

**Environment and Natural Resources Trust Fund
2019 Request for Proposals (RFP)**

Project Title:

ENRTF ID: 130-C

YMCA BOLD & GOLD Youth Leadership Environmental Education

Category: C. Environmental Education

Sub-Category:

Total Project Budget: \$ 507,990

Proposed Project Time Period for the Funding Requested: June 30, 2022 (3 yrs)

Summary:

Increase capacity of Bold & Gold to serve 720 additional youth who will gain leadership skills, learn teamwork and perseverance and an understanding of conservation, preservation, positive citizenship and community -leading to a sustained caring and awareness that will ensure their protection of Minn

Name: Kurt Simer

Sponsoring Organization: YMCA of the Greater Twin Cities

Title: YMCA Camp Director

Department:

Address: 651 Nicollet Mall, Suite 500

Minneapolis MN 55402

Telephone Number: (612) 465-0450

Email kurt.simer@ymcamn.org

Web Address www.ymcamn.org

Location

Region: Statewide

County Name: Statewide

City / Township:

Alternate Text for Visual:

Youth canoe and gain leadership skills, perseverance, teamwork and the value of land and water and their place in the care of these.

_____ Funding Priorities	_____ Multiple Benefits	_____ Outcomes	_____ Knowledge Base
_____ Extent of Impact	_____ Innovation	_____ Scientific/Tech Basis	_____ Urgency
_____ Capacity	_____ Readiness	_____ Leverage	_____ TOTAL _____%
_____ If under \$200,000, waive presentation?			



Environment and Natural Resources Trust Fund (ENRTF)
2019 Main Proposal Template

PROJECT TITLE: BOLD & GOLD (Boys & Girls Outdoor Leadership Development)

I. PROJECT STATEMENT

The primary goal of BOLD & GOLD is to reduce and remove barriers for all youth and teens, regardless of experience, ethnicity or socio-economic status, to enjoy access to the outdoors through wilderness adventure while building leadership skills. A single group can be a mosaic of amazing kids with diversity of viewpoints, backgrounds, and life experiences. This intentional mix of participants creates opportunities for students from different backgrounds to experience shared, challenging outdoor activities while learning how to build leadership skills, self-confidence, and community-awareness. We will provide opportunity for 720 (240 additional youth annually) diverse youth, over 3 years, to develop an appreciation for Minnesota's beautiful natural areas. We will engage these teens (ages 12-17) on canoeing expeditions that will occur on the St. Croix National Scenic Riverway and in the Boundary Waters Canoe Area. Younger participants (age 12-13) will go on 3-day expeditions on the St. Croix River, while our older participants (age 14-17) will go on 5-day to 8-day trips in the Boundary Waters.

II. PROJECT ACTIVITIES AND OUTCOMES

Activity 1: Provide 720 underserved, diverse youth (grades 6-12), from urban and first-ring suburbs, experience and connection to environmental sciences in the natural world through canoeing expeditions with experienced, trained counselors.

ENRTF BUDGET: \$507,990.00

Outcome	Completion Date
<i>1. Increase engagement of urban & suburban youth to access BOLD & GOLD program, 240 youth per year</i>	<i>7/1/2022</i>
<i>2. 720 underserved, diverse youth learn leadership, environmental sciences and increased understanding of the natural world and their place in it</i>	<i>7/1/2022</i>
<i>3. 720 youth indicate increased understanding of related to wildlife, aquatic life, pollution and ecosystems</i>	<i>7/1/2022</i>
<i>4. 720 youth report increased conservation values and environmental stewardship</i>	<i>7/1/2022</i>

III. PROJECT PARTNERS:

A. Partners receiving ENRTF funding

Name	Title	Affiliation	Role
N/A			

B. Partners NOT receiving ENRTF funding

Name	Title	Affiliation	Role
YMCA, YWCA, Boys & Girls Clubs, Minneapolis & St. Paul Publix Schools	BEACONS School Success program	Anne Sullivan School, Anishinabe Academy, Nellie Stone Johnson Community, Sheridan Arts Magnet, Thomas	Beacons centers recruits youth to participate, and provides staff to chaperone students to and from camp start locations.



Environment and Natural Resources Trust Fund (ENRTF)
2019 Main Proposal Template

		Edison High School, Roosevelt High School,	
YMCA Teen Thrive	YMCA Teen Thrive	Centers based out of urban YMCA branches include: Blaisdell YMCA in South Minneapolis, the Downtown YMCA in Minneapolis, New Hope YMCA. Community sites in Minneapolis include: FAIR School and El Colegio, Roosevelt, Edison and Wellstone High Schools; and Suburban community sites include: Brooklyn Center Schools and Robbinsdale Schools.	Teen Thrive recruits teens to participate, and provides staff to chaperone travel to and from launch camp.
YMCA Camps	Camp Widjiwagen, Ely, MN Camp Menogyn, Grand Marais, MN Camp Iduhapi, Lorretto, MN	YMCA residential camps in greater Minnesota	Provide Bold & Gold equipment storage and maintenance, launch point for expeditions and first and last day shelter and meals.

IV. LONG-TERM- IMPLEMENTATION AND FUNDING:

YMCA works to raise funds from individuals, foundations, corporations and fund raising events. BOLD & GOLD programming is also supported in part by our camps, through fees and in-kind support.

V. TIME LINE REQUIREMENTS:

July 1, 2019 – June 30, 2020 July 1, 2020 – June 30, 2021 July 1, 2021 – June 30, 2022	Program begins summer 2019, recruiting beginning in summer 2019 and continues through summer of 2022. Ongoing assessments, evaluation and reporting	Semi-annual reports, between June 15 and December 15 of each year; final report August 2022
August 2022	Final reports	Project completion

VI. SEE ADDITIONAL PROPOSAL COMPONENTS:

A. Proposal Budget Spreadsheet

B. Visual Component or Map

H. Certified Audit or 990 Tax Information

F. Project Manager Qualifications and Organization Description

G. Letter or Resolution

2019 Proposal Budget Spreadsheet

Project Title:

IV. TOTAL ENRTF REQUEST BUDGET *[Insert # of years for project] years*

BUDGET ITEM (See "Guidance on Allowable Expenses")	AMOUNT
Program Coordinator FTE @ \$35,000 x 3yrs = \$105,000 + Fringe, \$26,250 Seasonal Camp Counselors (not permanent staff) = 95,040 24 weeks of summer, all trips	\$226,290.00
Professional/Technical/Service Contracts: N/A	\$ -
Equipment/Tools/Supplies: Participant Equipment costs of consumables, (food, gear, first aid supplies, maps, tools & testing kits, journals for Environmental curriculum), 720 participants, Food @ \$95/participant = \$68,400 x 3 years	\$205,200.00
Acquisition (Fee Title or Permanent Easements): NA	\$ -
Travel: Transportation Transportation for participants to and from, camp start points and home.	\$76,500.00
Additional Budget Items:	
	\$507,990.00

V. OTHER FUNDS *(This entire section must be filled out. Do not delete rows. Indicate "N/A" if row is not applicable.)*

SOURCE OF FUNDS	AMOUNT	Status
YMCA secures funding from their Annual fund drive to support the Bold & Gold program. These come from individuals, corporations and fund raising events.		Pending
In-kind Services To Be Applied To Project During Project Period: YMCA of the Greater Twin Cities, Camps for launch, canoes (purchased and maintained Camps for Bold & Gold), Camps also host Day 1 for all Bold & Gold Campers as they train, pack and load for their trip, includes meal, snacks and prep areas. on-site storage for program for first and last day of expeditions. (funding raised through annual giving to Camps for all these expenses).	\$ -	secured
Past and Current ENRTF Appropriation: N/A	\$ -	
Other Funding History:	\$ -	



BOOST THE ADVENTURES

YMCA BOLD & GOLD

YMCA BOLD & GOLD (Boys & Girls Outdoor Leadership Development) provides outdoor canoeing expeditions and environmental education for youth. The program brings together youth from all backgrounds across Minnesota, with an emphasis on recruiting underserved, low-income, diverse Minnesota youth in middle and high school.

Many of our participants have never seen a star-filled sky have never slept in a sleeping bag, and have never been challenged to practice conservation of resources. Learning about the environment gives youth a view of the world that is new and different and bigger than they ever knew. The YMCA believes this is also where our urban/suburban generations learn that they are part of and connected to the environment and the care of our water, land and air, as future caretakers.

The YMCA of the Greater Twin Cities has been teaching Environmental Education in our Camping programs since 1972.

YMCA Bold & Gold Camps

Camp Widjiwagan
Ely Boundary Water Trips

Camp Menogyn
Grand Marais Boundary Water Trips

Camp Ihduhapi
St. Croix River Trips



Kurt has led the BOLD/GOLD program since the start at the YMCA. He has developed and expanded the program annually since 2015 and has created a pipeline of youth who work for the YMCA camps, including BOLD/GOLD, and many more who have learned a permanent love of the land and waters. Many youth wish to be part of the BOLD/GOLD experience. We hope to expand the capacity of the program to serve more youth in 2019-2022.

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

BOLD & GOLD Director: YMCA of the Greater Twin Cities, Camp Widjiwagan
Minneapolis, MN; March 2015 - Present

- Expanded programming from 2 Camps to 4 Camps, with annual growth of 60% to 172%
- Recruited and developed Advisory Board of 16 members
- Created new annual fund campaign, raising \$29,000 in first year
- Jointly hire and oversee 16-20 seasonal staff each summer
- Serve on National Leadership Team of BOLD & GOLD, assisting other YMCAs with operation of BOLD & GOLD program
- Created, serve on Steering Committee, and host Midwest Risk Management Symposium, with the mission of creating a collaborative risk management environment between organizations in the outdoor education industry
- Serve as Chair of Camp Program Directors of YMCA of the Greater Twin Cities, overseeing strategic planning for programs, diversity and inclusion efforts, and risk management across 17 Camps.

Wilderness Program Director: YMCA of the Greater Twin Cities, Camp Widjiwagan
Minneapolis, MN; February 2011 – March 2015

- Managed logistics, including permits, travel, and emergency planning, for up to 171 wilderness canoeing and backpacking trips per summer
- Developed and implemented industry-leading risk management procedures, including: use of appropriate emergency communications technology, staff training procedures, and writing and implementation of emergency response plans
- Conducted internal review of YGTC Camps Tripping Programs and am implementing new risk management standards regarding staff training, policies and procedures, and analysis
- Directly supervised 6 seasonal in-camp staff and co-supervise 80 seasonal trail staff members, with emphasis on mentoring to develop dedicated and professional trip leaders
- Oversaw American Camping Association accreditation process
- Collaborate with a variety of volunteers by serving as Staff Liaison on Risk Management and Financial Development Committees and recruiting new Board members

Course Leader, National Outdoor Leadership School

Lander, WY; Sep. 2008 – Sep. 2013

- Lead instructor teams to organize and manage 30-90 day courses with novice students in remote wilderness environments.