

camper scholarship funding

*FY 2018 Buncombe County Community
Funding*

camp lakey gap

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Application Form

Project Name*

Name of Project

camper scholarship funding

Amount Requested*

Amount Requested

\$8,000.00

Service Area*

Which Commissioner Districts are served by this program?

Access a map of Buncombe County Commissioner districts [here](#).

District 1

District 2

District 3

Which county sustainability goal aligns best with the goals of this project?*

Based on the Buncombe County Sustainability Plan, select a Category, Goal & Objective that align with the focus of the project and the specific results that will be achieved.

Access the Buncombe County Sustainability Plan [here](#).

Community > Educational Resources that Match the Needs of the Community > Promote programs that supplement equitable educational opportunities for all ages

If applicable, select a second sustainability goal that aligns with project goals.

Result 2 is optional - Select if project aligns with more than one Sustainability Category, Goal & Objective.

Community > Healthy Environments > Improve and increase opportunities for safe, active living

If applicable, select a third sustainability goal that aligns with project goals.

Result 3 is optional - Select if project aligns with more than one Sustainability Category, Goal

& Objective.

[Unanswered]

Project Description

Project Description*

Description of Project

Camp Lakey Gap provides therapeutic week-long overnight camp experiences for children and adults with Autism Spectrum Disorders during an eight week period each summer. The focus of the program is on providing healthy, developmentally appropriate educational and recreational opportunities for individuals who would not otherwise have access to a camp experience. The CDC's most recent report on the incidence of autism in the general population states that autism occurs in one of sixty-eight individuals across all socio-economical and racial groups. Approximately 60% of individuals with autism have some degree of cognitive impairment in addition to having autism. Buncombe County supports a variety of summer camps for typically developing children. These programs, though well equipped to serve many youngsters, are not consistently able to offer the staff ratio and unique knowledge base to support children with autism whose needs are highly individualized. Camp Lakey Gap employs qualified administrative staff who are required to have extensive knowledge about autism and the implications of autism as they relate to an outdoor educational experience. Camp activities are carefully planned and implemented to take into account each camper's understanding of his environment, his communication skills, social skills, and the ability to handle changes in day-to-day routine. Counselors, recruited from schools in NC and around the country, come from Social work programs, Special Education Programs, and Therapeutic Recreational programs among others. Each day campers enjoy hikes, outdoor games, arts and crafts, swimming, song time and special events including "Circus Night", "Nature Night", "Bluegrass Dance Party" and more. Healthy meals are provided with a focus on using locally sourced ingredients when possible.

How many people will this project serve?*

State the number of individuals or households in Buncombe County that will be served by this project. Also state the number of people that will experience the desired result. For example, if dropout prevention services are being delivered to 100 students, how many will successfully graduate from high school?

Camp Lakey Gap serves 15 campers each each week during the seven-week session. In addition, day-campers from Buncombe County are invited to attend camp at no cost to assist in training counselors the week before overnight camp begins the third week in June. Between five and ten adults with autism volunteer on the camp campus each summer. Last summer the camp employed two staff members who self-disclosed that they have an autism spectrum disorder. CLG hosts family weekends and fitness workshops at times throughout the school year. Records show that on average, 50 Buncombe County residents receive services through Camp Lakey Gap programs each year.

Describe the people this project will serve.*

Characterize the demographics of the project's target population in terms such as age, gender, income, race, ethnicity, geographic area, etc. Include information about method of referral/recruitment of the target population.

Camp Lakey Gap serves individuals with autism across the age span. Camp weeks are designated for particular age groups with the youngest campers being 4-years-old. Many adult campers live in group homes and may be as old as 60. No upper age limits are designated. Camp Lakey Gap reviews each camper application to determine whether the individual can be accommodated safely in the camp environment. Campers from all states may attend camp; however, parents must remain within an eight-hour drive of camp in case of emergency during their child's camp week. CLG recruits campers through social media, school systems, the Autism Society of America, and other non-profit agencies that support people with autism and their families. Many families recruit other families to apply for this unique camp experience.

What key steps will you take to achieve the results of this project?*

Describe the core elements of your implementation plan, including milestones that will take place within the funding timeframe.

Camp activities are based on best practice for accommodating individuals with autism. Staff and counselors receive training and ongoing consultation from professionals who work in the autism field. There is a consultant on-site during all waking hours. Individualized methods of communicating with campers, structuring daily activities, and addressing behavioral issues are guided by the principles of Structured Teaching, developed by the TEACCH Autism Program, a department of UNC-CH's School of Medicine. Campers' enjoyment of camp and documentation of their daily progress is provided to parents/caregivers. Counselors write "nightly notes" highlighting each day's activities and the camper's participation in events. The staff-to-camper ratio for most campers is 1:1. This fosters the camper's maximum involvement in and enjoyment of activities throughout the day.

Describe the evidence of success that backs this project's approach.*

What evidence of success (i.e. evidence-based research, practice model, accreditation, industry standards, and/or other framework) are you using as a basis for your project design?

Camp Lakey Gap's approach is modeled after the Autism Society of NC's Camp Royall in Chapel Hill. Their model, implementing visually supported strategies, providing comprehensive staff training and professional consultation was replicated when Camp Lakey Gap first began serving campers with autism. The strategies are evidence-based (refer to teacch.com) and are considered best practice by parents and professionals in the autism community. Evidence of success is primarily anecdotal based on the number of returning campers each year and response to parent surveys. Results of surveys can be accessed on: surveymonkey.com. User name and password are available upon request. Parent and staff testimonials regarding CLG are found on the camp website: camplakeygap.com

Describe your data collection, tracking, and reporting procedures.*

Explain your methods for documenting project, service and client information. Include a description of any software or other tools utilized.

A camper data base is maintained year round. Staff contacts are updated routinely to generate staff applications each year. CLG has a Facebook page that is updated regularly. Medical records are maintained in a locked location at camp and any incidents of injury, property damage, and illness is documented. Background checks are completed on all staff. CPR training is required for all staff who have direct contact with campers.

Explain your technological resources and capacity.*

Explain your current technological strengths and barriers and how this impacts your ability to track data and report outcomes. Who is responsible for adaptation and use of technology within your organization?

Camp Lakey Gap is a "low tech" venture. Applications are posted online, parent survey results are analyzed and updated each year.

Organizational Profile

How does the proposed project support your mission and strategic plan?*

State your mission and the date of your most recent strategic plan, and explain how the proposed project helps advance your organizational goals.

"Camp Lakey Gap strives to nurture people with autism through an enriching camp experience and provide guardians with a time of respite." People with autism experience life through a unique lens based on differences in communication, social relatedness, sensory processing and intellectual functioning. CLG's strategic plan is to structure an environment that feels safe, engaging and predictable for people with autism. Changes in routine, novel events and a poor understanding of language can result in behavioral issues for people with autism. With that in mind, CLG provides a consistent daily routine throughout the camp week. Because each camper brings an individual set of skills and needs to the camp setting CLG provides one counselor for each camper. This is a primary expenditure in the budget. The scholarship program is an essential part of making camp accessible for all, regardless of family income. Every effort is made to accommodate each family's needs.

What expertise/accomplishments do you have that are relevant to the proposed project?*

List your organization's strengths as well as accomplishments from the past 3 years that position the organization to be successful with the proposed project.

Camp Lakey Gap has been a program of Christmount for five years. The Autism Society of NC operated the camp for 9 years prior to Christmount taking the program on. Funding cuts necessitated that the Autism Society centralize their camp for people with autism in the triangle area. Because Christmount's leadership

recognized the importance of offering camp in western NC and because they saw firsthand the positive impact an outdoor adventure camp had on children and adults with autism they urged their board of directors to fund Camp Lakey Gap. The director of Christmount has expressed his vision of moving the camp program forward with the capital fund, additional grant funding in addition to individual giving. The board of directors supports his vision and has included CLG's growth in their current strategic plan. Without the expertise of the camp leaders, staff, and consultants Camp Lakey Gap would not be in Black Mountain now with exciting plans for the future.

Describe partners that are critical to the success of your organization.*

List any external partners, intermediaries or advisors important to your success, and describe their role and evidence of their commitment. Describe successful collaborations with these people or groups.

Camp Lakey Gap is a program of Christmount Retreat, Camp and Conference Center. The director and board of directors recently developed a strategic plan with the goal of expanding services to people with autism served through CLG. They are initiating a capital campaign to improve lodging for campers and counselors. CLG has worked with the TEACCH Autism Program for over a decade to implement staff training and consultation. The ARC of Buncombe County has provided scholarship funding for campers through NC's Innovations program. Each year local teachers provide invaluable information about campers they teach during the school year. WCU's School of Nursing includes CLG as a site for nursing students to learn about autism and the unique needs of people with this developmental disorder. The Autism Society of North Carolina Western Chapter hosts an annual event, "Zipping of Autism" with funds donated to camp. Local musicians and artists provide volunteer hours each summer.

Financial Information

Nonprofit financial assurance requirements:

Financial statements, prepared using a recognizable basis of accounting (i.e., modified accrual) and IRS Form 990s must be submitted to Buncombe County annually.

- Organizations with annual revenues of \$300,000 or greater must submit financial statements audited in accordance with generally accepted auditing standards.
- Those with revenues between \$100,000 and \$300,000 must submit financial statements reviewed in accordance with SSARS 19.
- Those with revenues of less than \$100,000 must submit non-disclosure financial statements compiled in accordance with SSARS 19.

All financial statements must be reported on by a certified public accountant and include a full balance sheet, income statement, and cash flow statement.

These requirements are considered minimum requirements. Organizations may submit a higher level of assurance than is required.

IRS Form 990 - Upload Here

Click Choose File to upload a copy of the 990 form you most recently completed.

Form 990 - 2015 Public Inspection Doc.pdf

If your organization does not have a 990, briefly state the reason.

Include a statement of intent to comply with nonprofit financial assurance requirements as listed above.

[Unanswered]

Financial Statements - Upload here

Click Choose File to upload a copy of the most recently completed financial statements (audit, compilation or review).

CMT 12-31-15 FS_Final (1).pdf

If your organization does not have financial statements, briefly state the reason.

Include a statement of intent to comply with nonprofit financial assurance requirements as listed above.

[Unanswered]

Complete Budget Worksheet - Upload Here*

Download the budget form [Here](#).

Complete the budget form for this project/program and the overall agency. Save it to your computer, then upload it by clicking Choose File.

community-funding-budget-form.xlsx

Budget Narrative*

Describe all differences between current year and proposed year. List all pending funding sources with expected date of notification. Please detail any other information that may help clarify the budget.

The Buncombe County grant is an added source of revenue. Other revenues remain basically consistent with past budgets. Expenditures include minimal salary increases for returning staff and activity directors. Professional consultant fees remain consistent with past years' budgets. The increased expenditure in this

line is to employ one additional consult for the 2017 camp session. Instructional materials, primarily consumable, continue to increase in price; therefore the projected increase in spending.

What (if any) portion of requested funds will be used to support capital expenses?*

Capital projects are defined as those used to acquire or upgrade physical assets such as property, buildings, or equipment. Please detail.

No portion of the funding being requested will be used for capital projects. One hundred percent of funds will be allocated to provide tuition scholarships for students who would not be able to attend camp without financial assistance.

Employee Wages

Please provide information about the wage breakdowns of your employees. Living wage for Buncombe County has been identified as \$11.00 per hour for employees with employer-provided health insurance and \$12.50 per hour for employees without.

Employees with employer-provided health insurance*

List the number of employees in your organization with employer-provided health insurance in each wage category. For salaried employees, use hourly wage equivalents.

\$7.25 - \$10.99 per hour

\$11.00 - \$14.99 per hour

\$15.00 - \$19.99 per hour

\$20.00 - \$24.99 per hour

\$25.00 - \$29.99 per hour

\$30.00 - \$34.99 per hour

\$35.00 - \$39.99 per hour

\$40.00+ per hour

The only Camp Lakey Gap employee to receive employer-provided health insurance is the director who is employed as a full-time year-round employee of Christmount at an hourly rate of between \$15.00 and \$19.99 an hour (roughly calculated from annual salary).

Employees without employer-provided health insurance*

List the number of employees in your organization without employer-provided health insurance in each wage category. For salaried employees, use hourly wage equivalents.

\$7.25 - \$12.49 per hour
\$12.50 - \$14.99 per hour
\$15.00 - \$19.99 per hour
\$20.00 - \$24.99 per hour
\$25.00 - \$29.99 per hour
\$30.00 - \$34.99 per hour
\$35.00 - \$39.99 per hour
\$40.00+ per hour

Camp Lakey Gap employs five part-time senior staff during the eight weeks of staff training and camp. In addition, fifteen counselors are employed part-time for the same eight-week period. Senior staff are paid in the \$12.50-\$14.99 range. Counselors are paid in the \$7.25-\$12.49 range. Employees are provided with three meals a day and free lodging for eight weeks. Staff who host family weekends are part-time and are paid within the \$7.25-\$12.49 range. Instructors for fitness sessions are part-time, paid at the same rate.