Commitment:

➡ Individual Board Members: 160+ hours per season
➡ Full Board Commitment: 3200+ combined volunteer hours per season

*Board members also contribute extensive offseason hours for preseason planning, training, facility enhancements/repairs, maintenance, ordering, registration events, etc. that are not included here.

Team Volunteer & Time Commitments

Role	Activity	Estimated Hours Per Week	Season Total (Approx. 16 Weeks)
Team Manager / Head Coach	Practices, games, team management, training, fundraising, events	9-15 hours	144-240+ hours
Assistant Coach	Assists with practices, warm-ups, game prep, drills, player development	6-10 hours	96-160 hours

Total Volunteer Commitment Per Team:

➡ **Team Manager / Head Coach + 3 Assistant Coaches = 500+ volunteer hours per team per season**

This breakdown showcases the dedication and effort required to ensure a successful and well-organized Rancho Cordova Little League season. These volunteer commitments are crucial to providing a positive experience for players, families, and the community.

Title

All In Together

03/06/2026

by **Kim Frazer** in **Fiscal Year 2026-2027 Community Enhancement & Investment Fund Grant Application**

id. 53408835

[redacted]
Sacramento, California
95827
Ca
United States
[redacted]

Original Submission

03/06/2026

Score n/a

	Thank you for your interest in applying to the City of Rancho Cordova's Community Enhancement & Investment Fund. Applications are open from February 9, 2026, to March 13, 2026, Noon (12:00 p.m.) with a specific deadline of March 6th Noon (12:00 p.m.) for certain applications**. Before you begin, please read the notes about deadlines and certain types of grant applications/grants below. **School/Park Application Deadline **Note that projects or programs involving a park or school district have a deadline of March 6 Noon (12:00 p.m.) to allow for the third-party endorsement process by the grant deadline.** A Note about Religious Schools and the Application/Grant Process **Note for grant applications from religious schools. The United States Supreme Court has recently ruled in part that: “denying a generally available benefit [from government] solely on account of religious identity imposes a penalty on the free exercise of religion that can be justified only by a state interest of the highest order.” The City is of the opinion that not all grants to religious schools are prohibited under this and other similar rulings. However, these United States Supreme Court decisions remain in conflict with a section of the California State Constitution that says: “[n]either the Legislature, nor any county, city and county, township, school district, or other municipal corporation, shall ever make an appropriation, or pay from any public fund whatever, or grant anything to or in aid of any religious sect, church, creed, or sectarian purpose, or help to support or sustain any school, college, university, hospital, or other institution controlled by any religious creed, church, or sectarian denomination whatever; nor shall any grant or donation of personal property or real estate ever be made by the state, or any city, city and county, town, or other municipal corporation for any religious creed, church, or sectarian purpose whatever”. The City will accept applications for grants of these City public funds from religious schools, but will have language in the grant agreements to address the possibility and consequences of legal challenges and new court decisions on this and related topics. ** Future Grant Opportunities If you are interested in remaining up-to-date on available grants from the City of Rancho Cordova, click here to sign up for the Grants Interest List. A separate call for programming opportunities with the Rancho Cordova Youth Center is anticipated later in 2026. The list is also used to advertise separate art programs when funds are available. Ongoing Grant Opportunity The City of Rancho Cordova offers a microgrant opportunity. Learn more about those grants online.
Is this your first time applying for grant funding from the City of Rancho Cordova? As a first-time applicant, Community Enhancement & Investment Fund (CEIF) staff will contact you to discuss your project and grant application process.	Yes: First Time Applicant

	1 - Project/Program Information Note: You can add a collaborator to this form to assist you in completing this application! A collaborator can help you complete this form by filling in fields for you, although only you can submit this form. You can add a collaborator by navigating to the top of the form and clicking on the 'Manage Collaborators' button. Simply enter their email address and click 'invite' to invite them as a collaborator. If you need further assistance, you may consult this Help article for more information.
Project/Program Name. Assign a project name to your project/program.	All In Together
Which category does your Project/Program align with?	Youth Programs & Services
Provide a Project/Program Synopsis	Help, support and inspire all youth. To provide a supportive environment where young people can discover their strengths explore their talent and build social and life skills. Targeting at risk youth in the community.
Provide a Project/Program Description	Creative, visual, music and performing arts. Basic vocational training. Life skills finances, conflict resolution.
Tell us about your Project/Program Team	Supporting our community's at risk youth by providing a safe place they can learn life skills.
Provide your Project/Program Goals	Goal is to create a transformative space that not only helps individuals but also strengthens within the community.
Optional File Upload: Provide any additional records to supplement your program/project application. Note: Combine multiple files in one pdf before uploading.	
	2 - Funding & Costs

Funding Request - Complete this section with total dollar amounts for your project/program's costs	Funds are generally not intended to be used for deferred maintenance and ongoing operational needs. The funds are intended for enhancing and investing in the City of Rancho Cordova. If your project/program is awarded, the costs identified below would be reviewed and potentially open to modification during a contracting phase (if a grant is awarded by the City Council). If awarded, grant funds are not available until a contract is executed during Fiscal Year 2026-2027.
Total project/program cost*	7500
What is the amount of Community Enhancement & Investment Fund grant monies requested?	7500
Does your project/program involve construction of any facilities or improvements upon any property?	No
What is the total cost of personnel for your project/program?	2000
What is the total cost of supplies for your project/program?	1500
What is the total cost of transportation for your project/program?	500
What is the total cost of equipment for your project/program?	2000
What is the total cost of any miscellaneous expenses for your project/program?	1500

Upload your project/program's budget as a .pdf file. Include the categories and their dollar amounts along with information about any other funding sources to demonstrate your project/program's total budget. Note, the sum of all categories must match the total project or program cost, or the amount requested of CEIF if there is no other funding source. Please clearly illustrate any matching funds or funding from other sources in your project/program budget, including in-kind sources. Note: Combine multiple files in one pdf before uploading.

Screenshot_20260306-084318_Docs.pdf

Has your organization sought or will seek other funding for this project/program?	Yes, actively seeking funding support or have secured additional funding support for this project/program.
Describe any funding secured or being sought for this project/program.	Asking local businesses for donation/support
Please describe any ongoing operations and maintenance costs beyond Fiscal Year 2026/2027, if applicable.	
Do you have volunteer or in-kind support for your project? This could include volunteers for an activity/event that is ongoing or a one-time experience.	Yes
Please share the total dollar amount for volunteer/in-kind support using $34.79 as the national rate for a volunteer hour. Source: Value of Volunteer Time	34.97
Please provide a worksheet explaining your volunteer/in-kind contribution. You may upload a file in the following formats: CSV, DOC, DOCX, or PDF.	
Is this a single year request or a request for funding for multiple years?	Single Year

Has your project/program received funding from the Community Enhancement & Investment Fund previously?	No
	3 - Project/Program Details Grant applications are typically approved to occur between July 2026 through June 2027. What is your plan to complete this project/program within this time frame?
Anticipated Start Date (July 1 is the soonest available start date)	7/1/2026
Anticipated End Date (typically projects/programs end by June 30)	6/30/2027
Please describe your project/program schedule	Beginning in the summer month when the kids get out of school.
What challenges do you anticipate in your project/program's implementation? What is your plan to complete your project/program should those or other challenges arise?	I have volunteers already dedicated on the project. I've been taking surveys asking local youth if they would be interested in a youth program.
How many individuals does your project/program serve?	50
How many Rancho Cordova residents does your project/program serve?	50
	4 - Project/Program Location
Address Verification	If you need to check if your project is in Rancho Cordova, type in your program/project's location in the Assessor Parcel Viewer: https://assessorparcelviewer.saccounty.gov/jsviewer/assessor.html

School and park related applications are due before Noon (12:00 p.m.) on March 6, 2026, to allow for the endorsement process.	Please note that projects or programs that are proposed on property owned or operated by outside agencies or a private party will require coordination with and potentially approvals from outside agencies, organizations, and/or the private party. Include whether you have received a letter of support for the project/program from the property owner. Upload any letters of support with your application. City staff will verify third-party permits have been discussed. In your planning discussions, be sure to discuss any necessary insurance or volunteer requirements that may increase budget costs. School Sites If your project/program is intended to operate at a public K-12 school site, your application is due by March 6 at Noon (12:00 p.m.). City staff will work with the school districts to confirm an endorsement for your project/program. It's the applicant's responsibility to communicate with school site and district representatives before applying so there is clarity during the endorsement process. Districts will only consider endorsement for applications submitted to the Community Enhancement & Investment Fund by the March 6 at Noon (12:00 p.m.). deadline. Each participating school superintendent reserves the right to withhold their endorsement of a project/program. Parks If your project/program is intended to operate at a park or community center site, your application is due by the March 6 at Noon (12:00 p.m.). deadline. City staff will work with the Cordova Recreation & Park District to confirm an endorsement for your project/program. It's the applicant's responsibility to communicate with district representatives before applying so there is clarity during the endorsement process. A special use permit application is required for any program or event planned at a CRPD facility. The special use application can be found at the CRPD website: https://www.cordovarpd.gov/. CRPD will only consider endorsement for applications submitted to the Community Enhancement & Investment Fund by the March 6 at Noon (12:00 p.m.). deadline. The Cordova Recreation & Park District reserves the right to withhold their endorsement of a project/program. Below is the list of staff to communicate with at school and park organizations: Folsom Cordova Unified School District: mwest@fcusd.org Cordova Recreation & Park District: cmichelotti@cordovarpd.gov Elk Grove Unified School District: mgulden@egusd.net Sacramento City Unified School District: Tuan-Duong@scusd.edu for Winn and Carver and Enrique-Flores@scusd.edu for Lincoln.
Primary street address of project/program	3300 Glenmore Dr.
List the city location of the project/program.	Sacramento
Select State	CA
Provide the zip code for your project/program's primary location.	95827

If your project/program takes place at multiple locations, please list other or secondary locations.	
Third Party Letters of Support (Note: Combine multiple files in one pdf before uploading)	
Does your project/program involve one of Rancho Cordova's school districts?	No
Does your project/program involve the Cordova Recreation & Park District?	No
	5 - Applicant Information
Name	Kimberley Frazer
Is this project/program on behalf of an organization?	Yes
What is the name of your organization?	All In together
What is your title and/or role at your organization?	Manager/Coordinator
Provide contact phone number:	[redacted]
Provide contact email:	[redacted]
Are you the primary point of contact on this project/program?	Yes

If your project/program was awarded the requested funds, are you authorized to sign the contract for your organization?	Yes, I would be the one to sign the contract
By checking here, I confirm that I am aware that my application materials will become public record.	checked
	Thank you for applying to the Community Enhancement & Investment Fund Fiscal Year 2026-2027 Grant Cycle. Applicants will receive an automated response through the grant portal. Community Enhancement & Investment Fund (CEIF) Staff will follow up with any questions regarding your Fiscal Year 2026-2027 application. For information about the next steps in the CEIF grant process, visit our website for more information. It is anticipated that applications will be reviewed by the City Council starting in April 2026 with adoption in June 2026. Should applicants be awarded by the City Council, funding would not be available to grantees until the start of Fiscal Year 2026-2027 and the completion of a contract. Please send an email to CEIFGrants@cityofranchocordova.org with any questions or comments.

Internal Form

Score	n/a

Title

All In Together

03/06/2026

by **Kim Frazer** in **Fiscal Year 2026-2027 Community Enhancement & Investment Fund Grant Application**

id. 53408835

Average score: n/a

Reviewed by: Mina West (Score:)

03/19/2026

Which organization(s) are you completing this form on behalf of? (Select all that apply)	A school district
Which school district are you completing this form on behalf of?	FCUSD
Which FCUSD school facility	Walnutwood High School
For Walnutwood High School, the school district's acknowledgement is:	Conditional approval for rental of facility only
Notes providing rationale	Folsom Cordova Unified School District acknowledges the All In Together program as a potential community.based youth support activity and provides this rationale for facility use consideration only, contingent upon receipt of complete information regarding the proposed location, schedule, and compliance with District facility use requirements. The program's focus on providing a safe, supportive environment for youth through creative expression and life.skills development aligns with broader community goals to support youth well.being outside of the instructional day. Any use of District facilities would be subject to site availability, administrative review, and completion of all required agreements, permits, and insurance documentation.
Organizations may provide PDF or JPG documentation regarding their endorsement.	

Name of Superintendent, Manager, or Designee completing this form:	Mina West
Title of individual completing this form	Administrative Assistant - Communications and Community Engagement
By checking here, I verify that I have the authority at my organization to provide an endorsement.	True

Title

All In Together

03/06/2026

by **Kim Frazer** in **Fiscal Year 2026-2027 Community Enhancement & Investment Fund Grant Application**

id. 53408835

Average score: n/a

Reviewed by: Randi Kay Stephens (Score:)

03/17/2026

Which organization(s) are you completing this form on behalf of? (Select all that apply)	A school district
Which school district are you completing this form on behalf of?	EGUSD
Which EGUSD school facility (select all that apply)	Robert J. McGarvey School Sunrise Elementary School Cypress Grove
For Robert J. McGarvey School, the school district's acknowledgement is:	Endorsement withheld
Notes providing rationale	Mike Gulden did not endorse this project for EGUSD. Per email attachment from Mike Gulden received 3/17/2026.
For Sunrise Elementary, the school district's acknowledgement is:	Endorsement withheld
Notes providing rationale	Mike Gulden did not endorse this project for EGUSD. Per email attachment from Mike Gulden received 3/17/2026.
For Cypress Grove, the school district's acknowledgement is:	Endorsement withheld
Notes providing rationale	Mike Gulden did not endorse this project for EGUSD. Per email attachment from Mike Gulden received 3/17/2026.

Organizations may provide PDF or JPG documentation regarding their endorsement.	
Name of Superintendent, Manager, or Designee completing this form:	Mike Gulden
Title of individual completing this form	Director, Elementary Education, PreK-6
By checking here, I verify that I have the authority at my organization to provide an endorsement.	True

Reviewed by: Chase Michelotti (Score:)

03/12/2026

Which organization(s) are you completing this form on behalf of? (Select all that apply)	A parks district
Cordova Recreation & Park District	Endorsement withheld
CRPD Notes	NO LOCATION PROVIDED on application. Reached out to organizer but have not received a response.
Organizations may provide PDF or JPG documentation regarding their endorsement.	
Name of Superintendent, Manager, or Designee completing this form:	Chase Michelotti
Title of individual completing this form	Recreation Superintendent
By checking here, I verify that I have the authority at my organization to provide an endorsement.	True

Reviewed by: Mina West (Score:)

Which organization(s) are you completing this form on behalf of? (Select all that apply)	A school district
Which school district are you completing this form on behalf of?	FCUSD
Which FCUSD school facility	Walnutwood High School
For Walnutwood High School, the school district's acknowledgement is:	Conditional approval for rental of facility only
Notes providing rationale	If approved for use of a school district site, this program would provide a safe, structured environment that supports at.risk youth through creative arts, basic vocational exploration, and life.skills development. Hosting the program on a district campus would align with district and City priorities by promoting student well.being, positive youth engagement, and skill.building opportunities outside of the regular school day. Facility use would allow the program to serve Rancho Cordova youth in a supervised setting that supports social.emotional growth while maintaining appropriate oversight and alignment with district expectations. (WALNUTWOOD NOT RECOMMENDED SITE: Needed to choose something)
Organizations may provide PDF or JPG documentation regarding their endorsement.	
Name of Superintendent, Manager, or Designee completing this form:	Mina West
Title of individual completing this form	Administrative Assistant - Communications and Community Engagement
By checking here, I verify that I have the authority at my organization to provide an endorsement.	True

All In Together

Proposed Budget

Total Cost of Project: $7,500.00

Personnel: $2,000.00
Supplies: $1,500.00
Transportation: $500.00
Equipment: $2,000.00
Misc. $1,500.00

Title

Mandarins Performing Arts: Mandarins Parade Corps of Rancho Cordova

03/13/2026

id. 53479766

by **Kathleen Davies** in **Fiscal Year 2026-2027 Community Enhancement & Investment Fund Grant Application**

9792 Business Park Drive
Sacramento, California
95827
California
United States
[redacted]

Original Submission

03/13/2026

Score n/a

	Thank you for your interest in applying to the City of Rancho Cordova's Community Enhancement & Investment Fund. Applications are open from February 9, 2026, to March 13, 2026, Noon (12:00 p.m.) with a specific deadline of March 6th Noon (12:00 p.m.) for certain applications**. Before you begin, please read the notes about deadlines and certain types of grant applications/grants below. **School/Park Application Deadline **Note that projects or programs involving a park or school district have a deadline of March 6 Noon (12:00 p.m.) to allow for the third-party endorsement process by the grant deadline.** A Note about Religious Schools and the Application/Grant Process **Note for grant applications from religious schools. The United States Supreme Court has recently ruled in part that: “denying a generally available benefit [from government] solely on account of religious identity imposes a penalty on the free exercise of religion that can be justified only by a state interest of the highest order.” The City is of the opinion that not all grants to religious schools are prohibited under this and other similar rulings. However, these United States Supreme Court decisions remain in conflict with a section of the California State Constitution that says: “[n]either the Legislature, nor any county, city and county, township, school district, or other municipal corporation, shall ever make an appropriation, or pay from any public fund whatever, or grant anything to or in aid of any religious sect, church, creed, or sectarian purpose, or help to support or sustain any school, college, university, hospital, or other institution controlled by any religious creed, church, or sectarian denomination whatever; nor shall any grant or donation of personal property or real estate ever be made by the state, or any city, city and county, town, or other municipal corporation for any religious creed, church, or sectarian purpose whatever”. The City will accept applications for grants of these City public funds from religious schools, but will have language in the grant agreements to address the possibility and consequences of legal challenges and new court decisions on this and related topics. ** Future Grant Opportunities If you are interested in remaining up-to-date on available grants from the City of Rancho Cordova, click here to sign up for the Grants Interest List. A separate call for programming opportunities with the Rancho Cordova Youth Center is anticipated later in 2026. The list is also used to advertise separate art programs when funds are available. Ongoing Grant Opportunity The City of Rancho Cordova offers a microgrant opportunity. Learn more about those grants online.
Is this your first time applying for grant funding from the City of Rancho Cordova? As a first-time applicant, Community Enhancement & Investment Fund (CEIF) staff will contact you to discuss your project and grant application process.	No: Not a First Time Applicant

	1 - Project/Program Information Note: You can add a collaborator to this form to assist you in completing this application! A collaborator can help you complete this form by filling in fields for you, although only you can submit this form. You can add a collaborator by navigating to the top of the form and clicking on the 'Manage Collaborators' button. Simply enter their email address and click 'invite' to invite them as a collaborator. If you need further assistance, you may consult this Help article for more information.
Project/Program Name. Assign a project name to your project/program.	Mandarins Performing Arts: Mandarins Parade Corps of Rancho Cordova
Which category does your Project/Program align with?	Youth Programs & Services
Provide a Project/Program Synopsis	Mandarins Performing Arts will host weekend music workshops/camps in Rancho Cordova for youth, ages 10–16, teaching marching, music, flag skills, and performance. Participants will perform in local parades and will be supported by mentorship from Mandarins alumni and parent volunteers, thus creating a exciting, fun, community.centered program.
Provide a Project/Program Description	Mandarins Performing Arts proposes the creation of the Mandarins Parade Corps of Rancho Cordova, a twice.monthly weekend music, movement and marching program hosted at the Mandarins Event Center. Designed for youth ages 10–16, this initiative expands access to high.quality arts education beyond the Mandarins Music Academy's after.school band programs held on school campuses. It provides an opportunity for students who cannot remain after school due to bus schedules, tutoring needs, or family obligations. By meeting students on weekends, the Parade Corps offers an inclusive and affordable pathway into music, pageantry arts, and community performance. Mandarins will provide all instruments, props, flags, uniforms, music and incidentals for each student. Each camp weekend will deliver structured, sequential instruction in fundamental marching, musicianship, color.guard flag technique, and ensemble coordination. Students will participate in focused sectional work —including brass and woodwind fundamentals, battery and mallet percussion training, and guard skill development—before combining into a unified ensemble to rehearse parade sets, cadences, and standstill pieces. Instruction emphasizes posture and breath control, timing and rhythmic accuracy, ensemble listening, spatial awareness, showmanship, and the teamwork essential to performing as a cohesive unit. The program will be staffed by experienced educators from the Mandarins Music Academy, supported by guest mentors from the world.class Mandarins Drum and Bugle Corps alumni network. These mentors model excellence, resilience, and the joy of performance, translating advanced techniques into age.appropriate learning experiences while inspiring students to set high personal goals. Parent volunteers are encouraged to participate as logistics helpers and section supporters, strengthening family involvement and ensuring a warm, supervised, and supportive learning

environment.

Public performance is central to the program's mission. As students build mastery of parade repertoire and fundamental skills, they will participate in community events—including the Rancho Cordova Independence Day Parade—where they will represent the city and their schools. These public showcases highlight youth achievement, foster community pride, and help students develop confidence, discipline, punctuality, and a strong sense of belonging—benefits that carry over into their academic and personal lives.

The Parade Corps directly aligns with the City of Rancho Cordova's Community Enhancement & Investment Fund (CEIF) priorities by expanding equitable access to arts education, supporting youth development, and strengthening community identity. Weekend scheduling removes barriers that commonly limit participation, while the Mandarins Event Center provides an equipped, professional, and reliable rehearsal facility that enables year.round programming with minimal startup challenges.

Equity and inclusion are foundational to the program. The Parade Corps welcomes beginners and continuing students, provides loaner instruments and equipment when possible, and utilizes differentiated instruction to match diverse experience levels. Staff cultivate a respectful environment that celebrates the diverse backgrounds of Rancho Cordova youth—reflecting the Mandarins' own origins as a parent.led parade corps created to uplift young people through music, teamwork, and public visibility. Students will also have opportunities to develop leadership skills through warmup leadership, drill.captain assignments, and peer mentoring roles.

Measurable outcomes will guide ongoing program improvement. Mandarins will track enrollment, attendance, and retention; evaluate skill development through pre. and post.assessments; monitor section balance and number of public performances; and gather student and parent feedback on growth, engagement, and sense of belonging. Targets include enrolling a representative cross.section of Rancho Cordova youth, maintaining strong attendance across the two.weekend cycle, and delivering polished performances that demonstrate measurable progress.

Partnerships will further strengthen the program's impact. Mandarins will collaborate with schools to share program information and coordinate recruitment, invite community organizations to co.host events, and work with civic partners to expand performance opportunities. Parent volunteers will be supported through clear training and well.defined roles. Modest scholarships and sliding.scale tuition (pending funding) will ensure participation remains fully accessible.

CEIF resources will be maximized by leveraging the Mandarins' existing in.kind assets—such as rehearsal spaces, equipment, instructional materials, audio systems, and uniforms—keeping costs efficient and focused on instruction, youth scholarships, and performance needs. Over time, the Parade Corps will be supported through a blend of modest tuition, sponsorships, fundraising, and performance honoraria, helping the program increase capacity while remaining accessible to low.income families.

With CEIF investment, the Mandarins Parade Corps will deliver enduring

	benefits: more youth discovering music and pageantry arts, more families connected to positive weekend activities, and more public celebrations that showcase the creativity and dedication of Rancho Cordova's young people. By transforming participation barriers into opportunities through thoughtful scheduling, expert mentorship, and community.centered performance experiences, the Mandarins Music Academy will establish a scalable, high.impact program that enriches youth and elevates the cultural life of the entire city.
Tell us about your Project/Program Team	The MMA Parade Corps will be guided by an experienced leadership team. **Dr. Dan Fong**, CEO of the Mandarins, provides strategic vision rooted in decades of organizational leadership and arts advocacy. **Joe Fong**, Manager of the Mandarins Event Center, oversees facility operations and ensures a safe, well.coordinated learning environment. **Martin Bua**, Director of the Mandarins Music Academy, brings extensive experience in youth music education and program development. **Dr. Marvin Reed**, former director of the Blue Devils B Drum Corps, contributes world.class instructional expertise, ensemble training, and mentorship, elevating the educational experience for all participants.
Provide your Project/Program Goals	The program structure will follow a predictable rhythm, with sessions focused on fundamentals and sectionals, dedicated to ensemble integration, show reads, and team building. Each weekend concludes with a brief family showcase to celebrate progress and build excitement toward parade readiness. Clear safety procedures, including background checks, check.in/check.out protocols, and age.appropriate pacing ensure an environment that supports both first.time and returning participants. To be sucessful, the program must have clear goals and metrics to assess its successes, impliment changes if necessary, and continuously strive to be an meaningful experience for participants, staff and spectators. **Goal 1: Expand Access to Youth Music & Marching Arts** **Description:** Provide a weekend program that removes barriers such as transportation limitations and after.school obligations. **Metrics for Success:** · Total enrollment per camp session · Percentage of participants from Rancho Cordova schools · Number of new beginners entering music for the first time · Participant retention across the year **How We Stay Focused:** · Monthly enrollment reviews to ensure outreach meets equity and access goals. **Goal 2: Develop Student Skills in Marching, Music, and Performance** **Description:** Deliver structured instruction in rudimentary marching, musicianship, and flag/visual technique.

Metrics for Success:

- Pre. and post.skill assessments
- Instructor rubrics for musical and marching proficiency
- Student readiness for parade performances

How We Stay Focused:

- Regular curriculum.alignment meetings led by Martin Bua and Dr. Marvin Reed to ensure consistent instructional quality.

Goal 3: Strengthen Confidence, Teamwork, and Community Engagement

Description: Build personal and social.emotional skills through ensemble performance and public appearances.
Metrics for Success:

- Number of community performances (e.g., Rancho Cordova Independence Day Parade)
- Student and parent surveys reflecting growth in confidence, belonging, and enjoyment
- Volunteer participation rates

How We Stay Focused:

- Post.event debriefs to document strengths, challenges, and improvements.

Goal 4: Increase Family and Community Partnerships

Description: Promote parent involvement and collaboration with schools and community organizations.
Metrics for Success:

- Number of parent volunteers per camp
- Engagement with partner organizations and school networks
- Communication reach (newsletters, school flyers, social media touchpoints)

How We Stay Focused:

- Parent volunteer coordination led by Joe Fong, with clear roles and communication channels.

Goal 5: Deliver a Safe, Organized, and Consistently Managed Program

Description: Ensure youth safety, facility readiness, and reliable program operations.
Metrics for Success:

- Adherence to supervision and safety protocols
- Incident.free sessions
- On.time scheduling and effective facility management

How We Stay Focused:

- Oversight from Dr. Dan Fong and Joe Fong to ensure all operational procedures remain aligned with Mandarins' safety standards.

Team Alignment and Ongoing Focus

To maintain progress toward all goals, the leadership team—**Dr. Dan Fong (CEO), Joe Fong (Event Center Manager), Martin Bua (MMA Director), and Dr. Marvin Reed (Instructional Specialist)**—will conduct:

- **Monthly leadership meetings** to review metrics and program progress
- **Quarterly results summaries** tracking growth, challenges, and needed adjustments
- **Staff coordination sessions** to maintain instructional alignment
- **Annual review of outcomes and sustainability plans**

This structured system keeps the project team focused, accountable, and responsive to community needs.

Optional File Upload: Provide any additional records to supplement your program/project application. Note: Combine multiple files in one pdf before uploading.

Mandarins_Performing_Arts.pdf

	2 - Funding & Costs
Funding Request - Complete this section with total dollar amounts for your project/program's costs	Funds are generally not intended to be used for deferred maintenance and ongoing operational needs. The funds are intended for enhancing and investing in the City of Rancho Cordova. If your project/program is awarded, the costs identified below would be reviewed and potentially open to modification during a contracting phase (if a grant is awarded by the City Council). If awarded, grant funds are not available until a contract is executed during Fiscal Year 2026-2027.
Total project/program cost*	60000
What is the amount of Community Enhancement & Investment Fund grant monies requested?	25000
Does your project/program involve construction of any facilities or improvements upon any property?	No

What is the total cost of personnel for your project/program?	23000
What is the total cost of supplies for your project/program?	5000
What is the total cost of transportation for your project/program?	5000
What is the total cost of equipment for your project/program?	19500
What is the total cost of any miscellaneous expenses for your project/program?	7500

Upload your project/program's budget as a .pdf file. Include the categories and their dollar amounts along with information about any other funding sources to demonstrate your project/program's total budget. Note, the sum of all categories must match the total project or program cost, or the amount requested of CEIF if there is no other funding source. Please clearly illustrate any matching funds or funding from other sources in your project/program budget, including in-kind sources. Note: Combine multiple files in one pdf before uploading.

Mandarins_Music_Academy_Parade_Corp_Budget.pdf

Has your organization sought or will seek other funding for this project/program?	Yes, actively seeking funding support or have secured additional funding support for this project/program.

Describe any funding secured or being sought for this project/program.	Mandarins Performing Arts is pursuing a diversified funding strategy for the Mandarins Parade Corps that combines secured revenue streams with new funds being sought. Secured and ongoing sources include rental and lease income from the Mandarins Event Center and equipment; individual donations from the Mandarins donor community; souvenir and merchandise sales at performances and events; and tuition payments set at modest levels to preserve access, paired with need.based scholarships. In addition, the organization conducts recurring fundraising activities, including the Mandarins Birthday Bash, the Mandarins Performing Arts Gala, and participation in the Big Day of Giving, which collectively provide annual operating support and scholarship funds. The Mandarins are also actively seeking a corporate sponsor to underwrite a portion of first.year instructional and equipment costs, with recognition opportunities at community performances and across Mandarins Performing Arts communication channels. Measure H funds will be leveraged alongside these sources to cover start.up equipment, instructional staffing, safety/operations, and scholarships; as enrollment and visibility grow, the program will expand recurring revenue from tuition, merchandise, rentals, events, and individual giving, ensuring long.term sustainability without creating cost barriers for low.income families.
Please describe any ongoing operations and maintenance costs beyond Fiscal Year 2026/2027, if applicable.	Beyond Fiscal Year 2026/2027, the MMA Parade Corps will have ongoing operations and maintenance costs to ensure safe, consistent delivery of the program prior to the start of the 2027/2028 fiscal year. These include routine equipment upkeep (instrument repairs, flag replacements, drum head changes), supply replenishment (gloves, parade accessories, printed music), storage fees, and instructional staffing for weekend camps. Additional annual operating expenses may include facility utilities, custodial services, and insurance coverage for youth programming. Mandarins plans to support these ongoing costs through a diversified and sustainable revenue model that includes modest tuition, continued fundraising, tuition from music and leadership workshops, sponsorships from community partners, donations, Mandarins fundraising event such as galas and pancake breakfasts, and small performance honoraria from parade and civic appearances. Scholarship funds will remain a priority to ensure no student is turned away due to financial need. These ongoing expenses are manageable within the Mandarins' existing operational infrastructure, and the organization's long history of delivering youth arts programs gives confidence that long.term maintenance needs will be addressed without placing financial burdens on participating families.
Do you have volunteer or in-kind support for your project? This could include volunteers for an activity/event that is ongoing or a one-time experience.	Yes

Please share the total dollar amount for volunteer/in-kind support using $34.79 as the national rate for a volunteer hour. Source: Value of Volunteer Time	6680

Please provide a worksheet explaining your volunteer/in-kind contribution. You may upload a file in the following formats: CSV, DOC, DOCX, or PDF.

Mandarins_Parade_Corps_Volunteer.pdf

Is this a single year request or a request for funding for multiple years?	Multiple Years
If requesting CEIF grant funding for multiple years, please share how many years?	3
For requests spanning multiple years, share the dollar amount requested per year.	For year 2027-2028, $15,000 For year 2028-2029, $10,000

For projects/programs that span multiple years, please describe your sustainability plan and whether it is viable as a single year request.	For ongoing operations and maintenance beyond FY 2026/2027, Mandarins anticipates manageable expenses for routine equipment upkeep (instrument repairs, drum head changes, flag and silk replacements), supply replenishment (gloves, parade accessories, printed music), instructional staffing for weekend delivery, facility utilities and custodial services, and insurance coverage. These costs will be supported through the diversified revenue strategy described above, prioritizing scholarships so that no student is turned away for financial reasons. The program is designed for multi.year growth and is more likely to succeed as a multi-year request. Like most new youth arts initiatives, the Parade Corps will require three to five years to reach full capacity due to startup costs, the time needed to build community trust, and donor or sponsor “wait.and.see” dynamics. A single year of Measure H support will cover the critical launch period—establishing the curriculum, purchasing durable equipment, building enrollment, and demonstrating community value through public performances—after which the program will leverage the Mandarins’ organizational infrastructure to continue. The multi.year plan anticipates Year 1 startup and visibility with baseline data collection and 2–3 community performances; Year 2 growth in enrollment, added clinics, increased appearances, and expanded equipment with sponsorship outreach; Year 3 sustainability with 60–75% capacity, leadership pathways for returning students, and an annual showcase; Year 4 operational stability at or near full capacity with additional specialists and recurring partners; and Year 5 long.term stability with strong retention, optional advanced groups, and multi.year sponsorship agreements. Throughout, the team will maintain a strong focus on safety, instructional excellence, equity, and community pride—ensuring that the MMA Parade Corps becomes a lasting, accessible youth arts tradition for Rancho Cordova. However, it could function as a single year request if the funding contribution from the City of Rancho was increased.
Has your project/program received funding from the Community Enhancement & Investment Fund previously?	Yes
How many years has your project/program received funding from the Community Enhancement & Investment Fund?	5 or more years

How much funding has your organization received from the Community Enhancement & Investment Fund through our traditional grants (not including microgrants)?	MANDARINS OF SACRAMENTO, INC.
	3 - Project/Program Details Grant applications are typically approved to occur between July 2026 through June 2027. What is your plan to complete this project/program within this time frame?
Anticipated Start Date (July 1 is the soonest available start date)	7/1/2026
Anticipated End Date (typically projects/programs end by June 30)	6/30/2027
Please describe your project/program schedule	Planning and implementation for the program will begin on **July 1, 2026**, with a structured, phased approach to ensure smooth preparation, effective coordination, and successful program delivery. During **July and August 2026**, administrative planning, volunteer recruitment, parent and alumni outreach, and operational setup will be finalized. This includes confirming event dates, securing facilities, assigning volunteer roles, and completing logistics such as equipment organization and communication planning. From **September through December 202**, the program transitions into active implementation - meeting twice each month in four hour sessions. Student recruitment will be centered on Mandarins Music Academy programs as well as outreach at local middle schools, including classroom visits, demonstrations, and “preview day” clinics that allow interested students to try parade.corps activities in a welcoming environment. Additional recruitment will occur through school band directors, counselors, and city youth networks. Volunteers and staff will support rehearsals, student mentorship, equipment transport, and event center setup as regular activities increase. Parent, staff and alumni volunteers will receive orientation and clear role expectations to ensure consistency, safety, and strong support for students. Program staff will monitor progress continuously, adjusting schedules and responsibilities as needed. A parent volunteer program will be established to support supervision and logistics, and baseline data will be collected on enrollment, skill development, attendance, and participant feedback. The program will hold a community performance to showcase early progress and build family and community excitement. This may include participation in the 2026

Christmas Parade, however, it generally takes four to six months from inception of a parade program to reach the stage where most of the members are comfortable walking and performing. This will ease over time as members return the following year.

Beginning in **January 2027 through June 2027**, full program operation is underway. At this stage, volunteers will help manage rehearsals, provide snacks and resources, support performances, and engage families throughout the season. Ongoing evaluation—such as collecting volunteer hours, tracking student needs, and reviewing logistical efficiency—will guide improvements. Mandarins will also include the creation of a scholarship structure to ensure low.income families can participate fully, laying the groundwork for equitable and sustainable program growth in future years

The first year schedule concludes with **May–June 2027**, dedicated to wrap.up activities: final evaluations, student recognition, volunteer appreciation, equipment inventory, and planning notes for the next annual cycle. This structured timeline ensures that preparation, implementation, and evaluation are aligned to support a successful program that enhances the student experience and maximizes the impact of volunteer engagement. Although it falls just outside the program timeline in 2027, the Parade Band plans to march in the City of Rancho Cordova Independence Day Parade as the culmination of the year's activities.

July 2027 – Planning begins for the next year.

What challenges do you anticipate in your project/program's implementation? What is your plan to complete your project/program should those or other challenges arise?	The biggest anticipated challenge is the initial start.up cost required to launch a high.quality youth parade ensemble, including equipment purchases, instructional staffing, and preparing the Mandarins Event Center for consistent weekend use. Measure H funding would significantly reduce this barrier, allowing the program to begin with safe, reliable equipment and a strong instructional team. If costs exceed estimates, the Mandarins will adjust by phasing equipment purchases, seeking in.kind donations, and temporarily scaling class sizes to match available resources without compromising safety or instruction quality. A second challenge is attracting participants during the first three years, as a new program requires community awareness and trust. To overcome this, the Mandarins Performina Arts will partner with local schools, youth organizations, and the City's communication channels to reach families directly. Free demonstrations, school.site "preview days," and beginner.friendly open houses at the Mandarins Event Center will help students experience the program before enrolling. Early financial support from Measure H removes participation barriers that sometimes deter new families. A third challenge is building sustainable long.term revenue without burdening low.income families. The Mandarins are committed to equitable arts access and will not allow cost to prevent participation. To maintain affordability, the program will establish a mixed.funding model that includes modest tuition, continued fundraising, sponsorships from local businesses, and performance honoraria from community events. This diversified approach protects families from rising costs and ensures the program remains stable long after initial grant funding ends. If additional unexpected obstacles arise—such as staffing shortages, equipment delays, or enrollment fluctuations—the leadership team (Dr. Dan Fong, Joe Fong, Martin Bua, and Dr. Marvin Reed) will use regular planning meetings to re.evaluate resources, adjust schedules, and adapt logistics as needed. The Mandarins have a long history of successfully managing youth performing arts programs, and this experience provides the organizational capacity to troubleshoot challenges quickly and effectively. Through careful planning, community partnerships, and a commitment to affordability, the program is prepared to meet obstacles proactively and continue delivering safe, meaningful, and accessible arts experiences for Rancho Cordova youth.
How many individuals does your project/program serve?	100+
How many Rancho Cordova residents does your project/program serve?	40

4 - Project/Program Location

Address Verification	If you need to check if your project is in Rancho Cordova, type in your program/project's location in the Assessor Parcel Viewer: https://assessorparcelviewer.saccounty.gov/jsviewer/assessor.html
School and park related applications are due before Noon (12:00 p.m.) on March 6, 2026, to allow for the endorsement process.	Please note that projects or programs that are proposed on property owned or operated by outside agencies or a private party will require coordination with and potentially approvals from outside agencies, organizations, and/or the private party. Include whether you have received a letter of support for the project/program from the property owner. Upload any letters of support with your application. City staff will verify third-party permits have been discussed. In your planning discussions, be sure to discuss any necessary insurance or volunteer requirements that may increase budget costs. School Sites If your project/program is intended to operate at a public K-12 school site, your application is due by March 6 at Noon (12:00 p.m.). City staff will work with the school districts to confirm an endorsement for your project/program. It's the applicant's responsibility to communicate with school site and district representatives before applying so there is clarity during the endorsement process. Districts will only consider endorsement for applications submitted to the Community Enhancement & Investment Fund by the March 6 at Noon (12:00 p.m.). deadline. Each participating school superintendent reserves the right to withhold their endorsement of a project/program. Parks If your project/program is intended to operate at a park or community center site, your application is due by the March 6 at Noon (12:00 p.m.). deadline. City staff will work with the Cordova Recreation & Park District to confirm an endorsement for your project/program. It's the applicant's responsibility to communicate with district representatives before applying so there is clarity during the endorsement process. A special use permit application is required for any program or event planned at a CRPD facility. The special use application can be found at the CRPD website: https://www.cordovarpd.gov/. CRPD will only consider endorsement for applications submitted to the Community Enhancement & Investment Fund by the March 6 at Noon (12:00 p.m.). deadline. The Cordova Recreation & Park District reserves the right to withhold their endorsement of a project/program. Below is the list of staff to communicate with at school and park organizations: Folsom Cordova Unified School District: mwest@fcusd.org Cordova Recreation & Park District: cmichelotti@cordovarpd.gov Elk Grove Unified School District: mgulden@egusd.net Sacramento City Unified School District: Tuan-Duong@scusd.edu for Winn and Carver and Enrique-Flores@scusd.edu for Lincoln.
Primary street address of project/program	9792 BUSINESS PARK DRIVE
List the city location of the project/program.	City of Rancho Cordova
Select State	CA

Provide the zip code for your project/program's primary location.	95827
If your project/program takes place at multiple locations, please list other or secondary locations.	Mandarins equipment and Instruments, vehicles and trailers are stored at our warehouse located at 6320 Belleau Wood, Sacramento. Equipment and instruments will be transported to the Mandarins Event Center in Rancho Cordova on program and parade days. Mandarins intends to participate in local parades and venues which will vary according with the location of the event.

Third Party Letters of Support (Note: Combine multiple files in one pdf before uploading)

Letter_of_Support_2026.pdf

Does your project/program involve one of Rancho Cordova's school districts?	No
Does your project/program involve the Cordova Recreation & Park District?	No
	5 - Applicant Information
Name	Kathleen Davies
Is this project/program on behalf of an organization?	Yes
What is the name of your organization?	Mandarins of Sacramento, Inc. dba Mandarins Performing Arts
What is your title and/or role at your organization?	Chair of the Board of Directors, grant writer
Provide contact phone number:	+[redacted]
Provide contact email:	[redacted]

Are you the primary point of contact on this project/program?	No
What is the name of this project or program's primary contact if not the person submitting this application?	Daniel Fong
What is the email of the primary contact?	dan.fong@mandarins.org
If your project/program was awarded the requested funds, are you authorized to sign the contract for your organization?	No, someone else would sign the contract
If selected by the City Council to receive an award, what is the name of the person at your organization who would sign the contract?	Daniel Fong
What is the title of this individual?	CEO/President
What is the best phone number where we could contact the signatory?	[redacted]
What is the best email address to contact the signatory?	Dan.Fong@mandarins.org
By checking here, I confirm that I am aware that my application materials will become public record.	checked

Thank you for applying to the Community Enhancement & Investment Fund Fiscal Year 2026-2027 Grant Cycle. Applicants will receive an automated response through the grant portal. Community Enhancement & Investment Fund (CEIF) Staff will follow up with any questions regarding your Fiscal Year 2026-2027 application. For information about the next steps in the CEIF grant process, visit our website for more information. It is anticipated that applications will be reviewed by the City Council starting in April 2026 with adoption in June 2026. Should applicants be awarded by the City Council, funding would not be available to grantees until the start of Fiscal Year 2026-2027 and the completion of a contract. Please send an email to CEIFGrants@cityofranchocordova.org with any questions or comments.

Internal Form

Score	n/a

Mandarins Music Academy Parade Corps

Proposed Budget – First year of operation

Requested CEIF Funds - $25,000

Item	Cost
Instruction & Staffing – $23,000	
Lead Instructors (music, percussion, guard) – stipends for up to 24 weekend camps	12000
Guest Mentors (Mandarins alumni, specialists)	4000
Program Director oversight (administration, curriculum, training)	5000
Parent Volunteer Coordination/Support Materials	2000
Subtotal	**23000**
Equipment, Instruments & Supplies – $19,500	
Youth sized flags, poles, and silks	2000
Percussion equipment upgrades & repairs	2500
Instruments and maintenance	12000
Uniform shirts, parade accessories (belts, gloves, harnesses)	2000
Music licensing & print materials	1000
Subtotal	**19500**
3. Facility & Operational Costs – $8,500	
Facility utilities, custodial, and wear and tear allocation	4000
Rehearsal field/indoor setup (audio gear, markers, equipment transport)	2000
Insurance, safety, and compliance supplies	2500
Subtotal	**8500**
4. Community Performances & Outreach – $5,000	
Parade entry fees, transportation of equipment	1500
Printing flyers, outreach to schools, social media promotion	1000
Family showcase staging (chairs, audio, signage)	1000
Video/photography documentation for CEIF reporting	1500
Subtotal	**5000**
5. Student Scholarships – $4,000	
Need-based scholarships to ensure equitable access for youth who cannot afford even minimal participation fees.	4000
Subtotal	**4000**
Total Project Budget Request	**$60,000**

Please clearly illustrate any matching funds or funding from other sources in your project/program budget, including in-kind sources.

Requested from CEIF Funding	**$25,000**

Additional Sources of Funding (committed)

• Mandarins Event Center signed one year lease with new tenant from April 1, 2026 to March 31, 2027. $10,000 of the revenue from this new lease will be allocated to Mandarins Parade Corps for building use and transportation of equipment	**$ 10,000**
• Contributions from Mandarins of Sacramento, Inc. general fund	**$ 10,000**

Potential Sources of Funding

• Tuition payments at @ $100 per participant Goal is 100 students but estimate 25% will need financial assistance	**$ 7,500**
• Individual Donations from Big Day of Giving, Gala	**$ 7,500**
Total Budget	**$ 60,000**

Mandarins Parade Corps

Volunteers for the Mandarins Parade Corps provide essential in-kind support that ensures the success of each event and rehearsal.

Their contributions may include transporting equipment such as instruments and uniforms, mentoring students through musical guidance and leadership development, and assisting with event center setup, including staging, seating, and logistics.

Volunteers also supply snacks and refreshments to keep students energized, and they meet with parents to support communication, engagement, and overall program coordination. Together, these volunteer efforts significantly enhance the experience for participants and families while reducing operational costs for the organization.

Mandarins intends to actively recruit volunteers from parents of the students and alumni of the Mandarins Drum and Bugle Corps,

Parent and alumni volunteers will play a powerful role in enhancing the student experience by bringing connection, support, and continuity to the program.

Parents strengthen the community around each student by contributing energy, encouragement, and resources that create a safe and welcoming environment.

Alumni volunteers provide mentorship grounded in firsthand experience, offering guidance, inspiration, and practical knowledge that helps students grow both as performers and individuals.

Together, parent and alumni involvement fosters a sense of belonging, reinforces traditions, and ensures students receive the support, motivation, and real-world insight they need to thrive.

It is anticipated that volunteers will contribute 4 hours of time each session.

Mandarins anticipates 2 volunteers per 4 hour session times 24 workshops/rehearsals. This would make the value of in-kind contributions of $6,679.68 rounded up to $6,680.

Sample Flyer and Post to Social Media

Volunteers: The Lifeblood of the Mandarins Parade Corps

At the heart of every successful nonprofit are volunteers—people who give their time, skills, and energy to make a difference. For the Mandarins Parade Corps, volunteers are essential to our mission. Your support helps students learn, grow, and perform at their best while ensuring our programs run safely, smoothly, and sustainably.

Why Volunteers Matter

- **Direct Impact on Students:** Volunteers mentor students, provide guidance, and model leadership—building confidence, teamwork, and discipline that last far beyond the performance field.
- **Operational Excellence:** From transporting equipment to setting up the event center, volunteers enable rehearsals and performances to start on time and run efficiently.
- **Healthy, Safe, and Supported:** Providing snacks and being present for students and families helps create a welcoming, caring environment for every participant.
- **Community Connection:** When volunteers meet with parents and engage families, they strengthen communication, build trust, and create a supportive network around each student.
- **Resource Stewardship:** In-kind support and donated time reduce costs, allowing more of our budget to go directly to music education, instruction, and student opportunities.

How Your Service Helps Us Succeed

- **Transporting Equipment:** Ensures instruments, uniforms, and props arrive where they're needed—rehearsals and shows can't happen without this.
- **Mentoring Students:** Enhances musical skill, focus, and leadership, helping students reach their full potential on and off the field.
- **Event Center Setup:** Creates a safe, organized space for rehearsals and performances, improving quality and efficiency.
- **Snacks & Refreshments:** Keeps students energized and focused during long practices and event days.
- **Parent Engagement:** Keeps families informed and involved, improving coordination, attendance, and support for the program.

Your Contribution Counts

Every hour you volunteer and every item you donate directly supports our students. Please use the **Volunteer Hours Log** and **In-Kind Contributions** sections to record your efforts—this helps us plan, thank you properly, and report our community impact.

Thank you for being part of the Mandarins Parade Corps family. Together, we create opportunity, build community, and make music that inspires.

Sample Volunteer Sign-Up & Hours Worksheet

Volunteer Information:

Name: _____ Phone: _____

Email: _____ Preferred Contact: Phone / Email / Text

Volunteer Interest Areas:

[ ] Transport equipment

[ ] Mentor students

[ ] Event center setup

[ ] Provide snacks/refreshments

[ ] Meet with parents / family engagement

[ ] Other: _____

Availability:

Days available: Mon / Tue / Wed / Thu / Fri / Sat / Sun

Preferred times: Mornings / Afternoons / Evenings / Flexible

Sample Volunteer Time Sheet

Volunteer Information:

Name: _____ Phone: _____

Email: _____ Preferred Contact: Phone / Email / Text

Date of Service:_____

Time In: _____ _____ (Initials)

Time Out: _____ _____(Initials)

Total hours volunteered: _____

Duties performed:

[ ] Transport equipment

[ ] Mentor students

[ ] Event center setup

[ ] Provide snacks/refreshments

[ ] Meet with parents / family engagement

[ ] Other: _____

Verification:

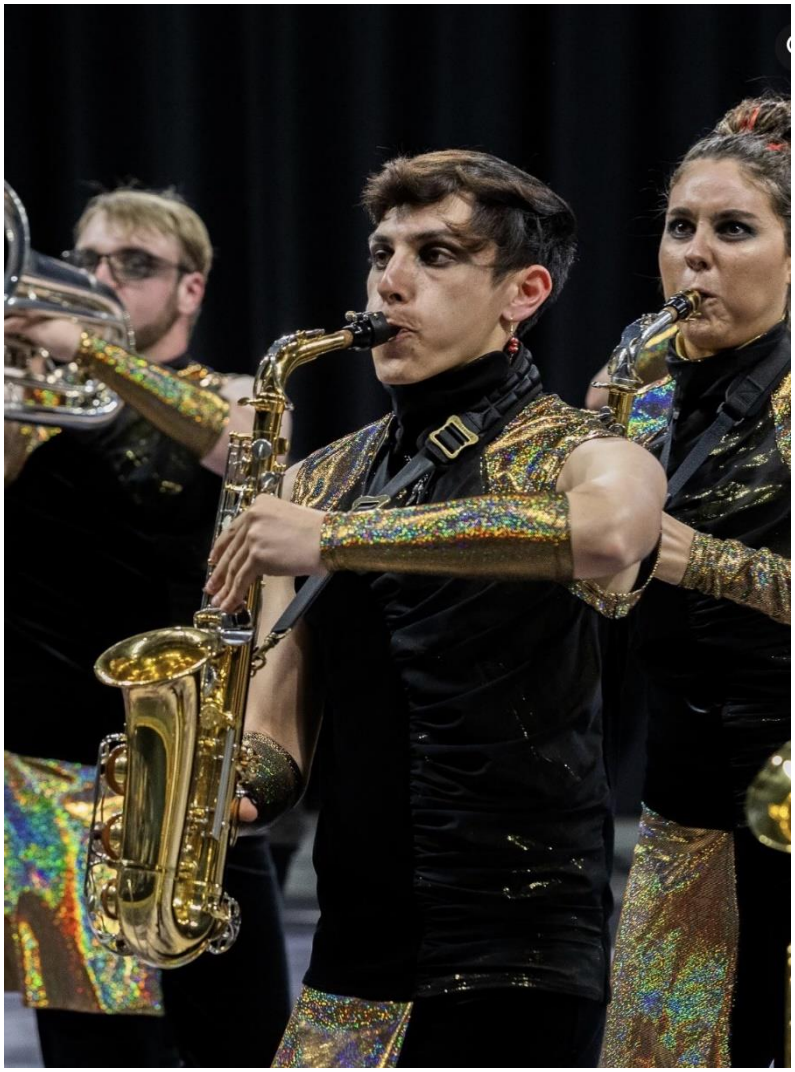
Printed Name of Staff:_____

Staff Signature:_____

Mandarins Performing Arts
63 years of
“Celebrating Life – Transforming Lives”

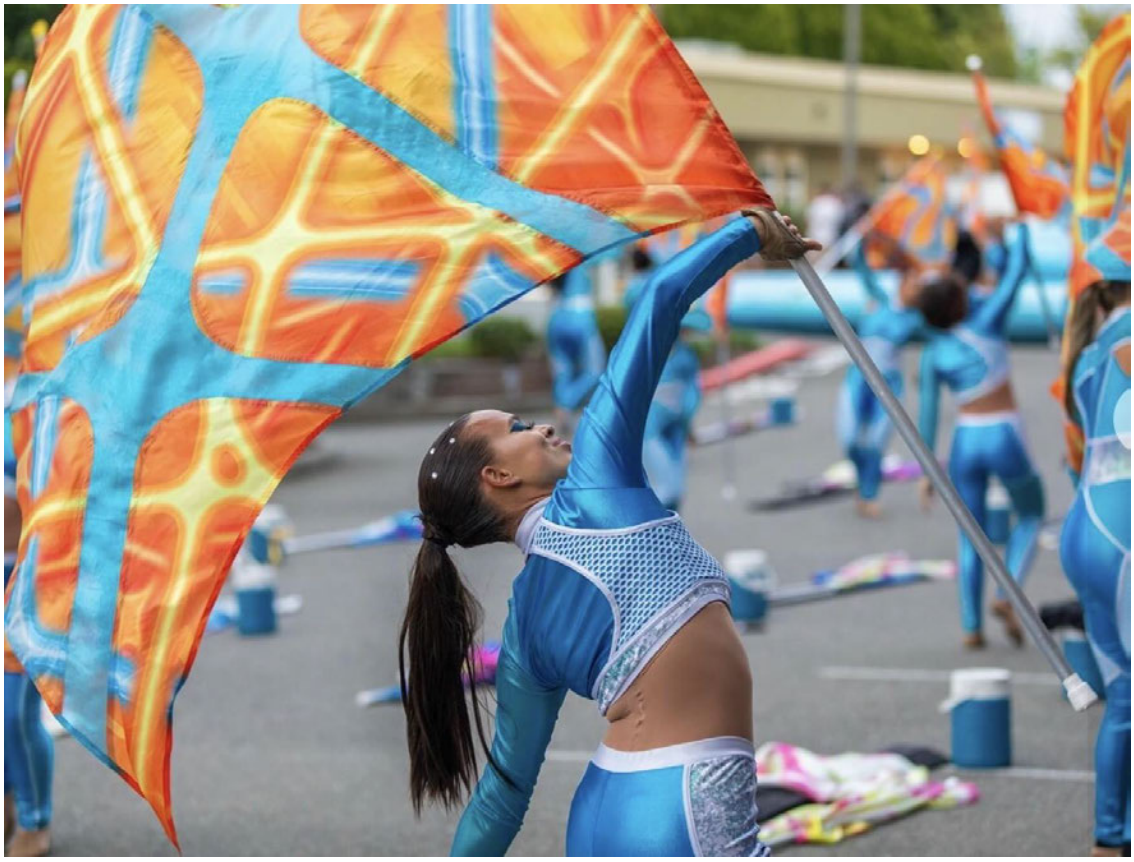
Mandarins Music Academy

MANDARIN
MUSIC
ACADEMY
Band
Program
"Giving the Gift of Music



Immortal Winds Indoor Wind Ensemble

Mandarins Drum and Bugle Corps



Third Largest Drum Corps Show in California

Community Outreach Workshops

Mandarins
Statement of Inclusivity

The mission of the Sacramento Mandarins is to transform the lives of youth through musical performance. We celebrate and embrace diversity in all of its forms including gender, racial, sexual orientation, religious and socio-economic diversity. We believe that everyone brings their individual identity AND unites to create amazing musical ensembles.

In 1963, during a time of heightened discrimination, the Sacramento Mandarins, (then Ye Wah), was formed to provide Chinese-American youth with a performing arts activity. As the world changed, so did the Mandarins, first opening up to members of Asian descent, and now to people of all backgrounds. Today, we are proud to be one of the most inclusive and diverse organizations in the activity.

SACRAMENTO
MANDARINS
925BULL

SACRAMENTO
MANDARINS

Celebrating Youth.....
Transforming Lives.....
Sacramento
Mandarins

March 11, 2026

To whom it may concern:

I am writing in support of the grant application from the Mandarins Performing Arts. As the dean emerita of the College of Arts & Letters at Sacramento State and the current president of the Board of Sacramento Philharmonic & Opera, I have seen firsthand the critical importance of the performing arts and arts education. The Mandarins organization has from its inception provided a space for those who have not had access to the opportunities that a strong music program can provide. They have not only given young people the gift of music but have also given them community, support, and leadership training. National research illustrates how arts education not only contributes to skills in those arts but also to achievement in other academic areas. Furthermore, not every child finds a "home" or outlet in athletics or in other academic spaces, but many of those children find a home with the Mandarins.

Since the Mandarins have made the Sacramento region its home, the entire community has benefited from their contributions. I have personally witnessed the long-term impact of the Mandarins since many of their alumni now teach in either K-12 or at the university. Even those who have gone into a variety of non-arts-related fields exhibit the strong leadership skills they developed while affiliated with the Mandarins. These are also individuals who are committed to giving back to their communities, and I have had the privilege of serving with some of them on various boards and committees.

Our communities are further enriched and brought together through shared experiences, such as the concerts and competitions in which the Mandarins performing groups participate. Families enjoy the opportunity to see their children and their neighbors' children perform. Such concerts and competitions are also perfect ways for neighbors to meet neighbors and take joy in the music they hear.

Given the critical importance of building pipelines of young people who have access to playing music and to the communities that enjoy the music they and others perform, I strongly recommend funding this grant. Putting musical instruments in the hands of a child who would not otherwise learn how to play an instrument or providing a venue in which they can perform and in which their communities can take pride is a highly valuable way in which to support our children and communities. I can think of no better organization than the Mandarins with their many, many years of proven dedication and success to support.

Sincerely,

Sheree L. Meyer, Ph.D.

Dean Emerita, College of Arts & Letters, Sacramento State

President, Board of Governors, Sacramento Philharmonic & Opera

Randick O'Dea Tooliatos
Vermont & Sargent, LLP
Attorneys at Law

March 11, 2026 *Reply to Pleasanton Office*

Mandarins of Sacramento, Inc.
9792 Business Park Drive
Sacramento, Ca. 95827
Attn: Kathleen Davies

Re: General Business/M1383.001

Dear sir or madame:

I am writing this letter to recommend Mandarins of Sacramento, Inc. dba Mandarins Performing Arts in support of any of its grant applications.

I am entering my second year on the Mandarins Advisory Board. My primary role on behalf of the organization is to provide general legal support and fundraising. I have known of the Mandarins organization since the mid-1970's and have watched it grow its programming for several years. I have been a fan of this organization since I first watched its students perform in the 1970s. I have had the privilege of seeing the Mandarins organization perform every year since then.

The Mandarins were formed in 1963 to provide the Chinese American youth of the Sacramento area with a musical organization where they could learn to perform not only music, but dance as well. The organization created in 1963 was called the Yi Wah, Drum and Lyre Corps. Initially, the membership was solely Chinese American, as this organization was created to combat discrimination, and to give Chinese American youth a place to perform.

In the mid-1970s, the Mandarins opened its doors to all nationalities, genders and races. It changed its name to the Mandarins Drum and Bugle Corp, and now Mandarins Performing Arts and has been in operation ever since.

However, Mandarins are no longer simply a Drum and Bugle Corp. In the early 2000's, Mandarins expanded its programs to include Mandarins Music Academy, which provides music education to elementary schools in the Sacramento area, including in excess of 1400 children in the Elk Grove School District, the Arcohe School District (and several charter schools), as well as the Sacramento Juvenile Hall (where Mandarins teach music to juvenile offenders), and to various special needs children and adults in the Sacramento area. Mandarins are in the process

of adding a choir program as well. These kids would never have the chance to play or sing without this organization.

Mandarins provides all instruments for its Academy program.

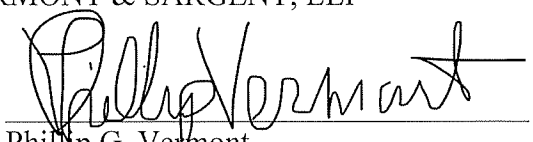
I can attest personally to the value of performing arts in child development. The Arts have taught me the need for practice and dedication. But for the lessons I learned as a child in the performing arts I would never have had the skills I needed to successfully complete law school and a near forty-year career in the law.

I have two primary reasons for volunteering for the Mandarins. First, I strongly believe in the value of a music or arts education and second, I believe the Mandarins are one of the most diverse Arts organizations I have ever encountered. All students are accepted in the Mandarins programming regardless of the students' race, gender, orientation, or religion. The Mandarins are strongly committed to the diversity of its students.

I hope you will agree to provide support for the Mandarins.

Very truly yours,

RANDICK O'DEA TOOLIATOS
VERMONT & SARGENT, LLP

By 
Phillip G. Vermont

PGV9/pgv9

To Whom It May Concern,

I am writing to express my enthusiastic recommendation on behalf of the Mandarins and to share insight into the profound impact that The Mandarins have had on my son, Cavan's, musical journey and aspirations.

Cavan has always demonstrated a deep passion for music, but it was his exposure to The Mandarins that truly ignited his creative ambitions. The Mandarins' innovative approach to music, blending intricate harmonies with dynamic rhythms, provided not only inspiration but also a model of artistic discipline and excellence. Their performances and recordings served as a catalyst for Cavan, encouraging him to expand his musical horizons and pursue his own unique sound.

Through studying The Mandarins' compositions and observing their dedication to their craft, Cavan developed a heightened appreciation for musical complexity and the importance of collaboration within a group setting. This influence is evident in his commitment to practice, his openness to creative experimentation, and his willingness to contribute meaningfully to ensemble work. The Mandarins' success story instilled in him the confidence to set ambitious goals, and their resilience taught him the value of perseverance in the arts.

Cavan's musical skills have flourished as a direct result of The Mandarins' influence. He has become an adept instrumentalist, a thoughtful composer, and an enthusiastic participant in musical communities. The Mandarins' impact is reflected not only in his technical growth but also in his deepened artistic vision and drive to make a positive mark in the world of music.

In summary, The Mandarins played a pivotal role in shaping Cavan's musical aspirations. Their influence inspired him to pursue his passion with greater confidence and creativity, and I am confident that he will continue to honor their legacy through his own musical endeavors.

Please do not hesitate to contact me if you require further information regarding Cavan's talents and the significant role The Mandarins have played in his development.

Sincerely,

Lawrence Grundy

Cavan's Dad

[redacted]

[redacted]

65. Application Withdrawn

Title

ReCreate: Creative Reuse STEAM Lab at Sacramento Children's Museum

03/10/2026

id. 53449159

by **Emily Carroll** in **Fiscal Year 2026-2027 Community Enhancement & Investment Fund Grant Application**

6827 Lonetree Blvd #105
Rocklin, California
95765
California
United States
[redacted]
emily@recreate.org

Original Submission

03/10/2026

Score n/a

	Thank you for your interest in applying to the City of Rancho Cordova's Community Enhancement & Investment Fund. Applications are open from February 9, 2026, to March 13, 2026, Noon (12:00 p.m.) with a specific deadline of March 6th Noon (12:00 p.m.) for certain applications**. Before you begin, please read the notes about deadlines and certain types of grant applications/grants below. **School/Park Application Deadline **Note that projects or programs involving a park or school district have a deadline of March 6 Noon (12:00 p.m.) to allow for the third-party endorsement process by the grant deadline.** A Note about Religious Schools and the Application/Grant Process **Note for grant applications from religious schools. The United States Supreme Court has recently ruled in part that: “denying a generally available benefit [from government] solely on account of religious identity imposes a penalty on the free exercise of religion that can be justified only by a state interest of the highest order.” The City is of the opinion that not all grants to religious schools are prohibited under this and other similar rulings. However, these United States Supreme Court decisions remain in conflict with a section of the California State Constitution that says: “[n]either the Legislature, nor any county, city and county, township, school district, or other municipal corporation, shall ever make an appropriation, or pay from any public fund whatever, or grant anything to or in aid of any religious sect, church, creed, or sectarian purpose, or help to support or sustain any school, college, university, hospital, or other institution controlled by any religious creed, church, or sectarian denomination whatever; nor shall any grant or donation of personal property or real estate ever be made by the state, or any city, city and county, town, or other municipal corporation for any religious creed, church, or sectarian purpose whatever”. The City will accept applications for grants of these City public funds from religious schools, but will have language in the grant agreements to address the possibility and consequences of legal challenges and new court decisions on this and related topics. ** Future Grant Opportunities If you are interested in remaining up-to-date on available grants from the City of Rancho Cordova, click here to sign up for the Grants Interest List. A separate call for programming opportunities with the Rancho Cordova Youth Center is anticipated later in 2026. The list is also used to advertise separate art programs when funds are available. Ongoing Grant Opportunity The City of Rancho Cordova offers a microgrant opportunity. Learn more about those grants online.
Is this your first time applying for grant funding from the City of Rancho Cordova? As a first-time applicant, Community Enhancement & Investment Fund (CEIF) staff will contact you to discuss your project and grant application process.	Yes: First Time Applicant

	1 - Project/Program Information Note: You can add a collaborator to this form to assist you in completing this application! A collaborator can help you complete this form by filling in fields for you, although only you can submit this form. You can add a collaborator by navigating to the top of the form and clicking on the 'Manage Collaborators' button. Simply enter their email address and click 'invite' to invite them as a collaborator. If you need further assistance, you may consult this Help article for more information.
Project/Program Name. Assign a project name to your project/program.	ReCreate: Creative Reuse STEAM Lab at Sacramento Children's Museum
Which category does your Project/Program align with?	Youth Programs & Services
Provide a Project/Program Synopsis	ReCreate will partner with the Sacramento Children's Museum to offer hands-on creative reuse STEAM workshops and Art & Nature camps for elementary-aged youth. Using reclaimed materials, students build inventions, art, and engineering projects that foster creativity, environmental awareness, and access to engaging educational experiences for Rancho Cordova families.

Provide a Project/Program Description	ReCreate proposes launching a Creative Reuse STEAM Lab in partnership with the Sacramento Children's Museum in Rancho Cordova. The program will provide hands-on STEAM learning experiences for elementary-age youth through summer camps, school break workshops, and maker activities focused on creativity, environmental sustainability, and problem solving. The Sacramento Children's Museum has classroom space that is currently underutilized after museum hours. This partnership activates that space by offering engaging educational programming that benefits Rancho Cordova families and youth. Programs will take place primarily during summer and school breaks when families seek enriching activities for children. Students will participate in open-ended creative reuse projects using clean reclaimed materials diverted from the waste stream. Activities may include: • Art and Nature Camps using natural and reused materials • Cardboard engineering and invention challenges • Recycled paper making • Creative reuse sculpture and design • Environmental STEAM activities exploring reduce, reuse, and recycle Through these activities, youth develop creativity, engineering thinking, collaboration skills, and environmental awareness. Programs emphasize experimentation, imagination, and hands-on learning. ReCreate is a nonprofit organization founded in 2008 that diverts reusable materials from the landfill and transforms them into educational resources. ReCreate provides creative reuse and STEAM education programs for thousands of students across the Sacramento region each year. This project directly benefits the Rancho Cordova community by: • Providing affordable enrichment opportunities for local youth (Programs will be offered free of charge to Rancho Cordova families.) • Activating an existing community asset at the Sacramento Children's Museum • Promoting environmental awareness and waste reduction • Expanding access to STEAM education for families The Creative Reuse STEAM Lab will serve children and families throughout Rancho Cordova and surrounding communities while strengthening partnerships between local nonprofits and educational organizations. By combining creativity, environmental stewardship, and hands-on STEAM learning, the program enhances quality of life for Rancho Cordova residents and supports the development of curious, creative young learners.

Tell us about your Project/Program Team	ReCreate will lead the program in partnership with the Sacramento Children's Museum. ReCreate is a nonprofit organization providing creative reuse and STEAM education since 2008. Emily Carroll, Executive Director, will oversee program development and partnerships. Madeline Huttie, Education Coordinator, will lead curriculum development and program delivery. ReCreate teaching artists and educators will facilitate workshops and camps. Sacramento Children's Museum staff will collaborate by providing classroom space and supporting community outreach to families.
Provide your Project/Program Goals	Goal 1 Provide accessible STEAM enrichment opportunities for youth. Metric Serve approximately 1,000-1,500 youth participants through camps and workshops. Goal 2 Promote environmental awareness through creative reuse. Metric Divert and repurpose 500+ pounds of reusable materials in hands-on projects. Goal 3 Expand community partnerships and educational programming. Metric Launch a new educational collaboration between ReCreate and Sacramento Children's Museum. Goal 4 Encourage creativity and problem-solving skills. Metric Students complete hands-on projects and demonstrate engagement in creative and engineering activities.

Optional File Upload: Provide any additional records to supplement your program/project application. Note: Combine multiple files in one pdf before uploading.

Attachment__Program_Schedule_–_Creative_Reuse_STEAM_Lab.pdf

2 - Funding & Costs

Funding Request - Complete this section with total dollar amounts for your project/program's costs	Funds are generally not intended to be used for deferred maintenance and ongoing operational needs. The funds are intended for enhancing and investing in the City of Rancho Cordova. If your project/program is awarded, the costs identified below would be reviewed and potentially open to modification during a contracting phase (if a grant is awarded by the City Council). If awarded, grant funds are not available until a contract is executed during Fiscal Year 2026-2027.
Total project/program cost*	25000
What is the amount of Community Enhancement & Investment Fund grant monies requested?	25000
Does your project/program involve construction of any facilities or improvements upon any property?	No
What is the total cost of personnel for your project/program?	14000
What is the total cost of supplies for your project/program?	4000
What is the total cost of transportation for your project/program?	1000
What is the total cost of equipment for your project/program?	1300
What is the total cost of any miscellaneous expenses for your project/program?	4700

Upload your project/program's budget as a .pdf file. Include the categories and their dollar amounts along with information about any other funding sources to demonstrate your project/program's total budget. Note, the sum of all categories must match the total project or program cost, or the amount requested of CEIF if there is no other funding source. Please clearly illustrate any matching funds or funding from other sources in your project/program budget, including in-kind sources. Note: Combine multiple files in one pdf before uploading.

ReCreate_–_Creative_Reuse_STEAM_Lab_at_Sacramento_Children's_Museum_-_Sheet1.pdf

Has your organization sought or will seek other funding for this project/program?	Yes, actively seeking funding support or have secured additional funding support for this project/program.
Describe any funding secured or being sought for this project/program.	ReCreate will continue to seek additional support from community donors, small grants, and program fees to help sustain and expand programming. ReCreate will also contribute in-kind support through donated creative reuse materials, volunteer engagement, and organizational infrastructure.
Please describe any ongoing operations and maintenance costs beyond Fiscal Year 2026/2027, if applicable.	If the pilot program is successful, ReCreate and the Sacramento Children's Museum will explore sustainable models to continue programming beyond Fiscal Year 2026–2027. Ongoing costs may include teaching artist stipends, supplies, and facility coordination. These costs would be supported through program fees, additional grants, and philanthropic support.
Do you have volunteer or in-kind support for your project? This could include volunteers for an activity/event that is ongoing or a one-time experience.	Yes
Please share the total dollar amount for volunteer/in-kind support using $34.79 as the national rate for a volunteer hour. Source: Value of Volunteer Time	6175

Please provide a worksheet explaining your volunteer/in-kind contribution. You may upload a file in the following formats: CSV, DOC, DOCX, or PDF.

In-Kind_Contribution_Worksheet_-_Sheet1.pdf

Is this a single year request or a request for funding for multiple years?	Single Year

Has your project/program received funding from the Community Enhancement & Investment Fund previously?	No
	3 - Project/Program Details Grant applications are typically approved to occur between July 2026 through June 2027. What is your plan to complete this project/program within this time frame?
Anticipated Start Date (July 1 is the soonest available start date)	7/1/2026
Anticipated End Date (typically projects/programs end by June 30)	6/30/2027
Please describe your project/program schedule	Planning and coordination will begin prior to the grant start date. Programming will launch in summer 2026 and continue throughout the fiscal year with summer camps, school break workshops, and occasional weekend maker events. Programs will primarily occur during summer and school breaks when youth need enrichment opportunities.
What challenges do you anticipate in your project/program's implementation? What is your plan to complete your project/program should those or other challenges arise?	Potential challenges include coordinating program schedules with the Sacramento Children's Museum and ensuring sufficient enrollment for workshops. ReCreate has extensive experience delivering educational programs and will address these challenges through advance scheduling, community outreach, and flexible program design. The partnership with the museum provides a stable facility and strong community visibility.
How many individuals does your project/program serve?	1,250
How many Rancho Cordova residents does your project/program serve?	1000
	4 - Project/Program Location

Address Verification	If you need to check if your project is in Rancho Cordova, type in your program/project's location in the Assessor Parcel Viewer: https://assessorparcelviewer.saccounty.gov/jsviewer/assessor.html
School and park related applications are due before Noon (12:00 p.m.) on March 6, 2026, to allow for the endorsement process.	Please note that projects or programs that are proposed on property owned or operated by outside agencies or a private party will require coordination with and potentially approvals from outside agencies, organizations, and/or the private party. Include whether you have received a letter of support for the project/program from the property owner. Upload any letters of support with your application. City staff will verify third-party permits have been discussed. In your planning discussions, be sure to discuss any necessary insurance or volunteer requirements that may increase budget costs. School Sites If your project/program is intended to operate at a public K-12 school site, your application is due by March 6 at Noon (12:00 p.m.). City staff will work with the school districts to confirm an endorsement for your project/program. It's the applicant's responsibility to communicate with school site and district representatives before applying so there is clarity during the endorsement process. Districts will only consider endorsement for applications submitted to the Community Enhancement & Investment Fund by the March 6 at Noon (12:00 p.m.). deadline. Each participating school superintendent reserves the right to withhold their endorsement of a project/program. Parks If your project/program is intended to operate at a park or community center site, your application is due by the March 6 at Noon (12:00 p.m.). deadline. City staff will work with the Cordova Recreation & Park District to confirm an endorsement for your project/program. It's the applicant's responsibility to communicate with district representatives before applying so there is clarity during the endorsement process. A special use permit application is required for any program or event planned at a CRPD facility. The special use application can be found at the CRPD website: https://www.cordovarpd.gov/. CRPD will only consider endorsement for applications submitted to the Community Enhancement & Investment Fund by the March 6 at Noon (12:00 p.m.). deadline. The Cordova Recreation & Park District reserves the right to withhold their endorsement of a project/program. Below is the list of staff to communicate with at school and park organizations: Folsom Cordova Unified School District: mwest@fcusd.org Cordova Recreation & Park District: cmichelotti@cordovarpd.gov Elk Grove Unified School District: mgulden@egusd.net Sacramento City Unified School District: Tuan-Duong@scusd.edu for Winn and Carver and Enrique-Flores@scusd.edu for Lincoln.
Primary street address of project/program	2701 Prospect Park Dr
List the city location of the project/program.	Rancho Cordova
Select State	CA

Provide the zip code for your project/program's primary location.	95670
If your project/program takes place at multiple locations, please list other or secondary locations.	ReCreate 6827 Lonetree Blvd #105 Rocklin, CA 95765

Third Party Letters of Support (Note: Combine multiple files in one pdf before uploading)

SKM_C454e26030502160_1.pdf

Does your project/program involve one of Rancho Cordova's school districts?	No
Does your project/program involve the Cordova Recreation & Park District?	No
	5 - Applicant Information
Name	Emily Carroll
Is this project/program on behalf of an organization?	Yes
What is the name of your organization?	ReCreate
What is your title and/or role at your organization?	Executive Director
Provide contact phone number:	+[redacted]
Provide contact email:	emily@recreate.org
Are you the primary point of contact on this project/program?	Yes

If your project/program was awarded the requested funds, are you authorized to sign the contract for your organization?	Yes, I would be the one to sign the contract
By checking here, I confirm that I am aware that my application materials will become public record.	checked
	Thank you for applying to the Community Enhancement & Investment Fund Fiscal Year 2026-2027 Grant Cycle. Applicants will receive an automated response through the grant portal. Community Enhancement & Investment Fund (CEIF) Staff will follow up with any questions regarding your Fiscal Year 2026-2027 application. For information about the next steps in the CEIF grant process, visit our website for more information. It is anticipated that applications will be reviewed by the City Council starting in April 2026 with adoption in June 2026. Should applicants be awarded by the City Council, funding would not be available to grantees until the start of Fiscal Year 2026-2027 and the completion of a contract. Please send an email to CEIFGrants@cityofranchocordova.org with any questions or comments.

Internal Form

Score	n/a

ReCreate – Creative Reuse STEAM Lab at Sacramento Children's Museum

Community Enhancement & Investment Fund (CEIF) Project Budget

Category	Amount ($)
Personnel (teaching artists, coordination)	14,000
Supplies (reuse materials, craft supplies)	4,000
Transportation (material transport)	1,000
Equipment (tools, bins, maker equipment)	1,300
Museum Facility Fee ($50/hr × 94 hrs)	4,700
Total Project Cost	25,000

This budget supports free STEAM programming for Rancho Cordova youth and families at the Sacramento Children's Museum during the July 2026 – June 2027 grant period.

ReCreate – Creative Reuse STEAM Lab at Sacramento Children's Museum

In-Kind Contribution Worksheet

Contribution Type	Description	Estimated Value ($)
Volunteer Support	120 volunteer hours supporting preparation, materials sorting, and event assistance (rate $34.79/hr)	4,175
Donated Creative Reuse Materials	Cardboard, textiles, paper, and craft materials from ReCreate's reuse inventory used in STEAM activities	2,000
Organizational Support	Program planning, coordination, and administrative support contributed by ReCreate	1,000
Total In-Kind Contribution		7,175

ReCreate contributes volunteer time, reclaimed materials, and organizational support to ensure the success of the Creative Reuse STEAM Lab and to keep programming free for Rancho Cordova families.

Sacramento Children's Museum

March 4, 2026

Dear Community Enhancement & Investment Fund Review Committee,

The Sacramento Children's Museum is pleased to support ReCreate's proposal to offer creative reuse STEAM programming for youth at the Sacramento Children's Museum in Rancho Cordova.

ReCreate is a nonprofit organization that provides hands-on creative reuse and STEAM education programs for youth throughout the Sacramento region. Their programs combine art, engineering, and environmental learning while encouraging creativity and problem-solving.

Through this proposed partnership, ReCreate would offer workshops and youth programs in the museum's classroom space, particularly during afternoon hours when museum visitation typically slows. These programs would provide meaningful enrichment opportunities for local youth while activating existing educational space within the museum.

The Sacramento Children's Museum is supportive of exploring this partnership with ReCreate and believes the program could provide valuable creative and educational opportunities for Rancho Cordova families.

Thank you for considering this proposal to expand youth programming and creative learning opportunities in our community.

Sincerely,

Sharon Stone
Executive Director
Sacramento Children's Museum

ReCreate – Creative Reuse STEAM Lab

Sacramento Children's Museum
Program Schedule July 2026 – June 2027

ReCreate will partner with the Sacramento Children's Museum to offer free creative reuse STEAM programming for Rancho Cordova youth and families. Programs will take place primarily in the afternoon hours when museum visitation slows, typically beginning around 2:00–3:00 pm.

Summer 2026

July 2026 – Summer Creative Reuse Labs
- 4 weeks of programming
- 3 afternoons per week
- 2 hours per session
- Activities include cardboard engineering, art & nature projects, and invention challenges using reclaimed materials.

August 2026 – Late Summer Sessions
- 2 weeks of summer programming
- 1 after-school pilot workshop
- Focus on STEAM maker activities and creative reuse building projects.

Fall 2026

September – October 2026
- 2 after-school STEAM workshops per month
- Students explore sculpture, invention building, and collaborative maker challenges.

November 2026 – Fall Workshops + Thanksgiving Break Program
- 2 after-school workshops
- 1 Thanksgiving break mini-camp focused on creative reuse art and nature activities.

December 2026 – Winter Creative Lab
- Holiday break STEAM program featuring recycled art, costume making, and imaginative storytelling activities.

Winter / Spring 2027

January – February 2027
- 2 after-school STEAM labs each month

• Activities include recycled engineering challenges, sculpture, and collaborative maker projects.

March 2027 – Spring Break Creative Camp
• 2 after-school workshops
• 1 Spring Break STEAM mini-camp focused on art, theater, and nature-inspired creativity.

April – May 2027
• 2 workshops per month
• Programs continue to emphasize imaginative play, creative reuse, and hands-on making.

Summer 2027

June 2027 – Early Summer Creative Reuse Camp
• 2 weeks of summer programming
• Activities combine art, theater, and nature exploration with creative reuse materials.

Estimated Program Reach

• Approximately 90–100 hours of programming annually
• Serving 1,200–1,500 youth participants
• Programs will be offered free for Rancho Cordova families thanks to Community Enhancement & Investment Fund support and ReCreate's in-kind contributions.

Community Impact

The Creative Reuse STEAM Lab will activate underutilized classroom space at the Sacramento Children's Museum while providing joyful learning experiences that combine:

• creative play
• environmental awareness
• art and engineering exploration
• community access to STEAM education

By transforming reclaimed materials into creative possibilities, the program encourages imagination, problem-solving, and environmental stewardship among Rancho Cordova youth.

Title

Cordova Youth Spotlight Orchestra: Working

03/12/2026

id. 53471304

by **Joanna Baisden** in **Fiscal Year 2026-2027 Community Enhancement & Investment Fund Grant Application**

[redacted]
Rancho Cordova, California
95670
United States
[redacted]

Original Submission

03/12/2026

Score n/a

	Thank you for your interest in applying to the City of Rancho Cordova's Community Enhancement & Investment Fund. Applications are open from February 9, 2026, to March 13, 2026, Noon (12:00 p.m.) with a specific deadline of March 6th Noon (12:00 p.m.) for certain applications**. Before you begin, please read the notes about deadlines and certain types of grant applications/grants below. **School/Park Application Deadline **Note that projects or programs involving a park or school district have a deadline of March 6 Noon (12:00 p.m.) to allow for the third-party endorsement process by the grant deadline.** A Note about Religious Schools and the Application/Grant Process **Note for grant applications from religious schools. The United States Supreme Court has recently ruled in part that: “denying a generally available benefit [from government] solely on account of religious identity imposes a penalty on the free exercise of religion that can be justified only by a state interest of the highest order.” The City is of the opinion that not all grants to religious schools are prohibited under this and other similar rulings. However, these United States Supreme Court decisions remain in conflict with a section of the California State Constitution that says: “[n]either the Legislature, nor any county, city and county, township, school district, or other municipal corporation, shall ever make an appropriation, or pay from any public fund whatever, or grant anything to or in aid of any religious sect, church, creed, or sectarian purpose, or help to support or sustain any school, college, university, hospital, or other institution controlled by any religious creed, church, or sectarian denomination whatever; nor shall any grant or donation of personal property or real estate ever be made by the state, or any city, city and county, town, or other municipal corporation for any religious creed, church, or sectarian purpose whatever”. The City will accept applications for grants of these City public funds from religious schools, but will have language in the grant agreements to address the possibility and consequences of legal challenges and new court decisions on this and related topics. ** Future Grant Opportunities If you are interested in remaining up-to-date on available grants from the City of Rancho Cordova, click here to sign up for the Grants Interest List. A separate call for programming opportunities with the Rancho Cordova Youth Center is anticipated later in 2026. The list is also used to advertise separate art programs when funds are available. Ongoing Grant Opportunity The City of Rancho Cordova offers a microgrant opportunity. Learn more about those grants online.
Is this your first time applying for grant funding from the City of Rancho Cordova? As a first-time applicant, Community Enhancement & Investment Fund (CEIF) staff will contact you to discuss your project and grant application process.	No: Not a First Time Applicant

	1 - Project/Program Information Note: You can add a collaborator to this form to assist you in completing this application! A collaborator can help you complete this form by filling in fields for you, although only you can submit this form. You can add a collaborator by navigating to the top of the form and clicking on the 'Manage Collaborators' button. Simply enter their email address and click 'invite' to invite them as a collaborator. If you need further assistance, you may consult this Help article for more information.
Project/Program Name. Assign a project name to your project/program.	Cordova Youth Spotlight Orchestra: Working
Which category does your Project/Program align with?	Arts, Culture, History, & Entertainment
Provide a Project/Program Synopsis	Sacramento Performing Arts Conservatory will train a 25-member tuition-free Cordova Youth Spotlight Orchestra presenting two or more public concerts for Rancho Cordova residents, one of which will be free, and at least one YouTube video. Students will attend two one-hour orchestra classes per week coinciding with the academic calendar.

Provide a Project/Program Description	The Sacramento Performing Arts Conservatory will focus on fielding a strong somewhat smaller Cordova Youth Spotlight Orchestra (CYSO) comprising 20 to 25 students instead of the 45 to 60 students of previous years. Thanks to the generosity of the Rancho Cordova Moose Lodge #2357, SPAC can depend on two hours of free and convenient classroom/rehearsal space two days per week. Class time for beginners who could be promoted to the orchestra is only sporadically available. Therefore, CYSO members will be aggressively recruited strictly from intermediate and advanced music students with public school and/or private music training. Efforts to build a popular CYSO following are continuing. (1) A small band playing classical music in rock style was added January 2026. The group, yet to be named, is just beginning to learn its first four pieces and has yet to perform. (2) The search for small informal performance venues has had limited success. Eleven members of the orchestra helped the Rancho Cordova Branch Library celebrate its 50th anniversary in October 2025. They were enthusiastically received, but other venues have not materialized. The intent is still to take CYSO to the people and build sufficient interest to fill formal (and expensive) venues like the Cordova High School Performing Arts Center. (3) The effort to produce and publish CYSO performance videos on the popular YouTube platform is ongoing. The first video is scheduled to be released in June 2026. Two more are planned for 2027. Work to reduce expenses, generate income, and establish a permanent location in Rancho Cordova is also continuing. Rent for storage space was reduced in 2025 from two units to one. A self-supporting rock-style band that will eventually have a YouTube presence and hold ticketed events was formed in 2026. Additional weekly class space was engaged for a very low fee at the Folsom Lake College Rancho Cordova Center, a convenient and safe location for Rancho Cordova middle and high-school students. Additional grants (i.e., Cultural Arts Award and Dennis Manger Fund) were secured and applications for other grants continue. Finally, beginning Fall 2026, students will be charged tuition at a nominal rate of $50 per year. People need music. Music brings people together. It is an outlet for expression, a source of hope and courage, and an escape from the stresses of everyday life. Young people particularly need recognition of their hard work and acquired skills and a community where they feel understood and accepted. Public school music students spend years practicing and performing in school concerts attended mostly by family. This project will give them an opportunity to advance their music and listening skills, build relationships with like-minded peers, create life-long memories and friendships, and receive broad recognition for their talents. Successful performance will absolutely build self-confidence and a positive self-image--the same benefits attributed to sports, but without significant risk of bodily injury

Tell us about your Project/Program Team	The Sacramento Performing Arts Conservatory (SPAC) is responsible for the development and delivery of this project. SPAC is a nonprofit 501 c3 organization governed by a volunteer CEO and a distinguished 8-member volunteer Board of Directors. SPAC has brought music and art classes and events to schools and communities in the Sacramento area since 2005. Leveraging a large inventory of musical instruments and ongoing partnerships with schools, businesses, and community groups, SPAC has enabled hundreds of underserved youths to learn to play an instrument and perform for their communities. Parents are volunteer stage/classroom managers, photographer/videographers, and media and audio producers.
Provide your Project/Program Goals	The project will be successful if the following goals are met: - 20 to 25 CYSO enrollees complete the year of instruction and perform in two public concerts. - Two concerts, two of which are free, are performed in Rancho Cordova. - One performance is recorded and uploaded to YouTube - 80% of enrolled students master their parts in 10 classical compositions. - 90% of students and parents rate classes Excellent or Good in year-end evaluations. - The project is completed on schedule and within budget

Optional File Upload: Provide any additional records to supplement your program/project application. Note: Combine multiple files in one pdf before uploading.

2025RoseGarden.JPG

	2 - Funding & Costs
Funding Request - Complete this section with total dollar amounts for your project/program's costs	Funds are generally not intended to be used for deferred maintenance and ongoing operational needs. The funds are intended for enhancing and investing in the City of Rancho Cordova. If your project/program is awarded, the costs identified below would be reviewed and potentially open to modification during a contracting phase (if a grant is awarded by the City Council). If awarded, grant funds are not available until a contract is executed during Fiscal Year 2026-2027.
Total project/program cost*	38205
What is the amount of Community Enhancement & Investment Fund grant monies requested?	23434

Does your project/program involve construction of any facilities or improvements upon any property?	No
What is the total cost of personnel for your project/program?	15664
What is the total cost of supplies for your project/program?	500
What is the total cost of transportation for your project/program?	0
What is the total cost of equipment for your project/program?	1750
What is the total cost of any miscellaneous expenses for your project/program?	6520

Upload your project/program's budget as a .pdf file. Include the categories and their dollar amounts along with information about any other funding sources to demonstrate your project/program's total budget. Note, the sum of all categories must match the total project or program cost, or the amount requested of CEIF if there is no other funding source. Please clearly illustrate any matching funds or funding from other sources in your project/program budget, including in-kind sources. Note: Combine multiple files in one pdf before uploading.

CYSObudget_2026-27.pdf

Has your organization sought or will seek other funding for this project/program?	Yes, actively seeking funding support or have secured additional funding support for this project/program.
Describe any funding secured or being sought for this project/program.	Sacramento Performing Arts Conservatory has obtained two grants that will provide additional funding for CYSO and other programs: 1) $5800 2026-2027 Cultural Arts Award administered by Sacramento City Office of Arts and Culture 2) $5000 2026 Dennis Manger Fund from the Sacramento Region Community Foundation

Please describe any ongoing operations and maintenance costs beyond Fiscal Year 2026/2027, if applicable.	N/A
Do you have volunteer or in-kind support for your project? This could include volunteers for an activity/event that is ongoing or a one-time experience.	Yes
Please share the total dollar amount for volunteer/in-kind support using $34.79 as the national rate for a volunteer hour. Source: Value of Volunteer Time	4871

Please provide a worksheet explaining your volunteer/in-kind contribution. You may upload a file in the following formats: CSV, DOC, DOCX, or PDF.

volunteerEquivalents2026.pdf

Is this a single year request or a request for funding for multiple years?	Single Year
Has your project/program received funding from the Community Enhancement & Investment Fund previously?	Yes
How many years has your project/program received funding from the Community Enhancement & Investment Fund?	5 or more years

How much funding has your organization received from the Community Enhancement & Investment Fund through our traditional grants (not including microgrants)?	105,545
	3 - Project/Program Details Grant applications are typically approved to occur between July 2026 through June 2027. What is your plan to complete this project/program within this time frame?
Anticipated Start Date (July 1 is the soonest available start date)	7/7/2026
Anticipated End Date (typically projects/programs end by June 30)	6/15/2027
Please describe your project/program schedule	July 7, 2026: Arrange music for compositions and instrument parts based on pre-enrolled students' proficiencies. August 6, 2026: Begin twice weekly orchestra classes. November 1, 2026: Secure performance venue for May formal concert. November 1 – December 30, 2026: Perform opportunistic holiday concerts at community events/venues. December 30, 2026: Assess performance, student and audience satisfaction, make appropriate changes. January 4, 2027: Advertise and enroll additional students if needed based on attrition. March 1, 2027: Begin advertising May concert. March 1 - May 2027: Perform opportunistic community concerts. May 1, 2027: Advertise and enroll students for 2027-2028 CYSO. May 16, 2027: Perform year-end concert. June 1, 2027: Assess program against objectives. June 15, 2027: End 2026-2027 CYSO program

What challenges do you anticipate in your project/program's implementation? What is your plan to complete your project/program should those or other challenges arise?	It has proved difficult to collaborate with other event hosts and obtain performance opportunities for the orchestra in full or part. Most event organizers expressed concern that the music would distract from their activities and objectives. In 2025, 10 to 12 members of the orchestra performed for an elementary school Open House, the Rancho Cordova branch library 50th anniversary celebration, and the Cordova Moose Lodge Mother's Day and Easter brunches. The Moose Lodge has invited the orchestra back for its 2026 brunches. SPAC administrators will follow up with each of the 2025 hosts and learn from their experience how performances can better adapt to other environments, and the organization will continue to seek collaboration opportunities. In preference to collaborating with other organizations and their events, SPAC is focusing efforts on CYSO YouTube performance videos. The challenge here is to secure professional quality video design services that the organization can afford. The nominal tuition that will be charged 2026-2027 CYSO students will be applied to creative videography services. Outdoor venues will be used for these performances.
How many individuals does your project/program serve?	20 to 25 students and unspecified hundreds of orchestra performance attendees
How many Rancho Cordova residents does your project/program serve?	All 20-25 orchestra students are Rancho Cordova residents. Most performances are held in Rancho Cordova, suggesting most attendees are Rancho Cordova residents.
	4 - Project/Program Location
Address Verification	If you need to check if your project is in Rancho Cordova, type in your program/project's location in the Assessor Parcel Viewer: https://assessorparcelviewer.saccounty.gov/jsviewer/assessor.html

School and park related applications are due before Noon (12:00 p.m.) on March 6, 2026, to allow for the endorsement process.	Please note that projects or programs that are proposed on property owned or operated by outside agencies or a private party will require coordination with and potentially approvals from outside agencies, organizations, and/or the private party. Include whether you have received a letter of support for the project/program from the property owner. Upload any letters of support with your application. City staff will verify third-party permits have been discussed. In your planning discussions, be sure to discuss any necessary insurance or volunteer requirements that may increase budget costs. School Sites If your project/program is intended to operate at a public K-12 school site, your application is due by March 6 at Noon (12:00 p.m.). City staff will work with the school districts to confirm an endorsement for your project/program. It's the applicant's responsibility to communicate with school site and district representatives before applying so there is clarity during the endorsement process. Districts will only consider endorsement for applications submitted to the Community Enhancement & Investment Fund by the March 6 at Noon (12:00 p.m.). deadline. Each participating school superintendent reserves the right to withhold their endorsement of a project/program. Parks If your project/program is intended to operate at a park or community center site, your application is due by the March 6 at Noon (12:00 p.m.). deadline. City staff will work with the Cordova Recreation & Park District to confirm an endorsement for your project/program. It's the applicant's responsibility to communicate with district representatives before applying so there is clarity during the endorsement process. A special use permit application is required for any program or event planned at a CRPD facility. The special use application can be found at the CRPD website: https://www.cordovarpd.gov/. CRPD will only consider endorsement for applications submitted to the Community Enhancement & Investment Fund by the March 6 at Noon (12:00 p.m.). deadline. The Cordova Recreation & Park District reserves the right to withhold their endorsement of a project/program. Below is the list of staff to communicate with at school and park organizations: Folsom Cordova Unified School District: mwest@fcusd.org Cordova Recreation & Park District: cmichelotti@cordovarpd.gov Elk Grove Unified School District: mgulden@egusd.net Sacramento City Unified School District: Tuan-Duong@scusd.edu for Winn and Carver and Enrique-Flores@scusd.edu for Lincoln.
Primary street address of project/program	10124 Coloma Road
List the city location of the project/program.	Rancho Cordova
Select State	CA
Provide the zip code for your project/program's primary location.	95670

If your project/program takes place at multiple locations, please list other or secondary locations.	Folsom Lake College Rancho Cordova Center, 10259 Folsom Blvd., Rancho Cordova 95670 Cosumnes River College, 8401 Center Pkwy, Sacramento 95823

Third Party Letters of Support (Note: Combine multiple files in one pdf before uploading)

letterOfSupport2026-scan0075.pdf

Does your project/program involve one of Rancho Cordova's school districts?	No
Does your project/program involve the Cordova Recreation & Park District?	No
	5 - Applicant Information
Name	Joanna Baisden
Is this project/program on behalf of an organization?	Yes
What is the name of your organization?	Sacramento Performing Arts Conservatory
What is your title and/or role at your organization?	Board Chair
Provide contact phone number:	+[redacted]
Provide contact email:	[redacted]
Are you the primary point of contact on this project/program?	No

What is the name of this project or program's primary contact if not the person submitting this application?	Oxalis Nguyen
What is the email of the primary contact?	[redacted]
If your project/program was awarded the requested funds, are you authorized to sign the contract for your organization?	No, someone else would sign the contract
If selected by the City Council to receive an award, what is the name of the person at your organization who would sign the contract?	Boingoc Nguyen
What is the title of this individual?	Chief Executive Officer
What is the best phone number where we could contact the signatory?	+[redacted]
What is the best email address to contact the signatory?	[redacted]
By checking here, I confirm that I am aware that my application materials will become public record.	checked

Thank you for applying to the Community Enhancement & Investment Fund Fiscal Year 2026-2027 Grant Cycle. Applicants will receive an automated response through the grant portal. Community Enhancement & Investment Fund (CEIF) Staff will follow up with any questions regarding your Fiscal Year 2026-2027 application. For information about the next steps in the CEIF grant process, visit our website for more information. It is anticipated that applications will be reviewed by the City Council starting in April 2026 with adoption in June 2026. Should applicants be awarded by the City Council, funding would not be available to grantees until the start of Fiscal Year 2026-2027 and the completion of a contract. Please send an email to CEIFGrants@cityofranchocordova.org with any questions or comments.

Internal Form

Score	n/a

2026-2027 CYSO Working Budget

Project Expenses			Other Contributions			CEIF Request
			Pro bono	Volunteer	Other grants*	
Instructor fees (80 hrs @ $100/hr)	$	8,000	$ 4,000			$ 4,000
Symphonic arrangement fees (10 compositions x 7 parts)	$	10,000	$ 1,000			$ 9,000
Conductor fees (8 hrs @$100/hr)	$	800	$ 400			$ 400
Administrator fee (80 hrs @$34.79/hr)	$	2,783		$ 2,783		$ -
Setup/teardown labor (40 hrs @$34.79/hr)	$	1,392		$ 1,392		$ -
Audio-video production (8 hrs @300/hr + editing @70/hr)	$	2,960		$ 696		$ 2,264
Liability insurance (annual premium)	$	3,000			$ 1,000	$ 2,000
Concert venue rental	$	2,000				$ 2,000
Storage rental ($135/mo)	$	1,620			$ 500	$ 1,120
Classroom rental	$	400			$ 200	$ 200
Advertising (PeachJar, print ads)	$	1,500			$ 700	$ 800
Equipment (instruments, accessories, A/V)	$	2,750			$ 1,000	$ 1,750
Supplies (music sheets, shoulder rests, books, rosin, strings, etc.)	$	500				$ 500
Other (licenses, certification, web, p.o. box)	$	500			$ 100	$ 400
Total Expenses	$	38,205	$ 5,400	$ 4,871	$ 3,500	$ 24,434
Project Income - Tuition ($50 x 20 students)						$ (1,000)
Total CEIF Request						**$ 23,434**

*2027 Cultural Arts Award from the Sacramento Office of Arts and Culture.

YAMAHA

LOYAL ORDER OF MOOSE

RANCHO CORDOVA MOOSE FAMILY CENTER NO. 2357 10124 COLOMA RD RANCHO CORDOVA, CA 95670

March 1, 2026

Joanna Baisden, Ph.D.

Board Chair

Sacramento Performing Arts Conservatory

Dear Joanna,

The Rancho Cordova Moose Lodge is pleased to offer the Cordova Youth Spotlight Orchestra the use of our facilities two evenings a week, from 4:30pm to 6:30pm on Thursdays and from 4:00pm to 7:00pm on Sundays, to hold music classes for local middle and high school students.

Our lodge is extremely honored to support the orchestra, a partnership that has become one of the most meaningful traditions in our Moose family. Every year, their music brings joy to our members, enriches our community, and reminds us how powerful it is when people come together with heart and purpose.

Our lodge is proud to stand behind the CYSO as it works to broaden the musical opportunities available to local students and to nurture the remarkable young talent here in Rancho Cordova. Supporting their mission is something we genuinely enjoy, because it reflects the heart of our fraternity: lifting up the next generation and strengthening our community through shared purpose. We're always glad to lend a hand, and you're welcome to reach out anytime if there's another way we can be of service.

Sincerely,

John Ingrim

Administrator

Rancho Cordova Moose Lodge #2357

[redacted]

CYSO Volunteer $ Equivalent

Volunteer Task	Hours	$/hr	$ Equivalent
Set up & tear down for class/performance	40	34.79	1391.60
Administration (e.g., registration, communication, inventory control, expense tracking, reporting)	80	34.79	2783.20
Photography/videography class/performance	20	34.79	695.80
			$4,870.60

Title

Suvidha International Foundation- Ranchobot Challenge 2027

02/14/2026

id. 53178892

by **Bhaskar Vempati** in **Fiscal Year 2026-2027 Community Enhancement & Investment Fund Grant Application**

[redacted]
Folsom, California
95630
United States
[redacted]

Original Submission

02/14/2026

Score n/a

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Is this your first time applying for grant funding from the City of Rancho Cordova? As a first-time applicant, Community Enhancement & Investment Fund (CEIF) staff will contact you to discuss your project and grant application process.	No: Not a First Time Applicant

	1 - Project/Program Information Note: You can add a collaborator to this form to assist you in completing this application! A collaborator can help you complete this form by filling in fields for you, although only you can submit this form. You can add a collaborator by navigating to the top of the form and clicking on the 'Manage Collaborators' button. Simply enter their email address and click 'invite' to invite them as a collaborator. If you need further assistance, you may consult this Help article for more information.
Project/Program Name. Assign a project name to your project/program.	Suvidha International Foundation- Ranchobot Challenge 2027
Which category does your Project/Program align with?	Youth Programs & Services
Provide a Project/Program Synopsis	The Robotics Program will help elementary and middle school students (Grades 4–8) in Rancho Cordova learn robot design, coding, and real-world applications through structured training and hands-on activities. Students will build problem-solving, teamwork, and technical skills, and the program will conclude with a competition where they showcase their learned skills.
Provide a Project/Program Description	The proposed Robotics Program will provide elementary and middle school students (Grades 4–8) in Rancho Cordova with hands-on training in robotics, where they design, build, and program robots to perform real-world tasks. Through this program, students develop technical knowledge, problem-solving abilities, teamwork, creativity, and confidence while gaining exposure to STEAM (Science, Technology, Engineering, Arts, and Mathematics) concepts. These skills help students succeed academically and prepare for future careers in engineering, computer science, healthcare, and other technology fields. Suvidha International Foundation has successfully conducted this Robotics Program for the past five years, including the current year. Due to strong interest from students and parents, and as new students continue to join, Suvidha plans to continue and expand the program for few more years to reach more and younger students. The program includes structured beginner and advanced training followed by a final competition called the RanchoBot Challenge, where students showcase their skills. Beginner students receive training in basic robot design, coding, sensors, and movement, while returning students receive advanced training and work on more complex robotics projects and real-world engineering challenges. Students learn how to use motors, sensors, and programming to control robot movement and complete specific tasks. The program will use robotics kits from previous years, and additional sensors or parts will be purchased if needed. The RanchoBot Challenge includes three competition challenges:

	1. **Line Follower Challenge:** Students design and program a robot to follow a one-inch colored line on easy, medium, and complex tracks with straight and curved paths. This teaches precision, sensor usage, and programming accuracy. 2. **Sumo-Bot Wrestling Challenge:** Two robots compete in a circular ring, where each robot must stay inside the ring while pushing the opponent out. This teaches strength, balance, strategy, and real-time decision-making. 3. **Pick, Pack and Place Challenge:** In this advanced challenge, robots must autonomously pick objects from one location and place them in specific goal areas within a set time. This teaches advanced programming, automation, planning, and object handling. The competition has two levels. Level I teams (new students) participate in the Line Follower and Sumo-Bot challenges. Level II teams (returning students) participate in all three challenges, including the advanced Pick, Pack and Place challenge. Students use LEGO robotics kits and modify their robots to meet the requirements of each challenge, learning engineering design and resource management. Through training and competition, students develop coding, engineering, teamwork, leadership, and communication skills. The program ends with a competition where students present and demonstrate their robots, building confidence and real-world STEM experience. By providing an engaging and hands-on learning environment, the Robotics Program inspires students to explore STEAM subjects and prepares them to become future innovators, engineers, and technology leaders.
Tell us about your Project/Program Team	Suvidha International Foundation, a California-registered nonprofit organization, plans to support students through various educational programs, including providing robotics training to talented and underprivileged elementary and middle school students in Rancho Cordova. Suvidha International Foundation will lead and manage the development and delivery of this program. Bhaskar Vempati, President of Suvidha International Foundation, will lead the program with support from Rathish Jayabharathi, a local robotics expert, and Sridhar Arjula, a robotics expert. In addition, experienced youth robotics teams and adult robotics coaches from the local community will assist in conducting the training sessions.

Provide your Project/Program Goals	The program goals are: 1. Develop Robotics and Coding Skills: Students will learn robotics design and programming using Scratch and Python to build and control robots. 2. Build Engineering and Problem-Solving Skills: Students will design, program, and test robots to perform real-world tasks such as line following, object transport, and sumobot challenges, strengthening their engineering and critical thinking abilities. 3. Strengthen Leadership and Teamwork: Students will work in teams, improving collaboration, leadership, project management, and responsibility. 4. Improve Communication and Presentation Skills: Students will learn to explain their ideas clearly and present their robot designs and projects confidently to judges and peers. 5. Prepare Students for Future STEM Success: Students will apply their learning in a final competition, gaining hands-on experience and building skills that support academic success and future careers in STEAM fields.
Optional File Upload: Provide any additional records to supplement your program/project application. Note: Combine multiple files in one pdf before uploading.	
	2 - Funding & Costs
Funding Request - Complete this section with total dollar amounts for your project/program's costs	Funds are generally not intended to be used for deferred maintenance and ongoing operational needs. The funds are intended for enhancing and investing in the City of Rancho Cordova. If your project/program is awarded, the costs identified below would be reviewed and potentially open to modification during a contracting phase (if a grant is awarded by the City Council). If awarded, grant funds are not available until a contract is executed during Fiscal Year 2026-2027.
Total project/program cost*	18000
What is the amount of Community Enhancement & Investment Fund grant monies requested?	16750

Does your project/program involve construction of any facilities or improvements upon any property?	No
What is the total cost of personnel for your project/program?	4000
What is the total cost of supplies for your project/program?	1625
What is the total cost of transportation for your project/program?	0
What is the total cost of equipment for your project/program?	3000
What is the total cost of any miscellaneous expenses for your project/program?	8125

Upload your project/program's budget as a .pdf file. Include the categories and their dollar amounts along with information about any other funding sources to demonstrate your project/program's total budget. Note, the sum of all categories must match the total project or program cost, or the amount requested of CEIF if there is no other funding source. Please clearly illustrate any matching funds or funding from other sources in your project/program budget, including in-kind sources. Note: Combine multiple files in one pdf before uploading.

Robotics_2026-27_Budget.pdf

Has your organization sought or will seek other funding for this project/program?	Yes, actively seeking funding support or have secured additional funding support for this project/program.
Describe any funding secured or being sought for this project/program.	Suvidha International Foundation is actively seeking grant funding and support from local sponsors to deliver the Robotics Program. In addition, Suvidha contributes its own resources, including volunteer mentors, and program management.

Please describe any ongoing operations and maintenance costs beyond Fiscal Year 2026/2027, if applicable.	None
Do you have volunteer or in-kind support for your project? This could include volunteers for an activity/event that is ongoing or a one-time experience.	Yes
Please share the total dollar amount for volunteer/in-kind support using $34.79 as the national rate for a volunteer hour. Source: Value of Volunteer Time	13916

Please provide a worksheet explaining your volunteer/in-kind contribution. You may upload a file in the following formats: CSV, DOC, DOCX, or PDF.

Volunteer-InKind-Robotics.csv

Is this a single year request or a request for funding for multiple years?	Single Year
Has your project/program received funding from the Community Enhancement & Investment Fund previously?	Yes
How many years has your project/program received funding from the Community Enhancement & Investment Fund?	5 or more years

How much funding has your organization received from the Community Enhancement & Investment Fund through our traditional grants (not including microgrants)?	Approximately $145,000
	3 - Project/Program Details Grant applications are typically approved to occur between July 2026 through June 2027. What is your plan to complete this project/program within this time frame?
Anticipated Start Date (July 1 is the soonest available start date)	9/1/2026
Anticipated End Date (typically projects/programs end by June 30)	4/30/2026
Please describe your project/program schedule	The 2026–2027 Robotics Program will begin in September 2026 and conclude in April 2027 with a final competition. Program promotion, student registration, and team formation will take place from September 1, 2026, to January 15, 2027. The program will officially start in January 2027 and include biweekly in-person training sessions, practice scrimmages, and a final competition. Two in-person sessions will be held each month, with additional virtual sessions provided as needed. Practice scrimmages are planned for March 2027, and the final competition is scheduled for April 2027. We plan to host workshops, STEAM demonstrations, scrimmages, and the final competition at City Hall. Upon approval, we will reserve City Hall facilities and organize the events as outlined in the proposal.

What challenges do you anticipate in your project/program's implementation? What is your plan to complete your project/program should those or other challenges arise?	Running the Robotics Program may face challenges such as student participation, space availability, technical issues, and scheduling conflicts. To address this, we will train new mentors, involve past students, and work with local STEM professionals. Our experienced volunteers play a key role in delivering training, which helps offset program costs. We will secure funding through local sponsors, while reusing robotics equipment to reduce costs. To keep students engaged, we will provide interactive training, mentorship, and competitions. We plan to use City Hall and community centers for sessions and will arrange backup locations if needed. Regular equipment checks and technical training will prevent hardware issues. Flexible in-person and virtual sessions will help students balance school and program commitments. These steps will help ensure the program's success and sustainability.
How many individuals does your project/program serve?	Approximately 60
How many Rancho Cordova residents does your project/program serve?	Approximately 48 students
	4 - Project/Program Location
Address Verification	If you need to check if your project is in Rancho Cordova, type in your program/project's location in the Assessor Parcel Viewer: https://assessorparcelviewer.saccounty.gov/jsviewer/assessor.html

School and park related applications are due before Noon (12:00 p.m.) on March 6, 2026, to allow for the endorsement process.	Please note that projects or programs that are proposed on property owned or operated by outside agencies or a private party will require coordination with and potentially approvals from outside agencies, organizations, and/or the private party. Include whether you have received a letter of support for the project/program from the property owner. Upload any letters of support with your application. City staff will verify third-party permits have been discussed. In your planning discussions, be sure to discuss any necessary insurance or volunteer requirements that may increase budget costs. School Sites If your project/program is intended to operate at a public K-12 school site, your application is due by March 6 at Noon (12:00 p.m.). City staff will work with the school districts to confirm an endorsement for your project/program. It's the applicant's responsibility to communicate with school site and district representatives before applying so there is clarity during the endorsement process. Districts will only consider endorsement for applications submitted to the Community Enhancement & Investment Fund by the March 6 at Noon (12:00 p.m.). deadline. Each participating school superintendent reserves the right to withhold their endorsement of a project/program. Parks If your project/program is intended to operate at a park or community center site, your application is due by the March 6 at Noon (12:00 p.m.). deadline. City staff will work with the Cordova Recreation & Park District to confirm an endorsement for your project/program. It's the applicant's responsibility to communicate with district representatives before applying so there is clarity during the endorsement process. A special use permit application is required for any program or event planned at a CRPD facility. The special use application can be found at the CRPD website: https://www.cordovarpd.gov/. CRPD will only consider endorsement for applications submitted to the Community Enhancement & Investment Fund by the March 6 at Noon (12:00 p.m.). deadline. The Cordova Recreation & Park District reserves the right to withhold their endorsement of a project/program. Below is the list of staff to communicate with at school and park organizations: Folsom Cordova Unified School District: mwest@fcusd.org Cordova Recreation & Park District: cmichelotti@cordovarpd.gov Elk Grove Unified School District: mgulden@egusd.net Sacramento City Unified School District: Tuan-Duong@scusd.edu for Winn and Carver and Enrique-Flores@scusd.edu for Lincoln.
Primary street address of project/program	City Hall Rancho Cordova
List the city location of the project/program.	2729 Prospect Park Dr, Rancho Cordova CA 95670
Select State	CA
Provide the zip code for your project/program's primary location.	95670

If your project/program takes place at multiple locations, please list other or secondary locations.	
Third Party Letters of Support (Note: Combine multiple files in one pdf before uploading)	
Does your project/program involve one of Rancho Cordova's school districts?	No
Does your project/program involve the Cordova Recreation & Park District?	No
	5 - Applicant Information
Name	Bhadraiah (Bhaskar) Vempati
Is this project/program on behalf of an organization?	Yes
What is the name of your organization?	Suvidha International Foundation
What is your title and/or role at your organization?	My role is President. Along with the support of others, I will manage the program.
Provide contact phone number:	+[redacted]
Provide contact email:	[redacted]
Are you the primary point of contact on this project/program?	Yes

If your project/program was awarded the requested funds, are you authorized to sign the contract for your organization?	Yes, I would be the one to sign the contract
By checking here, I confirm that I am aware that my application materials will become public record.	checked
	Thank you for applying to the Community Enhancement & Investment Fund Fiscal Year 2026-2027 Grant Cycle. Applicants will receive an automated response through the grant portal. Community Enhancement & Investment Fund (CEIF) Staff will follow up with any questions regarding your Fiscal Year 2026-2027 application. For information about the next steps in the CEIF grant process, visit our website for more information. It is anticipated that applications will be reviewed by the City Council starting in April 2026 with adoption in June 2026. Should applicants be awarded by the City Council, funding would not be available to grantees until the start of Fiscal Year 2026-2027 and the completion of a contract. Please send an email to CEIFGrants@cityofranchocordova.org with any questions or comments.

Internal Form

Score	n/a

#	Description	Quantity	Amount	Sub Total	Personal	Transportation	Supplies	Equipemnt	Miscellenous
1	Event Promotions including Fluers	1	$500.00	$500.00					$500.00
2	Additional Sensors & Lego Parts	1	$3,000.00	$3,000.00				$3,000.00	
3	Robotics Mats Design and Printing	15	$75.00	$1,125.00			$1,125.00		
4	Awards and Trophies	1	$2,000.00	$2,000.00					$2,000.00
5	Venue –Training Sessions & Competition (City Hall)	1	$2,500.00	$2,500.00					$2,500.00
6	Python Coding Training	1	$500.00	$500.00	$500.00				
7	Youth Empowerment Program	1	$1,000.00	$1,000.00	$1,000.00				
8	Youth Coaches Scholorships	10	$250.00	$2,500.00	$2,500.00				
9	Workshop Supplies	1	$250.00	$250.00			$250.00		
10	Event Day Supplies	1	$250.00	$250.00			$250.00		
11	Zoom Subscription	1	$200.00	$200.00					$200.00
12	T-shirts	75	$15.00	$1,125.00					$1,125.00
13	Event Day Food	1	$750.00	$750.00					$750.00
14	Insurance	1	$750.00	$750.00					$750.00
15	Event Photography	1	$300.00	$300.00					$300.00
16	Event Emcee	1	$250.00	$250.00	$250.00				
Total				**$16,750.00**	**$4,000.00**	**$0.00**	**$1,625.00**	**$3,000.00**	**$8,125.00**

Robotics Program

Robotics Program	# of Volunte	# Hrs/ volur	$/Hr	Total Hrs
Youth Volunteers	12	20	34.79	$8,349.60
Adult Volunters	8	20	34.79	$5,566.40
Total				$13,916.00

Title

Suvidha International Foundation Speech & Debate Programs

02/14/2026

id. 53177884

by **Bhaskar Vempati** in **Fiscal Year 2026-2027 Community Enhancement & Investment Fund Grant Application**

[redacted]
Folsom, California
95630
United States
[redacted]

Original Submission

02/18/2026

Score n/a

	Thank you for your interest in applying to the City of Rancho Cordova's Community Enhancement & Investment Fund. Applications are open from February 9, 2026, to March 13, 2026, Noon (12:00 p.m.) with a specific deadline of March 6th Noon (12:00 p.m.) for certain applications**. Before you begin, please read the notes about deadlines and certain types of grant applications/grants below. **School/Park Application Deadline **Note that projects or programs involving a park or school district have a deadline of March 6 Noon (12:00 p.m.) to allow for the third-party endorsement process by the grant deadline.** A Note about Religious Schools and the Application/Grant Process **Note for grant applications from religious schools. The United States Supreme Court has recently ruled in part that: “denying a generally available benefit [from government] solely on account of religious identity imposes a penalty on the free exercise of religion that can be justified only by a state interest of the highest order.” The City is of the opinion that not all grants to religious schools are prohibited under this and other similar rulings. However, these United States Supreme Court decisions remain in conflict with a section of the California State Constitution that says: “[n]either the Legislature, nor any county, city and county, township, school district, or other municipal corporation, shall ever make an appropriation, or pay from any public fund whatever, or grant anything to or in aid of any religious sect, church, creed, or sectarian purpose, or help to support or sustain any school, college, university, hospital, or other institution controlled by any religious creed, church, or sectarian denomination whatever; nor shall any grant or donation of personal property or real estate ever be made by the state, or any city, city and county, town, or other municipal corporation for any religious creed, church, or sectarian purpose whatever”. The City will accept applications for grants of these City public funds from religious schools, but will have language in the grant agreements to address the possibility and consequences of legal challenges and new court decisions on this and related topics. ** Future Grant Opportunities If you are interested in remaining up-to-date on available grants from the City of Rancho Cordova, click here to sign up for the Grants Interest List. A separate call for programming opportunities with the Rancho Cordova Youth Center is anticipated later in 2026. The list is also used to advertise separate art programs when funds are available. Ongoing Grant Opportunity The City of Rancho Cordova offers a microgrant opportunity. Learn more about those grants online.
Is this your first time applying for grant funding from the City of Rancho Cordova? As a first-time applicant, Community Enhancement & Investment Fund (CEIF) staff will contact you to discuss your project and grant application process.	No: Not a First Time Applicant

	1 - Project/Program Information Note: You can add a collaborator to this form to assist you in completing this application! A collaborator can help you complete this form by filling in fields for you, although only you can submit this form. You can add a collaborator by navigating to the top of the form and clicking on the 'Manage Collaborators' button. Simply enter their email address and click 'invite' to invite them as a collaborator. If you need further assistance, you may consult this Help article for more information.
Project/Program Name. Assign a project name to your project/program.	Suvidha International Foundation Speech & Debate Programs
Which category does your Project/Program align with?	Youth Programs & Services
Provide a Project/Program Synopsis	The Speech and Debate programs help students improve communication, thinking, and persuasion skills through lessons and competitions. Students learn to speak clearly, organize ideas, and present confidently. These skills help them succeed in school, prepare for careers, build leadership abilities, and become active, confident community members.
Provide a Project/Program Description	The Speech & Debate Educational Program will provide essential training to elementary, middle, and high school students (grades 4 through 10) in the City of Rancho Cordova. Suvidha International Foundation has been successfully organizing speech and debate programs for the past four years, helping students build strong communication, critical thinking, and leadership skills. Due to the strong success of these programs and growing interest from students and parents, Suvidha International Foundation plans to expand these classes to reach more students, including younger learners, and provide them with early exposure to these important skills. Speech and debate education plays a vital role in helping students grow academically and personally. Through this program, students will learn how to research topics, organize their thoughts, write clearly, and present their ideas with confidence. They will develop critical thinking skills by analyzing different viewpoints, forming logical arguments, and expressing their perspectives in a clear and structured manner. These skills help students perform better in school, participate actively in classroom discussions, and communicate effectively in both academic and social environments. Another key benefit of speech and debate training is increased confidence and self-expression. Many students initially feel nervous speaking in front of others, but through guided instruction and regular practice, they gradually become more comfortable and confident. As students learn to present their ideas, respond to questions, and defend their viewpoints, they build self-confidence and strengthen their ability to communicate with peers, teachers, and community members. These experiences also help students develop leadership, teamwork, and problem-solving skills that are essential for future success. Research studies highlight the long-term benefits of participating in speech and debate programs. According to the Stanford National Forensic

	Institute's article, "The Power of Speech & Debate Education," students who engage in speech and debate develop strong communication, analysis, and reasoning skills that significantly contribute to their academic achievement and career readiness. In addition, a Forbes article titled "How to Find the Millennials Who Will Lead Your Company" notes that many successful leaders have a background in debate. This reinforces that speech and debate training helps build essential leadership skills such as logical thinking, persuasion, confidence, and decision-making. These abilities prepare students for leadership roles in fields such as business, government, law, education, technology, and public service. The speech component of the program will introduce students to different types of public speaking, including oratorical speech, persuasive speech, and impromptu speaking. Students will learn how to prepare and deliver structured speeches, present persuasive arguments, and speak confidently even without prior preparation. These activities help students become flexible, confident, and effective communicators in various situations. The debate component of the program will focus on the Middle School Parliamentary Debate Program (MSPDP) and Public Forum (PF) debate formats, which are team-based debate formats. Students will work with partners to research current topics, prepare arguments, present their viewpoints, and respond to opposing arguments using facts and evidence. This experience helps students develop logical reasoning, teamwork, listening skills, and the ability to analyze complex issues thoughtfully and respectfully. Due to the positive feedback from students, parents, and educators over the past four years, Suvidha International Foundation plans to expand the program to benefit more students in Rancho Cordova. By continuing and expanding the Speech & Debate Educational Program, Suvidha International Foundation aims to empower more students with lifelong communication, confidence, and leadership skills. These skills will help students succeed academically, prepare for future careers, and become confident leaders and active contributors to their communities.
Tell us about your Project/Program Team	Suvidha International Foundation is responsible for the development and delivery of this program. Bhaskar Vempati, President of Suvidha International Foundation, along with Vandna Sharma, Balasubramanyam Kodavakanti, and experienced youth and adult volunteers, will lead the planning, development, and implementation of the program to ensure high-quality instruction and meaningful learning outcomes for participating students. Additionally, experienced high school students who have participated in and competed at regional and national speech and debate competitions will teach and mentor participants under the guidance of the core leadership team, providing relatable peer instruction and strengthening the overall learning experience.

Provide your Project/Program Goals	This project will help students develop the following key skills: • Research and Critical Thinking Skills – Students will learn how to research topics, analyze information, and form logical and well-reasoned arguments. • Communication and Public Speaking Skills – Students will develop confidence in speaking clearly and effectively, using proper tone, clarity, and body language. • Writing and Organization Skills – Students will learn to organize their thoughts and write structured, persuasive speeches and debate arguments. • Teamwork and Collaboration Skills – Students will work with partners and teams, learning how to cooperate, listen, and support each other. • Confidence and Leadership Skills – Students will build self-confidence and develop leadership abilities by presenting ideas and participating in discussions and debates. • Conflict Resolution and Problem-Solving Skills – Students will learn how to respectfully respond to different viewpoints and resolve disagreements using logic and evidence. At the end of the program, students will demonstrate their newly learned skills by participating in a speech and debate competition. These skills will help students succeed academically and prepare them for future leadership roles in fields such as business, law, government, education, and technology.
Optional File Upload: Provide any additional records to supplement your program/project application. Note: Combine multiple files in one pdf before uploading.	
	2 - Funding & Costs
Funding Request - Complete this section with total dollar amounts for your project/program's costs	Funds are generally not intended to be used for deferred maintenance and ongoing operational needs. The funds are intended for enhancing and investing in the City of Rancho Cordova. If your project/program is awarded, the costs identified below would be reviewed and potentially open to modification during a contracting phase (if a grant is awarded by the City Council). If awarded, grant funds are not available until a contract is executed during Fiscal Year 2026-2027.
Total project/program cost*	7500

What is the amount of Community Enhancement & Investment Fund grant monies requested?	7500
Does your project/program involve construction of any facilities or improvements upon any property?	No
What is the total cost of personnel for your project/program?	2500
What is the total cost of supplies for your project/program?	1000
What is the total cost of transportation for your project/program?	0
What is the total cost of equipment for your project/program?	0
What is the total cost of any miscellaneous expenses for your project/program?	4000

Upload your project/program's budget as a .pdf file. Include the categories and their dollar amounts along with information about any other funding sources to demonstrate your project/program's total budget. Note, the sum of all categories must match the total project or program cost, or the amount requested of CEIF if there is no other funding source. Please clearly illustrate any matching funds or funding from other sources in your project/program budget, including in-kind sources. Note: Combine multiple files in one pdf before uploading.

SpeechDebate_2026-27_Budget.pdf

Has your organization sought or will seek other funding for this project/program?	Yes, actively seeking funding support or have secured additional funding support for this project/program.

Describe any funding secured or being sought for this project/program.	Suvidha International Foundation is seeking additional funding from local sponsors, community partners, and grant programs to support and expand the Speech and Debate Educational Program. We are reaching out to local businesses and organizations for sponsorships and applying for grants to help cover program expenses such as instructional materials, facility use, and competition costs. This funding will help ensure the program remains accessible and affordable for all students and allow us to serve more students in Rancho Cordova.
Please describe any ongoing operations and maintenance costs beyond Fiscal Year 2026/2027, if applicable.	None
Do you have volunteer or in-kind support for your project? This could include volunteers for an activity/event that is ongoing or a one-time experience.	Yes
Please share the total dollar amount for volunteer/in-kind support using $34.79 as the national rate for a volunteer hour. Source: Value of Volunteer Time	13916

Please provide a worksheet explaining your volunteer/in-kind contribution. You may upload a file in the following formats: CSV, DOC, DOCX, or PDF.

Volunteer-InKind-SpeechDebate.csv

Is this a single year request or a request for funding for multiple years?	Single Year
Has your project/program received funding from the Community Enhancement & Investment Fund previously?	Yes

How many years has your project/program received funding from the Community Enhancement & Investment Fund?	4
How much funding has your organization received from the Community Enhancement & Investment Fund through our traditional grants (not including microgrants)?	Approximately 145000
	3 - Project/Program Details Grant applications are typically approved to occur between July 2026 through June 2027. What is your plan to complete this project/program within this time frame?
Anticipated Start Date (July 1 is the soonest available start date)	8/1/2026
Anticipated End Date (typically projects/programs end by June 30)	4/30/2027
Please describe your project/program schedule	We will offer the speech and debate programs two times in academic year. The program timeline including anticipated start and completion dates are included below. First Training Session (Training sessions and competition happen over Zoom Sessions) Program Promotions: August 1, 2026 to November 15, 2026 Program Dates including Competition: September 14, 2026 to November 15, 2026 Second Training Session (Training sessions happen over Zoom Sessions and Competitions happen in-person at City Hall, Rancho Cordova) Program Promotions: December 1, 2026 to January 14, 2027 Program Dates including Competition: January 18, 2027 to March 31, 2027 Report and Expenses Submission: May 15, 2027

What challenges do you anticipate in your project/program's implementation? What is your plan to complete your project/program should those or other challenges arise?	One of the main challenges in the Speech & Debate Program is keeping students engaged because they have busy school and activity schedules. To keep them interested, we will use fun activities, regular check-ins, and provide certificates, cash prizes and competition opportunities. Another challenge is finding enough trained instructors and volunteers. To solve this, we will build a strong volunteer team, keep backup mentors, and train new volunteers. Some students may feel nervous about public speaking. We will help them through confidence-building activities, personal guidance, and small group practice. Scheduling conflicts can also happen. We will offer flexible timings and recorded lessons for students who miss sessions. By planning ahead, we aim to run a successful program that helps students improve their communication and thinking skills.
How many individuals does your project/program serve?	100 plus students
How many Rancho Cordova residents does your project/program serve?	75 plus students
	4 - Project/Program Location
Address Verification	If you need to check if your project is in Rancho Cordova, type in your program/project's location in the Assessor Parcel Viewer: https://assessorparcelviewer.saccounty.gov/jsviewer/assessor.html

School and park related applications are due before Noon (12:00 p.m.) on March 6, 2026, to allow for the endorsement process.	Please note that projects or programs that are proposed on property owned or operated by outside agencies or a private party will require coordination with and potentially approvals from outside agencies, organizations, and/or the private party. Include whether you have received a letter of support for the project/program from the property owner. Upload any letters of support with your application. City staff will verify third-party permits have been discussed. In your planning discussions, be sure to discuss any necessary insurance or volunteer requirements that may increase budget costs. School Sites If your project/program is intended to operate at a public K-12 school site, your application is due by March 6 at Noon (12:00 p.m.). City staff will work with the school districts to confirm an endorsement for your project/program. It's the applicant's responsibility to communicate with school site and district representatives before applying so there is clarity during the endorsement process. Districts will only consider endorsement for applications submitted to the Community Enhancement & Investment Fund by the March 6 at Noon (12:00 p.m.). deadline. Each participating school superintendent reserves the right to withhold their endorsement of a project/program. Parks If your project/program is intended to operate at a park or community center site, your application is due by the March 6 at Noon (12:00 p.m.). deadline. City staff will work with the Cordova Recreation & Park District to confirm an endorsement for your project/program. It's the applicant's responsibility to communicate with district representatives before applying so there is clarity during the endorsement process. A special use permit application is required for any program or event planned at a CRPD facility. The special use application can be found at the CRPD website: https://www.cordovarpd.gov/. CRPD will only consider endorsement for applications submitted to the Community Enhancement & Investment Fund by the March 6 at Noon (12:00 p.m.). deadline. The Cordova Recreation & Park District reserves the right to withhold their endorsement of a project/program. Below is the list of staff to communicate with at school and park organizations: Folsom Cordova Unified School District: mwest@fcusd.org Cordova Recreation & Park District: cmichelotti@cordovarpd.gov Elk Grove Unified School District: mgulden@egusd.net Sacramento City Unified School District: Tuan-Duong@scusd.edu for Winn and Carver and Enrique-Flores@scusd.edu for Lincoln.
Primary street address of project/program	City Hall Rancho Cordova
List the city location of the project/program.	2729 Prospect Park Dr, Rancho Cordova
Select State	CA
Provide the zip code for your project/program's primary location.	95670

If your project/program takes place at multiple locations, please list other or secondary locations.	
Third Party Letters of Support (Note: Combine multiple files in one pdf before uploading)	
Does your project/program involve one of Rancho Cordova's school districts?	No
Does your project/program involve the Cordova Recreation & Park District?	No
	5 - Applicant Information
Name	Bhadraiah (Bhaskar) Vempati
Is this project/program on behalf of an organization?	Yes
What is the name of your organization?	Suvidha International Foundation
What is your title and/or role at your organization?	President
Provide contact phone number:	+[redacted]
Provide contact email:	[redacted]
Are you the primary point of contact on this project/program?	Yes

If your project/program was awarded the requested funds, are you authorized to sign the contract for your organization?	Yes, I would be the one to sign the contract
By checking here, I confirm that I am aware that my application materials will become public record.	checked
	Thank you for applying to the Community Enhancement & Investment Fund Fiscal Year 2026-2027 Grant Cycle. Applicants will receive an automated response through the grant portal. Community Enhancement & Investment Fund (CEIF) Staff will follow up with any questions regarding your Fiscal Year 2026-2027 application. For information about the next steps in the CEIF grant process, visit our website for more information. It is anticipated that applications will be reviewed by the City Council starting in April 2026 with adoption in June 2026. Should applicants be awarded by the City Council, funding would not be available to grantees until the start of Fiscal Year 2026-2027 and the completion of a contract. Please send an email to CEIFGrants@cityofranchocordova.org with any questions or comments.

Internal Form

Score	n/a

Speech & Debate Program 2026-27 Budget

Description of Activity	Amount, $	Category
Event Promotions	$550.00	Miscellenous
Zoom Link	$200.00	Miscellenous
Awards and Trophies	$1,250.00	Miscellenous
Student Coach Scholarships	$2,500.00	Personal
Event Day Venue Rental	$1,500.00	Miscellenous
Insurance	$500.00	Miscellenous
Event Day Food, and Supplies	$1,000.00	Supplies
Total	**$7,500.00**	

Category	Total
Miscellenous	$4,000.00
Personal	$2,500.00
Supplies	$1,000.00
Total	**$7,500.00**

Speech Program

	Speech Pro	Fall 2026	Spring 2027	Annual
	# of Volunte	# Hrs/volun	# Hrs/volunteer	Total Hrs
Youth Volur	8	10	10	160
Adult Volun	2	10	10	40
Total				200

Debate Program

	Debate Pro	Fall 2026	Spring 2027	Annual
	# of Volunte	# Hrs/volun	# Hrs/volunteer	Total Hrs
Youth Volur	8	10	10	160
Adult Volun	2	10	10	40
Total				200

Combined Speech & Debate Programs

	Hours	$ / Hr	Total $
Speech Pro	200	34.79	$6,958.00
Debate Pro	200	34.79	$6,958.00
Total $			$13,916.00

Title

Tahoe Tallac Fastpitch Softball Tournament Participation Support

03/13/2026

id. 53475974

by **Andrew Tarbuskovich** in **Fiscal Year 2026-2027 Community Enhancement & Investment Fund Grant Application**

[redacted]
Mather, California
95655-3070
CA
United States
[redacted]

Original Submission

03/13/2026

Score n/a

	Thank you for your interest in applying to the City of Rancho Cordova's Community Enhancement & Investment Fund. Applications are open from February 9, 2026, to March 13, 2026, Noon (12:00 p.m.) with a specific deadline of March 6th Noon (12:00 p.m.) for certain applications**. Before you begin, please read the notes about deadlines and certain types of grant applications/grants below. **School/Park Application Deadline **Note that projects or programs involving a park or school district have a deadline of March 6 Noon (12:00 p.m.) to allow for the third-party endorsement process by the grant deadline.** A Note about Religious Schools and the Application/Grant Process **Note for grant applications from religious schools. The United States Supreme Court has recently ruled in part that: “denying a generally available benefit [from government] solely on account of religious identity imposes a penalty on the free exercise of religion that can be justified only by a state interest of the highest order.” The City is of the opinion that not all grants to religious schools are prohibited under this and other similar rulings. However, these United States Supreme Court decisions remain in conflict with a section of the California State Constitution that says: “[n]either the Legislature, nor any county, city and county, township, school district, or other municipal corporation, shall ever make an appropriation, or pay from any public fund whatever, or grant anything to or in aid of any religious sect, church, creed, or sectarian purpose, or help to support or sustain any school, college, university, hospital, or other institution controlled by any religious creed, church, or sectarian denomination whatever; nor shall any grant or donation of personal property or real estate ever be made by the state, or any city, city and county, town, or other municipal corporation for any religious creed, church, or sectarian purpose whatever”. The City will accept applications for grants of these City public funds from religious schools, but will have language in the grant agreements to address the possibility and consequences of legal challenges and new court decisions on this and related topics. ** Future Grant Opportunities If you are interested in remaining up-to-date on available grants from the City of Rancho Cordova, click here to sign up for the Grants Interest List. A separate call for programming opportunities with the Rancho Cordova Youth Center is anticipated later in 2026. The list is also used to advertise separate art programs when funds are available. Ongoing Grant Opportunity The City of Rancho Cordova offers a microgrant opportunity. Learn more about those grants online.
Is this your first time applying for grant funding from the City of Rancho Cordova? As a first-time applicant, Community Enhancement & Investment Fund (CEIF) staff will contact you to discuss your project and grant application process.	Yes: First Time Applicant

	1 - Project/Program Information Note: You can add a collaborator to this form to assist you in completing this application! A collaborator can help you complete this form by filling in fields for you, although only you can submit this form. You can add a collaborator by navigating to the top of the form and clicking on the 'Manage Collaborators' button. Simply enter their email address and click 'invite' to invite them as a collaborator. If you need further assistance, you may consult this Help article for more information.
Project/Program Name. Assign a project name to your project/program.	Tahoe Tallac Fastpitch Softball Tournament Participation Support
Which category does your Project/Program align with?	Youth Programs & Services
Provide a Project/Program Synopsis	**Girls in our program and community face significant barriers to participating in youth softball**, with many from single-parent households. **We are seeking support to cover tournament fees, helping reduce financial strain on families and ensuring every girl can fully participate and benefit from our league's positive experiences.**
Provide a Project/Program Description	**Girls in our program and community face significant barriers to participating in youth softball**. The majority of our youth athletes come from the Rancho Cordova community and it's surrounding areas. Many come from single-parent households with multiple children involved in various extracurricular activities, which contributes to financial strain and makes covering tournament participation fees a challenge. Additionally, there are limited options in the local area that offer low-cost, community-driven youth sports programs focused on supporting athletes and their families using a whole-person approach. These challenges make it difficult for girls to access consistent athletic opportunities, develop their skills, and benefit from the positive environment our league provides. **How do we combat these challenges:** To combat these challenges, our organization is committed to making softball accessible and supportive for ALL participants. We keep participation fees as low as possible and operate as a volunteer-run league, ensuring that cost is never a barrier to entry. When a family faces financial hardship, we offer support to help cover registration or tournament fees, so every girl has the opportunity to participate regardless of their circumstances. Our teams and coaches actively coordinate carpools and flexible practice schedules to help families manage transportation needs. We foster a welcoming, community-driven environment that supports athletes and their families holistically, offering not only athletic training but also opportunities for personal growth, leadership, and community service. By prioritizing inclusivity and support, we help girls overcome financial and logistical barriers, enabling them to participate fully and benefit from the positive experiences our league provides.

Tell us about your Project/Program Team	**Tahoe Tallac Fastpitch is proud to offer a combined total of more than 50 years athletic and coaching experience among our head coaches, assistant coaches, and dedicated volunteers. Our leadership team reflects a wide range of backgrounds and educational expertise, enabling youth athletes to form meaningful mentorship connections that extend beyond the softball field. We have experienced the challenges our athletes face, including balancing academic responsibilities, extracurricular commitments, and family obligations, often within the context of financial hardship and single-parent households. Our comprehensive approach ensures that athletes receive support and guidance needed to thrive both on and off the field.**
Provide your Project/Program Goals	Our primary goal in seeking support to cover tournament fees is to relieve the financial burden on our families, making participation accessible for every girl regardless of her economic background. By reducing out-of-pocket expenses, we ensure that all athletes have the opportunity to engage fully in the league, experience personal and athletic growth, and benefit from the positive, supportive environment our program provides. This effort directly addresses the financial challenges that could otherwise prevent girls from enjoying the transformative experiences offered through youth sports.
Optional File Upload: Provide any additional records to supplement your program/project application. Note: Combine multiple files in one pdf before uploading.	
	2 - Funding & Costs
Funding Request - Complete this section with total dollar amounts for your project/program's costs	Funds are generally not intended to be used for deferred maintenance and ongoing operational needs. The funds are intended for enhancing and investing in the City of Rancho Cordova. If your project/program is awarded, the costs identified below would be reviewed and potentially open to modification during a contracting phase (if a grant is awarded by the City Council). If awarded, grant funds are not available until a contract is executed during Fiscal Year 2026-2027.
Total project/program cost*	54655
What is the amount of Community Enhancement & Investment Fund grant monies requested?	15000

Does your project/program involve construction of any facilities or improvements upon any property?	No
What is the total cost of personnel for your project/program?	0
What is the total cost of supplies for your project/program?	0
What is the total cost of transportation for your project/program?	0
What is the total cost of equipment for your project/program?	0
What is the total cost of any miscellaneous expenses for your project/program?	15000

Upload your project/program's budget as a .pdf file. Include the categories and their dollar amounts along with information about any other funding sources to demonstrate your project/program's total budget. Note, the sum of all categories must match the total project or program cost, or the amount requested of CEIF if there is no other funding source. Please clearly illustrate any matching funds or funding from other sources in your project/program budget, including in-kind sources. Note: Combine multiple files in one pdf before uploading.

2026_Budget_-_Tahoe_Tallac.pdf

Has your organization sought or will seek other funding for this project/program?	Yes, actively seeking funding support or have secured additional funding support for this project/program.

Describe any funding secured or being sought for this project/program.	Tahoe Tallac Fastpitch is fortunate to have secured sponsorships from respected local businesses, including Solace Enterprises, Szymanowski Orthodontics, Purely Hot Yoga, and Sacramento Credit Union. Through their generous support, our athletes have received uniforms, and our organization has been able to cover expenses for practice field rentals. In addition to sponsorships, we are committed to ongoing fundraising efforts throughout the year to further reduce out-of-pocket costs for our youth athletes and their families. Our fundraising activities include initiatives such as Double Good Popcorn sales, and Gotsneakers collections Toward the end of the year, a fireworks fundraiser through Phantom, will be aimed at minimizing financial barriers and supporting our program's sustainability for the upcoming season.
Please describe any ongoing operations and maintenance costs beyond Fiscal Year 2026/2027, if applicable.	Ongoing operational expenses beyond Fiscal Year 2026-2027 are projected to remain consistent with current levels. These costs include annual field rentals, tournament fees, equipment replacement, and additional uniforms as necessary. As the program is volunteer-led, funding sources are expected to remain stable year over year. We will continue to pursue fundraising initiatives and submit grant applications to support these needs.
Do you have volunteer or in-kind support for your project? This could include volunteers for an activity/event that is ongoing or a one-time experience.	No
Is this a single year request or a request for funding for multiple years?	Multiple Years
If requesting CEIF grant funding for multiple years, please share how many years?	3
For requests spanning multiple years, share the dollar amount requested per year.	FY 2026-2027, $15,000 FY 2027-2028, $10,000 FY 2028-2029, $5,000

For projects/programs that span multiple years, please describe your sustainability plan and whether it is viable as a single year request.	We aim to raise funds and seek additional local business sponsorships for our sustainability plan. To achieve this, we plan to host fireworks sales yearly through Phantom, launch an online crowdfunding campaign through DoubleGood, and reach out directly to local businesses for sponsorship. The funding will help us continue to minimize financial strain for our youth athletes and their families.
Has your project/program received funding from the Community Enhancement & Investment Fund previously?	No
	3 - Project/Program Details Grant applications are typically approved to occur between July 2026 through June 2027. What is your plan to complete this project/program within this time frame?
Anticipated Start Date (July 1 is the soonest available start date)	7/1/2026
Anticipated End Date (typically projects/programs end by June 30)	6/30/2029
Please describe your project/program schedule	The tournament season is currently underway, however, our league is year-round with a one month break in December. Participation fees are required for tournaments and are typically due from athletes monthly.
What challenges do you anticipate in your project/program's implementation? What is your plan to complete your project/program should those or other challenges arise?	One of the primary challenges in youth sports is managing the substantial expenses involved. These include league and individual equipment requirements—such as catcher gear, helmets, and bats—as well as costs associated with quality practice field rentals that offer necessary amenities like accessible bathrooms. Additional expenses include tournament entry fees and travel-related costs for families, such as transportation, lodging, and meals. Our objective remains to reduce out-of-pocket expenses, thereby enabling all participants to engage in sports without undue financial pressure on their families.
How many individuals does your project/program serve?	35

How many Rancho Cordova residents does your project/program serve?	30
	4 - Project/Program Location
Address Verification	If you need to check if your project is in Rancho Cordova, type in your program/project's location in the Assessor Parcel Viewer: https://assessorparcelviewer.saccounty.gov/jsviewer/assessor.html
School and park related applications are due before Noon (12:00 p.m.) on March 6, 2026, to allow for the endorsement process.	Please note that projects or programs that are proposed on property owned or operated by outside agencies or a private party will require coordination with and potentially approvals from outside agencies, organizations, and/or the private party. Include whether you have received a letter of support for the project/program from the property owner. Upload any letters of support with your application. City staff will verify third-party permits have been discussed. In your planning discussions, be sure to discuss any necessary insurance or volunteer requirements that may increase budget costs. School Sites If your project/program is intended to operate at a public K-12 school site, your application is due by March 6 at Noon (12:00 p.m.). City staff will work with the school districts to confirm an endorsement for your project/program. It's the applicant's responsibility to communicate with school site and district representatives before applying so there is clarity during the endorsement process. Districts will only consider endorsement for applications submitted to the Community Enhancement & Investment Fund by the March 6 at Noon (12:00 p.m.). deadline. Each participating school superintendent reserves the right to withhold their endorsement of a project/program. Parks If your project/program is intended to operate at a park or community center site, your application is due by the March 6 at Noon (12:00 p.m.). deadline. City staff will work with the Cordova Recreation & Park District to confirm an endorsement for your project/program. It's the applicant's responsibility to communicate with district representatives before applying so there is clarity during the endorsement process. A special use permit application is required for any program or event planned at a CRPD facility. The special use application can be found at the CRPD website: https://www.cordovarpd.gov/. CRPD will only consider endorsement for applications submitted to the Community Enhancement & Investment Fund by the March 6 at Noon (12:00 p.m.). deadline. The Cordova Recreation & Park District reserves the right to withhold their endorsement of a project/program. Below is the list of staff to communicate with at school and park organizations: Folsom Cordova Unified School District: mwest@fcusd.org Cordova Recreation & Park District: cmichelotti@cordovarpd.gov Elk Grove Unified School District: mgulden@egusd.net Sacramento City Unified School District: Tuan-Duong@scusd.edu for Winn and Carver and Enrique-Flores@scusd.edu for Lincoln.

Primary street address of project/program	3625 Spoto Dr.
List the city location of the project/program.	Rancho Cordova
Select State	CA
Provide the zip code for your project/program's primary location.	95670
If your project/program takes place at multiple locations, please list other or secondary locations.	Due to our goal of minimizing costs, we research the lowest cost facilities and split fees between the teams in our league. Our primary practice location is Stone Creek Community Park, however, we also practice as Dave Roberts Community Park, Tahoe Park, and batting cages throughout the local area.

Third Party Letters of Support (Note: Combine multiple files in one pdf before uploading)

Letter_of_Support_-_Colonial_Park_Friends.pdf

Does your project/program involve one of Rancho Cordova's school districts?	No
Does your project/program involve the Cordova Recreation & Park District?	No
	5 - Applicant Information
Name	Monica Tarbuskovich
Is this project/program on behalf of an organization?	Yes
What is the name of your organization?	Tahoe Tallac Fastpitch Softball (501c3)
What is your title and/or role at your organization?	Manager for Powerhouse 10u (one of the three teams within the league)

Provide contact phone number:	+[redacted]
Provide contact email:	[redacted]
Are you the primary point of contact on this project/program?	Yes
If your project/program was awarded the requested funds, are you authorized to sign the contract for your organization?	No, someone else would sign the contract
If selected by the City Council to receive an award, what is the name of the person at your organization who would sign the contract?	Marty Olivas
What is the title of this individual?	Chief Financial Officer
What is the best phone number where we could contact the signatory?	+[redacted]
What is the best email address to contact the signatory?	[redacted]
By checking here, I confirm that I am aware that my application materials will become public record.	checked

Thank you for applying to the Community Enhancement & Investment Fund Fiscal Year 2026-2027 Grant Cycle. Applicants will receive an automated response through the grant portal. Community Enhancement & Investment Fund (CEIF) Staff will follow up with any questions regarding your Fiscal Year 2026-2027 application. For information about the next steps in the CEIF grant process, visit our website for more information. It is anticipated that applications will be reviewed by the City Council starting in April 2026 with adoption in June 2026. Should applicants be awarded by the City Council, funding would not be available to grantees until the start of Fiscal Year 2026-2027 and the completion of a contract. Please send an email to CEIFGrants@cityofranchocordova.org with any questions or comments.

Internal Form

Score	n/a

Coming In	**Team - Registration fees:**	
	Nova's	2,200.00
	Valkyries	2000
	Powerhouse	2,400.00
	Team - Tournament fees:	
	Nova's	6,240.00
	Valkyries	3285
	Powerhouse	6,000.00
	Fundraising:	
	Football Square Fundraiser	5000
	Popcorn Fundraiser	6356
	TV Raffle Fundraiser	1000
	Sponsorships:	
	BofA Donation	700
	Donation from coach lil Marty	215.94
	Mangos	500
	Bestrate Capital Funding	1000
	Ramirez Roofing and Gutter	1000
	Lucas Orthodontics	400
	Solace Enterprises	500
	Purely Hot Yoga	250
	Sacramento Vredit Union	500
	Szymanowski Orthodontics	250
	Donation from Elaine Vega (spectator with dog)	250
	Total Coming in:	40,046.94

Going out:	**Team Insurance:**	
	Nova's	253
	Valkyries	174
	Powerhouse	164
	Drinks/Snacks for teams:	1914.66
	Practice Field Fees:	5959
	Uniforms/Helmets/bags:	8689.5
	Equipment/Gear/Balls/etc:	1246.18
	Miscellaneous:	400.17
	Batting Cages:	590

Team Bonding:	873.37
Conditioning:	400
Sponsorship Recognition:	148.65
Travel Fees(gas/hotels/food) Coaches	3452.34
Tournament Registration fees:	571
Tournament fees:	29819.9
Total going out:	54655.77
Difference:	-14608.8

Dear Grant Committee

Subject: Tahoe Tallac Fastpitch

I hope this letter finds you in good health and high spirits. I am writing to you on behalf of Tahoe Tallac Fastpitch.

Tahoe Tallac Fastpitch was established in 2017 with the goal of providing local youth with an opportunity to participate and compete in travel softball at the highest level at an affordable price that does not turn talent away due to any financial restraints. Their eldest team, Valkyries, have been practicing in our neighborhood for approximately 10 years now and have made such an impact to our challenged neighborhood. With their established consistent presence utilizing the local field for practice, they have aided in making the park a safe and welcoming space. We now have movies in the park; a kick ball league; and have seen a tremendous decline in homeless and solicitors.

Their organization is comprised of talented young female athletes between the ages of 8 to 18, who come from diverse backgrounds and have demonstrated exceptional skills and sportsmanship. We strongly believe that participation in travel softball not only enhances their players' athletic abilities but also instills invaluable life skills such as discipline, teamwork, perseverance, and leadership. The goals of the organization extend beyond the softball field as they strive to foster personal growth and academic achievement amongst players, ensuring they become outstanding individuals who will positively contribute to society.

We do recognize that sustaining a non-profit travel softball team comes with many financial challenges, including tournament fees. Recognizing the importance of community-based initiatives, we are appealing to you to consider approving their grant application. Your generous support will help alleviate the financial burden on their players and their families, allowing them to focus on their development and compete against top-notch competition. We kindly request you review this document and consider a grant that aligns with their organization's philanthropic goals.

On behalf of Colonial Park Neighborhood Watch, I would like to express our gratitude for considering this request. We firmly believe that with your support, they can continue to nurture the talent and dreams of these young athletes, continuing their development as exceptional softball players and responsible members of society. Thank you for your time and consideration of an investment in these young ladies’ futures.

Warm regards,

Colonial Park Friends
5315 19th Avenue, Sacramento, CA 95820
[redacted]

Title

Mayes Freeman Youth Sports League

03/13/2026

id. 53481705

by **MFYSL Village** in **Fiscal Year 2026-2027 Community Enhancement & Investment Fund Grant Application**

[redacted]
10
SACRAMENTO california, California
95838
United States
[redacted]

Original Submission

03/13/2026

Score n/a

	Thank you for your interest in applying to the City of Rancho Cordova's Community Enhancement & Investment Fund. Applications are open from February 9, 2026, to March 13, 2026, Noon (12:00 p.m.) with a specific deadline of March 6th Noon (12:00 p.m.) for certain applications**. Before you begin, please read the notes about deadlines and certain types of grant applications/grants below. **School/Park Application Deadline **Note that projects or programs involving a park or school district have a deadline of March 6 Noon (12:00 p.m.) to allow for the third-party endorsement process by the grant deadline.** A Note about Religious Schools and the Application/Grant Process **Note for grant applications from religious schools. The United States Supreme Court has recently ruled in part that: “denying a generally available benefit [from government] solely on account of religious identity imposes a penalty on the free exercise of religion that can be justified only by a state interest of the highest order.” The City is of the opinion that not all grants to religious schools are prohibited under this and other similar rulings. However, these United States Supreme Court decisions remain in conflict with a section of the California State Constitution that says: “[n]either the Legislature, nor any county, city and county, township, school district, or other municipal corporation, shall ever make an appropriation, or pay from any public fund whatever, or grant anything to or in aid of any religious sect, church, creed, or sectarian purpose, or help to support or sustain any school, college, university, hospital, or other institution controlled by any religious creed, church, or sectarian denomination whatever; nor shall any grant or donation of personal property or real estate ever be made by the state, or any city, city and county, town, or other municipal corporation for any religious creed, church, or sectarian purpose whatever”. The City will accept applications for grants of these City public funds from religious schools, but will have language in the grant agreements to address the possibility and consequences of legal challenges and new court decisions on this and related topics. ** Future Grant Opportunities If you are interested in remaining up-to-date on available grants from the City of Rancho Cordova, click here to sign up for the Grants Interest List. A separate call for programming opportunities with the Rancho Cordova Youth Center is anticipated later in 2026. The list is also used to advertise separate art programs when funds are available. Ongoing Grant Opportunity The City of Rancho Cordova offers a microgrant opportunity. Learn more about those grants online.
Is this your first time applying for grant funding from the City of Rancho Cordova? As a first-time applicant, Community Enhancement & Investment Fund (CEIF) staff will contact you to discuss your project and grant application process.	No: Not a First Time Applicant

	1 - Project/Program Information Note: You can add a collaborator to this form to assist you in completing this application! A collaborator can help you complete this form by filling in fields for you, although only you can submit this form. You can add a collaborator by navigating to the top of the form and clicking on the 'Manage Collaborators' button. Simply enter their email address and click 'invite' to invite them as a collaborator. If you need further assistance, you may consult this Help article for more information.
Project/Program Name. Assign a project name to your project/program.	Mayes Freeman Youth Sports League
Which category does your Project/Program align with?	Youth Programs & Services
Provide a Project/Program Synopsis	Mayes Freeman Youth Sports League is a rec league based in Rancho Cordova and focuses on the underserved areas of Rancho. MFYSL has both youth and now TEEN flag football program. MFYSL uses sports to put an emphasis AND focus on Character Development of the next generation.
Provide a Project/Program Description	Providing Flag Football & Character Development for the youth in Rancho Cordova.
Tell us about your Project/Program Team	Will Logo- A PILLAR in the underserved areas of Rancho Cordova. 15 Years of experience working with youth throughout the Sacramento area and 4 years running MFYSL Flag.
Provide your Project/Program Goals	1) Provide underserved youth mentorship through athletics 2) Develop The Character of the Next Generation 3) Provide Teenagers the opportunity to learn to lead within their community. 4) Promote Mental Health & Wellness in the Rancho Cordova We will provide parent/guardians/ with surveys before and after in regards to the goals set.
Optional File Upload: Provide any additional records to supplement your program/project application. Note: Combine multiple files in one pdf before uploading.	
	2 - Funding & Costs

Funding Request - Complete this section with total dollar amounts for your project/program's costs	Funds are generally not intended to be used for deferred maintenance and ongoing operational needs. The funds are intended for enhancing and investing in the City of Rancho Cordova. If your project/program is awarded, the costs identified below would be reviewed and potentially open to modification during a contracting phase (if a grant is awarded by the City Council). If awarded, grant funds are not available until a contract is executed during Fiscal Year 2026-2027.
Total project/program cost*	25000
What is the amount of Community Enhancement & Investment Fund grant monies requested?	10250
Does your project/program involve construction of any facilities or improvements upon any property?	No
What is the total cost of personnel for your project/program?	0
What is the total cost of supplies for your project/program?	4000
What is the total cost of transportation for your project/program?	0
What is the total cost of equipment for your project/program?	6250
What is the total cost of any miscellaneous expenses for your project/program?	0

Upload your project/program's budget as a .pdf file. Include the categories and their dollar amounts along with information about any other funding sources to demonstrate your project/program's total budget. Note, the sum of all categories must match the total project or program cost, or the amount requested of CEIF if there is no other funding source. Please clearly illustrate any matching funds or funding from other sources in your project/program budget, including in-kind sources. Note: Combine multiple files in one pdf before uploading.

Total_Estimated_Budget_Summary_1.pdf

Has your organization sought or will seek other funding for this project/program?	Yes, actively seeking funding support or have secured additional funding support for this project/program.
Describe any funding secured or being sought for this project/program.	We've received $100 dollars in donations in 2026 as of 3/13/26 We are actively seeking annual donors
Please describe any ongoing operations and maintenance costs beyond Fiscal Year 2026/2027, if applicable.	
Do you have volunteer or in-kind support for your project? This could include volunteers for an activity/event that is ongoing or a one-time experience.	No
Is this a single year request or a request for funding for multiple years?	Single Year
Has your project/program received funding from the Community Enhancement & Investment Fund previously?	No
	3 - Project/Program Details Grant applications are typically approved to occur between July 2026 through June 2027. What is your plan to complete this project/program within this time frame?
Anticipated Start Date (July 1 is the soonest available start date)	6/1/2026

Anticipated End Date (typically projects/programs end by June 30)	6/30/2027
Please describe your project/program schedule	2026-2027 MFYSL Flag will be year around in Rancho Cordova Spring Session 4/1/26-5/31/26 Summer Session 6/15/26-7/17/26 Fall Session 9/1/26-10/24/26 Winter Sessions 11/1-2/28
What challenges do you anticipate in your project/program's implementation? What is your plan to complete your project/program should those or other challenges arise?	Possible lack of facility availability. Will utilize City Of Rancho MOU w/FCUSD to adjust and use an elementary school field.
How many individuals does your project/program serve?	200
How many Rancho Cordova residents does your project/program serve?	500
	4 - Project/Program Location
Address Verification	If you need to check if your project is in Rancho Cordova, type in your program/project's location in the Assessor Parcel Viewer: https://assessorparcelviewer.saccounty.gov/jsviewer/assessor.html

School and park related applications are due before Noon (12:00 p.m.) on March 6, 2026, to allow for the endorsement process.	Please note that projects or programs that are proposed on property owned or operated by outside agencies or a private party will require coordination with and potentially approvals from outside agencies, organizations, and/or the private party. Include whether you have received a letter of support for the project/program from the property owner. Upload any letters of support with your application. City staff will verify third-party permits have been discussed. In your planning discussions, be sure to discuss any necessary insurance or volunteer requirements that may increase budget costs. School Sites If your project/program is intended to operate at a public K-12 school site, your application is due by March 6 at Noon (12:00 p.m.). City staff will work with the school districts to confirm an endorsement for your project/program. It's the applicant's responsibility to communicate with school site and district representatives before applying so there is clarity during the endorsement process. Districts will only consider endorsement for applications submitted to the Community Enhancement & Investment Fund by the March 6 at Noon (12:00 p.m.). deadline. Each participating school superintendent reserves the right to withhold their endorsement of a project/program. Parks If your project/program is intended to operate at a park or community center site, your application is due by the March 6 at Noon (12:00 p.m.). deadline. City staff will work with the Cordova Recreation & Park District to confirm an endorsement for your project/program. It's the applicant's responsibility to communicate with district representatives before applying so there is clarity during the endorsement process. A special use permit application is required for any program or event planned at a CRPD facility. The special use application can be found at the CRPD website: https://www.cordovarpd.gov/. CRPD will only consider endorsement for applications submitted to the Community Enhancement & Investment Fund by the March 6 at Noon (12:00 p.m.). deadline. The Cordova Recreation & Park District reserves the right to withhold their endorsement of a project/program. Below is the list of staff to communicate with at school and park organizations: Folsom Cordova Unified School District: mwest@fcusd.org Cordova Recreation & Park District: cmichelotti@cordovarpd.gov Elk Grove Unified School District: mgulden@egusd.net Sacramento City Unified School District: Tuan-Duong@scusd.edu for Winn and Carver and Enrique-Flores@scusd.edu for Lincoln.
Primary street address of project/program	2239 Chase Dr. Rancho Cordova Ca
List the city location of the project/program.	Rancho Cordova
Select State	CA
Provide the zip code for your project/program's primary location.	95670

If your project/program takes place at multiple locations, please list other or secondary locations.	
Third Party Letters of Support (Note: Combine multiple files in one pdf before uploading)	
Does your project/program involve one of Rancho Cordova's school districts?	No
Does your project/program involve the Cordova Recreation & Park District?	No
	5 - Applicant Information
Name	Will Logo
Is this project/program on behalf of an organization?	No
Provide contact phone number:	[redacted]
Provide contact email:	[redacted]
Are you the primary point of contact on this project/program?	Yes
If your project/program was awarded the requested funds, are you authorized to sign the contract for your organization?	Yes, I would be the one to sign the contract

By checking here, I confirm that I am aware that my application materials will become public record.	checked

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Internal Form

Score	n/a

MFYSL FLAG

Total Estimated Budget Summary

Category		Estimated Cost
Jerseys	Materials	2,000
Sideline App	League communication for parents & coaches	$800
Digital Marketing	social media reach	$1,000
Booth Tents	customized pop ups	$1,000
Banners (5)	customized banners	$750
Character Development Items	Medals, Bags, Gear, Bottles, Pencils, Posters	$2,000
Direct to Garment Printer (Sustainability)	Customized Jerseys, Coaches polos, Flags	$2,700
Total Estimated Cost		$10,250

Title

The Cordova Spark: A Civic STEM Forward Summer Leadership Intensive

03/13/2026

id. 53474845

by **Tabitha Wong** in **Fiscal Year 2026-2027 Community Enhancement & Investment Fund Grant Application**

[redacted]
Folsom, California
95630
Folsom
United States
[redacted]

Original Submission

03/13/2026

Score n/a

	Thank you for your interest in applying to the City of Rancho Cordova's Community Enhancement & Investment Fund. Applications are open from February 9, 2026, to March 13, 2026, Noon (12:00 p.m.) with a specific deadline of March 6th Noon (12:00 p.m.) for certain applications**. Before you begin, please read the notes about deadlines and certain types of grant applications/grants below. **School/Park Application Deadline **Note that projects or programs involving a park or school district have a deadline of March 6 Noon (12:00 p.m.) to allow for the third-party endorsement process by the grant deadline.** A Note about Religious Schools and the Application/Grant Process **Note for grant applications from religious schools. The United States Supreme Court has recently ruled in part that: “denying a generally available benefit [from government] solely on account of religious identity imposes a penalty on the free exercise of religion that can be justified only by a state interest of the highest order.” The City is of the opinion that not all grants to religious schools are prohibited under this and other similar rulings. However, these United States Supreme Court decisions remain in conflict with a section of the California State Constitution that says: “[n]either the Legislature, nor any county, city and county, township, school district, or other municipal corporation, shall ever make an appropriation, or pay from any public fund whatever, or grant anything to or in aid of any religious sect, church, creed, or sectarian purpose, or help to support or sustain any school, college, university, hospital, or other institution controlled by any religious creed, church, or sectarian denomination whatever; nor shall any grant or donation of personal property or real estate ever be made by the state, or any city, city and county, town, or other municipal corporation for any religious creed, church, or sectarian purpose whatever”. The City will accept applications for grants of these City public funds from religious schools, but will have language in the grant agreements to address the possibility and consequences of legal challenges and new court decisions on this and related topics. ** Future Grant Opportunities If you are interested in remaining up-to-date on available grants from the City of Rancho Cordova, click here to sign up for the Grants Interest List. A separate call for programming opportunities with the Rancho Cordova Youth Center is anticipated later in 2026. The list is also used to advertise separate art programs when funds are available. Ongoing Grant Opportunity The City of Rancho Cordova offers a microgrant opportunity. Learn more about those grants online.
Is this your first time applying for grant funding from the City of Rancho Cordova? As a first-time applicant, Community Enhancement & Investment Fund (CEIF) staff will contact you to discuss your project and grant application process.	Yes: First Time Applicant

	1 - Project/Program Information Note: You can add a collaborator to this form to assist you in completing this application! A collaborator can help you complete this form by filling in fields for you, although only you can submit this form. You can add a collaborator by navigating to the top of the form and clicking on the 'Manage Collaborators' button. Simply enter their email address and click 'invite' to invite them as a collaborator. If you need further assistance, you may consult this Help article for more information.
Project/Program Name. Assign a project name to your project/program.	The Cordova Spark: A Civic STEM Forward Summer Leadership Intensive
Which category does your Project/Program align with?	Youth Programs & Services
Provide a Project/Program Synopsis	"**The Cordova Spark**" is a youth-led initiative. Elite high school mentors teach middle schoolers (rising 6th-8th grade) to solve real Rancho Cordova community issues using AI and robotics. Pilot replaces high-pressure competition with a collaborative "Civic Festival," building the next generation of local leaders, engineers, and advocates for the city.
Provide a Project/Program Description	**Program Overview** "The Cordova Spark" is a youth-led, "STEM Forward" summer intensive designed to empower 32 rising 6th–8th grade students in Rancho Cordova. Orchestrated and delivered by the senior leadership of Metal Maniacs #20163, this program transcends basic robotics by immersing students in a high-energy, one-week "Design Sprint" that integrates Artificial Intelligence (AI), Computer Science (CS), and Civic Advocacy. Running in mid-late July (avoiding the holiday weeks), the program utilizes state-of-the-art Lego CS & AI platforms to challenge students to solve real-world municipal problems. The program culminates in the **Civic STEM Festival**, where students pitch their functional prototypes to City leaders at scheduled City Council Meeting (3 minutes max per team) at the 3rd Monday of July or 3rd Monday of August. This model leverages the specialized "Power Skills" our high school mentors developed at the National Advocacy Conference (NAC), passing the torch of leadership to the next generation of Rancho Cordova citizens. **Alignment with City Guidelines & Selection Criteria** 1. Workforce Readiness & High-Impact Leadership The City of Rancho Cordova's Community Enhancement & Investment Fund (CEIF) prioritizes projects that prepare youth for the future economy. By introducing AI and Machine Learning logic through Lego CS platforms, Metal Maniacs provide participants with a technical edge. However, this is also a leadership laboratory: our experienced student leader mentors, serving as City of Rancho Cordova STEM Forward Fellows, manage the entire project lifecycle, from procurement to pedagogy, simulating the professional environments of Silicon Valley and the Capitol.

	2. Civic Engagement & "Rancho Cordova First" Curriculum In direct alignment with Measures H and R, "The Cordova Spark" is rooted in local pride. The curriculum is uniquely Rancho Cordova-specific. The Mission: Using program-issued Chromebooks, student teams identify a specific city service—such as park maintenance, traffic safety, or waste management—and develop a robotic or digital solution to enhance it. The Benefit: By the end of the program, 32 young residents will move from being passive technology consumers to active civic contributors with a deep understanding of local government and awareness of their own city. 3. Strategic Execution: The Summer Intensive Model We have optimized this pilot to be a high-ROI, low-overhead engagement: The "Summer Sprint": To bypass the "Saturday Sports Wall" and school-year constraints, we operate a one-week intensive (up to 4 hours per day). This focused format ensures 100% project completion and high energy, making it an ideal "Spike" project for our college-bound leaders. Tangible Assets: This grant builds a Civic Tech Lending Library. The 10 Lego CS/AI kits and 10 Chromebooks (including dedicated sets for instructor demonstration) remain the property of the local robotics ecosystem, managed by the Metal Maniacs to serve future cohorts. Sustainability: This pilot creates a "Playbook" for future student leaders. The student leaders will train additional younger high school grade students to "Shadow Mentors" during the week, ensuring the City's investment results in a repeatable, annual summer asset for Rancho Cordova.
Tell us about your Project/Program Team	The Team Behind the Spark: **Metal Maniacs #20163** The development and delivery of The Cordova Spark are led by a elite cohort of 11th & 12th grade student leaders from Metal Maniacs #20163, an Award Winning FIRST Tech Challenge robotics team at Championship, based right here in our community. **Proven Leadership & Advocacy** Our project leads are trained advocates. Having represented Rancho Cordova, Orangevale, Sacramento, and Folsom at the National Advocacy Conference (NAC) in D.C. & CA Student Association for STEM Advocacy, these leaders have spent years meeting with lawmakers local, state, and federal to champion STEM & Robotics education.

Provide your Project/Program Goals	"The Cordova Spark" targets three core objectives to ensure a high-impact pilot: **Technical Proficiency:** Empowering up to 32 students with AI/CS logic. Metric: 100% of teams (8 teams of 4) successfully program AI sensors to solve a simulated task. **Civic Leadership:** Applying advocacy training to local city needs. Metric: 8 "Civic Pitches" presented by students to City of Rancho Cordova officials during our final Festival. **Sustainable Legacy:** Establishing a permanent tech library. Metric: Completion of a Mentor Playbook and successful training of 9th-10th grade "Shadow Mentors" for Year 2. To maintain focus, we utilize a "1-Week Summer Sprint" model. This high-intensity format eliminates scheduling drift and maintains peak student engagement.
Optional File Upload: Provide any additional records to supplement your program/project application. Note: Combine multiple files in one pdf before uploading.	
	2 - Funding & Costs
Funding Request - Complete this section with total dollar amounts for your project/program's costs	Funds are generally not intended to be used for deferred maintenance and ongoing operational needs. The funds are intended for enhancing and investing in the City of Rancho Cordova. If your project/program is awarded, the costs identified below would be reviewed and potentially open to modification during a contracting phase (if a grant is awarded by the City Council). If awarded, grant funds are not available until a contract is executed during Fiscal Year 2026-2027.
Total project/program cost*	16500
What is the amount of Community Enhancement & Investment Fund grant monies requested?	16500

Does your project/program involve construction of any facilities or improvements upon any property?	No
What is the total cost of personnel for your project/program?	2500
What is the total cost of supplies for your project/program?	3000
What is the total cost of transportation for your project/program?	0
What is the total cost of equipment for your project/program?	11000
What is the total cost of any miscellaneous expenses for your project/program?	0

Upload your project/program's budget as a .pdf file. Include the categories and their dollar amounts along with information about any other funding sources to demonstrate your project/program's total budget. Note, the sum of all categories must match the total project or program cost, or the amount requested of CEIF if there is no other funding source. Please clearly illustrate any matching funds or funding from other sources in your project/program budget, including in-kind sources. Note: Combine multiple files in one pdf before uploading.

Cordova_Spark_-_CEIF_Grant_Proposal.pdf

Has your organization sought or will seek other funding for this project/program?	No, not seeking any other funding support.
Please explain why you are not seeking any other funding support for your project/program.	This is a program dedicated and specific to the City of Rancho Cordova's Youth and for Civic Duty engagement. Open to additional sponsors for this program.

Please describe any ongoing operations and maintenance costs beyond Fiscal Year 2026/2027, if applicable.	Ongoing Operations & Maintenance is the program's stipend to remain the same for targeted max. 32 participants per fiscal year program. $2500 Youth Leadership for their dedication and Commitment $3000 Program Event $1,100 Equipment Repair / Replacement
Do you have volunteer or in-kind support for your project? This could include volunteers for an activity/event that is ongoing or a one-time experience.	Yes
Please share the total dollar amount for volunteer/in-kind support using $34.79 as the national rate for a volunteer hour. Source: Value of Volunteer Time	11132.8
Please provide a worksheet explaining your volunteer/in-kind contribution. You may upload a file in the following formats: CSV, DOC, DOCX, or PDF.	
Is this a single year request or a request for funding for multiple years?	Multiple Years
If requesting CEIF grant funding for multiple years, please share how many years?	3
For requests spanning multiple years, share the dollar amount requested per year.	FY 2026-2027, $16,500 FY 2027-2028, $ 6,600 FY 2028-2029, $ 6,600

For projects/programs that span multiple years, please describe your sustainability plan and whether it is viable as a single year request.	Metal Maniacs student leaders will train subsequent
Has your project/program received funding from the Community Enhancement & Investment Fund previously?	No
	3 - Project/Program Details Grant applications are typically approved to occur between July 2026 through June 2027. What is your plan to complete this project/program within this time frame?
Anticipated Start Date (July 1 is the soonest available start date)	7/13/2026
Anticipated End Date (typically projects/programs end by June 30)	7/20/2026
Please describe your project/program schedule	Monday JUL 13, 2026 - Friday JUL 17th, 2026 9am - 12pm Daily Schedule 15 min Student Activity 90 min **Lego CS & AI Hands-On Curriculum** 15 min Break 60 min **Civic Research** (City of Rancho Cordova and Innovation Project) 15 min Recap

What challenges do you anticipate in your project/program's implementation? What is your plan to complete your project/program should those or other challenges arise?	# of Participants, Participant Commitment to the Full Program (attrition) Parental Concerns and Commitment Increase demands (potential to add 4th week of JULY 27th - JULY 31st Mon-Fri to serve an additional 32 students)
How many individuals does your project/program serve?	32
How many Rancho Cordova residents does your project/program serve?	32
	4 - Project/Program Location
Address Verification	If you need to check if your project is in Rancho Cordova, type in your program/project's location in the Assessor Parcel Viewer: https://assessorparcelviewer.saccounty.gov/jsviewer/assessor.html

School and park related applications are due before Noon (12:00 p.m.) on March 6, 2026, to allow for the endorsement process.	Please note that projects or programs that are proposed on property owned or operated by outside agencies or a private party will require coordination with and potentially approvals from outside agencies, organizations, and/or the private party. Include whether you have received a letter of support for the project/program from the property owner. Upload any letters of support with your application. City staff will verify third-party permits have been discussed. In your planning discussions, be sure to discuss any necessary insurance or volunteer requirements that may increase budget costs. School Sites If your project/program is intended to operate at a public K-12 school site, your application is due by March 6 at Noon (12:00 p.m.). City staff will work with the school districts to confirm an endorsement for your project/program. It's the applicant's responsibility to communicate with school site and district representatives before applying so there is clarity during the endorsement process. Districts will only consider endorsement for applications submitted to the Community Enhancement & Investment Fund by the March 6 at Noon (12:00 p.m.). deadline. Each participating school superintendent reserves the right to withhold their endorsement of a project/program. Parks If your project/program is intended to operate at a park or community center site, your application is due by the March 6 at Noon (12:00 p.m.). deadline. City staff will work with the Cordova Recreation & Park District to confirm an endorsement for your project/program. It's the applicant's responsibility to communicate with district representatives before applying so there is clarity during the endorsement process. A special use permit application is required for any program or event planned at a CRPD facility. The special use application can be found at the CRPD website: https://www.cordovarpd.gov/. CRPD will only consider endorsement for applications submitted to the Community Enhancement & Investment Fund by the March 6 at Noon (12:00 p.m.). deadline. The Cordova Recreation & Park District reserves the right to withhold their endorsement of a project/program. Below is the list of staff to communicate with at school and park organizations: Folsom Cordova Unified School District: mwest@fcusd.org Cordova Recreation & Park District: cmichelotti@cordovarpd.gov Elk Grove Unified School District: mgulden@egusd.net Sacramento City Unified School District: Tuan-Duong@scusd.edu for Winn and Carver and Enrique-Flores@scusd.edu for Lincoln.
Primary street address of project/program	2729 Prospect Park Drive
List the city location of the project/program.	Rancho Cordova
Select State	CA
Provide the zip code for your project/program's primary location.	95670

If your project/program takes place at multiple locations, please list other or secondary locations.	N/A
Third Party Letters of Support (Note: Combine multiple files in one pdf before uploading)	
Does your project/program involve one of Rancho Cordova's school districts?	No
Does your project/program involve the Cordova Recreation & Park District?	No
	5 - Applicant Information
Name	Tabitha Wong
Is this project/program on behalf of an organization?	Yes
What is the name of your organization?	Metal Maniacs Robotics
What is your title and/or role at your organization?	Founder
Provide contact phone number:	+[redacted]
Provide contact email:	[redacted]
Are you the primary point of contact on this project/program?	Yes

If your project/program was awarded the requested funds, are you authorized to sign the contract for your organization?	Yes, I would be the one to sign the contract
By checking here, I confirm that I am aware that my application materials will become public record.	checked
	Thank you for applying to the Community Enhancement & Investment Fund Fiscal Year 2026-2027 Grant Cycle. Applicants will receive an automated response through the grant portal. Community Enhancement & Investment Fund (CEIF) Staff will follow up with any questions regarding your Fiscal Year 2026-2027 application. For information about the next steps in the CEIF grant process, visit our website for more information. It is anticipated that applications will be reviewed by the City Council starting in April 2026 with adoption in June 2026. Should applicants be awarded by the City Council, funding would not be available to grantees until the start of Fiscal Year 2026-2027 and the completion of a contract. Please send an email to CEIFGrants@cityofranchocordova.org with any questions or comments.

Internal Form

Score	n/a

Category	Cost	Description
Personnel	$2,500.00	$500 Stipend for Student Leader / Instructor (up to 5) for a 1:8 Participant. Certificate of Recognition from City of Rancho Cordova for their leadership and empowering youths.
Supplies	$3,000.00	Program T-Shirts to cover Program Instructors, Participants at end of program. Certificate of Achievement & Innovation from City of Rancho Cordova.
Equipment	$11,000.00	10 Lego CS & AI Kits at approx. $600 each; 10 compatible chromebook at approx. $500 each
Total	**$16,500.00**	

Program Assumptions & Add'l Support Needed

City of Rancho Cordova will grant free usage of American River Room setup Mon-Fri (target JUL 13th - 17th, 2026, JUL 12th - 16th, 2027, JUL 10th - 14th, 2028) between 9am - 12pm

Title

Rancho Cordova Jiu-jitsu for the city.

03/13/2026

id. 53481972

by **Jordon Castro** in **Fiscal Year 2026-2027 Community Enhancement & Investment Fund Grant Application**

3039 Kilgore Rd #190
Rancho Cordova, California
95742
CA
United States
[redacted]

Original Submission

03/13/2026

Score n/a

	Thank you for your interest in applying to the City of Rancho Cordova's Community Enhancement & Investment Fund. Applications are open from February 9, 2026, to March 13, 2026, Noon (12:00 p.m.) with a specific deadline of March 6th Noon (12:00 p.m.) for certain applications**. Before you begin, please read the notes about deadlines and certain types of grant applications/grants below. **School/Park Application Deadline **Note that projects or programs involving a park or school district have a deadline of March 6 Noon (12:00 p.m.) to allow for the third-party endorsement process by the grant deadline.** A Note about Religious Schools and the Application/Grant Process **Note for grant applications from religious schools. The United States Supreme Court has recently ruled in part that: “denying a generally available benefit [from government] solely on account of religious identity imposes a penalty on the free exercise of religion that can be justified only by a state interest of the highest order.” The City is of the opinion that not all grants to religious schools are prohibited under this and other similar rulings. However, these United States Supreme Court decisions remain in conflict with a section of the California State Constitution that says: “[n]either the Legislature, nor any county, city and county, township, school district, or other municipal corporation, shall ever make an appropriation, or pay from any public fund whatever, or grant anything to or in aid of any religious sect, church, creed, or sectarian purpose, or help to support or sustain any school, college, university, hospital, or other institution controlled by any religious creed, church, or sectarian denomination whatever; nor shall any grant or donation of personal property or real estate ever be made by the state, or any city, city and county, town, or other municipal corporation for any religious creed, church, or sectarian purpose whatever”. The City will accept applications for grants of these City public funds from religious schools, but will have language in the grant agreements to address the possibility and consequences of legal challenges and new court decisions on this and related topics. ** Future Grant Opportunities If you are interested in remaining up-to-date on available grants from the City of Rancho Cordova, click here to sign up for the Grants Interest List. A separate call for programming opportunities with the Rancho Cordova Youth Center is anticipated later in 2026. The list is also used to advertise separate art programs when funds are available. Ongoing Grant Opportunity The City of Rancho Cordova offers a microgrant opportunity. Learn more about those grants online.
Is this your first time applying for grant funding from the City of Rancho Cordova? As a first-time applicant, Community Enhancement & Investment Fund (CEIF) staff will contact you to discuss your project and grant application process.	No: Not a First Time Applicant

	1 - Project/Program Information Note: You can add a collaborator to this form to assist you in completing this application! A collaborator can help you complete this form by filling in fields for you, although only you can submit this form. You can add a collaborator by navigating to the top of the form and clicking on the 'Manage Collaborators' button. Simply enter their email address and click 'invite' to invite them as a collaborator. If you need further assistance, you may consult this Help article for more information.
Project/Program Name. Assign a project name to your project/program.	Rancho Cordova Jiu-jitsu for the city.
Which category does your Project/Program align with?	Youth Programs & Services
Provide a Project/Program Synopsis	Matua Brazilian Jiu-Jitsu is a community-focused martial arts initiative dedicated to teaching the principles and techniques of Brazilian Jiu-Jitsu (BJJ). The project aims to provide high-quality training in self-defense, discipline, physical fitness, and mental resilience while fostering a positive and inclusive training environment
Provide a Project/Program Description	The purpose of Matua Brazilian Jiu-Jitsu is to establish a structured training program and academy that promotes personal development, health, and community engagement through the practice of Brazilian Jiu-Jitsu. The program seeks to create opportunities for youth and adults to learn practical self-defense skills, build confidence, and develop respect and teamwork. Matua Brazilian Jiu-Jitsu aims to become a respected training academy and community hub where individuals can improve their physical abilities, build confidence, and learn valuable life skills through the practice of Brazilian Jiu-Jitsu. By promoting discipline, respect, and perseverance, the project will positively impact participants and the broader community.
Tell us about your Project/Program Team	Prentice Lomax, Jordon Castro, Billy English all Fathers and Black belts in Brazilian Jiu Jitsu.
Provide your Project/Program Goals	• Develops confidence, discipline, and respect • Teaches practical self-defense and anti-bullying strategies • Improves physical fitness, coordination, and focus • Encourages teamwork and positive peer relationships • Creates a safe, supportive space for youth growth

Optional File Upload: Provide any additional records to supplement your program/project application. Note: Combine multiple files in one pdf before uploading.	
	2 - Funding & Costs
Funding Request - Complete this section with total dollar amounts for your project/program's costs	Funds are generally not intended to be used for deferred maintenance and ongoing operational needs. The funds are intended for enhancing and investing in the City of Rancho Cordova. If your project/program is awarded, the costs identified below would be reviewed and potentially open to modification during a contracting phase (if a grant is awarded by the City Council). If awarded, grant funds are not available until a contract is executed during Fiscal Year 2026-2027.
Total project/program cost*	20000
What is the amount of Community Enhancement & Investment Fund grant monies requested?	7500
Does your project/program involve construction of any facilities or improvements upon any property?	No
What is the total cost of personnel for your project/program?	5000
What is the total cost of supplies for your project/program?	600
What is the total cost of transportation for your project/program?	0
What is the total cost of equipment for your project/program?	1000

What is the total cost of any miscellaneous expenses for your project/program?	900

Upload your project/program's budget as a .pdf file. Include the categories and their dollar amounts along with information about any other funding sources to demonstrate your project/program's total budget. Note, the sum of all categories must match the total project or program cost, or the amount requested of CEIF if there is no other funding source. Please clearly illustrate any matching funds or funding from other sources in your project/program budget, including in-kind sources. Note: Combine multiple files in one pdf before uploading.

Business_License_Matua_Bjj.pdf

Has your organization sought or will seek other funding for this project/program?	No, not seeking any other funding support.
Please explain why you are not seeking any other funding support for your project/program.	We're trying to keep costs low. We would like to keep money in Rancho Cordova/Folsom only.
Please describe any ongoing operations and maintenance costs beyond Fiscal Year 2026/2027, if applicable.	
Do you have volunteer or in-kind support for your project? This could include volunteers for an activity/event that is ongoing or a one-time experience.	No
Is this a single year request or a request for funding for multiple years?	Single Year

Has your project/program received funding from the Community Enhancement & Investment Fund previously?	No
	3 - Project/Program Details Grant applications are typically approved to occur between July 2026 through June 2027. What is your plan to complete this project/program within this time frame?
Anticipated Start Date (July 1 is the soonest available start date)	8/3/2026
Anticipated End Date (typically projects/programs end by June 30)	9/28/2026
Please describe your project/program schedule	3:30pm - 4:15pm Mon-Friday
What challenges do you anticipate in your project/program's implementation? What is your plan to complete your project/program should those or other challenges arise?	There shouldn't be any roadblocks
How many individuals does your project/program serve?	25
How many Rancho Cordova residents does your project/program serve?	25
	4 - Project/Program Location
Address Verification	If you need to check if your project is in Rancho Cordova, type in your program/project's location in the Assessor Parcel Viewer: https://assessorparcelviewer.saccounty.gov/jsviewer/assessor.html

School and park related applications are due before Noon (12:00 p.m.) on March 6, 2026, to allow for the endorsement process.	Please note that projects or programs that are proposed on property owned or operated by outside agencies or a private party will require coordination with and potentially approvals from outside agencies, organizations, and/or the private party. Include whether you have received a letter of support for the project/program from the property owner. Upload any letters of support with your application. City staff will verify third-party permits have been discussed. In your planning discussions, be sure to discuss any necessary insurance or volunteer requirements that may increase budget costs. School Sites If your project/program is intended to operate at a public K-12 school site, your application is due by March 6 at Noon (12:00 p.m.). City staff will work with the school districts to confirm an endorsement for your project/program. It's the applicant's responsibility to communicate with school site and district representatives before applying so there is clarity during the endorsement process. Districts will only consider endorsement for applications submitted to the Community Enhancement & Investment Fund by the March 6 at Noon (12:00 p.m.). deadline. Each participating school superintendent reserves the right to withhold their endorsement of a project/program. Parks If your project/program is intended to operate at a park or community center site, your application is due by the March 6 at Noon (12:00 p.m.). deadline. City staff will work with the Cordova Recreation & Park District to confirm an endorsement for your project/program. It's the applicant's responsibility to communicate with district representatives before applying so there is clarity during the endorsement process. A special use permit application is required for any program or event planned at a CRPD facility. The special use application can be found at the CRPD website: https://www.cordovarpd.gov/. CRPD will only consider endorsement for applications submitted to the Community Enhancement & Investment Fund by the March 6 at Noon (12:00 p.m.). deadline. The Cordova Recreation & Park District reserves the right to withhold their endorsement of a project/program. Below is the list of staff to communicate with at school and park organizations: Folsom Cordova Unified School District: mwest@fcusd.org Cordova Recreation & Park District: cmichelotti@cordovarpd.gov Elk Grove Unified School District: mgulden@egusd.net Sacramento City Unified School District: Tuan-Duong@scusd.edu for Winn and Carver and Enrique-Flores@scusd.edu for Lincoln.
Primary street address of project/program	3039 Kilgore Rd. Ste.190
List the city location of the project/program.	Rancho Cordova
Select State	CA
Provide the zip code for your project/program's primary location.	95670

If your project/program takes place at multiple locations, please list other or secondary locations.	
Third Party Letters of Support (Note: Combine multiple files in one pdf before uploading)	
Does your project/program involve one of Rancho Cordova's school districts?	Yes
Is the project/program requesting facility use only or is this a request to partner with the school district?	Facility Use Only. Visit the school district website for facility use information.
Please select all the school districts which your project/program intends to involve:	Folsom Cordova USD
Please select one or more of the Folsom Cordova Unified School District school facilities which your project/program will involve:	Navigator Elementary School
Have you reached out to a contact at the school(s) you indicated above?	Yes
Please provide the names of your contacts at the school(s) or district(s) who are familiar with your project/program.	Billy English

Does your project/program involve the Cordova Recreation & Park District?	No
	5 - Applicant Information
Name	prentice lomax
Is this project/program on behalf of an organization?	No
Provide contact phone number:	+[redacted]
Provide contact email:	[redacted]
Are you the primary point of contact on this project/program?	Yes
If your project/program was awarded the requested funds, are you authorized to sign the contract for your organization?	Yes, I would be the one to sign the contract
By checking here, I confirm that I am aware that my application materials will become public record.	checked
	Thank you for applying to the Community Enhancement & Investment Fund Fiscal Year 2026-2027 Grant Cycle. Applicants will receive an automated response through the grant portal. Community Enhancement & Investment Fund (CEIF) Staff will follow up with any questions regarding your Fiscal Year 2026-2027 application. For information about the next steps in the CEIF grant process, visit our website for more information. It is anticipated that applications will be reviewed by the City Council starting in April 2026 with adoption in June 2026. Should applicants be awarded by the City Council, funding would not be available to grantees until the start of Fiscal Year 2026-2027 and the completion of a contract. Please send an email to CEIFGrants@cityofranchocordova.org with any questions or comments.

Internal Form

Score	n/a

CITY OF RANCHO CORDOVA

2729 Prospect Park Drive • Rancho Cordova, CA 95670 • (916) 851-8737

BUSINESS LICENSE

License not transferable • Not valid at any other location • Post in conspicuous place

EFFECTIVE DATE	EXPIRATION DATE	LICENSE NUMBER
8/29/2025	**8/29/2026**	**GBL-006146**

BUSINESS TYPE: **61: EDUCATIONAL SERVICES**

CONDITIONS

• COMPLY WITH RANCHO CORDOVA ORDINANCES, CODES & REGULATIONS
611620 - SPORTS AND RECREATION INSTRUCTION
MARTIAL ARTS INSTURCTION

OWNER(S)

LJPB LLC

DBA: **Matua**

MATUA
3039 KILGORE RD, 190
RANCHO CORDOVA, CA 95670

LOCATION

3039 KILGORE RD, 190
RANCHO CORDOVA, CA 95670

This license is issued without verification that the holder is subject or exempted from licensing by the state, county, federal government, or any other government agency.

Title

NextGen Summer Workforce Exploration

03/12/2026

id. 53473187

by **Shanece Duncan** in **Fiscal Year 2026-2027 Community Enhancement & Investment Fund Grant Application**

225 30th Street, Suite 312
Sacramento
95816
CA
United States
[redacted]

Original Submission

03/12/2026

Score n/a

	Thank you for your interest in applying to the City of Rancho Cordova's Community Enhancement & Investment Fund. Applications are open from February 9, 2026, to March 13, 2026, Noon (12:00 p.m.) with a specific deadline of March 6th Noon (12:00 p.m.) for certain applications**. Before you begin, please read the notes about deadlines and certain types of grant applications/grants below. **School/Park Application Deadline **Note that projects or programs involving a park or school district have a deadline of March 6 Noon (12:00 p.m.) to allow for the third-party endorsement process by the grant deadline.** A Note about Religious Schools and the Application/Grant Process **Note for grant applications from religious schools. The United States Supreme Court has recently ruled in part that: “denying a generally available benefit [from government] solely on account of religious identity imposes a penalty on the free exercise of religion that can be justified only by a state interest of the highest order.” The City is of the opinion that not all grants to religious schools are prohibited under this and other similar rulings. However, these United States Supreme Court decisions remain in conflict with a section of the California State Constitution that says: “[n]either the Legislature, nor any county, city and county, township, school district, or other municipal corporation, shall ever make an appropriation, or pay from any public fund whatever, or grant anything to or in aid of any religious sect, church, creed, or sectarian purpose, or help to support or sustain any school, college, university, hospital, or other institution controlled by any religious creed, church, or sectarian denomination whatever; nor shall any grant or donation of personal property or real estate ever be made by the state, or any city, city and county, town, or other municipal corporation for any religious creed, church, or sectarian purpose whatever”. The City will accept applications for grants of these City public funds from religious schools, but will have language in the grant agreements to address the possibility and consequences of legal challenges and new court decisions on this and related topics. ** Future Grant Opportunities If you are interested in remaining up-to-date on available grants from the City of Rancho Cordova, click here to sign up for the Grants Interest List. A separate call for programming opportunities with the Rancho Cordova Youth Center is anticipated later in 2026. The list is also used to advertise separate art programs when funds are available. Ongoing Grant Opportunity The City of Rancho Cordova offers a microgrant opportunity. Learn more about those grants online.
Is this your first time applying for grant funding from the City of Rancho Cordova? As a first-time applicant, Community Enhancement & Investment Fund (CEIF) staff will contact you to discuss your project and grant application process.	No: Not a First Time Applicant

	1 - Project/Program Information Note: You can add a collaborator to this form to assist you in completing this application! A collaborator can help you complete this form by filling in fields for you, although only you can submit this form. You can add a collaborator by navigating to the top of the form and clicking on the 'Manage Collaborators' button. Simply enter their email address and click 'invite' to invite them as a collaborator. If you need further assistance, you may consult this Help article for more information.
Project/Program Name. Assign a project name to your project/program.	NextGen Summer Workforce Exploration
Which category does your Project/Program align with?	Youth Programs & Services
Provide a Project/Program Synopsis	Through the NextGen Summer Workforce Exploration, SAC Connect will take underrepresented low-income youth ages 13-17 through a work readiness and early career exposure experience which is essential to this demographic as they shift career opportunities, identity, and long-term outcomes.
Provide a Project/Program Description	SAC Connect was established in 2018 by two African American Licensed Clinical Social Workers with a shared commitment to improving mental health access and advancing wellness equity for youth and young adults. The organization was founded in response to persistent disparities in behavioral health services, particularly within low-income and historically underserved communities. SAC Connect is governed by a diverse Board of Directors that reflects the communities it serves, including an African American female President, African American male Vice President, Asian American Secretary, two African American board members, and a White Treasurer. This diverse leadership structure strengthens the organization’s cultural responsiveness and community accountability. The mission of SAC Connect is to increase access to mental and behavioral health opportunities, programs, and services for youth, young adults, and families. The organization provides services throughout Sacramento County, with a primary focus on low-income communities and communities of color. SAC Connect operates a range of community-based and school-based initiatives, including: • School-based youth wellness groups • Monthly community wellness events • Support services for homeless and displaced individuals and families • Professional development trainings and workshops • Job readiness workshops and paid internship placements • Public awareness campaigns • Community outreach and engagement initiatives

Through culturally responsive programming and community-rooted engagement, SAC Connect continues to advance equitable access to mental health support, workforce development, and prevention services across Sacramento County. The NextGen Summer Workforce Exploration program is intentionally designed for youth who often face limited access to professional networks, career exposure, and paid skill-building opportunities. During a 8-10 week summer session, participants will engage in comprehensive work readiness training combined with hands-on career exploration activities that introduce them to diverse industries and postsecondary pathways.

Program Components

1. Work Readiness Training
Youth will participate in interactive workshops focused on:

- Resume development
- Interview preparation
- Workplace communication and professionalism
- Teamwork and leadership skills
- Financial literacy and responsible money management
- Goal setting and career planning

2. Early Career Exposure
Participants will gain exposure to a variety of career pathways through:

- Industry guest speakers
- Employer site visits
- Career panels featuring diverse professionals
- Entrepreneurship exploration
- Exposure to public service, health, fitness, business, and technology sectors

3. Experiential Learning Opportunities
Youth will engage in project-based learning and simulated workplace experiences that allow them to practice professional skills in real-world contexts. Opportunities may include:

- Youth leadership roles within SAC Connect programming
- Community-based service learning projects
- Team-based problem-solving challenges
- Junior mentorship and peer leadership development

4. Social-Emotional & Identity Development
Recognizing that workforce readiness includes mindset development, the program integrates:

- Confidence-building activities
- Strength-based coaching
- Growth mindset training
- Exposure to professionals who reflect participants' backgrounds

Underrepresented, low-income youth often lack early exposure to structured workforce development experiences that build both social capital

	and professional identity. Without access to mentorship, networks, and career guidance, many young people make decisions based on limited information and opportunity. The NextGen Summer Workforce Exploration addresses this gap by: • Expanding awareness of viable career pathways • Building foundational employability skills before high school graduation • Increasing confidence and professional identity formation • Reducing summer learning loss and idle time • Creating equitable access to opportunity Early exposure to workforce environments during adolescence has been shown to increase educational persistence, long-term earning potential, and civic engagement.
Tell us about your Project/Program Team	NextGen Summer Workforce Exploration curriculum was developed by two licensed clinical social workers with an abundance of educational and professional experience in equitable service delivery, youth development and programs, culturally and trauma informed practices and community engagement. Under this leadership, SAC Connect group facilitators and peer mentors have delivered school based wellness groups, community based youth workforce groups, community based substance prevention groups, Art-therapy groups, and more since 2018 and in three school districts. Additionally, SAC Connect staff are representative of the underserved population and either are in high school, have completed high school, or completed post-secondary degrees.
Provide your Project/Program Goals	NextGen Summer Workforce Exploration Program Goals and Outcomes: **Goal 1: Increase Workforce Readiness Skills Among Underrepresented Youth-** **Objective 1.1:** At least 90% of participants will complete structured work readiness training (resume writing, interview skills, workplace communication, financial literacy). **Outcomes:** • 85% of youth will demonstrate improved knowledge of workplace expectations (pre/post assessment). • 80% will successfully develop a professional resume and mock interview portfolio. • 75% will report increased confidence in professional communication skills. **Measurement Tools:** • Pre- and post-program surveys assessing knowledge of workplace expectations • Resume completion checklist • Mock interview evaluation rubric • Facilitator observation forms

Data Collected:

- % increase in workplace knowledge scores
- % of participants completing a professional resume
- Mock interview performance ratings
- Self-reported confidence levels (Likert scale)

Goal 2: Expand Early Career Exposure and Awareness-

Objective 2.1:
Expose participants to a minimum of five career pathways through college tours, guest speakers, industry workshops and/or site visits.

Outcomes:

- 85% of participants will identify at least three career interests by program completion.
- 70% will demonstrate increased understanding of education/training pathways required for selected careers.
- 80% will report increased motivation to pursue postsecondary education or career training.

Measurement Tools:

- Career interest inventory (pre/post comparison)
- Reflection journals or written career plans
- Post-session exit tickets after guest speakers/site visits

Data Collected:

- Number of career pathways introduced
- % of youth identifying at least three career interests
- % demonstrating understanding of education/training requirements

Goal 3: Strengthen Social-Emotional and Leadership Development

Objective 3.1:
Provide structured leadership and team-based learning opportunities throughout the program.

Outcomes:

- 75% of youth will demonstrate improved teamwork and problem-solving skills (facilitator evaluation rubric).
- 80% will report increased self-efficacy and goal-setting ability.
- 70% will complete an individualized career or academic action plan.

Measurement Tools:

- Pre/post self-efficacy assessment
- Leadership skills rubric
- Facilitator behavior observation checklist
- Youth goal-setting worksheet

Data Collected:

- Changes in self-confidence scores
- Demonstrated teamwork and communication competencies
- Completion of individualized action plans

Optional File Upload: Provide any additional records to supplement your program/project application. Note: Combine multiple files in one pdf before uploading.

NEXTGEN_SUMMER_WORKFORCE_EXPLORATION_PROGRAM-_Guide.pdf

	2 - Funding & Costs
Funding Request - Complete this section with total dollar amounts for your project/program's costs	Funds are generally not intended to be used for deferred maintenance and ongoing operational needs. The funds are intended for enhancing and investing in the City of Rancho Cordova. If your project/program is awarded, the costs identified below would be reviewed and potentially open to modification during a contracting phase (if a grant is awarded by the City Council). If awarded, grant funds are not available until a contract is executed during Fiscal Year 2026-2027.
Total project/program cost*	26000
What is the amount of Community Enhancement & Investment Fund grant monies requested?	19329
Does your project/program involve construction of any facilities or improvements upon any property?	No
What is the total cost of personnel for your project/program?	10100
What is the total cost of supplies for your project/program?	2200
What is the total cost of transportation for your project/program?	1400
What is the total cost of equipment for your project/program?	2100

What is the total cost of any miscellaneous expenses for your project/program?	9229

Upload your project/program's budget as a .pdf file. Include the categories and their dollar amounts along with information about any other funding sources to demonstrate your project/program's total budget. Note, the sum of all categories must match the total project or program cost, or the amount requested of CEIF if there is no other funding source. Please clearly illustrate any matching funds or funding from other sources in your project/program budget, including in-kind sources. Note: Combine multiple files in one pdf before uploading.

RC_Budget-SC.pdf

Has your organization sought or will seek other funding for this project/program?	No, not seeking any other funding support.
Please explain why you are not seeking any other funding support for your project/program.	At this time, we are not seeking additional funding because the requested grant amount is sufficient to support the implementation of the proposed program. Our goal is to assess participant outcomes, evaluate program effectiveness, and gather data that will inform future program expansion in the Rancho Cordova area.
Please describe any ongoing operations and maintenance costs beyond Fiscal Year 2026/2027, if applicable.	N/A
Do you have volunteer or in-kind support for your project? This could include volunteers for an activity/event that is ongoing or a one-time experience.	No
Is this a single year request or a request for funding for multiple years?	Multiple Years
If requesting CEIF grant funding for multiple years, please share how many years?	2

For requests spanning multiple years, share the dollar amount requested per year.	FY 2026-2027, $19,329 FY 2027-2028, $26,000
For projects/programs that span multiple years, please describe your sustainability plan and whether it is viable as a single year request.	The two year funding request will support implementation of the proposed program during the summer months each year . By focusing programming during the summer timeframe resources can be used efficiently while enhancing student participation and overall program impact. During the school year, SAC Connect will focus on outreach, promotion, and student recruitment to ensure strong participation each summer. Additionally, we will explore partnerships with local schools and/or districts to establish a supplemental program and identify opportunities to leverage school funding sources to sustain and potentially expand the program outside of the grant period.
Has your project/program received funding from the Community Enhancement & Investment Fund previously?	No
	3 - Project/Program Details Grant applications are typically approved to occur between July 2026 through June 2027. What is your plan to complete this project/program within this time frame?
Anticipated Start Date (July 1 is the soonest available start date)	7/1/2026
Anticipated End Date (typically projects/programs end by June 30)	9/9/2026

Please describe your project/program schedule	NextGen Summer Workforce Exploration is a 10-week schedule spanning from July 2026-September 2026. The tentative weekly schedule: Week 1: Program Orientation and Professional exploration-Includes team building, growth mindset and goal setting, intro to professionalism and pre-program assessments. Week 2: Guest Presenter: Career Pathways and Workplace Expectations-hiring manager/managers from different industries present on how to prepare for the workforce, provide insight on career pathways, and communication skills. Week 3: Sacramento State Guided College tour. Week 4: Resume Building and Job Application Skills - will include creation of resume, job application practice, and interview preparation. Week 5: Guest Presenter- financial literacy and money management. Will include budgeting basics, understanding check and taxes, banking and saving vs spending. Week 6:UC Davis Guided tour Week 7: Work Place Readiness and Professional Skills- mock interviews/professional headshots, team building activities Week 8: Trade skill exploration-includes trade career overview, myth busters, decade outlook, self-employment and entrepreneurial mindset. Week 9: Guest Presenter- Local Entrepreneur or Small Business Owner - present on steps of starting business, resilience, and real world workforce experiences. Week 10: NextGen Summer Workforce completion celebration. Includes certificate and stipend distribution, post-assessment, and participant reflection. Note: Community outreach to local high schools, alternative schools and charter school will occur before the end of the 2025-2026 academic calendar. Registration will take place prior to first session.
What challenges do you anticipate in your project/program's implementation? What is your plan to complete your project/program should those or other challenges arise?	A challenge the program may encounter includes recruitment or maintaining student participation due to competing responsibilities such as family obligations, travel, and other obligations. To combat this potential challenge we will conduct early outreach and recruitment through local high schools prior to the end of the academic year and maintain consistent contact with participants and families to provide clear program expectations. Additionally we will confirm guest presenter availability and scheduling of school tours in advance. If additional conflicts arise we will have back up presenters available and supplemental homework/tasks or drop in workshops to make up for missed sessions to ensure all program objectives are successfully completed.

How many individuals does your project/program serve?	15
How many Rancho Cordova residents does your project/program serve?	15
	4 - Project/Program Location
Address Verification	If you need to check if your project is in Rancho Cordova, type in your program/project's location in the Assessor Parcel Viewer: https://assessorparcelviewer.saccounty.gov/jsviewer/assessor.html

School and park related applications are due before Noon (12:00 p.m.) on March 6, 2026, to allow for the endorsement process.	Please note that projects or programs that are proposed on property owned or operated by outside agencies or a private party will require coordination with and potentially approvals from outside agencies, organizations, and/or the private party. Include whether you have received a letter of support for the project/program from the property owner. Upload any letters of support with your application. City staff will verify third-party permits have been discussed. In your planning discussions, be sure to discuss any necessary insurance or volunteer requirements that may increase budget costs. School Sites If your project/program is intended to operate at a public K-12 school site, your application is due by March 6 at Noon (12:00 p.m.). City staff will work with the school districts to confirm an endorsement for your project/program. It's the applicant's responsibility to communicate with school site and district representatives before applying so there is clarity during the endorsement process. Districts will only consider endorsement for applications submitted to the Community Enhancement & Investment Fund by the March 6 at Noon (12:00 p.m.). deadline. Each participating school superintendent reserves the right to withhold their endorsement of a project/program. Parks If your project/program is intended to operate at a park or community center site, your application is due by the March 6 at Noon (12:00 p.m.). deadline. City staff will work with the Cordova Recreation & Park District to confirm an endorsement for your project/program. It's the applicant's responsibility to communicate with district representatives before applying so there is clarity during the endorsement process. A special use permit application is required for any program or event planned at a CRPD facility. The special use application can be found at the CRPD website: https://www.cordovarpd.gov/. CRPD will only consider endorsement for applications submitted to the Community Enhancement & Investment Fund by the March 6 at Noon (12:00 p.m.). deadline. The Cordova Recreation & Park District reserves the right to withhold their endorsement of a project/program. Below is the list of staff to communicate with at school and park organizations: Folsom Cordova Unified School District: mwest@fcusd.org Cordova Recreation & Park District: cmichelotti@cordovarpd.gov Elk Grove Unified School District: mgulden@egusd.net Sacramento City Unified School District: Tuan-Duong@scusd.edu for Winn and Carver and Enrique-Flores@scusd.edu for Lincoln.
Primary street address of project/program	2729 Prospect Park Drive
List the city location of the project/program.	Rancho Cordova
Select State	CA
Provide the zip code for your project/program's primary location.	95670

If your project/program takes place at multiple locations, please list other or secondary locations.	The primary hub for the weekly group sessions will take place at the Rancho Cordova City Hall Community Board room. Weeks 3 and 6 will be off site at two designated colleges (California State University of Sacramento and University of California Davis).

Third Party Letters of Support (Note: Combine multiple files in one pdf before uploading)

LOS_NextGen_Workforce.pdf

Does your project/program involve one of Rancho Cordova's school districts?	No
Does your project/program involve the Cordova Recreation & Park District?	No
	5 - Applicant Information
Name	Shanece Duncan
Is this project/program on behalf of an organization?	Yes
What is the name of your organization?	SAC Connect www.thesacconnect.org
What is your title and/or role at your organization?	Licensed Clinical Social Worker and Co-Owner
Provide contact phone number:	[redacted]
Provide contact email:	[redacted]
Are you the primary point of contact on this project/program?	No

What is the name of this project or program's primary contact if not the person submitting this application?	Chenee Robinson
What is the email of the primary contact?	[redacted]
If your project/program was awarded the requested funds, are you authorized to sign the contract for your organization?	Yes, I would be the one to sign the contract
By checking here, I confirm that I am aware that my application materials will become public record.	checked
	Thank you for applying to the Community Enhancement & Investment Fund Fiscal Year 2026-2027 Grant Cycle. Applicants will receive an automated response through the grant portal. Community Enhancement & Investment Fund (CEIF) Staff will follow up with any questions regarding your Fiscal Year 2026-2027 application. For information about the next steps in the CEIF grant process, visit our website for more information. It is anticipated that applications will be reviewed by the City Council starting in April 2026 with adoption in June 2026. Should applicants be awarded by the City Council, funding would not be available to grantees until the start of Fiscal Year 2026-2027 and the completion of a contract. Please send an email to CEIFGrants@cityofranchocordova.org with any questions or comments.

Internal Form

Score	n/a

ATTACHMENT 4

Organization	**SAC Connect**
Project Title:	**NextGen Summer Workforce Exploration**
Project Period:	**July 2026-September 2026**
Project Director Name/Title:	**Chenee Robinson, LCSW/Co-Founder**
Preparer Name/Title:	**Shanece Okoro Duncan, LCSW/Co-Founder**
Phone:	[redacted]
	www.thesacconnect.org

A. Project Staff Salary and Benefits

Name	Title	Hourly Rate	# of Hours	Total	Budget Justification:
TBD	Program Supervisor	$35	100.00	$ 3,500	0.25 FTE- Allocated 10 hours per week for 10 weeks, the program supervisor is responsible for creating weekly group agenda and material, training, overseeing and supporting oureach and failitators
TBD	Outreach Specialist	$30	100.00	$ 3,000	0.25 FTE- Allocated 10 hours per week for 10 weeks, the oureach specialist will support participant attendance, address participant barriers to engagement, collaborate with participants for best outcomes and support facilitators during weekly sessions.
TBD	Facilitator	$25	50.00	$ 1,250	0.125 FTE- Allocated 5 hours per week for 10 weeks the group facilitator is included in the group session planning, set up and monitoring. The Facilitators support the participants through the lessons.
TBD	Facilitator	$25	50.00	$ 1,250	0.125 FTE- Allocated 5 hours per week for 10 weeks the group facilitator is included in the group session planning, set up and monitoring. The Facilitators support the participants through the lessons.
TBD	Peer Mentor	$22	50.00	$ 1,100	0.125 FTE-Allocated 5 hours per week for 10 weeks, the peer mentor is a student leaders of similar demographics and relateability that assist in encourages and supports participants through weekly sessions.
				$ -	
				$ -	
				$ -	
			Subtotal Staff	$ 10,100	

B. Expenses and Other Direct Costs

Item	Description/Justification	Total
Youth Stipend	15 particpants will receive a $500 stipends for the completion of the programs.	$ 7,500
Guest Presenter	3 presenters for weeks 2, 5, 9 will received a $200 stipend for service.	$ 600
College Tours lunches	Participants who attend the 2 college tours (weeks 3 and 6) will be provided a lunch. $2	$ 375
Participant T-Shirt	Participant program t-shirt (quantiy 20) via zazzle.com	$ 354
Facility rental	City Hall -Community Board room (quote attached)	$ 400
	Subtotal Expenses	$ 9,229
	TOTAL BUDGET REQUEST	$ 19,329

	Community Board Room Hourly Rate	Hours Requested	Per Date Cost
7/9/2026	$20	2.5	$50
7/16/2026	$20	2.5	$50
7/30/2026	$20	2.5	$50
8/96/2026	$20	2.5	$50
8/13/2026	$20	2.5	$50
8/27/2026	$20	2.5	$50
9/3/2026	$20	2.5	$50
9/10/2026	$20	2.5	$50
	Total for Program		**$400**

Shanece Duncan — 3/1/2026
Preparer — Date

Sacramento City Unified School District

YOUTH DEVELOPMENT SUPPORT SERVICES
YOUTH ENGAGEMENT SERVICES
ANDREA NAVA, YOUTH DEVELOPMENT SPECIALIST II
5735 47TH AVENUE, SACRAMENTO, CA 95824
(916) 643-7932 FAX (916) 643-7974
Manpreet Kaur, Director III

BOARD OF EDUCATION

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Jasjit Singh
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Trustee Area 1

Christina Pritchett
Trustee Area 3

Jamee Villa
Trustee Area 4

Taylor Kayatta
Trustee Area 6

Liam McGurk
Student Board Member

To Whom It May Concern,

I, Andrea Nava, write this letter in reference to one of our community based supplemental provider organizations, SAC Connect. As a Specialist II of Youth Development Support Services (YDSS) through the Sacramento City Unified School District's (SCUSD) Youth Development's Expanded Learning Programs, I have collaborated with SAC Connect since the beginning of this school year, 2022-23. SAC Connect currently serves three school sites here in SCUSD in the expanded learning space. Two sites are middle schools, Rosa Parks and Sam Brannan and the third site is American Legion our district's continuation school. Through SAC Connect's collaboration with us we have been able to provide programming and services to increase access to mental health opportunities and education to students considered disproportionally high needs within SCUSD.

As a community partner, SAC Connect has been professional in their interactions and communications with site coordinators, administration and staff. SAC Connect and staff have built a positive and supportive educational program. They implement, initiate and facilitate programming that is fun, culturally relevant to our student population that has allowed students to learn how to express themselves and communicate while practice listening skills and receiving messages from peers and staff. The students in program receive social and emotional psychoeducational supports and education and gain skills in areas around coping, identity development, social awareness, and any additional needs presented by the class. Programming focuses on mental health and wellness, mentoring and cultural identity and relevance. The staff is made up of mental health professionals such as Licensed Clinical Social Workers and Associate Social Workers that are gaining supervision and professional development in becoming licensed. At American Legion in particular, this organization has been able to build relationships with students that has encouraged students of all types of personalities and needs to join one program and stay afterschool. It is clear that SAC Connect is committed to the community they serve, especially youth that have high needs.

In SAC Connect's service and collaboration with SCUSD and the YDSS department, they have shown to be very dedicated to the students and staff they work with, one site coordinator stated, "The excitement of each student to be a part of their weekly activities is unmatched. The students love attending sessions with this provider. We need more providers like this for our youth." It is without reservation that I submit this letter in support of SAC Connect. I am happy to answer any questions you may have.

Sincerely,

Andrea Nava
Youth Development Support Services Specialist II
Sacramento City Unified School District
[redacted]

Child, Family and Adult Services
Michelle Callejas, Acting Director

Divisions
Child Protective Services
Senior and Adult Services
Department Administration

County of Sacramento

March 12, 2026

It is my pleasure to provide this letter in strong support of the SAC Connect proposal, NextGen Summer Workforce Exploration program as part of the Community Enhancement & Investment Fund Grant Application.

I have known Co-Founder and Licensed Clinical Social Worker, Shanece Okoro Duncan, from 2015 to present in her role as a Mental Health Program Coordinator (Master Level/Licensed) with the County of Sacramento. Throughout the years, Shanece has consistently demonstrated a deep commitment to supporting families, safety, social equality, and harm reduction. Her dedication to services extends beyond her professional role, as she continues to give back to the community through SAC Connect by providing mental health outreach, hosting free monthly wellness events, and job readiness and wellness groups for youth and young adults, and offering professional consults regarding youth and family community resources.

I currently serve on the SAC Connect Board of Directors the Co-Chair of Human Resources, where I oversee continuing education and training initiatives. In this role, I have seen firsthand the organization's commitment to its mission of educating the public about mental health disparities while promoting essential life skills such as job readiness, encouraging the public to seek support, and enhancing overall wellness, self-care, and active, healthy communities to support mental well-being.

I strongly believe this proposed NextGen Summer Workforce Exploration Program will provide opportunities for youth and young adults in disproportionately impacted communities. This program will expand access to career exploration, postsecondary education pathways, job readiness training, and wellness education. Additionally, it will promote self-sufficiency, career development, workforce training, and peer-to-peer support resources that are critically important for empowering young people and strengthening the community.

Thank you for considering this proposal. Should you have any questions, please feel free to contact me by phone or email

Kind regards,

Ashley McGuinness
[redacted]

NEXTGEN SUMMER WORKFORCE EXPLORATION PROGRAM

Curriculum Guide

Prepared For
SAC Connect Youth Workforce Development Participants

Program Description

The NextGen Summer Workforce Exploration Program is a 10-week career exploration and workforce readiness initiative designed to prepare youth for future employment opportunities. Through career pathway exploration, college exposure, financial literacy education, and professional skill development, participants gain valuable insight into workforce expectations and postsecondary opportunities.

The program provides hands-on learning experiences including guest speakers from various industries, guided college tours, resume and interview preparation, financial literacy training, and exposure to trade and entrepreneurial career pathways.

Participants will complete the program with strengthened professional skills, increased confidence, and a clearer understanding of education and career options available to them.

Prepared By

Shanece Okoro, MSW, LCSW

Chenee Robinson, MSW, LCSW

Sacramento Region, California

(updated 2026)

NextGen Summer Workforce Exploration Program

Curriculum Guide

Program Duration: 10 Weeks
Program Type: Youth Workforce Exploration and Career Readiness Program

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Program Overview

The **NextGen Summer Workforce Exploration Program** is a 10-week career exploration and workforce readiness initiative designed to introduce participants to career pathways, post-secondary education options, and professional development skills necessary for future employment success.

The program combines **career exploration, guest speakers, college exposure, financial literacy education, and professional skill development**. Participants will gain practical knowledge of workplace expectations while building essential tools such as resumes, interview skills, and professional communication strategies.

The program culminates with a **completion celebration recognizing participant achievements and growth**.

Program Goals

The goals of the NextGen Summer Workforce Exploration Program are to:

- Introduce youth to a variety of **career pathways and workforce opportunities**
- Develop **professional skills and workplace readiness**
- Increase awareness of **postsecondary education options**
- Strengthen **financial literacy and personal responsibility**
- Build **confidence, teamwork, and communication skills**
- Support participants in identifying **personal career and education goals**

Target Audience

The program is designed for **high school students and youth participants** interested in exploring career pathways, higher education opportunities, and workforce readiness skills.

Participants may be recruited from:

- Local high schools
- Alternative education programs
- Charter schools
- Community youth organizations
- Foster Agencies

Recruitment and Registration

Outreach methods may include:

- School presentations
- Counselor's referrals
- Community partner collaboration
- Social media announcements
- Flyers and informational sessions

Interested participants must complete **program registration prior to the first program session**.

Weekly Curriculum Schedule

Week 1: Program Orientation and Professional Exploration

Focus: Introduction to the program and personal development.

Topics Covered

- Program overview and expectations
- Icebreaker activities and team building
- Growth mindset and goal setting
- Introduction to professionalism
- Pre-program assessments

Learning Objectives

Participants will:

- Understand program structure and expectations
- Begin building relationships with peers
- Identify personal goals for the program
- Complete baseline assessments

Activities

- Team building exercises
- Goal-setting workshop
- Professional behavior discussion
- Pre-program survey and reflection

Week 2: Guest Presenter – Career Pathways and Workplace Expectations

Focus: Understanding real-world workplace expectations.

Topics Covered

- Career pathways across industries
- Workplace expectations and employer perspective
- Professional communication skills
- Preparing for the workforce

Learning Objectives

Participants will:

- Gain exposure to multiple career options
- Learn employer expectations
- Understand the importance of communication and professionalism

Activities

- Guest speaker presentations from hiring managers
- Q&A session with industry professionals
- Career pathway discussion

Week 3: Sacramento State Guided College Tour

Focus: Postsecondary education exposure.

Participants will visit **California State University, Sacramento (Sacramento State)** to explore campus life and educational opportunities.

Learning Objectives

Participants will:

- Learn about college pathways and degree programs
- Explore campus facilities and resources
- Gain insight into college admission and student life

Activities

- Guided campus tour
- Admissions overview
- Student services presentation
- Reflection discussion

Week 4: Resume Building and Job Application Skills

Focus: Preparing participants for the job application process.

Topics Covered

- Resume creation
- Completing job applications
- Interview preparation
- Professional presentation

Learning Objectives

Participants will:

- Create their first professional resume
- Understand how to complete job applications

- Practice interview techniques

Activities

- Resume workshop
- Job application simulations
- Mock interview practice

Week 5: Guest Presenter – Financial Literacy and Money Management

Focus: Building financial awareness and responsibility.

Topics Covered

- Budgeting basics
- Understanding paychecks and taxes
- Banking and financial accounts
- Saving versus spending

Learning Objectives

Participants will:

- Learn basic financial literacy concepts
- Understand how income and taxes work
- Practice building a simple budget

Activities

- Financial literacy presentation
- Budgeting exercise

- Interactive financial scenarios

Week 6: UC Davis Guided College Tour

Focus: Exposure to university opportunities and campus life.

Participants will visit **University of California, Davis** to explore academic programs and student resources.

Learning Objectives

Participants will:

- Explore higher education opportunities
- Understand differences between universities and colleges
- Gain motivation for future educational goals

Activities

- Guided campus tour
- Program overview session
- Group reflection discussion

Week 7: Workplace Readiness and Professional Skills

Focus: Strengthening job readiness and professional presentation.

Topics Covered

- Professional communication
- Workplace etiquette
- Interview skills

- Personal branding

Learning Objectives

Participants will:

- Practice interviewing with feedback
- Improve professional confidence
- Understand workplace behavior expectations

Activities

- Mock interviews
- Professional headshot photos
- Team building challenges

Week 8: Trade Skill Exploration

Focus: Introducing skilled trades and alternative career pathways.

Topics Covered

- Overview of trade careers
- Trade industry myths and facts
- Job outlook and workforce demand
- Self-employment and entrepreneurship opportunities

Learning Objectives

Participants will:

- Understand the value of skilled trades
- Explore alternatives to traditional four-year college pathways

- Learn about entrepreneurship opportunities

Activities

- Trade career presentations
- Industry outlook discussion
- Entrepreneurial mindset activities

Week 9: Guest Presenter – Local Entrepreneur or Small Business Owner

Focus: Entrepreneurship and real-world workforce experiences.

Topics Covered

- Starting a business
- Overcoming challenges
- Building resilience
- Lessons learned in the workforce

Learning Objectives

Participants will:

- Learn steps to starting a business
- Understand entrepreneurial thinking
- Gain inspiration from local business leaders

Activities

- Guest entrepreneur presentation
- Q&A discussion
- Small business brainstorming activity

Week 10: Program Completion Celebration

Focus: Reflection, recognition, and program closure.

Activities Include

- Post-program assessments
- Participant reflection activities
- Certificate distribution
- Stipend distribution
- Celebration and recognition of participant achievements

Learning Outcomes

Participants will:

- Reflect on personal growth
- Identify next steps in career and education goals
- Celebrate successful completion of the program

Program Evaluation

Evaluation will occur through:

- Pre-program assessments
- Post-program assessments
- Participant reflections
- Program feedback surveys

These tools will help measure program effectiveness and participant growth.

Program Completion

Participants who complete the program will receive:

- **Certificate of Completion**
- **Program Stipend**
- Professional headshot
- Resume and career readiness resources

Program Outcomes and Metrics

The NextGen Summer Workforce Exploration Program measures success through a combination of **skill development, participant engagement, knowledge acquisition, and career awareness outcomes**. Evaluation tools will include pre- and post-program assessments, participant surveys, facilitator observations, and activity completion records.

Program metrics will help determine the program's effectiveness in preparing youth for future education and workforce opportunities.

Outcome 1: Increased Career Awareness

Objective:
Participants will gain knowledge of multiple career pathways including traditional college careers, skilled trades, and entrepreneurship.

Metrics

- At least **85% of participants** will report increased awareness of career pathways in post-program surveys.
- Participants will be introduced to **at least 5 career sectors** through guest speakers and workshops.

- **100% of participants** will attend at least one career-focused guest presentation.

Measurement Tools

- Pre-program career awareness survey
- Post-program career awareness survey
- Participant reflection forms

Outcome 2: Development of Workforce Readiness Skills

Objective:
Participants will develop foundational workplace readiness skills including professionalism, communication, teamwork, and interview preparation.

Metrics

- **90% of participants** will complete resume development activities.
- **100% of participants** will participate in mock interview exercises.
- **80% of participants** will demonstrate improvement in professional communication and workplace readiness skills based on facilitator evaluation.

Measurement Tools

- Resume completion records
- Mock interview evaluation forms
- Facilitator observation checklist

Outcome 3: Increased Postsecondary Education Awareness

Objective:
Participants will gain exposure to higher education opportunities and understand pathways to college and university programs.

Metrics

- **100% of participants** will attend two guided college tours.
- **80% of participants** will report increased interest in pursuing postsecondary education.
- Participants will demonstrate improved understanding of college programs and campus resources in post-program surveys.

Measurement Tools

- College tour participation records
- Post-tour reflection activities
- Post-program surveys

Outcome 4: Improved Financial Literacy Knowledge

Objective:
Participants will develop foundational financial literacy skills including budgeting, banking, and understanding paychecks and taxes.

Metrics

- **85% of participants** will demonstrate improved understanding of financial literacy concepts in post-program assessments.
- Participants will complete at least **one budgeting exercise** during the financial literacy workshop.
- **100% of participants** will attend the financial literacy guest presentation.

Measurement Tools

- Financial literacy workshop activities
- Pre- and post-knowledge assessments
- Participant feedback surveys

Outcome 5: Increased Confidence and Professional Identity

Objective:
Participants will develop confidence in their professional identity and ability to pursue future education or career opportunities.

Metrics

- **90% of participants** will complete a professional resume.
- **100% of participants** will receive a professional headshot.
- **85% of participants** will report increased confidence in job searching or career planning.

Measurement Tools

- Resume completion records
- Participant reflection journals
- End-of-program surveys

Outcome 6: Program Completion and Engagement

Objective:
Participants will remain actively engaged throughout the program and successfully complete program requirements.

Metrics

- **80–90% participant retention rate** throughout the 10-week program.
- **100% of completing participants** will receive a Certificate of Completion.
- **100% of participants** will complete post-program assessments and reflections.

Measurement Tools

- Attendance tracking

- Program completion records
- Final participant reflections

Data Collection and Evaluation

Data will be collected through the following methods:

- Pre- and post-program assessments
- Attendance tracking
- Participant feedback surveys
- Facilitator observations
- Workshop participation records

Evaluation results will be used to:

- Measure program effectiveness
- Improve future program implementation
- Demonstrate impact to community partners and funders

Title

Utsav 2026 Rancho Cordova Youth Career Expo

03/10/2026

id. 53451721

by **Sangita Biswas** in **Fiscal Year 2026-2027 Community Enhancement & Investment Fund Grant Application**

[redacted]
Folsom, California
95603
United States
[redacted]

Original Submission

03/10/2026

Score n/a

	Thank you for your interest in applying to the City of Rancho Cordova's Community Enhancement & Investment Fund. Applications are open from February 9, 2026, to March 13, 2026, Noon (12:00 p.m.) with a specific deadline of March 6th Noon (12:00 p.m.) for certain applications**. Before you begin, please read the notes about deadlines and certain types of grant applications/grants below. **School/Park Application Deadline **Note that projects or programs involving a park or school district have a deadline of March 6 Noon (12:00 p.m.) to allow for the third-party endorsement process by the grant deadline.** A Note about Religious Schools and the Application/Grant Process **Note for grant applications from religious schools. The United States Supreme Court has recently ruled in part that: “denying a generally available benefit [from government] solely on account of religious identity imposes a penalty on the free exercise of religion that can be justified only by a state interest of the highest order.” The City is of the opinion that not all grants to religious schools are prohibited under this and other similar rulings. However, these United States Supreme Court decisions remain in conflict with a section of the California State Constitution that says: “[n]either the Legislature, nor any county, city and county, township, school district, or other municipal corporation, shall ever make an appropriation, or pay from any public fund whatever, or grant anything to or in aid of any religious sect, church, creed, or sectarian purpose, or help to support or sustain any school, college, university, hospital, or other institution controlled by any religious creed, church, or sectarian denomination whatever; nor shall any grant or donation of personal property or real estate ever be made by the state, or any city, city and county, town, or other municipal corporation for any religious creed, church, or sectarian purpose whatever”. The City will accept applications for grants of these City public funds from religious schools, but will have language in the grant agreements to address the possibility and consequences of legal challenges and new court decisions on this and related topics. ** Future Grant Opportunities If you are interested in remaining up-to-date on available grants from the City of Rancho Cordova, click here to sign up for the Grants Interest List. A separate call for programming opportunities with the Rancho Cordova Youth Center is anticipated later in 2026. The list is also used to advertise separate art programs when funds are available. Ongoing Grant Opportunity The City of Rancho Cordova offers a microgrant opportunity. Learn more about those grants online.
Is this your first time applying for grant funding from the City of Rancho Cordova? As a first-time applicant, Community Enhancement & Investment Fund (CEIF) staff will contact you to discuss your project and grant application process.	No: Not a First Time Applicant

	1 - Project/Program Information Note: You can add a collaborator to this form to assist you in completing this application! A collaborator can help you complete this form by filling in fields for you, although only you can submit this form. You can add a collaborator by navigating to the top of the form and clicking on the 'Manage Collaborators' button. Simply enter their email address and click 'invite' to invite them as a collaborator. If you need further assistance, you may consult this Help article for more information.
Project/Program Name. Assign a project name to your project/program.	Utsav 2026 Rancho Cordova Youth Career Expo
Which category does your Project/Program align with?	Youth Programs & Services
Provide a Project/Program Synopsis	We had successfully organized a youth career expo in 2023, funded by the Rancho Cordova Community Enhancement grant. We plan to organize a 2026, youth career expo. Our goal is to accelerate educational progress in the youths by enhancement of community support, and making career choice resources accessible & free.
Provide a Project/Program Description	We already have the basic infrastructure in place for the project. **Step 1:**The Utsav Youth board members (7 members) along with their team of adult and youth volunteers will meet to discuss and plan the event in early April. The event will be held in August 2026. **Step 2**: We will quickly identify and contact different adult Utsav members from each profession and take a vote on their availability on two or three different dates in August. Then a date will be set, and a hall will be booked in Rancho Cordova (with a capacity of up to 300). **Step 3**: Each professional (for example nurses, doctors, small business owners, or AI experts, engineers, artists, and musicians) will be assigned a table at the venue and 1-2 youth volunteers will assist him/her. They will have 2 months to prepare flyers and educational material which will be in the form of hard copies as well as in electronic media that can be distributed. They will prepare PowerPoint presentations for the layman public in an easily understandable format. All the flyers will have instructions for registering for this FREE public event. **Step 4:**Publicize our event through: 1. Sending flyers to all the middle and high schools in Rancho Cordova 2. Facebook 3. Instagram, 4. Sending it to the parent's group in each school. 5. Putting up flyers in local grocery stores. 6. Publicizing through the Rancho Cordova chat group, and Orangevale chat group on Facebook. 7. We will distribute it to our members through email (we have 200 email addresses in our member database).

8. Provide an electronic link, and different options to register for the event.

Step 5: On the day of the event, different booths will be set up at the venue.

1. Each booth will be showcasing a different profession. Adult professionals will have PowerPoints for layman public and students, answer their questions, and hand out resource materials that are needed at the school level to pursue that career.
2. Women in Science booth': there will be a special booth to encourage 'female students to choose a STEM career.
3. Peer tutoring booth': One booth will have volunteer students who will offer peer tutoring opportunities, specifically English language tutoring, science, and math tutoring
4. 'Meet the counselor booth': There will be a booth with 2 College admission counselors who will answer questions (we have contacted 2 counselors already).
5. We will give each registrant a pencil and paper to fill out the forms and questionnaires asking for feedback. Once they attend a booth they will get a stamp after they get all the stamps from the different booths, they will get a free snack and a chance to win 10 door prizes (small gifts not more than 10).
6. Prepare a report detailing the event, specifically, the level of attendance, community feedback, and areas of improvement. We will read the questionnaires and feedback forms and discuss the outcomes.

Community involvement:

1. We expect that we will have 300-400 attendees in a one-day event (3-4 hours) by holding it in the community or city hall in Rancho Cordova. Residents may come and go as they like. The event will be free and open to the public. Over 4-5 years hundreds of students will be benefited.
2. The populations which will be directly affected are middle school students, high school students, young graduates, or undergraduates. These events are not usually available to younger Rancho Cordova residents and if at all, they usually charge high registration fees to attend.
3. Our special 'Women in Science' booth expects to motivate many female students as well.
4. Children from disadvantaged backgrounds will also benefit the most as they normally do not have access to these free resources through school or the community.
5. Many youths in Rancho Cordova do not have access to shadowing big companies or shadowing physicians or other offices. Therefore they are not exposed to potential career opportunities. Thus this project will provide a community learning hub that provides individuals and students with access to technology, and academic support, and connects them to free tutors, and mentors.
6. Students looking for free tutoring will be benefited. our volunteers will establish contact to offer free tutoring and homework help to students

of RC. Our volunteers are academic students.

Monitoring Progress: The initial 2023 seed grant has helped us identify community needs. After the first event, we have

1. Looked at the attendance and feedback from individuals.
2. In 2026, we will give attendees a questionnaire asking how we can make it more effective .
3. We will hold follow-up meetings with youth tutors.

Tell us about your Project/Program Team	Youth Team: The Utsav Youth board members (7 members) along with their team of adult and youth volunteers (10 members) (please see our organization's website https://www.utsavsac.org). Adult Team: We already have adult members from each profession. Each professional (nurses, doctors, small business owners, or AI experts, engineers, artists) will be assigned a booth and youth volunteers will assist them. They will have 2 months to prepare educational material in the form of hard copies and electronic media that can be distributed. They will prepare presentations for the layman public. Flyers will have QR codes to registering for FREE.

Provide your Project/Program Goals

Response:

Overall Goal: Our 2026 goal is to accelerate educational progress in Rancho Cordova youths by implementing and enhancement of community support, and making educational and career choice resources accessible to them for free. Our 25 year-old organization consists of around 200 volunteer members who are successful business owners, real estate agents, physicians, scientists, financial consultants, nurses, AI and IT professionals, as well as owners of small businesses such as catering, garments, secretarial support, etc. A large portion of our members live in the city of Rancho Cordova (RC). They are ready to volunteer their time for this project. We are also proud to have a 45 member Youth Empowerment Wing (please visit the youth volunteer section of our website https://www.utsavsac.org).

We had successfully organized a youth career expo in October 2023, funded by the Rancho Cordova City Enhancement grant of $5000. We are planning to organize another carrier expo as demanded by our youth as the 2023 program was a huge success.

Specific goal 1: Encourage the students to think about a STEM career (Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics) as well as in Arts(music, dance, theater etc). This can be achieved by bringing various professionals to showcase their profession under one roof. Our local educators, entrepreneurs, professionals, and artists will be telling what their career is all about to the students in layman's language and using digital media.

Specific goal 2: Provide an opportunity for the youth to interact with professionals directly (which they miss specially in under funded schools). This will allow the youth/students to learn about a variety of possible career choices, ask questions, and get access to the resources to pursue that career option.

Specific goal 3: Improve students' college eligibility. To establish a network by connecting students to peer mentors or adult mentors within the community for getting free tutoring and help to drive them towards a STEM career. Our members are the free human resources available in our community by which students can get academic support outside of school.

Specific goal 4: Encourage female students to choose a STEM career. Rancho Cordova is a vibrant multi-ethnic population, and often girls do not get the same resources as boys.

Optional File Upload: Provide any additional records to supplement your program/project application. Note: Combine multiple files in one pdf before uploading.

IMG_9701.jpeg

IMG_5069.jpeg

IMG_5070.jpeg

IMG_5079.jpeg

IMG_5074.jpeg

	2 - Funding & Costs
Funding Request - Complete this section with total dollar amounts for your project/program's costs	Funds are generally not intended to be used for deferred maintenance and ongoing operational needs. The funds are intended for enhancing and investing in the City of Rancho Cordova. If your project/program is awarded, the costs identified below would be reviewed and potentially open to modification during a contracting phase (if a grant is awarded by the City Council). If awarded, grant funds are not available until a contract is executed during Fiscal Year 2026-2027.
Total project/program cost*	5000
What is the amount of Community Enhancement & Investment Fund grant monies requested?	5000
Does your project/program involve construction of any facilities or improvements upon any property?	No
What is the total cost of personnel for your project/program?	0
What is the total cost of supplies for your project/program?	2200
What is the total cost of transportation for your project/program?	0
What is the total cost of equipment for your project/program?	2000
What is the total cost of any miscellaneous expenses for your project/program?	800

Upload your project/program's budget as a .pdf file. Include the categories and their dollar amounts along with information about any other funding sources to demonstrate your project/program's total budget. Note, the sum of all categories must match the total project or program cost, or the amount requested of CEIF if there is no other funding source. Please clearly illustrate any matching funds or funding from other sources in your project/program budget, including in-kind sources. Note: Combine multiple files in one pdf before uploading.

2026_RC_grant_PDF_of_budget.pdf

Has your organization sought or will seek other funding for this project/program?	No, not seeking any other funding support.
Please explain why you are not seeking any other funding support for your project/program.	We have not been very successful in getting corporate funding for this type of projects.
Please describe any ongoing operations and maintenance costs beyond Fiscal Year 2026/2027, if applicable.	Not applicable.
Do you have volunteer or in-kind support for your project? This could include volunteers for an activity/event that is ongoing or a one-time experience.	No
Is this a single year request or a request for funding for multiple years?	Single Year
Has your project/program received funding from the Community Enhancement & Investment Fund previously?	Yes

How many years has your project/program received funding from the Community Enhancement & Investment Fund?	1
How much funding has your organization received from the Community Enhancement & Investment Fund through our traditional grants (not including microgrants)?	5000
	3 - Project/Program Details Grant applications are typically approved to occur between July 2026 through June 2027. What is your plan to complete this project/program within this time frame?
Anticipated Start Date (July 1 is the soonest available start date)	7/1/2026
Anticipated End Date (typically projects/programs end by June 30)	9/30/2026
Please describe your project/program schedule	April: Planning meeting to discuss the events. Recruit volunteers. May: planning the details of the event by scheduling meetings and recruit the volunteers. Contact various professionals to check availability. June: contact various professionals, community members and send invites. Make a list of professionals who have committed. Provide instructions for material developement. July: print flyers and start advertising. Print educational materials. Procure science models. August : Event planning In detai. Organize the event.

What challenges do you anticipate in your project/program's implementation? What is your plan to complete your project/program should those or other challenges arise?	We do not anticipate significant challenges. However the potential challenges posable include: 1) A no show by a professional : we will have a back up but it may be a challenge with a short notification time. 2) AV equipment failure: we will have enough printed materials on site to manage. 3) we may run out of printed educational resources: we will have digital copies which can be emailed to participants.
How many individuals does your project/program serve?	300-400
How many Rancho Cordova residents does your project/program serve?	200-300
	4 - Project/Program Location
Address Verification	If you need to check if your project is in Rancho Cordova, type in your program/project's location in the Assessor Parcel Viewer: https://assessorparcelviewer.saccounty.gov/jsviewer/assessor.html

School and park related applications are due before Noon (12:00 p.m.) on March 6, 2026, to allow for the endorsement process.	Please note that projects or programs that are proposed on property owned or operated by outside agencies or a private party will require coordination with and potentially approvals from outside agencies, organizations, and/or the private party. Include whether you have received a letter of support for the project/program from the property owner. Upload any letters of support with your application. City staff will verify third-party permits have been discussed. In your planning discussions, be sure to discuss any necessary insurance or volunteer requirements that may increase budget costs. School Sites If your project/program is intended to operate at a public K-12 school site, your application is due by March 6 at Noon (12:00 p.m.). City staff will work with the school districts to confirm an endorsement for your project/program. It's the applicant's responsibility to communicate with school site and district representatives before applying so there is clarity during the endorsement process. Districts will only consider endorsement for applications submitted to the Community Enhancement & Investment Fund by the March 6 at Noon (12:00 p.m.). deadline. Each participating school superintendent reserves the right to withhold their endorsement of a project/program. Parks If your project/program is intended to operate at a park or community center site, your application is due by the March 6 at Noon (12:00 p.m.). deadline. City staff will work with the Cordova Recreation & Park District to confirm an endorsement for your project/program. It's the applicant's responsibility to communicate with district representatives before applying so there is clarity during the endorsement process. A special use permit application is required for any program or event planned at a CRPD facility. The special use application can be found at the CRPD website: https://www.cordovarpd.gov/. CRPD will only consider endorsement for applications submitted to the Community Enhancement & Investment Fund by the March 6 at Noon (12:00 p.m.). deadline. The Cordova Recreation & Park District reserves the right to withhold their endorsement of a project/program. Below is the list of staff to communicate with at school and park organizations: Folsom Cordova Unified School District: mwest@fcusd.org Cordova Recreation & Park District: cmichelotti@cordovarpd.gov Elk Grove Unified School District: mgulden@egusd.net Sacramento City Unified School District: Tuan-Duong@scusd.edu for Winn and Carver and Enrique-Flores@scusd.edu for Lincoln.
Primary street address of project/program	We plan to hold it at the Hagan community center
List the city location of the project/program.	Rancho Cordova
Select State	CA
Provide the zip code for your project/program's primary location.	95670

If your project/program takes place at multiple locations, please list other or secondary locations.	Rancho Cordova
Third Party Letters of Support (Note: Combine multiple files in one pdf before uploading)	
Does your project/program involve one of Rancho Cordova's school districts?	No
Does your project/program involve the Cordova Recreation & Park District?	No
	5 - Applicant Information
Name	Sangita Biswas
Is this project/program on behalf of an organization?	Yes
What is the name of your organization?	Utsav Inc
What is your title and/or role at your organization?	Board Member (Community Council CCM)
Provide contact phone number:	+[redacted]
Provide contact email:	[redacted]
Are you the primary point of contact on this project/program?	Yes

If your project/program was awarded the requested funds, are you authorized to sign the contract for your organization?	Yes, I would be the one to sign the contract
By checking here, I confirm that I am aware that my application materials will become public record.	checked
	Thank you for applying to the Community Enhancement & Investment Fund Fiscal Year 2026-2027 Grant Cycle. Applicants will receive an automated response through the grant portal. Community Enhancement & Investment Fund (CEIF) Staff will follow up with any questions regarding your Fiscal Year 2026-2027 application. For information about the next steps in the CEIF grant process, visit our website for more information. It is anticipated that applications will be reviewed by the City Council starting in April 2026 with adoption in June 2026. Should applicants be awarded by the City Council, funding would not be available to grantees until the start of Fiscal Year 2026-2027 and the completion of a contract. Please send an email to CEIFGrants@cityofranchocordova.org with any questions or comments.

Internal Form

Score	n/a

Specific Cost Item	Where Funds Come From	One-time Expense or Ongoing	Amount
Renting of a community center in Rancho Cordova	grant	One time	700
Flyer printing	grant	One time	400
Stationary, pen, pencils	grant	One time	200
Snacks, water bottle	grant	Ongoing	200
Educational resources material development	grant	One time	600
Computer printer ink cartridge, paper	grant	One time	400
Student science models	grant	One time	2000
Insurance for venue rental	grant	One time	200
Folder containing all the printed take-home educational resource material	grant	One time	600

UTSAV YOUTH VOLUNTEER EVENT

FUNDED BY
CITY OF
COMMUNITY ENHANCEMENT & INVESTMENT FUND
RANCHO CORDOVA

YOUTH CAREER EXPO

- This educational expo is for the youth who are in grade 7-12 in schools
- Meet scientists from UC Davis
- Meet engineers, doctors, biologists, writers
- Meet musicians
- Meet teachers
- Get one-on-one advice on career choices, volunteering, & summer internships
- Get educational resource materials & tutoring Help

CAREER IN TEACHING
CAREER IN MUSIC
CAREER IN SCIENCE
CAREER IN AUTOMATION
WOMEN IN SCIENCE

BECOME YOUR DREAM

FREE EVENT

OCTOBER 15, 1-2:30 PM (GENERAL) , 3-6 PM (CAREER IN MUSIC)
HAGAN COMMUNITY CENTER, 2197 CHASE DRIVE RANCHO CORDOVA

REGISTER AT
HTTPS://FORMS.GLE/U1H6RVW6HNZEJUQW8
OR JUST DROP BY

http://utsavsac.org

SONITROL
VERIFIED ELECTRONIC SECURITY
1:40
28
76
10-15 SUN 45
UTSAV YOUTH
LUNTEERS
Non-Profit Organization Reg# 01-0610778
w.utsavsac.org/
GIRLS IN
STEM
STATISTICIAN
AUTOMATION

YOUTH
CAREER EXPO
Oct -15
AGRICULTURAL
ENGINEERING

UTSAV

UTSAV YOUTH VOLUNTEERS

A 501(c)(3) Non-Profit Organization: Regd # 02-0620518

https://www.utsavsac.org/

YOUTH
CAREER EXPO
Oct -15

OUTH
CAREER EXPO
Oct-15
THE
BOOK
WAS
BETTER

Title

Pathways to Potential Mentoring Program

03/13/2026

id. 53479363

by **Jacob Peterson** in **Fiscal Year 2026-2027 Community Enhancement & Investment Fund Grant Application**

1750 Howe Ave
Ste 250
Sacramento, California
92825
United States
[redacted]
grants@bbbs-sac.org

Original Submission

03/13/2026

Score n/a

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Is this your first time applying for grant funding from the City of Rancho Cordova? As a first-time applicant, Community Enhancement & Investment Fund (CEIF) staff will contact you to discuss your project and grant application process.	No: Not a First Time Applicant

	1 - Project/Program Information Note: You can add a collaborator to this form to assist you in completing this application! A collaborator can help you complete this form by filling in fields for you, although only you can submit this form. You can add a collaborator by navigating to the top of the form and clicking on the 'Manage Collaborators' button. Simply enter their email address and click 'invite' to invite them as a collaborator. If you need further assistance, you may consult this Help article for more information.
Project/Program Name. Assign a project name to your project/program.	Pathways to Potential Mentoring Program
Which category does your Project/Program align with?	Youth Programs & Services
Provide a Project/Program Synopsis	Big Brothers Big Sisters of the Greater Sacramento Area (BBBS-GSA) is proposing the Pathways to Potential Mentoring Program, an evidence-based mentoring initiative that will expand access to high-quality community-based and school-based mentoring for Rancho Cordova youth ages 6-21 who face social, academic, and emotional barriers to success.
Provide a Project/Program Description	BBBS-GSA's Pathways to Potential Mentoring Program directly aligns with the City's Community Enhancement & Investment Fund's Youth & Program Services category, contributing to the growth and development of children and youth in City of Rancho Cordova. Children and youth across our service area face compounding challenges related to poverty, social isolation, academic disengagement, and unmet mental and behavioral health needs. The City of Rancho Cordova is home to over 85,000 residents, with 25% under the age of 18. Per data collected by Kidsdata.org, 15.3% of Rancho Cordova children live in poverty, 29.1% live in low-income households, and 35.3% live in single-parent households. A significant proportion of youth served by BBBS-GSA come from low-income households, single-parent families, or experience instability related to housing, food security, or exposure to Adverse Childhood Experiences. In 2021 and 2023, the US Surgeon General issued a national state of emergency in child and adolescent mental health. Despite this growing challenge, access to consistent, trusted adult support remains limited, particularly for youth in under-resourced communities. Research consistently demonstrates that long-term, relationship-based mentoring is one of the most effective protective factors for mitigating these risks. A study by MENTOR found that mentored youth, when compared to their unmentored peers, are more likely to be on the honor roll and planning for college enrollment, in leadership positions and participating in clubs and sports at school and engaged in volunteer activities in the community. Multiple studies have found that mentoring reduces depressive symptoms and can improve self-esteem and social relationships for youth with mental health challenges. Pathways to Potential is an evidence-based mentoring initiative that

expands access to high-quality community-based and school-based mentoring for youth ages 6-21 who face social, academic, and emotional barriers to success. The program matches and adapts each mentoring relationship according to the specific needs of the child/mentee (Little) and require that each volunteer mentor (Big) commits to a minimum of one year to help in establishing trust and consistency with their Little. Bigs and Littles meet 2-4 times per month, engaging in simple yet meaningful activities. Sometimes they will connect to engage in sports activities or experience something new together, while other times they may focus on career exploration and schoolwork. These moments, big and small, create lasting impacts that shape the lives of both the child and the mentor in ways beyond measure.

The purpose of this program is to strengthen the social-emotional well-being, academic engagement, and long-term goal-setting capacity of participating youth by providing them with a trusted adult role model who offers encouragement, guidance, and accountability. While some mentor-mentee matches may focus on career exploration or workforce readiness, and others may center around pursuing higher education with guidance through the application process, all of our programming is grounded in holistic supportive services. As such, all mentees and families have access to wraparound supports from other community partners and schools, including mental health services, basic needs and educational supports. This dual approach that incorporates long-term mentorship paired with targeted wraparound services ensures that youth most exposed to outside barriers have the tools, relationships, and resilience to build a safe and promising future.

Core objectives include:

- 1:1 Mentoring Matches: Youth (“Littles”) are paired with screened, trained adult mentors (“Bigs”) for consistent, long-term relationships lasting a minimum of 12 months.

- Community-Based Mentoring: Matches meet regularly in community settings to build trust, social-emotional skills, confidence, and life skills through shared activities and goal-setting.

- School-Based Mentoring (as applicable): Structured mentoring sessions occur on school campuses, focusing on academic engagement, attendance, positive peer relationships, and behavioral health support.

- Match Support & Case Management: Professional staff provide ongoing trauma-informed supervision, coaching, and crisis support for matches, ensuring safety, consistency, and progress toward individualized goals.

- Mental Health Support: Provide youth with mental health support, promoting healthy social and emotional development for youth impacted by Adverse Childhood Experiences (ACEs)

- Wraparound Referrals: Youth and families are connected to mental health services, academic supports, and basic needs resources through established community partnerships.

	The program serves youth ages 6-21 from low-income households, with a focus on youth experiencing academic risk, social isolation, or exposure to ACEs. In FY2025, 85% of Littles served came from low-income households and 80% from single parent households. Priority is given to youth attending under-resourced schools and those referred by families, schools, or community partners. BBBS-GSA services will be delivered throughout the City of Rancho Cordova, with school-based programming located at partner school sites and community-based matches occurring in neighborhoods where youth live.
Tell us about your Project/Program Team	Jacob Peterson, Chief Executive Officer, leads the administrative and fiscal management, providing program oversight. Chinua Rhodes, Community-Based Program Manager, manages the team implementing our traditional 1:1 mentoring model. Stacie Grimes, Community-Based Senior Enrollment Specialist, ensures safety and quality assurance measures are met for our community-based matches. Wendi MacLoad, Enrollment and Match Support Specialist, is responsible for handling all services from inquiry to match, including vetting, interviews, training, and communication with families, volunteers and youth. Jenny Roberts, Chief Development Officer, is responsible for securing additional funding to sustain the proposed program and develop relationships that grow fiscal support for our services.
Provide your Project/Program Goals	The goal of the proposed activity is to grow BBBS-GSA's Community-Based Mentoring Program within the City of Rancho Cordova to ensure that youth facing the greatest barriers to success have access to safe, consistent, and professionally supported one-to-one mentoring relationships. At BBBS-GSA, we believe that mentorship serves as a transformative lifeline, especially for the most vulnerable youth in our communities. Through professionally supported mentoring relationships, the primary goal of the Pathways to Potential program is to foster growth, resilience, and success. Through consistent mentoring, the program aims to improve social-emotional well-being, increase school engagement, and reduce risk behaviors associated with isolation and unmet mental health needs. With funding from the City of Rancho Cordova, BBBS-GSA will establish 10 new mentoring matches, pairing 10 children and youth ("Littles") with 10 carefully screened, trained, and supported adult volunteer mentors ("Bigs"). Participating youth will primarily come from high-risk backgrounds, with priority on low-income households, single-parent families, and foster care placements. These youth often experience social isolation, academic challenges, and limited access to supportive adult relationships, placing them at increased risk for negative educational and life outcomes. Throughout the grant term, the program will meet the following outcomes through clearly defined activities, ensuring the project team's efforts remain focused:

Q1 Outcome: Recruit and Enroll 10 Children/Youth (Littles) and 10 Volunteer Mentors (Bigs) in the City of Rancho Cordova.

Activities:

· Engage partners such as school districts and community agencies to identify children who could benefit from the program; Conduct outreach to children/guardians, explain the program, assess interest.

· Launch targeted recruitment campaigns, including public engagements, media outreach, social media promotion; Host orientations and informational sessions.

Q2 Outcome: Support Mentoring Relationships & Strengthen Community Partnerships.

Activities:

· Host "Ready to Be Matched" meetings to connect enrolled children with volunteers; Expand collaborations with local agencies to enhance youth and volunteer referral pipelines.

Year-Round Activities:

· Provide continuous support and regular check-ins with all participants to ensuring match success and review goal progression.

· Conduct evaluations to assess match progress and support needs.

· Provide enrolled youth with mental health support including trauma-informed case management and/or wraparound supportive services as needed

To measure impact and ensure we meet the needs of the City of Rancho Cordova community, we utilize the Youth Outcomes Survey (YOS). This federally funded survey assesses program impact in various areas, including academic improvement, mental wellness, and the likelihood of graduating high school. Our established program evaluation process supports the impact of mentorship, highlighting the positive impact on a child's life when he or she has a trusted adult to seek guidance from. After completing a full academic year engaged in the Community-Based Mentoring Program, we aim to show improvements in key categories such as:

+ 90% retention rate of our matches

+ 80% experience an improvement in academics after 6 months in the program

+ 60% experience an improvement in school attendance 6 months into the program

Program participants are also asked to complete the Strength of Relationship (SOR) survey to capture data on relationship qualities that predict strength of relationship between each Big and Little. The survey asks questions about soft skill development, how they feel about

	themselves, avoidance of risky behaviors and overall mental health. We expect to see an over 50% improvement from 80% of youth participants after 6 months engaged in the program. Data is analyzed using the organization's national mentoring database, MatchForce, and used to inform program adjustments, strengthen partnerships, and ensure alignment with evidence-based best practice

Optional File Upload: Provide any additional records to supplement your program/project application. Note: Combine multiple files in one pdf before uploading.

A-Future-Built-on-Mentorship.pdf

	2 - Funding & Costs
Funding Request - Complete this section with total dollar amounts for your project/program's costs	Funds are generally not intended to be used for deferred maintenance and ongoing operational needs. The funds are intended for enhancing and investing in the City of Rancho Cordova. If your project/program is awarded, the costs identified below would be reviewed and potentially open to modification during a contracting phase (if a grant is awarded by the City Council). If awarded, grant funds are not available until a contract is executed during Fiscal Year 2026-2027.
Total project/program cost*	576683.25
What is the amount of Community Enhancement & Investment Fund grant monies requested?	25000
Does your project/program involve construction of any facilities or improvements upon any property?	No
What is the total cost of personnel for your project/program?	428175
What is the total cost of supplies for your project/program?	83482.75
What is the total cost of transportation for your project/program?	12600

What is the total cost of equipment for your project/program?	0
What is the total cost of any miscellaneous expenses for your project/program?	52425.75

Upload your project/program's budget as a .pdf file. Include the categories and their dollar amounts along with information about any other funding sources to demonstrate your project/program's total budget. Note, the sum of all categories must match the total project or program cost, or the amount requested of CEIF if there is no other funding source. Please clearly illustrate any matching funds or funding from other sources in your project/program budget, including in-kind sources. Note: Combine multiple files in one pdf before uploading.

BBBSGSA_-_Community_Based_Budget_2026.pdf

Has your organization sought or will seek other funding for this project/program?	Yes, actively seeking funding support or have secured additional funding support for this project/program.
Describe any funding secured or being sought for this project/program.	*Top five sources of non-governmental funding: Kaiser Permanente - $50,000 Bank of America - $25,000 Kelly Foundation - $15,000 Union Pacific Railroad Foundation - $10,000 Dignity Health - $10,000 Prior Rancho Cordova support: 2025-2026 for $10,000
Please describe any ongoing operations and maintenance costs beyond Fiscal Year 2026/2027, if applicable.	Beyond Fiscal Year 2026/2027, the primary ongoing operations and maintenance costs for BBBS-GSA will continue to be associated with personnel and facility-related expenses necessary to sustain program delivery. As a service-based organization, staffing represents the most significant ongoing investment. Personnel costs include salaries, benefits, and ongoing professional development to ensure that BBBS-GSA can recruit and retain qualified staff responsible for mentor recruitment, youth enrollment, match supervision, and program quality. In addition, the organization will continue to incur facility and operational expenses required to support daily program activities. These costs include rent, utilities, maintenance, technology, insurance, and other administrative expenses necessary to maintain a safe, accessible, and well-functioning environment for staff, mentors, youth, and families.

Do you have volunteer or in-kind support for your project? This could include volunteers for an activity/event that is ongoing or a one-time experience.	No
Is this a single year request or a request for funding for multiple years?	Single Year
Has your project/program received funding from the Community Enhancement & Investment Fund previously?	Yes
How many years has your project/program received funding from the Community Enhancement & Investment Fund?	1
How much funding has your organization received from the Community Enhancement & Investment Fund through our traditional grants (not including microgrants)?	10000
	3 - Project/Program Details Grant applications are typically approved to occur between July 2026 through June 2027. What is your plan to complete this project/program within this time frame?
Anticipated Start Date (July 1 is the soonest available start date)	7/1/2026
Anticipated End Date (typically projects/programs end by June 30)	6/30/2027

Please describe your project/program schedule	Q1 (07/26 to 09/26) Objective 1: Recruit, Interview, and Enroll 10 Children/Youth (Littles). Activities: Re-engage collaborative partners such as local school districts and community partners to identify children who could benefit from the program; Conduct outreach to children and guardians, explain the program, and assess interest; Interview enrolled children to understand their interests and needs for volunteer matching. Objective 2: Build Awareness & Recruit 10 Volunteer Mentors (Bigs). Activities: Launch targeted recruitment campaigns, including public speaking engagements, media outreach, and social media promotion; Host orientations and provide information sessions for new volunteers; Complete background checks, interviews, and training for approved volunteers. Q2 (10/26 to 12/26) Objective 1: Match & Support New Mentoring Relationships Activities: Host "Ready to Be Matched" meetings to connect enrolled children with trained volunteers; Assist new matches in planning their first activities and setting personalized youth development goals. Objective 2: Strengthen Community Partnerships & Build Capacity Activities: Expand collaborations with local organizations to enhance youth and volunteer referral pipelines. Q3 & Q4 (01/27 to 06/27) Objective: Conduct Program Evaluations & Assess Impact Activities: Conduct mid-term evaluations to assess match progress and support needs; Distribute annual surveys to participants (youth, volunteers, and guardians) to measure impact; Compile evaluation data, identify areas for improvement, and implement program enhancements. Year-Round Activities (07/26 to 06/27) Provide continuous support and regular check-ins with Littles, parents, and Bigs to nurture relationships, ensure long-term match success, and review goal progression; Solicit sustainable funding, in-kind donations, and additional resources for programming; Continuously update and distribute the resource toolkit for volunteers, families, and partners.

What challenges do you anticipate in your project/program's implementation? What is your plan to complete your project/program should those or other challenges arise?	BBBS-GSA does not anticipate significant barriers to implementing this project because the proposed work builds on a longstanding, well-established mentoring model that is already successfully operating in our community. Our mentoring programs have been implemented for many years and are supported by experienced staff and strong partnerships with local schools and community organizations. Historically, one of the most common challenges for mentoring programs is maintaining a steady pipeline of qualified volunteer mentors. However, under our current leadership structure, mentor recruitment has significantly strengthened and is no longer a barrier to program implementation. Over the past year, BBBS-GSA has expanded its internal capacity and established dedicated teams for both our community-based and site-based mentoring programs. This structure enables staff to focus on clearly defined goals for mentor recruitment, youth enrollment, and match support, ensuring that the program continues to operate efficiently and at scale. In addition, BBBS-GSA has significantly increased its presence in the local community through strengthened partnerships with schools, community organizations, and referral networks. These relationships help sustain a consistent pipeline of both Bigs (mentors) and Littles (youth) while ensuring that outreach is targeted to the youth and families who can benefit most from mentoring. This collaborative approach also allows us to respond quickly to changes in demand and maintain strong program participation. Should unforeseen challenges arise, BBBS-GSA's established infrastructure which includes trained program staff, standardized enrollment and matching processes, and ongoing match-support protocols, allows the organization to adapt quickly while maintaining program quality and participant safety. Our strong community partnerships and diversified recruitment strategies provide additional flexibility to address fluctuations in mentor or youth participation.
How many individuals does your project/program serve?	300
How many Rancho Cordova residents does your project/program serve?	20
	4 - Project/Program Location
Address Verification	If you need to check if your project is in Rancho Cordova, type in your program/project's location in the Assessor Parcel Viewer: https://assessorparcelviewer.saccounty.gov/jsviewer/assessor.html

School and park related applications are due before Noon (12:00 p.m.) on March 6, 2026, to allow for the endorsement process.	Please note that projects or programs that are proposed on property owned or operated by outside agencies or a private party will require coordination with and potentially approvals from outside agencies, organizations, and/or the private party. Include whether you have received a letter of support for the project/program from the property owner. Upload any letters of support with your application. City staff will verify third-party permits have been discussed. In your planning discussions, be sure to discuss any necessary insurance or volunteer requirements that may increase budget costs. School Sites If your project/program is intended to operate at a public K-12 school site, your application is due by March 6 at Noon (12:00 p.m.). City staff will work with the school districts to confirm an endorsement for your project/program. It's the applicant's responsibility to communicate with school site and district representatives before applying so there is clarity during the endorsement process. Districts will only consider endorsement for applications submitted to the Community Enhancement & Investment Fund by the March 6 at Noon (12:00 p.m.). deadline. Each participating school superintendent reserves the right to withhold their endorsement of a project/program. Parks If your project/program is intended to operate at a park or community center site, your application is due by the March 6 at Noon (12:00 p.m.). deadline. City staff will work with the Cordova Recreation & Park District to confirm an endorsement for your project/program. It's the applicant's responsibility to communicate with district representatives before applying so there is clarity during the endorsement process. A special use permit application is required for any program or event planned at a CRPD facility. The special use application can be found at the CRPD website: https://www.cordovarpd.gov/. CRPD will only consider endorsement for applications submitted to the Community Enhancement & Investment Fund by the March 6 at Noon (12:00 p.m.). deadline. The Cordova Recreation & Park District reserves the right to withhold their endorsement of a project/program. Below is the list of staff to communicate with at school and park organizations: Folsom Cordova Unified School District: mwest@fcusd.org Cordova Recreation & Park District: cmichelotti@cordovarpd.gov Elk Grove Unified School District: mgulden@egusd.net Sacramento City Unified School District: Tuan-Duong@scusd.edu for Winn and Carver and Enrique-Flores@scusd.edu for Lincoln.
Primary street address of project/program	1750 Howe Ave, Ste 250
List the city location of the project/program.	Sacramento
Select State	CA
Provide the zip code for your project/program's primary location.	95747

If your project/program takes place at multiple locations, please list other or secondary locations.	BBBS-GSA mentorship program meets youth where they are at, meaning Littles and Bigs meet at mutually agreed upon, public, safe and convenient locations throughout Sacramento County. For this funding, matches will meet at safe and public locations throughout Rancho Cordova such as parks, schools, community centers, shops, etc. For matches that prefer to meet at the BBBS-GSA location in Sacramento, they are able to.

Third Party Letters of Support (Note: Combine multiple files in one pdf before uploading)

Rancho_Cordova_LoS_Attachment.pdf

Does your project/program involve one of Rancho Cordova's school districts?	No
Does your project/program involve the Cordova Recreation & Park District?	No
	5 - Applicant Information
Name	Crystal Gonzalez
Is this project/program on behalf of an organization?	Yes
What is the name of your organization?	Big Brothers Big Sisters of the Greater Sacramento Area
What is your title and/or role at your organization?	Grant Writer
Provide contact phone number:	+[redacted]
Provide contact email:	grants@bbbs-sac.org
Are you the primary point of contact on this project/program?	No

What is the name of this project or program's primary contact if not the person submitting this application?	Jenny Roberts
What is the email of the primary contact?	jenny@bbbs-sac.org
If your project/program was awarded the requested funds, are you authorized to sign the contract for your organization?	No, someone else would sign the contract
If selected by the City Council to receive an award, what is the name of the person at your organization who would sign the contract?	Jacob Peterson
What is the title of this individual?	Chief Executive Officer
What is the best phone number where we could contact the signatory?	+[redacted]
What is the best email address to contact the signatory?	jacob@bbbs-sac.org
By checking here, I confirm that I am aware that my application materials will become public record.	checked

Thank you for applying to the Community Enhancement & Investment Fund Fiscal Year 2026-2027 Grant Cycle. Applicants will receive an automated response through the grant portal. Community Enhancement & Investment Fund (CEIF) Staff will follow up with any questions regarding your Fiscal Year 2026-2027 application. For information about the next steps in the CEIF grant process, visit our website for more information. It is anticipated that applications will be reviewed by the City Council starting in April 2026 with adoption in June 2026. Should applicants be awarded by the City Council, funding would not be available to grantees until the start of Fiscal Year 2026-2027 and the completion of a contract. Please send an email to CEIFGrants@cityofranchocordova.org with any questions or comments.

Internal Form

Score	n/a

Big Brothers Big Sisters OF THE GREATER SACRAMENTO AREA

Program Budget 2026:
Pathways to Potential Mentorship Program

PROJECT BUDGET	Project Cost
PERSONNEL/STAFFING EXPENSES (List title and % FTE on project)	
1 - Chief Executive Officer @ 33%	$ 53,790.00
2 - Community-Based Manager @ 100%	$ 78,000.00
3 - Clinical Enrollment Specialist @ 75%	$ 57,750.00
4 - Sr. Program Enrollment Specialist @ 100%	$ 75,000.00
5 - Enrollment and Match Support Specialist (1.5FTE)	$ 78,000.00
Subtotal, Personnel/Staffing Expenses	$ 342,540.00
Benefits (25% of Personnel)	$ 85,635.00
Total Personnel + Benefits	**$ 428,175.00**
NON-PERSONNEL EXPENSES	
Rent	$ 57,532.50
Office Supplies	$ 4,500.00
Communications (Telephone, Internet, etc.)	$ 1,200.00
Travel	$ 12,600.00
Program Supplies	$ 20,250.00
	$ 96,082.50
INDIRECT/OVERHEAD EXPENSE 10% of Direct Expenses* (Direct Expenses = Personnel + Non-Personnel)	$ 52,425.75
Total Non-Personnel	**$ 148,508.25**
TOTAL EXPENSES	**$ 576,683.25**

KLN GROUP

February 11, 2026

Re: Big Brothers Big Sisters of the Greater Sacramento Area

To whom it may concern:

Big Brothers Big Sisters of the Greater Sacramento Area plays an essential role in strengthening our community by providing evidence-based, one-to-one mentoring relationships to children and teens facing adversity. Their commitment to youth development, academic achievement, and long-term well-being has made a meaningful and measurable impact throughout Sacramento County.

Research consistently demonstrates the importance of supportive, non-parental adult relationships in shaping positive outcomes for young people. Mentorship has been shown to improve social-emotional wellness, mental health, academic success, and future economic stability.

The value of mentorship in general, and with Big Brothers Big Sisters of the Greater Sacramento Area specifically, hits very close to home for my family and me. I have been a “Big” to a “Little” for 34 years. I entered the program thinking that I might be able to help someone. What happened in my case, and in many other Big/Litle relationships, is much more profound. Our lives and our families have been transformed in too many ways to mention here, but I’d be happy to share our experiences with you all anytime. Big Brothers/ Big Sisters changes lives for all who participate in big, meaningful ways.

Additionally, I have had the opportunity to serve on the Big Brothers Big Sisters of the Greater Sacramento Area Board of Directors for the last 4+ years. It has been an honor to serve in this capacity with a group of professionals that are committed to improving the lives of youth here in our communities in the Sacramento area.

A grant would enable Big Brothers Big Sisters of the Greater Sacramento Area to expand high-quality mentoring services to even more youth across the region. This investment would not only promote academic readiness and emotional well-being today, but also strengthen long-term community health, stability, and economic opportunity, creating a positive ripple effect for generations to come.

KLN GROUP

I am confident that the County's support will help advance meaningful outcomes for Sacramento's youth and families.

Sincerely,

Mike Smith
Principal
KLN Group
120 Remington Drive
Folsom, CA 95630
[redacted]
[redacted]

Heritage Oaks Hospital
4250 Auburn Blvd. Sacramento, CA 95841 phone: (916) 489-3336 fax: (916) 488-9147

SAFE Credit Union
2295 Iron Point Road, Suite 100
Folsom, CA 95630

Re: Big Brothers Big Sisters of the Greater Sacramento Area

To whom it may concern:

It is with a humble heart that I recommend Big Brothers Big Sisters of Greater Sacramento to become a recipient of a grant from SAFE Credit Union. Big Brothers Big Sisters of Greater Sacramento has been an important non-profit organization in our community in providing mentorship for children and adolescents. As a child psychiatrist, clinical educator and community mental health leader in Sacramento County, I stand behind the mentorship program that BBBS of Greater Sacramento provides for our youths. Research findings over the last several decades have shown the importance of non-parental adult relationships in guiding our youths of today. There is strong evidence supporting the importance of mentorship in optimizing resiliency in children growing up in single parent households. We have clinical data that shows that mentorship improves mental wellness and general physical health, while also improving economic outcomes for children in their later adult years.

Additionally, there is increasing data linking mentorship to improvements in academic achievement and optimizing school functioning. At-risk youth are more susceptible to school failure. In one study, Nunn and Parish found that at-risk students had a history of unexcused absences and tardiness, were significantly below average in school performance, had behavioral and disciplinary problems, had less self-confidence as a learner, had a locus of control that was more externally oriented, and desired a more informal and non-traditional approach to learning. In another study, Dryfoos reported that at least seven million young people were behind their expected grade level in school and about 14% of every class did not graduate from high school. From this study, Dryfoos concluded that the major predictors of school failure included: race and ethnicity, low expectations, low grades, low test scores, truancy, retention in early grades, family in poverty, low parental education, and early involvement in other high risk behaviors. At-risk youth are at a substantially higher risk of school failure and dropping out; therefore, it becomes imperative to offer mentoring programs as one possible solution to the myriad of problems at-risk youth face. Related to all of these, Big Brothers Big Sisters of Greater Sacramento are putting together a much-needed program to provide mentorship for youth who really need it.

Personally, I have twice been a Big Brother for Big Brothers Big Sisters. During my college years, I was fortunate enough to mentor an 11-year fatherless boy who has since then become a successful entrepreneur in the information technology field. Later, when I started my career as a child psychiatrist over 25 years ago after graduating from my medical residency training, I was once again fortunate enough to mentor a then-12-year old youngster who is now also quite successful as a computer programmer working for Microsoft. Both these young men now have a family of their own and are doing very well in their own lives.

I believe a grant from SAFE Credit Union supporting Big Brothers Big Sisters of Greater Sacramento program would go a long way in not only improving academic potential for our youth community, but also would go a long way in improving their lives creating a ripple effect.

Dr. Joe Sison, MD- Clinical Professor, UC Davis Department of Psychiatry & Behavioral Sciences

Big Brothers Big Sisters of the Greater Sacramento Area in the news!

"One mentor can change a life. See how Big Brothers Big Sisters of Greater Sacramento connects kids with caring adults and the support they need to thrive!"

Author: abc10.com

Published: 3:41 PM PST January 7, 2026

Big Brothers Big Sisters. OF AMERICA

A FUTURE BUILT *on* MENTORSHIP

Why Mentoring is the Essential Infrastructure our Future Needs Now

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THE FIERCE URGENCY OF INVESTING IN YOUTH MENTORSHIP

Mentorship represents one of the most powerful forms of social infrastructure we can build — human connections that create ripple effects extending far beyond individual relationships.

When a young person gains a mentor, the benefits cascade outward: families grow stronger as youth become more engaged and hopeful; schools see improved attendance and reduced behavioral issues; employers gain better-prepared workers with stronger hard and soft skills; communities experience reduced crime and increased civic participation; and society as a whole becomes more connected across differences of class, race, and background.

Mentorship stands apart from other interventions in its flexibility and accessibility — it can be integrated into existing institutions, adapted to any community context, and implemented without specialized infrastructure. Mentorship can happen in schools, workplaces, faith communities, or neighborhood settings, and it requires little more than a caring adult willing to show up consistently.

Decades of rigorous research demonstrate that quality mentoring relationships transform individual lives, strengthen communities, and drive economic mobility. The Youth Relationships Study, published in 2025 after eight years of research, found that mentored youth consistently outperform their peers across measures of resilience, social connection, and behavioral outcomes. These findings build upon the landmark 1995 Public/Private Ventures randomized control trial, which established causal links between mentoring and reduced substance use, improved school attendance, and better family relationships. More recently, longitudinal research tracking participants into their thirties reveals that mentoring produces lasting economic benefits, including increased college enrollment, higher lifetime earnings, and reduced socioeconomic gaps between mentored youth and their higher-income peers.

Yet, today, we face a growing gap in this fundamental infrastructure. One in three young people in America grows up without a mentor. The natural mentorship that once happened organically in communities has been disrupted by technology, economic pressures, and social fragmentation. At the very moment when young people need guidance most, millions lack access to a caring adult mentor. This infrastructure gap weakens the connective tissue that holds communities together and limits our collective capacity to address the challenges we face as a society.

This report offers a foundation for understanding mentorship as essential infrastructure needed to move our country, our communities, and our future forward — with a focus on reaching the **10 million youth** experiencing barriers to accessing the critical support they need to thrive. The path forward requires investment in capacity building, employers and schools to facilitate mentoring programs, policymakers to embed mentoring in education and workforce policy, and communities to celebrate mentoring as a civic duty. Above all, it requires all stakeholders to recognize that mentorship represents one of our most direct opportunities to bridge divides, build opportunities, and ensure every young person is guided towards their full potential.

The pages ahead explore the disrupted generation's challenges and opportunities, why mentorship functions as critical infrastructure for human development, the proven ripple effects that transform individuals and communities, concrete strategies for scaling mentorship to unprecedented levels, and specific roles in making this vision reality. Consider this report a strategic playbook — grounded in research, focused on results, and designed for action.

> *This report offers a foundation for understanding mentorship as essential infrastructure needed to move our country, our communities, and our future forward.*

A future where every young person has a mentor is possible. A future where joy, laughter, wisdom, and knowledge are shared broadly across communities and generations. And by investing in this future, we also invest in ourselves — creating the resilient, connected society we all want and deserve.

LITTLE KAYLIN

SECTION 1

THE DISRUPTED GENERATION

The pandemic disrupted education and social development and intensified a series of interconnected crises that now define the experience of growing up in America.

Many communities have become opportunity deserts: places where youth, especially in low-income or geographically isolated areas, have limited access to mentors, career exposure, meaningful experiences, supportive adults, and pathways to economic mobility. This also includes social deserts: lack of networks, relationships, exposure, and beliefs about what's possible.

MENTAL AND EMOTIONAL WELLBEING

THE CHALLENGE

The mental health crisis among young people has reached unprecedented levels, with indicators of distress spanning every demographic group.

According to the CDC, 40 percent of youth report feeling persistently sad or hopeless. For teen girls, the situation is even more dire: three in four reported persistent sadness in 2021, with more than one in four seriously considering attempting suicide. Among LGBTQ youth, 41 percent seriously considered attempting suicide in the past year, with transgender, nonbinary, and youth of color reporting even higher rates.

These mental health statistics intersect with educational and economic challenges to create a perfect storm. An estimated 11.6 million children — 16 percent of America's youth — live in poverty, with stark racial disparities: 30 percent of Black children, 29 percent of American Indian or Alaska Native children, and 22 percent of Hispanic or Latino children grow up in poverty, compared to 10 percent of non-Hispanic White and 11 percent of Asian and Pacific Islander youth. The pandemic exacerbated these inequalities, with children from low-income families experiencing the most significant learning losses while having the least access to mental health support. Foster youth face particularly acute challenges: approximately 400,000 children are in foster care at any given time, and they experience PTSD at rates nearly double that of U.S. war veterans. These young people often lack the consistent adult relationships that are foundational to emotional wellbeing, making intentional mentorship all the more critical.

Informal mentorship through traditional support systems that once helped young people navigate challenges have become increasingly fragmented. The extended family networks that once offered multiple caring adults have dispersed due to geographic mobility. Neighborhood bonds where adults knew and looked out for each other's children have weakened. Religious congregations and community organizations that connected generations have seen declining participation. Schools, once hubs of community connection, are overcrowded and underfunded, limiting teachers' capacity to build deep relationships.

In lieu of these social dynamics and spaces, young people spend an average of seven hours daily on screens, seeking connection in digital spaces that cannot provide the sustained, caring adult relationships they need. The U.S. Surgeon General has declared loneliness a public health crisis, noting that up to one in five young people ages 3 to 17 has a mental, emotional, developmental, or behavioral disorder.

40%

of youth are persistently sad or hopeless

20%

of young people (ages 3-17) has a mental, emotional, developmental, or behavioral disorder

Youth spend an average of **7 hours** daily on screens

The U.S. Surgeon General has declared loneliness a public health crisis

THE OPPORTUNITY

Mentorship offers a powerful response to this crisis of mental and emotional wellbeing. In an era when traditional support systems have fragmented and loneliness has become epidemic; mentorship intentionally creates the connections that once occurred organically — connections that research shows are essential for mental health. Mentored youth show a 20 percent reduction in depressive symptoms and 16 percent growth in emotional regulation compared to their non-mentored peers. Where extended family, neighbors, and community institutions once provided multiple caring adults, mentorship intentionally creates these vital connections.

MENTORED YOUTH:

16% growth in emotional regulation

20% reduction in depressive symptoms

70%

of educators report students misbehaving more today than before the pandemic

46%

of teachers report student engagement is lower than in 2019

22%

of students are chronically absent (missing 10%+ of school days)

Chronic absenteeism has **doubled** since the pandemic

EDUCATION ACHIEVEMENT

THE CHALLENGE

Since the pandemic, absenteeism has doubled in many districts. For the 2024 to 2025 school year, some districts reported that roughly 22 percent of students missed 10 percent or more of school days.

Students are missing school for reasons that go far beyond motivation, including unstable housing, mental health struggles, transportation gaps, family responsibilities, and feeling disconnected from teachers or peers. For foster youth, frequent placement changes mean they may cycle through multiple schools, neighborhoods, and temporary caregivers, losing connections with each transition.

When a student misses class, they fall behind. But when large numbers of students are chronically absent, entire classrooms slow down, teachers burn out, and the future workforce pipeline weakens. The habits and confidence that drive success in school are the same ones that employers value — reliability, focus, and teamwork. Yet nearly 46 percent of teachers report that student engagement is lower than in 2019. Re-engaging students through caring relationships and supportive school climates isn't just an education issue — it's an economic one.

At the same time, schools are struggling with rising behavior challenges. In a 2025 EdWeek survey, 70 percent of educators reported that students are misbehaving more than before the pandemic, and 80 percent said they need more support to manage those behaviors and rebuild a positive school climate. These are not isolated issues — behavior, attendance, and engagement are intertwined. Students who act out often express frustration, fear, or unmet needs. Bullying, classroom disruptions, and chronic defiance often signal the need for emotional support, not discipline alone.

THE OPPORTUNITY

Teachers cannot solve this crisis alone. With overcrowded classrooms and mounting pressures, even the most dedicated educators lack the capacity to provide every student with the individualized attention and relationship they need. Mentorship fills this gap by bringing additional caring adults into students' lives — adults who can focus on connection, encouragement, and support rather than curriculum and discipline. Strong connections with both peers and caring adults not only motivate students but also help teachers notice when someone is struggling and step in with support before problems grow. The impact is measurable: mentored students attend school more regularly, perform better academically, and exhibit fewer behavioral problems. By expanding the web of supportive relationships around each student, mentorship helps schools address the relationship deficit at the heart of today's educational challenges.

MENTORED STUDENTS:

- attend school more regularly
- perform better academically
- exhibit fewer behavioral problems

ITEM 3.1.
ATTACHMENT 4

ECONOMIC MOBILITY

THE CHALLENGE

The economic landscape and workforce that young people will soon enter has also fundamentally changed.

More than 75 percent of youth express concerns about whether they have the skills necessary to secure employment. Gen Z reports the lowest career confidence on record, with 74 percent of young adults lacking access to a mentor who could help them navigate the transition from education to workforce. The gap between what young people need to succeed and what they have access to continues to widen.

The challenge extends beyond technical skills to what economists' call "social capital" — the networks, relationships, and insider knowledge that open doors to opportunity. Young people from low-income backgrounds often lack exposure to professional careers and the informal guidance that middle- and upper-income youth take for granted: how to write a resume, navigate an interview, understand workplace norms, or even envision career possibilities beyond their immediate experience. Without access to adults in professional roles, entire career pathways remain invisible.

The "soft skills" employers consistently cite as their biggest hiring challenge — communication, reliability, emotional intelligence, adaptability — are precisely the capabilities developed through sustained relationships with caring adults. Yet as traditional mentorship pathways have eroded, fewer young people have access to the guidance that builds these essential workforce competencies.

75%

of youth are concerned about having necessary employment skills

74%

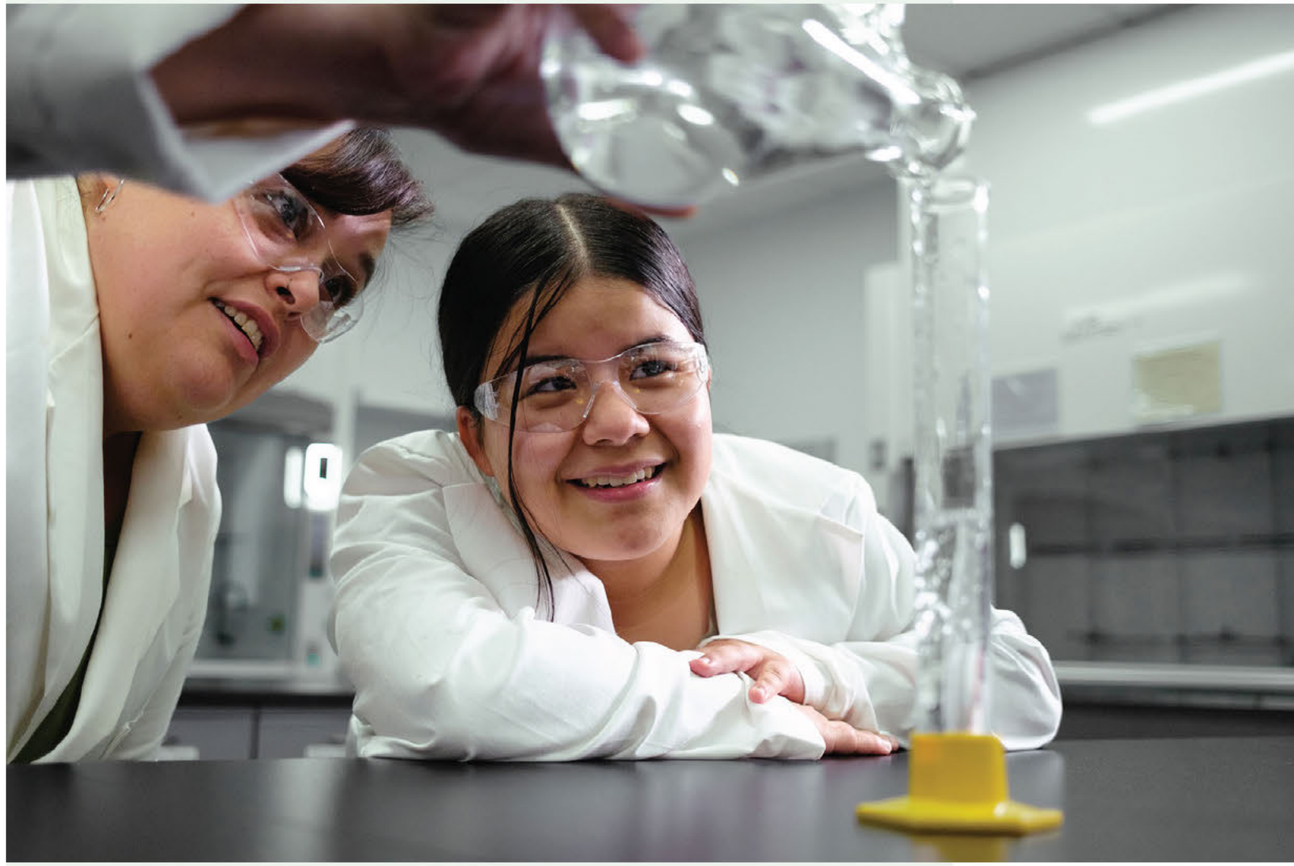
of young adults lack access to a mentor

11.6 MILLION

children (16% of America's youth) live in poverty

Gen Z reports the lowest career confidence on record

BIG PAULINA & LITTLE GABBY



THE OPPORTUNITY

Mentorship directly addresses this economic mobility crisis by providing both the social capital and the relational foundation young people need to succeed. Seventy-three percent of mentored youth report that their mentor introduced them to interesting careers — exposure that proves transformative for first-generation college students and youth from communities with limited professional networks. Mentored youth earn an average of $200,000 more over their lifetimes compared to non-mentored peers, are 20 percent more likely to enroll in college, and enter the workforce with stronger networks and greater confidence. By connecting young people with caring adults who can open doors, model professional behavior, and provide guidance through transitions, mentorship builds the bridges to economic opportunity that no amount of job training alone can create.

MENTORED YOUTH:

earn an average of **$200,000 more** in lifetime earnings than non-mentored peers

are **20% more likely** to enroll in college

POSITIVE BEHAVIORS AND DEVELOPMENT

THE CHALLENGE

Young people who lack positive adult guidance face a significantly higher risk of entering the justice system — a trajectory with cascading consequences for their futures, their families, and their communities.

Youth involved in the justice system face diminished educational prospects, limited employment opportunities, and cycles of poverty that extend across generations. When no one is modeling positive behavior, providing accountability, or demonstrating that someone cares about their choices, young people operate without the guardrails that mentorship naturally provides.

Substance use and behavioral problems often serve as early warning signs of justice system involvement. Youth who begin using alcohol or drugs in adolescence are significantly more likely to develop dependencies, drop out of school, and eventually face legal consequences. Similarly, patterns of aggressive behavior, chronic rule-breaking, and association with delinquent peers create trajectories toward more serious offenses. Without caring adults to notice these warning signs and intervene early, behavioral problems that could be redirected, instead escalate.

MENTORED YOUTH:

46%
less likely to begin using illegal drugs

27%
less likely to begin using alcohol

54%
less likely to be arrested

52%
less likely to skip school

BIG SAM & LITTLE COLSON

THE OPPORTUNITY

The connection between mentorship and positive behaviors is clear and causal. Research demonstrates that mentored youth are 46 percent less likely to begin using illegal drugs, 27 percent less likely to begin using alcohol, and 54 percent less likely to have been arrested compared to their non-mentored peers. These outcomes reflect mentorship's preventive power: by providing consistent positive relationships, clear behavioral modeling, and a sense of belonging, mentorship addresses the disconnection and lack of guidance that often precede justice involvement.

The impact extends beyond individual youth to entire communities. Areas with robust mentoring programs report lower youth crime rates, reduced gang involvement, and stronger community cohesion. By investing in mentorship, we invest in prevention — keeping young people on positive pathways rather than spending exponentially more to address the consequences of justice involvement.

THE OPPORTUNITY THAT CUTS ACROSS CRISES

The interconnected nature of the challenges facing young people means that interventions addressing one of the root causes — a lack of caring adult relationships — can produce cascading benefits across multiple domains simultaneously. This is precisely what makes mentorship so powerful: it doesn't just improve one outcome, it transforms trajectories.

Decades of research demonstrate that strong mentoring relationships address mental health, educational achievement, workforce readiness, and behavioral outcomes through a single mechanism: consistent human connection. When young people have caring adults in their lives, isolation diminishes, engagement increases, confidence builds, and positive choices become more likely. Each improvement reinforces the others, creating upward spirals rather than downward trajectories.

LITTLE MICHAEL

SECTION 2

MENTORSHIP AS ESSENTIAL INFRASTRUCTURE

REDEFINING WHAT WE MEAN BY INFRASTRUCTURE

When we think of infrastructure, we typically envision roads, bridges, and broadband networks: the physical systems that enable commerce and communication. But in an economy increasingly driven by human capital, social capital, and emotional intelligence, we must expand our definition.

Just as we've come to recognize early childhood education as critical developmental infrastructure, rather than simply childcare, we must recognize mentorship as essential social infrastructure for human development and economic competitiveness.

Economic connectedness — the relationships between people of different socioeconomic backgrounds — is the strongest predictor of upward economic mobility. Harvard economist Raj Chetty's research demonstrates that children who grow up in communities with greater economic connectedness are significantly more likely to rise out of poverty. Yet "friending bias" — the tendency for people to form friendships primarily with others of similar socioeconomic status — and economic segregation create barriers to these vital connections. Mentorship directly addresses this gap, creating intentional relationships that bridge economic, racial, and geographic divides.

We have decades of evidence demonstrating what works in youth mentorship. Organizations across the country have spent more than a century refining approaches that produce consistent, measurable outcomes. Programs serve hundreds of thousands of young people, families, and mentors annually through agencies in thousands of communities across all 50 states. This is proven infrastructure that already exists but remains dramatically underutilized and underfunded. While we spend billions on educational technology, workforce training, and mental health treatment, we underinvest in the simple human connections that make all other interventions more effective.

The beauty of mentorship lies in its simplicity and accessibility. You don't need an advanced degree to be a mentor. You don't need special training or exceptional skills. You just need to show up consistently for a young person, sharing everyday activities like playing sports, doing homework, or simply talking about life. Research notes that mentorship programs "focus less on specific problems after they occur, and more on meeting youths' most basic developmental needs." This preventive approach costs much less than remedial interventions while producing far better outcomes.

> *While we spend billions on educational technology, workforce training, and mental health treatment, we underinvest in the simple human connections that make all other interventions more effective.*

THE COMPOUNDING IMPACT OF HUMAN CONNECTION

What makes mentorship particularly powerful as an infrastructure investment is its ability to address multiple challenges simultaneously. A single mentoring relationship can impact mental health, educational achievement, workforce readiness, and social capital. This is a direct reflection of the interconnected nature of human development and the central role that relationships play in shaping outcomes.

Our current approach to mental health emphasizes instituting treatment after a crisis, spending billions on therapeutic interventions while investing almost nothing in prevention through connection. Yet outcome data shows that mentoring consistently reduces depressive symptoms and anxiety. Young people in mentoring programs report a 20 percent reduction in depressive symptoms and show 16 percent growth in effectiveness at regulating emotions. They score higher on measures of grit, coping efficacy, and hopeful future expectations than non-participants. These improvements emerge naturally from consistent, caring relationships.

Meanwhile, employers consistently report that their biggest challenge isn't finding workers with technical skills but finding workers who are engaged, reliable, and able to build relationships. These "soft skills" — better understood as essential human capabilities — are precisely what mentorship develops. Youth in mentoring programs demonstrate 18 percent growth in social competence, score higher in self-control, and report less aggressive behavior than non-participants. Mentorship models and develops the skills employers seek most: how to navigate relationships, manage emotions, and persist through challenges.

For communities, mentorship creates understanding and connection, serving as social glue. Eighty-three percent of mentors report that being matched with their mentee helped them learn about and appreciate different cultural backgrounds. In an era of increasing polarization and segregation, mentoring relationships create critical bridges.

SOCIAL INFRASTRUCTURE THAT STANDS THE TEST OF CRISIS

The Youth Relationships Study deserves special attention, as it represents the most rigorous contemporary validation of mentorship's infrastructure role. The study's design — randomizing 1,011 youth to immediate mentoring versus 342 to a control group — provides causal evidence during a period of unprecedented social disruption: the COVID-19 pandemic.

The study measured multiple protective factors that function as a psychological infrastructure for navigating challenges. Mentored youth consistently outperformed controls across every measure, demonstrating that mentorship builds the internal resources young people need to thrive despite adversity. Unlike targeted interventions that address single issues, mentorship simultaneously impacts mental health, behavioral outcomes, academic engagement, and social connections.

That these effects emerged during COVID-19 demonstrates mentorship's role as essential infrastructure. While other support systems collapsed, mentoring relationships adapted and continued providing critical connection.

LITTLE JAI & BIG CAMPBELL

SECTION 3

THE RIPPLE EFFECT

HOW INDIVIDUAL CONNECTIONS BUILD SOCIETAL INFRASTRUCTURE

MENTORED YOUTH:

91%

feel an increased sense of belonging

95%

plan to graduate from high school

Just as a single bridge connecting two previously isolated communities can transform an entire region's economy, individual mentoring relationships create ripple effects that extend far beyond the mentor and mentee.

When we invest in one young person through mentorship, we build connective tissue that strengthens families and revitalizes communities. This is infrastructure at work: creating pathways where none existed, building bridges across divides, and establishing networks through which resources, knowledge, and opportunity flow.

Mentorship functions as social infrastructure precisely because its benefits compound and spread. A mentored youth who avoids the criminal justice system doesn't just improve their own trajectory — they remain present for their siblings, contribute to their community's safety, and eventually become mentors themselves. A young person who increases their lifetime earnings through mentorship doesn't pocket that value in isolation — they support extended family, invest in local businesses, and generate tax revenue that funds public goods.

> *Mentorship functions as social infrastructure precisely because its benefits compound and spread.*

What follows is evidence of how these ripples spread, from individual transformation to mentor benefits to community-wide change, each level reinforcing the others.

1 TRANSFORMING INDIVIDUAL LIVES

The power of mentorship becomes most vivid in individual stories, though aggregate data confirms what these stories suggest: mentorship fundamentally alters life trajectories. Eighty-two percent of alumni mentees from Big Brothers Big Sisters (BBBS) report that being matched with their mentor changed their perspective on what was possible in life. This shift in perspective represents a breakthrough in how young people understand their place in the world and their capacity to shape their futures.

The benefits extend across multiple domains. 2024 data shows that 86 percent of youth experience reduced depressive symptoms when mentored, and 91 percent of Littles feel an increase in their sense of belonging amidst family and peers.

Academically, 95 percent of mentees plan to graduate from high school, with the majority planning to attend college — a dramatic shift from baseline expectations, particularly for youth from low-income backgrounds where college attendance has historically been low. The academic improvements are concrete and measurable: mentored youth show a 28 percent increase in "A" grades and a 17 percent decline in "D" and "F" grades. School discipline issues and bullying behavior decline significantly with longer match length.

The impact extends beyond academia: Seventy-three percent of alumni mentees report that their mentor introduced them to interesting careers — exposure that proves critical for first-generation college students and youth from communities with limited professional networks. Mentors also provide windows into worlds that many young people from low-income communities often don't get to see. Eighty-six percent of alumni mentees say their mentor provided opportunities and new experiences they wouldn't have had otherwise. The long-term economic impacts validate the importance of these early experiences. Mentored youth earn an average of $200,000 more over their lifetimes than those who didn't participate in the program. This increased earning power strengthens families, communities, and the broader economy.

CASE STUDY

FROM LITTLE TO BIG: THE INTERGENERATIONAL POWER OF MENTORSHIP

Behind every data point is a human story — and few illustrate mentorship's ripple effects more powerfully than Allen Arseneau's. Growing up in inner-city Boston, Allen faced the compounding challenges that define opportunity deserts: poverty severe enough that "even the other poor kids made fun of us," household instability, and the ever-present threat of violence. But at nine years old, Allen was matched with his Big Brother, Paul — a relationship that would span more than three decades and fundamentally alter his trajectory.

"Paul became a light, flickering in my pretty dark world," Allen recalls. The activities themselves were ordinary — making cookies, bowling, visiting museums — but Paul's consistency was transformative. When Allen was thrown out of his home at sixteen years old after speaking out against criminal activity in his household, his mentor continued to show up. When Allen needed guidance about school, college, and career, Paul provided it. "He nudged me — over and over — in the right direction."

Those nudges cultivated measurable outcomes: Allen graduated high school with honors, earned a degree in chemical engineering from Northeastern University with additional studies in biochemistry, and became one of only a handful of Northeastern graduates ever accepted to Stanford Business School. Today, he serves as the co-founder of a mission-driven company with his wife. And to Allen's children, his mentor is "Grandpa Paul."

Allen's story demonstrates something the research consistently shows: mentorship creates cascading benefits that extend beyond individual transformation. After 15 years of contemplating whether he could be as impactful for someone else as Paul was

LITTLE BRAYLON, BIG ALLEN & "GRANDPA PAUL"

for him, Allen became a Big Brother himself. His Little Brother, Braylon, was seven when they matched — the same age Allen had been when he first needed someone to show up for him. When Braylon's mother passed away at just 34, the family made the same life-changing call that Allen's mother had made decades earlier. Today, every sibling in Braylon's family has a Big Brother or Big Sister. Nine years into their match, Braylon — now a young man — told Allen: "When I grow up, I want to go to college and study engineering and be an inventor — just like you."

Allen still considers himself a Little — 27 years and counting. And now he is also a Big, offering the same steady guidance that once helped him defy the odds. His story is proof of what the research confirms: mentorship creates ripple effects that transform families, communities, and generations.

"The impact of Big Brothers Big Sisters is real," Allen says. "It changed my life. It changed Braylon's life. It's changing entire families. And it's changing the world."

> *Paul became a light, flickering in my pretty dark world. He nudged me — over and over — in the right direction.*

2 THE RECIPROCAL IMPACT ON MENTORS

While programs focus on youth outcomes, research reveals that mentors often benefit as much as or more than their mentees. Mentors develop patience, empathy, and cultural competence. They rediscover joy and playfulness often lost in adult life. Seventy-six percent of mentors report improved self-esteem and sense of purpose. Ninety percent of alumni mentors report that their mentee made more impact on their life than they did on their mentee's — a reflection of the profound reciprocal nature of mentoring relationships.

For employers, these benefits translate directly to the bottom line. Employees who serve as mentors show higher engagement, lower turnover, and improved leadership skills. Companies with workplace mentoring programs report that participating employees are 49 percent less likely to leave, saving an average of $3,000 per participant annually in reduced turnover costs. Mentors develop coaching skills, cross-cultural competence, and emotional intelligence: capabilities that enhance their professional effectiveness.

Adults who have served as mentors are also more likely to remain civically engaged, volunteering at higher rates even five to 10 years after their formal mentoring relationship ends. Mentorship develops engaged citizens across America. They vote more frequently, participate in community organizations, and contribute to charitable causes.

MENTORS:

▲ higher engagement at work and improved leadership skills

▲ increased cross-cultural competence and emotional intelligence

▲ more civically engaged

3 BUILDING STRONGER COMMUNITIES

The aggregate effect of thousands of mentoring relationships transforms entire communities. Mentoring closes two-thirds of the socioeconomic gap for participants. As adults, mentees' incomes more closely resemble those of their mentors than those of their own families.

Communities with strong mentoring programs see reduced crime rates, improved school performance, and increased civic engagement. The economic returns are substantial: every $1 invested in mentoring returns $3 in public benefit through reduced spending on criminal justice, social services, and remedial education. More than that, communities with robust mentoring programs report stronger social cohesion, greater trust across differences, and more optimism about the future.

The intergenerational healing that mentorship facilitates proves particularly powerful in communities that have experienced historical trauma or persistent poverty. When young people see adults who look like them succeeding, build cross-cultural relationships, and receive consistent care from mentors outside their families, it challenges narratives of limitation and opens new possibilities.

Every $1 invested in mentoring returns $3 in public benefit through reduced spending on criminal justice, social services, and remedial education.

LITTLE ALDEN

SECTION 4

THE VISION: MENTORSHIP AT SCALE

WHAT WOULD IT TAKE?

The vision is ambitious but achievable: ensuring every young person who needs a mentor has one. This would mean building mentorship infrastructure to reach 10 million youth — a dramatic expansion from current capacity, but one commensurate with the need. Achieving this goal requires fundamental shifts in how we think about and invest in mentorship.

MENTORSHIP AT SCALE CAN BE REALIZED THROUGH FOUR PARALLEL STRATEGIES:

1 ACCELERATE PROVEN PROGRAMS

Scale evidence-based mentorship models to reach millions more youth, ensuring equitable access across underserved communities. This means embedding mentoring in at least 1,000 schools nationwide through school-based programs that provide consistent access and reduce transportation barriers. Programs like High School Bigs, where older students mentor younger ones, create cascading benefits while building leadership skills in teen mentors.

It also means making workplace mentoring as standard as 401(k) plans. Two-thirds of young adults already say they would choose an employer offering mentoring over one that doesn't. Companies are discovering that workplace mentoring programs address multiple challenges simultaneously: building talent pipelines, improving employee engagement, and demonstrating community commitment. Big Brothers Big Sisters' Beyond School Walls program provides a proven model, bringing youth directly into workplaces where they build relationships with professional mentors while gaining career exposure.

2 ADVANCE PRO-MENTORING POLICIES

Advocate for systemic changes that prioritize youth development, dismantling barriers to opportunity. Our ability to serve youth and families effectively is deeply influenced by the policies and systems that shape their daily lives. We must strengthen our advocacy efforts at the federal, state, and local levels by championing policies that expand access to mentorship and increase funding to BBBS programs that address socioeconomic gaps. By influencing public policy, we can create lasting change that benefits entire communities.

3 EXPAND STRATEGIC PARTNERSHIPS

Build a coalition of businesses, organizations, and community leaders united in support of youth empowerment. Reaching every young person requires meeting them where they are—in their communities, through approaches that honor their cultural identities and lived experiences. This means expanding beyond traditional one-to-one matching to include mentoring models designed specifically for underserved populations: culturally specific programs led by mentors who share young people's backgrounds and understand their challenges; faith-based mentoring that leverages existing community trust and infrastructure; group mentoring that builds peer support alongside adult guidance; and virtual mentoring that reaches rural communities and youth facing transportation or mobility barriers. Organizations like Latino mentoring programs, Black male mentoring initiatives, and Indigenous youth programs demonstrate how culturally grounded approaches achieve stronger engagement and outcomes.

4 ELEVATE PUBLIC ENGAGEMENT

Inspire a national movement that recognizes mentorship as a critical driver of personal and societal growth. Scaling mentorship demands a cultural shift—making mentoring as expected and celebrated as other forms of civic engagement. This means storytelling that highlights not just need but impact and joy, shifting the narrative from "troubled youth need help" to "all young people deserve guides, and mentoring enriches everyone involved."

CASE STUDY

LEVEL UP: TRANSFORMING SCHOOLS THROUGH INNOVATIVE EMBEDDED MENTORING

When Metro Atlanta community leaders requested a mentor for every middle school student, Big Brothers Big Sisters responded with **Level Up** — an innovative program placing paid mentors directly within schools to support students with social-emotional growth and academic success during the school day.

Launched in fall 2023, Level Up's results address precisely the challenges facing today's schools.

Among 1,300 students served in 2024-25:

- **89% showed improved emotional regulation**
- **83% had decreased or no depressive symptoms**
- **88% maintained or improved behavior**

Three of four Atlanta middle schools showed significant attendance gains (1.7% to 8%), and Russell Middle School's suspension rate dropped from 4.02% to 1.87% after two years.

The model has expanded to eight additional BBBS agencies nationwide, serving more than 2,000 youth in just two years — proof that mentorship can be embedded in schools at scale. Level Up demonstrates that by bringing caring adults focused on relationship-building into schools, embedded mentoring addresses the connection deficit underlying today's attendance, engagement, and behavioral challenges.

INVESTMENT FRAMEWORK

Achieving mentorship at scale requires investment, which offers proven returns.

The funding model should blend public and private resources. Government investment makes sense given the public benefits, such as reduced crime, improved educational outcomes, and increased tax revenue from higher-earning workers. Private sector engagement is equally critical. Companies benefit directly from better-prepared workers and more stable communities. Philanthropic investment in mentorship creates lasting change rather than temporary relief.

At approximately $2,500 to $3,500 per youth annually, mentorship programs pay for themselves within seven years through increased tax revenue from participants' 15 percent higher lifetime earnings. When we factor in reduced spending on criminal justice, special education, and social services, the return on investment accelerates further.

THE BUSINESS CASE: WHY EXECUTIVES SHOULD CARE ABOUT MENTORSHIP

Companies investing in youth mentoring see concrete returns:

75%

of youth are concerned about having necessary employment skills.

- Mentorship addresses the talent pipeline crisis at its source.

66%

of young adults report they would choose an employer offering mentoring over one that doesn't.

49%
LOWER TURNOVER

among employees who serve as mentors.

- Saving organizations $3,000 per participant annually.

15%
HIGHER LIFETIME EARNINGS

for youth who participate in mentorship programs.

- Tax revenues from higher earnings help offset program costs within just 7 years.

BUILDING THE MOVEMENT

Scaling mentorship demands a cultural shift. We must make mentoring as expected and celebrated as other forms of civic engagement by constructing the social norms, systems, and narratives that make mentorship an expected part of community infrastructure. This means storytelling that highlights not just need but impact and joy. The narrative must shift from "troubled youth need help" to "all young people deserve guides, and mentoring enriches everyone involved."

Grassroots organizing, corporate leadership, and celebrity/influencer engagement all play roles. When professional athletes, business leaders, and cultural icons share their mentoring stories — either as mentors or as young people who benefited from mentoring — it normalizes and elevates the practice. When companies make mentoring part of their corporate culture, schools celebrate mentors alongside teachers, and communities recognize mentoring as an essential civic contribution, we begin to build the movement necessary for scale.

Technology can accelerate expansion without replacing human connection. Digital platforms can streamline volunteer recruitment, training, and matching. Virtual mentoring can reach rural communities and youth facing transportation barriers. Data systems can track outcomes and enable continuous improvement. Ultimately, technology as an aid for scaling mentorship serves the human relationship, not the other way around.

> *The narrative must shift from "troubled youth need help" to "all young people deserve guides, and mentoring enriches everyone involved."*

LITTLE TALIAH & BIG AUDREY

SECTION 5

THE CALL TO ACTION

THIS IS THE MOMENT FOR MENTORSHIP

The confluence of crises facing young people — mental health challenges, educational disruption, economic uncertainty, social isolation — demands a comprehensive response.

BIG SHELDON & LITTLE ALVIN

Yet our current approaches remain fragmented, addressing symptoms rather than the underlying causes. We spend billions on mental health treatment while investing almost nothing in prevention through connection. We fund workforce training programs that fail because participants lack the social capital to access opportunities. We lament educational achievement gaps while ignoring the relationship gaps that underlie them.

Mentorship addresses all these challenges simultaneously because it builds the fundamental social infrastructure upon which everything else depends: human connection. When young people have consistent, caring adults in their lives, mental health improves, educational engagement increases, and career prospects brighten. This is demonstrated repeatedly across decades of research and across thousands of mentorship relationships.

The moment demands urgency. Today's youth will enter the workforce in a world transformed by artificial intelligence, climate change, and technological disruption. The human capabilities that mentoring develops — emotional intelligence, relationship building, adaptability, resilience — will prove even more critical as automation eliminates routine work. Through mentorship, we're preparing young people for a future where distinctly human capabilities provide competitive advantage.

> *Mentorship builds the fundamental social infrastructure upon which everything else depends: human connection.*

A ROLE FOR EVERYONE

CORPORATE

The workforce challenges you face — lack of engagement, inadequate soft skills, high turnover — have roots in youth disconnection. Mentoring represents upstream investment in your future workforce. But the benefits extend beyond the talent pipeline. Employees who mentor show higher engagement and lower turnover. Companies with strong mentoring programs attract purpose-driven workers. Communities with robust mentoring have lower crime, better schools, and greater economic vitality — all factors that benefit business. Make mentoring part of your corporate culture, not just your corporate social responsibility.

Tangible actions you can take include:

- **Launching workplace mentoring programs:** Partner with organizations like Big Brothers Big Sisters to bring youth into your workplace through programs like Beyond School Walls, where employees mentor during work hours while youth gain career exposure.
- **Providing paid volunteer time:** Offer employees 2-4 hours monthly of paid time to mentor, signaling that this work matters to your organization.
- **Celebrating employee mentors publicly:** Feature mentor stories in internal communications, recognize mentors at company events, and include mentoring participation in performance reviews.
- **Making mentoring part of your EVP:** Include workplace mentoring in your employee value proposition and recruitment materials — two-thirds of young adults say they'd choose an employer offering mentoring over one that doesn't.

WORKPLACE MENTORING AT BBBS NYC

- **Providing financial support:** Make corporate contributions to local mentorship agencies, sponsor mentoring events, or establish employee giving campaigns that match staff donations.
- **Engaging your C-suite:** Have senior leaders serve as mentors and champions, demonstrating organizational commitment from the top.
- **Tracking and reporting impact:** Measure employee satisfaction, retention rates, and skill development among mentors, then share these metrics with stakeholders.
- **Opening your doors for career exposure:** Host site visits, provide job shadowing opportunities, and invite youth to experience your workplace culture.

ITEM 3.1.

CASE STUDY

POLICY IN ACTION: MARYLAND'S EVIDENCE-BASED INVESTMENT IN MENTORSHIP

What does it look like when policymakers treat mentorship as essential infrastructure? Maryland offers a compelling model.

In September 2025, Governor Wes Moore and Arnold Ventures announced $20 million in grant awards through the Maryland Partnership for Proven Programs — an evidence-based partnership that has now invested $40 million in proven youth development and economic mobility initiatives. "Leaders often talk about money spent on a program, but they rarely talk about how well that program worked," notes Arnold Ventures Co-Founder Laura Arnold. "We are changing the conversation."

Of the $20 million, $5.6 million was directed to Big Brothers Big Sisters affiliates in collaboration with the Department of Juvenile Services and the Governor's Office for Children — addressing a critical gap of hundreds of Maryland youth waiting to be matched with mentors. **The funding will enable BBBS to reach an additional 1,000 young people across nine counties over four years.**

The Maryland model demonstrates that when state government, philanthropy, and youth-serving organizations align around evidence-based approaches, mentorship infrastructure can be built at scale — not as a nice-to-have program, but as essential infrastructure for youth development.

POLICY

The evidence for the benefits of mentorship demands a commensurate policy response. Mentoring should be embedded in policies that focus on youth workforce development strategy, mental health initiatives, chronic absenteeism, and violence prevention efforts. Policymakers at all levels of government can help to expand mentorship by allocating funding for mentoring activities in workforce, juvenile justice, education, and mental health related government grants.

Tangible actions you can take include:

- **Support existing and new mentorship resources:** Expand and establish funding so that mentoring organizations can grow their one-to-one and group mentoring programs to serve more youth.
- **Expand mentoring in schools:** Encourage schools to utilize their educational federal resources to incorporate mentorship into their strategies to improve their school environment and reduce absenteeism.
- **Integrate mentorship in youth mental health policy solutions:** Give mentoring organizations the opportunity to be part of the decision-making process around how their community responds to the mental health needs of local youth.
- **Support workforce development pathways:** Enhance eligibility under youth workforce development programs to reach youth at an earlier age to develop their soft skills.
- **Champion mentoring publicly:** Use your platform to share mentoring stories, recognize mentors in your district or state, and elevate mentoring as a priority in your policy conversations.

ATTACHMENT 4

BIG ASHLEY & LITTLE ABBIE

EDUCATION

Schools with mentoring programs see improved attendance, fewer disciplinary problems, and better academic outcomes — yet most schools lack structured mentoring. Academic success is built upon the social and emotional foundation that mentoring provides.

Tangible actions you can take include:

- **Partnering with established organizations:** Contact your local mentorship agencies to explore school-based mentoring programs that provide training, matching, and ongoing support.
- **Designating a mentoring liaison:** Assign a staff member (counselor, social worker, or administrator) to coordinate with mentoring organizations and support relationships.
- **Creating space and time:** Allocate physical space for mentoring meetings and flexible scheduling that allows mentors to visit during school hours without disrupting instruction.
- **Identifying students who would benefit:** Train staff to recognize students who need additional support and facilitate referrals to mentoring programs.
- **Implementing peer mentoring:** Launch programs like High School Bigs where older students mentor younger ones, building leadership skills while expanding reach.
- **Celebrating mentors alongside teachers:** Recognize mentors at school events, feature mentor-mentee pairs in newsletters, and thank volunteers publicly for their contributions.
- **Providing mentor feedback:** Create communication channels so mentors know how youth are progressing academically and behaviorally, enabling coordinated support.
- **Advocating within your district:** Encourage district leadership to prioritize mentoring, allocate funding, and embed programs across multiple schools.

COMMUNITY

Your voice and platform can transform mentoring from nice-to-have to must-have in your community. Demand mentoring access as you would quality schools or safe streets — necessities for all young people.

Tangible actions you can take include:

- **Convening stakeholders:** Bring together schools, businesses, faith communities, nonprofits, and civic organizations to build a collaborative mentoring ecosystem in your community.
- **Supporting local agencies:** Provide financial support to your local BBBS agency, serve on their board, help with volunteer recruitment, or advocate with funders on their behalf.
- **Sharing mentoring stories:** Use your platform — speeches, social media, community events — to highlight local mentor-mentee relationships and celebrate impact.
- **Normalizing mentoring:** Frame mentoring as universal benefit, not deficit-based intervention. Emphasize that all young people deserve guides, not just those facing challenges.
- **Removing stigma:** Combat misconceptions that mentoring is only for "troubled youth" by showcasing diverse participants and emphasizing prevention over remediation.
- **Allocating public resources:** If you control budgets, direct funding to mentoring programs. If you don't, advocate with those who do.
- **Measuring and reporting progress:** Track mentoring capacity in your community, set goals for growth, and report publicly on progress toward ensuring every child who needs a mentor has one.

LITTLE KEON & BIG MARSHALL

PHILANTHROPY

Mentorship represents infrastructure investment that pays dividends for generations. Unlike programmatic funding that requires constant renewal, investment in mentoring capacity creates lasting community assets. The evidence base is unequivocal, the return on investment proven, and the need urgent. This is the moment to drive systemic change by funding capacity building, supporting advocacy, and investing in the mentorship ecosystem.

Tangible actions you can take include:

- **Funding capacity building, not just programming:** Support investments in staff training, technology systems, volunteer recruitment infrastructure, and organizational development that enable agencies to serve more youth sustainably.
- **Making multi-year commitments:** Three-to-five-year grants allow organizations to plan strategically and build lasting capacity rather than chasing annual renewals.
- **Supporting advocacy efforts:** Fund policy work that elevates mentorship in state and federal conversations about education, workforce development, and youth services.
- **Investing in innovation:** Support pilot programs testing new mentoring models like virtual mentoring, culturally specific approaches, programs for emerging-adult populations.
- **Convening stakeholders:** Use your platform to bring together business leaders, policymakers, educators, and community organizations to build collaborative mentoring ecosystems.
- **Funding research and evaluation:** Support longitudinal studies that strengthen the evidence base and demonstrate long-term impact to policymakers and other funders.

POTENTIAL MENTORS

You don't need to be perfect to be a mentor. You don't need special skills or extensive time. You need to show up consistently for a young person, sharing ordinary activities and demonstrating care. If you've wondered how to make a difference in these challenging times, mentoring provides a concrete answer. Youth in your community are waiting for someone like you.

Tangible actions you can take include:

- **Connecting with a mentorship organization:** Contact your local agency to learn about opportunities. Organizations provide training, careful matching, and ongoing support — you don't do this alone.
- **Committing to consistency:** Research shows relationship duration matters more than time intensity. Plan to meet 2-4 times monthly for at least one year — consistency builds trust.
- **Being yourself:** You don't need to be an expert in anything except being authentically you. Share your experiences, interests, and even your struggles. Vulnerability builds connection.
- **Starting simple:** Mentoring happens through ordinary activities — playing sports, doing homework, cooking together, talking about life. You don't need elaborate plans or expensive outings.
- **Listening more than you fix:** Young people often need someone to listen and validate their experiences more than someone to solve their problems. Your presence matters more than your answers.
- **Considering workplace mentoring:** If time is limited, ask your employer about programs that allow mentoring during work hours, or explore virtual mentoring options.
- **Encouraging others:** Once you experience the reciprocal benefits of mentoring, invite colleagues, friends, and family members to consider becoming mentors too.

WHAT EACH ADDITIONAL $1 MILLION INVESTED IN MENTORSHIP DELIVERS

Based on BBBSA program costs of $2,500-3,500 per youth annually, each $1 million investment enables:

300-400

young people served for one year

$40-57.2 MILLION

in potential additional lifetime earnings for the cohort of mentored youth in the study, *The Long-Term Impacts of Mentors*

$60,000-85,000

saved by employers in reduced turnover costs

$3 MILLION

in total public benefit

THE BOTTOM LINE

We face challenges that can't be solved by programs alone: political polarization that fractures communities, economic segregation that limits opportunity, loneliness that undermines public health, and erosion of trust across differences.

Mentorship directly addresses these societal challenges by building the human connections that hold communities together. Every mentoring relationship creates a bridge. Every bridge strengthens our social fabric. Every stronger community becomes more resilient, more prosperous, and more hopeful. In a world of complex problems, mentorship offers something rare: a simple, proven, scalable solution that works.

The young people navigating today's challenges didn't create the conditions they face. They came of age during a pandemic that stole critical developmental experiences. They're growing up in a digital world that promises connection but often delivers isolation. We owe them more than sympathy — we owe them support. And that support requires recognition that human development happens through human relationships, and that mentorship must be fully integrated into the fabric of society if we are to navigate what lies ahead.

When we change the odds for millions of young people, we change society itself. We create communities with lower crime rates and stronger social cohesion. We build an economy strengthened by workers with higher earnings, better skills, and greater engagement. We foster civic engagement enriched by citizens who vote more frequently, volunteer at higher rates, and bridge divides across differences. The ripple effects of mentorship extend far beyond individual lives — they transform the communities where we live, work, and raise our families.

This vision is achievable. The evidence is overwhelming. The capacity can be built. What's needed is collective will and recognition that mentorship is essential social infrastructure that makes everything else work better.

A society where every young person has a mentor is a society invested in its own future.

Let's build it together.

BIG COREY & LITTLE DREZDEN

LITTLE BRIELLE & BIG MAURISHA

LITTLE ALEX & BIG DANIEL

RESOURCES & REFERENCES

Mentoring Outcomes & Impact

Public/Private Ventures. "Making a Difference: An Impact Study of Big Brothers Big Sisters (Re-issue of 1995 Study)." 2000. *https://ppv.issuelab.org/resource/making-a-difference-an-impact-study-of-big-brothers-big-sisters-re-issue-of-1995-study.*

A landmark randomized controlled trial conducted by the nonprofit research organization Public/Private Ventures, widely considered the foundational study establishing the evidence base for youth mentoring programs.

Big Brothers Big Sisters. "The Long-Term Impacts of Mentors." 2025. *https://alexbell.net/wp-content/uploads/2025/04/The-Long-Term-Impacts-of-Mentors-April-2025.pdf.*

Longitudinal research tracking Big Brothers Big Sisters program participants into adulthood to measure the lasting effects of youth mentoring on educational attainment, earnings, and economic mobility.

DuBois, D. L., Herrera, C., Rivera, J., Brechling, V., & Root, S. (2025). "Randomized controlled trial of the effects of the Big Brothers Big Sisters Community-Based Mentoring Program on crime and delinquency: Four-year findings." University of Illinois Chicago. *Available at https://doi.org/10.25417/uic.29383115.*

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Big Brothers Big Sisters of America. "Annual Impact Report." 2023. *https://www.bbbs.org/wp-content/uploads/2023-BBBSA-Annual-Impact-Report-edited.pdf.*

The national organization's annual report presenting program data, youth outcomes, and organizational metrics across its network of local agencies.

MENTOR: The National Mentoring Partnership. "Who Mentored You?" 2023. *https://www.mentoring.org/wp-content/uploads/2023/01/Who-Mentored-You.pdf.*

National research from MENTOR, an organization advocating for youth mentoring, examining the prevalence of mentoring relationships and gaps in access across demographic groups.

Mental Health & Wellbeing

Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. "Youth Risk Behavior Survey Data Summary & Trends Report." 2023. *https://www.cdc.gov/yrbs/dstr/pdf/YRBS-2023-Data-Summary-Trend-Report.pdf.*

A biennial survey conducted by the CDC that monitors health-related behaviors and experiences among high school students nationwide, tracking trends in areas including mental health, substance use, violence, and sexual behavior, spanning 2013 to 2023.

U.S. Department of Health and Human Services. "Protecting Youth Mental Health: The U.S. Surgeon General's Advisory." 2021. *https://www.hhs.gov/sites/default/files/surgeon-general-youth-mental-health-advisory.pdf.*

An official advisory from the U.S. Surgeon General outlining the youth mental health crisis, its contributing factors, and recommendations for families, educators, health professionals, media, and policymakers.

U.S. Department of Education. "Students in Foster Care." 2025. *https://www.ed.gov/teaching-and-administration/supporting-students/special-populations/students-foster-care/students-in-foster-care.*

Federal guidance for schools and districts on supporting the educational needs of students in foster care, including legal requirements under the Every Student Succeeds Act.

Bombardieri, Marcella. "Study Finds Foster Kids Suffer PTSD." The Harvard Crimson, April 11, 2005. *https://www.thecrimson.com/article/2005/4/11/study-finds-foster-kids-suffer-ptsd/.*

News coverage of a joint study by Harvard Medical School and Casey Family Programs examining the long-term mental health outcomes of adults who spent time in foster care as children.

Education & Schools

RAND Corporation. "American Educator Panel Survey on School Recovery." 2024–25. *https://www.rand.org/pubs/research_reports/RRA956-34.html.*

An ongoing survey of teachers and school leaders conducted by RAND to track trends in student learning, wellbeing, and school operations during and after the COVID-19 pandemic.

EdWeek Market Brief. "Student Engagement in Learning Is Low. A Survey Offers Clues on How to Bring Them Back." October 2024. *https://marketbrief.edweek.org/meeting-district-needs/student-engagement-in-learning-is-low-a-survey-offers-clues-on-how-to-bring-them-back/2024/10.*

Trade publication analysis of survey data examining student engagement levels and district strategies for improving motivation and participation.

Education Week. "Students Feel Less Connected to School. Here's Why That Matters." October 2024. *https://www.edweek.org/leadership/students-feel-less-connected-to-school-heres-why-that-matters/2024/10.*

Reporting on research on student connectedness, belonging, and their relationship to academic and behavioral outcomes.

Education Week. "Is Student Behavior Getting Any Better? What a New Survey Says." January 2025. *https://www.edweek.org/leadership/is-student-behavior-getting-any-better-what-a-new-survey-says/2025/01.*

Reporting on national survey data about student behavior trends and educator perspectives on school climate.

Economic Mobility & Workforce

U.S. Census Bureau. "American Community Survey Public Use Microdata Sample." 2023. *https://data.census.gov/app/mdat/ACSPUMS1Y2023.*

Annual survey conducted by the U.S. Census Bureau providing detailed demographic, social, economic, and housing data on the American population at national, state, and local levels.

Brookings Institution. "7 Key Takeaways from Chetty's New Research on Friendship and Economic Mobility." 2022. *https://www.brookings.edu/articles/7-key-takeaways-from-chettys-new-research-on-friendship-and-economic-mobility/.*

Policy analysis summarizing findings from Harvard economist Raj Chetty's research on how social networks and cross-class relationships influence economic mobility.

Together Platform. "Randstad Workplace Mentoring Case Study." 2025. *https://www.togetherplatform.com/case-studies/randstad.*

A case study from a mentoring software provider documenting the implementation and outcomes of a corporate workplace mentoring program at Randstad, a global staffing and HR services company.

Policy & Investment

Big Brothers of Greater Vancouver. "Social Return on Investment Study." 2013. *https://www.bigbrothersvancouver.com/wp-content/uploads/2015/02/SocialReturnonInvestmentStudy-Media-release.pdf.*

An economic analysis conducted for a Canadian Big Brothers Big Sisters affiliate calculating the lifetime financial returns generated by youth mentoring programs for participants and society.

Minnesota Legislative Coordinating Commission. "Social Return on Investment of Youth Mentoring." 2007. *https://www.lcc.mn.gov/inactive/ladder/CSworkgroup/SROIMentor.pdf.*

A state government analysis examining the public cost savings and economic benefits of investing in youth mentoring programs, prepared for Minnesota legislators.

Big Brothers
Big Sisters
OF AMERICA

77. Application Withdrawn

Title

AM WINN K-8 Handwork Instruction Support

03/06/2026

id. 53407967

by **Kris Adams** in **Fiscal Year 2026-2027 Community Enhancement & Investment Fund Grant Application**

3351 Explorer Dr.
Sacramento, California
95827
CA
United States
[redacted]
kris@krisadamsrealestate.com

Original Submission

03/10/2026

Score n/a

	Thank you for your interest in applying to the City of Rancho Cordova's Community Enhancement & Investment Fund. Applications are open from February 9, 2026, to March 13, 2026, Noon (12:00 p.m.) with a specific deadline of March 6th Noon (12:00 p.m.) for certain applications**. Before you begin, please read the notes about deadlines and certain types of grant applications/grants below. **School/Park Application Deadline **Note that projects or programs involving a park or school district have a deadline of March 6 Noon (12:00 p.m.) to allow for the third-party endorsement process by the grant deadline.** A Note about Religious Schools and the Application/Grant Process **Note for grant applications from religious schools. The United States Supreme Court has recently ruled in part that: “denying a generally available benefit [from government] solely on account of religious identity imposes a penalty on the free exercise of religion that can be justified only by a state interest of the highest order.” The City is of the opinion that not all grants to religious schools are prohibited under this and other similar rulings. However, these United States Supreme Court decisions remain in conflict with a section of the California State Constitution that says: “[n]either the Legislature, nor any county, city and county, township, school district, or other municipal corporation, shall ever make an appropriation, or pay from any public fund whatever, or grant anything to or in aid of any religious sect, church, creed, or sectarian purpose, or help to support or sustain any school, college, university, hospital, or other institution controlled by any religious creed, church, or sectarian denomination whatever; nor shall any grant or donation of personal property or real estate ever be made by the state, or any city, city and county, town, or other municipal corporation for any religious creed, church, or sectarian purpose whatever”. The City will accept applications for grants of these City public funds from religious schools, but will have language in the grant agreements to address the possibility and consequences of legal challenges and new court decisions on this and related topics. ** Future Grant Opportunities If you are interested in remaining up-to-date on available grants from the City of Rancho Cordova, click here to sign up for the Grants Interest List. A separate call for programming opportunities with the Rancho Cordova Youth Center is anticipated later in 2026. The list is also used to advertise separate art programs when funds are available. Ongoing Grant Opportunity The City of Rancho Cordova offers a microgrant opportunity. Learn more about those grants online.
Is this your first time applying for grant funding from the City of Rancho Cordova? As a first-time applicant, Community Enhancement & Investment Fund (CEIF) staff will contact you to discuss your project and grant application process.	No: Not a First Time Applicant

	1 - Project/Program Information Note: You can add a collaborator to this form to assist you in completing this application! A collaborator can help you complete this form by filling in fields for you, although only you can submit this form. You can add a collaborator by navigating to the top of the form and clicking on the 'Manage Collaborators' button. Simply enter their email address and click 'invite' to invite them as a collaborator. If you need further assistance, you may consult this Help article for more information.
Project/Program Name. Assign a project name to your project/program.	AM WINN K-8 Handwork Instruction Support
Which category does your Project/Program align with?	Youth Programs & Services
Provide a Project/Program Synopsis	The Handwork program, an extremely vital part of our school's curriculum, is in danger of being lost due to lack of funding. We're seeking funds to ensure our students continue to have access to this critical part of their Waldorf-inspired education.
Provide a Project/Program Description	Part of the mission of the AM WINN K-8 Public Waldorf Community Guild is to ensure the school, students, and teachers within our community have all the supplies and tools they need to succeed. The Handwork program within our school has been a key curriculum component for years. Handwork refers to tasks, crafts, or artistic projects created specifically by hand rather than by machines. It involves manual, often skilled labor, such as sewing, knitting, carving, or jewelry-making, intended to produce unique, detailed, or artistic items. Common examples include embroidery, weaving, beading, origami, carpentry, and various needlepoint techniques. In educational contexts, such as Waldorf education, handwork helps children develop dexterity, focus, motor coordination, and patience. AM WINN K-8 is a public school within the SCUSD, however we are not allotted funds for any of the Waldorf-inspired programs that make us unique, such as Handwork. Funding support will allow us to ensure we can continue to provide the necessary supplies and instructional support to all of our students.
Tell us about your Project/Program Team	Our Handwork Program currently consists of one Full-Time Handwork Instructor. She currently is solely responsible for all Handwork instruction and projects for grades 1st-8th. Our goal as a Guild is to ensure she can continue teaching these skills to our students.
Provide your Project/Program Goals	Our goal with these funds is the give stability to our Handwork Program for at least the next year. We are also working diligently to hopefully obtain SCUSD funding for Handwork in the near future.

Optional File Upload: Provide any additional records to supplement your program/project application. Note: Combine multiple files in one pdf before uploading.	
	2 - Funding & Costs
Funding Request - Complete this section with total dollar amounts for your project/program's costs	Funds are generally not intended to be used for deferred maintenance and ongoing operational needs. The funds are intended for enhancing and investing in the City of Rancho Cordova. If your project/program is awarded, the costs identified below would be reviewed and potentially open to modification during a contracting phase (if a grant is awarded by the City Council). If awarded, grant funds are not available until a contract is executed during Fiscal Year 2026-2027.
Total project/program cost*	25000
What is the amount of Community Enhancement & Investment Fund grant monies requested?	25000
Does your project/program involve construction of any facilities or improvements upon any property?	No
What is the total cost of personnel for your project/program?	20000
What is the total cost of supplies for your project/program?	5000
What is the total cost of transportation for your project/program?	0
What is the total cost of equipment for your project/program?	0

What is the total cost of any miscellaneous expenses for your project/program?	0

Upload your project/program's budget as a .pdf file. Include the categories and their dollar amounts along with information about any other funding sources to demonstrate your project/program's total budget. Note, the sum of all categories must match the total project or program cost, or the amount requested of CEIF if there is no other funding source. Please clearly illustrate any matching funds or funding from other sources in your project/program budget, including in-kind sources. Note: Combine multiple files in one pdf before uploading.

Handwork_Budget_AM_WINN.pdf

Has your organization sought or will seek other funding for this project/program?	Yes, actively seeking funding support or have secured additional funding support for this project/program.
Describe any funding secured or being sought for this project/program.	We are working diligently to hopefully obtain SCUSD funding for Handwork in the near future. Our community also does incremental fundraising events to help fund/support this program.
Please describe any ongoing operations and maintenance costs beyond Fiscal Year 2026/2027, if applicable.	
Do you have volunteer or in-kind support for your project? This could include volunteers for an activity/event that is ongoing or a one-time experience.	No
Is this a single year request or a request for funding for multiple years?	Single Year
Has your project/program received funding from the Community Enhancement & Investment Fund previously?	No

	3 - Project/Program Details Grant applications are typically approved to occur between July 2026 through June 2027. What is your plan to complete this project/program within this time frame?
Anticipated Start Date (July 1 is the soonest available start date)	8/1/2026
Anticipated End Date (typically projects/programs end by June 30)	12/31/2026
Please describe your project/program schedule	Funding would be used immediately upon receipt to acquire supplies for Handwork projects.
What challenges do you anticipate in your project/program's implementation? What is your plan to complete your project/program should those or other challenges arise?	Our long-term challenge is gaining SCUSD support for this program. If this does not happen we will continue to fight and hopefully find supporters to ensure our students have what they need to succeed.
How many individuals does your project/program serve?	400
How many Rancho Cordova residents does your project/program serve?	400+
	4 - Project/Program Location
Address Verification	If you need to check if your project is in Rancho Cordova, type in your program/project's location in the Assessor Parcel Viewer: https://assessorparcelviewer.saccounty.gov/jsviewer/assessor.html

School and park related applications are due before Noon (12:00 p.m.) on March 6, 2026, to allow for the endorsement process.	Please note that projects or programs that are proposed on property owned or operated by outside agencies or a private party will require coordination with and potentially approvals from outside agencies, organizations, and/or the private party. Include whether you have received a letter of support for the project/program from the property owner. Upload any letters of support with your application. City staff will verify third-party permits have been discussed. In your planning discussions, be sure to discuss any necessary insurance or volunteer requirements that may increase budget costs. School Sites If your project/program is intended to operate at a public K-12 school site, your application is due by March 6 at Noon (12:00 p.m.). City staff will work with the school districts to confirm an endorsement for your project/program. It's the applicant's responsibility to communicate with school site and district representatives before applying so there is clarity during the endorsement process. Districts will only consider endorsement for applications submitted to the Community Enhancement & Investment Fund by the March 6 at Noon (12:00 p.m.). deadline. Each participating school superintendent reserves the right to withhold their endorsement of a project/program. Parks If your project/program is intended to operate at a park or community center site, your application is due by the March 6 at Noon (12:00 p.m.). deadline. City staff will work with the Cordova Recreation & Park District to confirm an endorsement for your project/program. It's the applicant's responsibility to communicate with district representatives before applying so there is clarity during the endorsement process. A special use permit application is required for any program or event planned at a CRPD facility. The special use application can be found at the CRPD website: https://www.cordovarpd.gov/. CRPD will only consider endorsement for applications submitted to the Community Enhancement & Investment Fund by the March 6 at Noon (12:00 p.m.). deadline. The Cordova Recreation & Park District reserves the right to withhold their endorsement of a project/program. Below is the list of staff to communicate with at school and park organizations: Folsom Cordova Unified School District: mwest@fcusd.org Cordova Recreation & Park District: cmichelotti@cordovarpd.gov Elk Grove Unified School District: mgulden@egusd.net Sacramento City Unified School District: Tuan-Duong@scusd.edu for Winn and Carver and Enrique-Flores@scusd.edu for Lincoln.
Primary street address of project/program	3351 Explorer Drive
List the city location of the project/program.	Sacramento
Select State	CA
Provide the zip code for your project/program's primary location.	95827

If your project/program takes place at multiple locations, please list other or secondary locations.	
Third Party Letters of Support (Note: Combine multiple files in one pdf before uploading)	
Does your project/program involve one of Rancho Cordova's school districts?	Yes
Is the project/program requesting facility use only or is this a request to partner with the school district?	Partner with school on project/program
Please select all the school districts which your project/program intends to involve:	Sacramento City USD
Please select one or more of the Sacramento City Unified School District school facilities which your project/program will involve:	A.M. Winn EK-8 School
Have you reached out to a contact at the school(s) you indicated above?	Yes
Please provide the names of your contacts at the school(s) or district(s) who are familiar with your project/program.	Nisha Turturici, Principal Tuan Duong, Assistant Superintendent SCUSD Mary Hardin Young, Deputy Superintendent SCUSD

Does your project/program involve the Cordova Recreation & Park District?	No
	5 - Applicant Information
Name	Kristopher Adams
Is this project/program on behalf of an organization?	Yes
What is the name of your organization?	Am Winn Public Waldorf Ek-8 Community Guild
What is your title and/or role at your organization?	Guild Treasurer
Provide contact phone number:	+[redacted]
Provide contact email:	kris@krisadamsrealestate.com
Are you the primary point of contact on this project/program?	Yes
If your project/program was awarded the requested funds, are you authorized to sign the contract for your organization?	Yes, I would be the one to sign the contract
By checking here, I confirm that I am aware that my application materials will become public record.	checked

Thank you for applying to the Community Enhancement & Investment Fund Fiscal Year 2026-2027 Grant Cycle. Applicants will receive an automated response through the grant portal. Community Enhancement & Investment Fund (CEIF) Staff will follow up with any questions regarding your Fiscal Year 2026-2027 application. For information about the next steps in the CEIF grant process, visit our website for more information. It is anticipated that applications will be reviewed by the City Council starting in April 2026 with adoption in June 2026. Should applicants be awarded by the City Council, funding would not be available to grantees until the start of Fiscal Year 2026-2027 and the completion of a contract. Please send an email to CEIFGrants@cityofranchocordova.org with any questions or comments.

Internal Form

Score	n/a

AM WINN K-8 Handwork Program Grant Request Budget 2026-2027

Handwork Supplies: $5,000

Handwork Instruction: $20,000

Total Requested: $25,000