

- 1. What is your project and what will the funds be used for? (Please provide a project description and anticipated start and completion date, please note that the grant funds would be pursued in the Spring of 2019. Also, it is our goal to have a project that has a physical aspect such as a constructed portion rather than an event.)**

Since 1971, the Boys & Girls Club has worked to enable all young people, especially those who need us most, to realize their full potential as productive, caring, responsible citizens. Striving to fulfill this mission has empowered the Club to grow each year and currently the Club serves more than 700 young people each day. Those 700 youth and teens represent 18 elementary, middle and high schools in Billings and Lockwood.

In a world that has never seemed more threatening and devoid of promise for a disproportionate number of America's children, the Boys & Girls Clubs of Yellowstone County provides youth, ages 6 to 18 a tangible measure of hope. The Club offers them what they need and want most:

- adults who respect and listen to them;
- a safe environment where they can have fun and be themselves; and
- interesting, constructive activities that channel youthful energy into challenging pursuits.

One of the essential services the Boys & Girls Clubs of Yellowstone County provides is a food program; which is designed to help meet one of the most basic needs of our Club members --- having enough to eat. Given the significant number of our members living at or near the poverty line their families are stretched to provide both adequate and balanced meals. In 2017, 922 of the 2,600 members the Club collectively served reported living below the Federal poverty line; which is \$24,600 for a family of four. Through the Club's Food Program members have an opportunity to get the nutrition they need so they can both relieve some stress on their family and be able to focus on their progress toward future success without the distraction of an empty stomach. Funding from Rotary will be dedicated towards addressing the equipment needs in our Bair Family Clubhouse kitchen to ensure we have the necessary appliances, storage and set up to prepare and serve the food daily to Club members.

- 2. How much money would your project require, and what is your total project goal? (Project funding is available in the range of \$3,500 to \$8,500 this year.)**

The overall cost for equipment upgrades or replacement is \$15,000.00. These upgrades can be made incrementally over the course of the next two years. The immediate needs for this year is

- Replacement of the standup freezer (\$1,500.00). The Club's deep freeze properly stores the frozen meals until they are ready for preparation.

- Storm Screen Door on the back entrance of the kitchen (\$500.00). On a warm spring or hot summer day it is not uncommon to see the back door to the Bair Family kitchen propped open to circulate air as there is no air conditioning. Unfortunately, having the door open allows for flies and other insects to enter the kitchen. Installing a storm screen door will help eliminate the issue of keeping the flies off the food during preparation and serving.
- Replacement of washer and dryer (\$3,000.00). The Club's current washer and dryer are on the fritz and will need to be replaced very soon. The washer and dryer are utilized daily in cleaning aprons, towels and rags.

The funds secured through the Rotary grant would be designated to replacing these three items first for a total cost of \$5,000.00. If additional funding is awarded we will look to upgrade the dual stove and oven.

3. **Please provide a budget of how Rotary funds would be allocated if your organization is chosen as a recipient. Please note if Rotary funds would be matched in any way.**

Description:	Amount:
Standup Freezer	\$1,500.00
Storm Screen Door with installation	\$500.00
Washer and Dryer	\$3,000.00
Gas Dual Stove and Oven	\$10,000.00
Project Total:	\$15,000.00

4. **How can Rotary members participate in your project (volunteering)?**

Members from Rotary can volunteer their time and talent inside the Clubhouses. The organization is always looking for talented individuals to share their skills with Club kids; whether it is fly tying, knitting or reading. Additionally, members from Rotary can serve as advocates for our program by sharing the Club mission and needs with others in the community.

5. **What will your organization do to assist in making the project a success? (Providing volunteers to assist, promotion, etc.?)**

The Boys & Girls Clubs of Yellowstone County is committed to raising the funds to upgrade the equipment necessary to offer a strong Food program for Club members. The Food program addresses an essential need for many of our members and the organization is determined to continue to meet the need of those who rely on the Club the most.

6. **How can your organization help Rotary secure greater presence and exposure in the community? (Signage, naming rights, etc.)?**

The Boys & Girls Clubs will recognize your support on our website, social media site, newsletter and annual report; which is distributed to over 2,000 households.

- 7. Has your organization done this project previously? If so, describe your successes, shortfalls and why the project succeeded or failed previously.**

No, we have not requested funding for this project previously.

- 8. Please attach proof of 501(C)(3) status as a non-profit. If chosen for a project, your latest Form 990 will be requested.**