

City of Lawrence
2007 Alcohol Tax Funds
Request for Proposals
Calendar Year 2007 (January – December)
Cover Page

Agency Name: Boys and Girls Club of Lawrence (B&GC) _____

Program Name: Afterschool/ Out of School Care _____

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Request is for funding in the following categories and amounts:

<u> X </u>	Prevention	\$ <u>106,278</u> _____
_____	Treatment	\$ _____
_____	Intervention	\$ _____
_____	Coordination	\$ _____

Program Description

Boys & Girls Club (B&GC) is Lawrence's premier nonprofit organization providing affordable afterschool and out-of-school care to low-income children ages 5-15. Our **mission** is to develop contributing members of society in a positive and structured environment, providing a safe place where children can learn and grow under the supervision of caring adults. Our high quality curriculum offers programs in education and career, character and leadership, cultural arts, physical education, and health and life skills, including prevention of substance abuse. The Club operates nine sites and offers transportation from eight additional schools. In 2005, we served over 2,200 members with average daily attendance of more than 800. Through special events, we served an additional 2,583 non-members. Collaborating partners include the Afterschool Alliance, DCCCA, Lawrence Public Schools, the Arts Center, and Parks and Recreation, among others.

One of B&GC's primary **goals** is to prevent our participants from becoming involved with drugs and alcohol, as well as with other unhealthy and/or dangerous behaviors. Our **objectives** are to provide all our children and youth – who are generally considered to be from at-risk populations (please see **Needs Assessment**, below) – with the resources, behaviors, and life skills necessary to prevent them from becoming victims of substance abuse.

- First, the very availability of **affordable afterschool care** provides at-risk children with what researchers call a "safe haven" – a very important prevention strategy. As discussed below, children who have only limited access to stable adult support and guidance are at higher risk for substance abuse.
- Second, we encourage, support, and reward **significant learner behaviors that reinforce prevention messages**—following directions, accepting responsibility for behavior, and using cooperation skills.
- Third, we involve all participants with the **SMART** programs. SMART programs are research-based life skills offerings developed by the national level Boys & Girls Club. Their goal is to help young people resist alcohol, tobacco and other drug use (ATOD). The format is based on interactive, small-group activities that increase participants' peer support, enhance life skills, build resiliency and strengthen leadership skills. For more than a decade, Boys & Girls Clubs have successfully used this program nationwide. The material is presented in age-appropriate increments:
 - **Smart Kids (ages 6-9)**: A skills development program focused on self-awareness, decision-making and interpersonal skills, while communicating age-appropriate information about alcohol and other drugs.
 - **Smart Moves (ages 9-13)**: A resistance skills program focused on ways to identify and resist peer, social and media pressures to use alcohol, tobacco, and other drugs.
 - **Smart Girls (ages 10-13)**: A program for adolescent girls that teaches resistance skills, stress reduction techniques, communication skills, assertiveness training and life planning. It provides accurate information about alcohol use, tobacco use, other drug use, adolescent sexuality and body image.
 - **Passport to Manhood (ages 10-13)**: A curriculum for adolescent boys that addresses several key areas of development while stressing and promoting positive values and behaviors.

Needs Assessment

Healthy communities need afterschool programs to be available for all children, regardless of income. As Kansas Action for Children (KAC) reports, children without affordable afterschool care are at higher risks for: academic failure, using drugs and alcohol, becoming crime victims, and/or perpetrating

juvenile crimes, and becoming teen parents (www.kac.org). Afterschool programs are crucial opportunities to provide prevention and life skills education. Lawrence children greatly need such services. KAC also reports that for Douglas County, percentages of youth who reported binge drinking (18.4%) and using other drugs (26%) were higher than state averages. B&GC's 2005 pre-test SMART program data showed that an average of 55% children did not have adequate ATOD knowledge.

B&GC serves an especially high-risk section of the Lawrence population in grades K-9. Compared to the majority of their LPS peers, children in the afterschool programs report higher levels on risk factors such as mobility, feeling safe, and having access to tobacco, drugs, and alcohol. Research shows that such factors put children at risk for school failure, delinquency and substance abuse (Battishtich, Schaps, Watson & Solomon, 1996; Hawkins, Catalano & Miller, 1992). B&GC specializes in providing low-cost and no-cost afterschool care to an economically, racially, and ethnically diverse range of families who have no other childcare alternatives. According to KSDE, 29.76% U.S.D.#497 families now qualify for Free and Reduced School Lunch. They struggle to pay for basic needs such as food, shelter, clothing, and utilities, let alone childcare. In 2005, B&GC served 2,200 members with average daily attendance of more than 800 and through special events served an additional 2,583 non-members. In 2005, the demographics of children served were: African-American 19.03%, American Indian 9.96%, Caucasian (Non-Hispanic) 48.11%, Hispanic 1.03%, and Multi-Racial 21.22%. 74% families qualified as federal low-income, 66% were single parent households, and 87% had incomes under \$40,000 per year. Studies have shown that children from minority groups typically have more risk factors and fewer protective factors, putting them at greater risk.

By offering a curriculum in prevention, our programs counter risk factors with protective factors that help at-risk children overcome the barriers that face many of them. In the words of the report "A Call for Quality Afterschool Programs in Kansas, (KAC and Kansas Enrichment Network, 2004): "When an afterschool program opens, it provides a safe haven where children are protected from becoming victims of crime, and begins providing responsible adult supervision, constructive activities, and insulation from peer pressure to engage in risky behavior." The report also cited a national poll of police chiefs, which by a 4 to 1 margin cited afterschool programs and educational childcare as the most effective strategies to reduce youth violence, and as more successful than prosecution or additional law enforcement aimed at juveniles. No other afterschool program in Lawrence serves the numbers of children with the range of services that B&GC does.

Outcomes

As stated above, B&GC has three major prevention objectives – to provide all members with the (1) resources, (2) behaviors, and (3) life skills necessary to prevent them from becoming victims of substance abuse. We will measure and report our success in meeting these objectives according to the following Process, Behavioral, and Impact Outcomes:

Process Outcome #1: As a result of providing a "safe haven" through afterschool programs, during 2007 B&GC will provide 2,000 children (minimum 800 per day) with afterschool care at nine sites, with transportation from an additional eight schools. These sites will provide 175 days of afterschool programming from 7:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m. and 54 days out-of-school programming from 7:30-6:00 p.m. Numbers served are tracked through the B&GC annual report.

Process Outcome #2: In order to provide a safe haven and prevention programming, B&GC will spend the vast majority of 2007 Alcohol Tax Funding on staff salaries and benefits. Expenses are tracked through an audit and the annual report.

Process Outcome #3: During 2007, a minimum of 800 children ages 6-15 will receive life skills and prevention education through the SMART programs. Numbers served are tracked through the B&GC annual report.

Behavioral Outcome #1: Based on yearly participant evaluations, a minimum 90% of participants will report feeling "safe" in B&GC programs, a measure that will reflect their daily connections with supportive adults.

Behavioral Outcome #2: Based on quarterly staff progress reports, 50% of participants will maintain or improve on three learning behaviors: (a) follows directions, (b) accepts responsibility for behavior, and (c) uses cooperation skills.

Behavioral Outcome #3: Based on pre and post tests, 80% of SMART program participants will show an increase in ATOD (Alcohol, Tobacco, Other Drugs) knowledge.

Impact Outcomes: Long after children age out of afterschool care and leave their "safe haven," the long-term benefits of healthy learning behaviors and life skills will provide them with the foundation to resist pressures toward substance abuse. By offering strong programming in prevention, B&GC will help Lawrence transform some of its youngest and most vulnerable citizens into resilient, engaged, and healthy community members.

Coordination

B&GC has helped lead the community in not only providing afterschool care, but in coordinating services so as to avoid duplication and fragmentation. B&GC is a founding member of the Lawrence Afterschool Alliance, the umbrella group overseeing all afterschool projects in Lawrence. Other B&GC partners include the Lawrence Arts Center (arts programming), Prairie Park Nature Center (nature education), Lawrence Parks and Rec (access to pools and parks), Lawrence Public Schools (use of eight buildings), DCCCA (assistance with prevention programming), and Douglas County Extension (nutritional and life skills activities), among others. University of Kansas also helps a great deal with our activities. We have also formed partnerships with several local businesses for fundraising and outreach activities. B&GC draws volunteers for tutoring and mentoring from many sources, including University of Kansas, Haskell Indian Nations University, and the Roger Hill Volunteer Center.

Organizational Capacity

B&GC is well capable of implementing this prevention program. Our programming has evolved over time, and is shaped by participant feedback, evaluation outcomes, and best practices in the field. We have long maintained a rigorous schedule of meeting performance measures and tracking extensive data – behavior outcomes, attendance by individual child, educational outcomes, demographic information, etc. Executive Director Janet Murphy has over six years of B&GC experience and has handled grants administration for more than seventeen years total. In addition, this project also enjoys the support of a highly qualified staff. B&GC sets high hiring standards, requiring that all Site Program Coordinators have bachelor's degrees from accredited colleges or universities and at least three years of work experience in a Boys & Girls Club or similar organization. All site staff must have a minimum of 48 college hours and previous experience working with youth in an educational or recreational setting. The Club holds staff trainings on a monthly basis on a variety of issues from service learning to working with special needs children. Various community experts facilitate the trainings, including U.S.D. #497 personnel. B&GC also maintains financial management systems of accounting and auditing that provide accurate and complete oversight and reporting of all financial information. Audits take place yearly and the board approves the financial report every month.

Budget

The Boys and Girls Club total budget is \$996,000. We are requesting \$106,278 in City Alcohol Tax funds to cover salary costs of providing early morning, afterschool, and summer care at our nine Lawrence sites. Currently we employ 70 staff and serve over 800 youth per day, and almost 5,000 total per year. Requested funding would be used solely to cover staff salaries. Personnel costs (salaries, benefits, and payroll taxes) represent approximately 72% of our yearly organizational budget.

Budget Categories for Alcohol Tax Request	2006
Staff Salaries (70 existing staff)	\$82,315.00
Fringe Benefits (figured at 14%)	\$11,524.00
Travel (transportation for participants)	\$ 3,970.00
Office Space	\$ 0
Supplies: office	\$ 1,000.00
Supplies: other	\$ 7,469.00
Equipment	\$ 0
Total Request	\$106,278.00

Funding from the city allows us to keep open all of our sites, many of which are located in low-income areas of Lawrence. *Furthermore, we do not turn children away if they are not able to afford our programming fees; we provide scholarships so that every single child in Lawrence has equal access to our services.* B&GC works hard to connect with a wide range of community stakeholders and funders who are invested in afterschool programming. We anticipate that there will be an annual request for Alcohol Tax funds to support After School Programs. The amount of the request will vary according to the number of sites in operation and the availability of other funding. The overall organizational budget comes from a diverse range of sources:

United Way	\$117,000	based on 2006 request
School District	\$107,000	confirmed for 2007
Bureau of Justice	\$ 90,000	request pending
JJA	\$ 42,000	confirmed for 2007
Douglas County Community Fdn.	\$ 10,000	confirmed for 2006
Learn And Serve	\$ 10,000	confirmed for 2007
City Alcohol Tax	\$106,278	request pending
Outside Agency	\$148,722	request pending
Other Grants	\$ 30,000	requests pending
Fundraising Events	\$100,000	
Program Fees	\$200,000	
Individual Donations/ Contributions	\$ 35,000	
<u>TOTAL BUDGET</u>	<u>\$996,000</u>	

Assessment Data	Goals/ Objectives	Target Group	Strategies	Process Outcomes	Behavioral Outcomes	Impact Outcomes
<p><u>Risk Factors:</u> Children without affordable afterschool care are at higher risks for: academic failure, using drugs and alcohol, becoming crime victims, and/or perpetrating juvenile crimes, and becoming teen parents. In Douglas County, percentages of youth who reported binge drinking (18.4%) and using other drugs (26%) were higher than state averages (www.kac.org). BGC 2005 pre-test data showed that 55% children lacked ATOD knowledge.</p> <p><u>Protective Factors:</u></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1) Afterschool care provides a "safe haven" and resource for at-risk children. 2) Developing children's social competencies and behaviors enhances prevention efforts (7th Judicial District). 3) Prevention curriculums help children resist ATOD. 	<p>Our mission is to develop contributing members of society in a positive and structured environment, providing a safe place where children can learn and grow under the supervision of caring adults.</p> <p>Our goal is to provide a high quality curriculum in which preventing substance abuse plays a major role.</p> <p>Our prevention objectives are to provide all our children and youth with the (1) resources, (2) behaviors, and (3) life skills necessary to prevent them from becoming victims of substance abuse.</p>	<p>Target: Low-income and at-risk Lawrence children ages 5-15 in need of affordable afterschool and out-of-school care.</p> <p>Current Statistics: According to KSDE, 29.76% of U.S.D.#497 families now qualify for Free and Reduced School Lunch. They struggle to pay for basic needs such as food, shelter, clothing, and utilities, let alone afterschool programs.</p> <p>In 2005, B&GC served 2,200 members with average daily attendance of more than 800 and through special events served an additional 2,583 non-members. Mem. demographics: Afr.-Am. 19.03%, Am. Ind. 9.96%, Cauc. 48.11%, Hisp. 1.03%, and Multi-Racial 21.22%. 74% families qualify as federal low-income. 66% are single parent households. 87% have incomes under \$40,000 per year.</p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1) Provide "safe haven" through afterschool programming, in order to help participants resist temptations, pressures, and opportunities for substance abuse. 2) Reinforce and reward successful learner behaviors that reinforce the individual resources necessary to prevent substance abuse. 3) Provide SMART MOVES Program to educate young people to resist alcohol, tobacco and other drug use. 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1) During 2007, 2,000 children, min. 800 per day, will receive afterschool care at nine sites, with transportation from an additional eight schools. These sites will provide 175 days of afterschool programming from 7:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m. and 54 days out-of-school programming from 7:30-6:00 p.m. 2) The vast majority of City Alcohol Tax will be spent on salaries for 70 B&GC staff in order to carry out objectives during 2007. 3) A minimum of 800 children ages 6-15 will receive life skills and prevention education through the SMART Programs during 2007. 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1) Based on participant yearly evaluations, a minimum 90% of participants will report feeling "safe" in B&GC programs, a measure that will reflect their daily connections with supportive adults. 2) Based on quarterly staff progress reports, 50% of participants will maintain or improve on three learning behaviors: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a) follows directions; b) accepts responsibility for behavior; and c) uses cooperation skills. 3) Based on pre and post tests, 80% of SMART program participants will show an increase in ATOD (Alcohol, Tobacco, Other Drugs) knowledge. 	<p>Long after children age out of afterschool care and leave their "safe haven," the long-term benefits of healthy learning behaviors and life skills will provide them with the foundation to resist pressures toward substance abuse.</p> <p>Through providing strong programming in prevention, B&GC will help Lawrence transform some of its youngest and most vulnerable citizens into resilient, engaged, and healthy community members.</p>