



HOUSE of REPRESENTATIVES

STATE OF MICHIGAN

Appropriations Requests for Legislatively Directed Spending Items

1. The sponsoring representative's first name:
Amos
2. The sponsoring representative's last name:
O'Neal
3. The cosponsoring representatives' names. All cosponsors must be listed. If none, please type 'n/a.' A signed letter from the sponsor approving the co-sponsorship and a signed letter from the member wishing to co-sponsor are required. Attach letters at question #9 below.
n/a
4. Name of the entity that the spending item is intended for:
Boys & Girls Clubs of the Great Lakes Bay Region
5. Physical address of the entity that the spending item is intended for:
1781 Fordney St, Saginaw, MI 48601
6. If there is not a specific recipient, the intended location of the project or activity:
n/a
7. Name of the representative and the district number where the legislatively directed spending item is located:
Amos O'Neal, District 94
8. Purpose of the legislatively directed spending item. Please include how it provides a public benefit and why it is an appropriate use of taxpayer funding. Please also demonstrate that the item does not violate Article IV, S 30 of the Michigan Constitution. Since our founding in 1957, thousands of young people have arrived at our Clubs to find a safe space, guaranteed meals, and positive role models. During the time they spend here, it is incumbent on us to prepare them to step up as the future leaders of our communities. We strive to ensure that they leave with new friends, competence, and confidence. We are committed to serving all young people, especially those who need us most, and our alumni stand as a testament to our mission, with doctors, CEOs, athletes, and even state representatives among their ranks.

Therefore, we are seeking \$700,000 to construct new designated program spaces for our Saginaw Teen Center, with a focus on welcoming additional members, instilling life-readiness skills in them, and preparing those youths to inherit our Great Lakes Bay Region's bright future. This project is in keeping with our organizational focus on better serving the oldest youth members, for whom new opportunities will be the most critical and consequential in the coming years.

The Saginaw Teen Center represents an ambitious extension to the existing Boys & Girls Clubs KidsCampus site. A \$1.9 million undertaking, the project has already secured \$1.2 million towards the foundation and structure through the American Rescue Plan Act, with the bulk of remaining costs pertaining to the construction of work and life-readiness program spaces within the extension. The center will include a common area, two classrooms, and a dedicated culinary education kitchen, along with bathrooms and an office. Located in a food desert, with around a third of residents living beneath the poverty line, the Club has always been a place where young people can count on a meal; therefore, the addition of a space to create hot breakfasts, lunches, and dinners will be invaluable for the community. The classrooms/program areas will also be essential for serving more young people than we are capable of welcoming today. At this time, the Teen Center is predominantly confined to a single room within KidsCampus and a small computer lab. These spaces are only able to serve a few registered teens in a given year, but this extension will allow us to grow membership significantly, from dozens to hundreds in a year.

We understand that older youths in Saginaw are among our most critical members, with adulthood and an array of life-defining decisions on the horizon. They can also be the most difficult to engage, as many guardians are comfortable allowing older youths to stay home unsupervised after school or through the summer. Unfortunately, home is not always an enriching place for the young people who need us most. In the cases of some of our members, home may not even be a safe place. Saginaw's violent crime rate significantly exceeds both the state and national averages, and the threat of gun violence looms ever-present over our older youths.

Nonetheless, the Great Lakes Bay Region is well positioned for a comeback. Old industries have returned even as new businesses arrive, and a brighter tomorrow is all but ensured. We are uniquely positioned to make an outsized impact on young people coming of age in these exciting times. Our organization has seen tremendous growth since the pandemic, ending 2024 with a 14% increase in registered members and several Clubs consistently at capacity, including the current Teen Center. Many of these new members are teens and preteens. Their future will be a period of economic revival, ecological resurgence, and cultural renaissance. By rights, they are the heirs to that future, and there could be no more certain or worthwhile an investment.

9. Attach documents here if needed:

Attachments added to the end of this file.

10. The amount of state funding requested for the legislatively directed spending item.

700000

11. Has the legislatively directed spending item previously received any of the following types of funding? Check all that apply.

["Local"]

12. Please select one of the following groups that describes the entity requesting the legislatively directed spending item:

Non-profit organization

13. For a non-profit organization, has the organization been operating within Michigan for the preceding 36 months?

Yes

14. For a non-profit organization, has the entity had a physical office within Michigan for the preceding 12 months?

Yes

15. For a non-profit organization, does the organization have a board of directors?

Yes

16. For a non-profit organization, list all the active members on the organization's board of directors and any other officers. If this question is not applicable, please type 'n/a.'

Karen Carter Beth Charlton Fred Cook Nancy Davis Anthony Taylor Andrea Horner Ty Mier Colleen Richards Cathleen Schell Peter Shaheen Jim Sharrard Herbert Spence Scott Stanger Michael Tribble Joseph Wehner

17. "I certify that neither the sponsoring representative nor the sponsoring representative's staff or immediate family has a direct or indirect pecuniary interest in the legislatively directed spending item."

Yes, this is correct

18. Anticipated start and end dates for the legislatively directed spending item:

August 1, 2025 - December 31, 2026

19. "I hereby certify that all information provided in this request is true and accurate."

Yes

CAPITAL PROJECT

Saginaw Teen Center



Prepared for

Rep. Amos O'Neal
94th District
Michigan House of Representatives

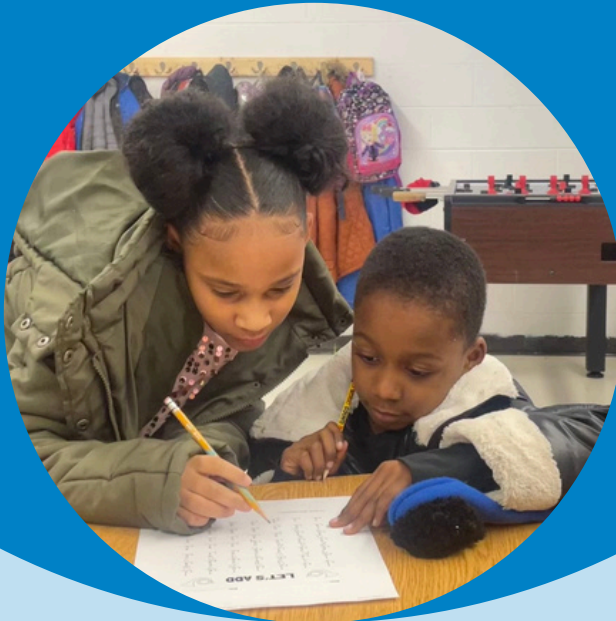
From

Lynn Pavlawk
Chief Executive Officer
Boys & Girls Clubs (GLBR)

ABOUT US

The Boys & Girls Clubs of the Great Lakes Bay Region serves hundreds of youths at six sites across Saginaw and Bay Counties. Through dedicated professionals and strategic partnerships, we invest in the future leaders of our communities.

Thanks to collaboration with like-minded organizations, we can ensure that every child who enters our Clubs will leave with newfound confidence, a love of learning, and a full stomach.

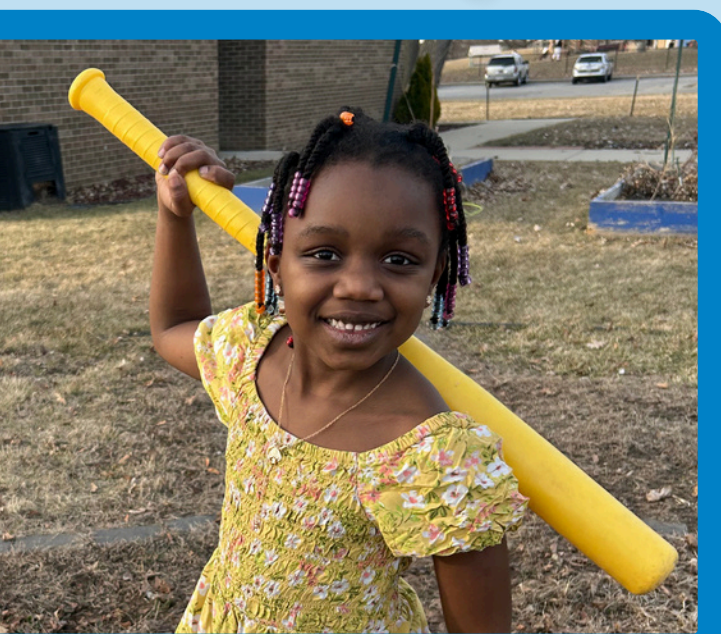


VISION

To enable all young people, especially those who need us most, to reach their full potential as productive, caring, responsible citizens.

MISSION

Provide a world-class Club Experience that assures success is within reach of every young person who enters our doors, with all members on track to graduate from high school with a plan for the future, demonstrating good character and citizenship, and living a healthy lifestyle.



1 ENTITY INFO

Name of the entity that the spending item is intended for:

Boys & Girls Clubs of the Great Lakes Bay Region
(formerly Boys & Girls Clubs of Bay County)

Physical address of the entity that the spending item is intended for:

The spending item is intended for our Saginaw Teen Center, which is presently housed inside of the existing KidsCampus Club.

1781 Fordney St
Saginaw, MI 48601

If there is not a specific recipient, the intended location of the project or activity:

Saginaw Teen Center
1781 Fordney St
Saginaw, MI 48601

(Top) Saginaw KidsCampus/ Teen Center today

(Bottom) 2025 Youth of the Year Competition, with three teen nominees from Saginaw, including winner and Teen Center member Saria Beemon



2 PURPOSE OF FUNDS

Since our founding in 1957, thousands of young people have arrived at our Clubs to find a safe space, guaranteed meals, and positive role models. During the time they spend here, it is incumbent on us to prepare them to step up as the future leaders of our communities. We strive to ensure that they leave with new friends, competence, and confidence. We are committed to serving all young people, especially those who need us most, and our alumni stand as a testament to our mission, with doctors, CEOs, athletes, and even state representatives among their ranks.

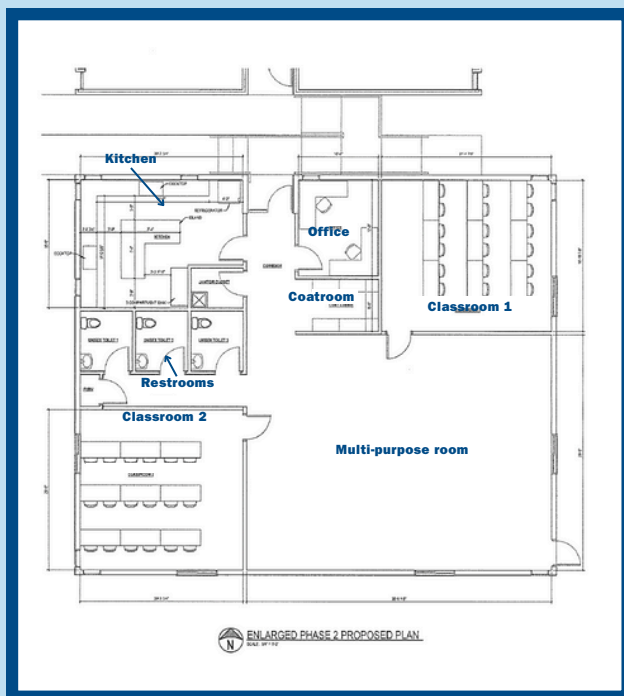
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Planned Teen Center Extension



3 FUNDING REQUEST

The amount of state funding requested for the legislatively directed spending item:

\$700,000

Has the legislatively directed spending item previously received any of the following types of funding? Check all that apply: Federal, State, Local, Private, None

Local* (ARPA)

Please select one of the following groups that describes the entity requesting the legislatively directed spending item: For-profit organization, Non-profit organization, Local unit government, University/College

Non-profit organization

For a non-profit organization, has the organization been operating within Michigan for the preceding 36 months?

Yes

For a non-profit organization, has the entity had a physical office within Michigan for the preceding 12 months?

Yes

For a non-profit organization, does the organization have a board of directors?

Yes

For a non-profit organization, list all the active members on the organization's board of directors and any other officers. If this question is not applicable, please type 'n/a.'

FIRST	LAST	Employer	Board Position
Karen	Carter	Dow	Member
Beth	Charlton	Covenant Health	Member
Fred	Cook	Jim White Group	Member
Nancy	Davis	Team One Credit Union	Past President
Anthony	Taylor	Tri-Star Bank	Member
Andrea	Horner	Magline, Inc.	Member
Ty	Mier	Garber Management Group	President
Colleen	Richards	Huntington Bank	Member
Cathleen	Schell		Member
Peter	Shaheen	SSP Associates	Member
Jim	Sharrard	McLaren (Ret.)	Member
Herbert	Spence	Spence Brothers Construction	Member
Scott	Stanger	Michigan Sugar	Secretary
Michael	Tribble	Yeo & Yeo, Inc. (Ret.)	Member
Joseph	Wehner	Health Advantage CU	Treasurer

“I certify that neither the sponsoring representative nor the sponsoring representative's staff or immediate family has a direct or indirect pecuniary interest in the legislatively directed spending item.”

Anticipated start and end dates for the legislatively directed spending item:

August 1, 2025 - December 31, 2026



Paige Kopczyk

Executive Director of First Tee Eastern Michigan

paige@firstteeem.org

810-249-7060

To Whom It May Concern,

I'm honored to support the Boys & Girls Club of the Great Lakes Bay Region. Through our partnership at First Tee Eastern Michigan, I've seen firsthand the incredible impact they have on kids. The Club provides a safe and welcoming space where young people build confidence, form meaningful relationships, and develop essential life skills for success. Their programs go beyond academics and recreation, they create lasting mentorship opportunities and instill values that shape futures. The staff's unwavering commitment ensures that each child, regardless of background, has access to guidance and opportunities that help them thrive.

At First Tee Eastern Michigan, we share these same values. Our programs focus on character development, leadership skills, and mentorship through the game of golf. Like the Boys & Girls Club, we believe in creating a supportive environment where kids can learn life lessons, build resilience, and develop the confidence needed to navigate their futures successfully. The alignment in our missions makes our partnership even more meaningful, as we both work to positively impact the youth in our community.

The Boys & Girls Club's dedication to empowering all youth, especially teens, is truly inspiring. The teenage years can be challenging, and having a place like the Club provides critical support and direction at a pivotal time in their lives. With additional funding, they can expand their reach to serve even more kids who need mentorship, career readiness programs, and opportunities to grow into confident, capable young adults. Investing in their mission means investing in the future of our community's youth, and I have no doubt that their work will continue to change lives for years to come.

Sincerely,

Paige Kopczyk

Paige Kopczyk

Executive Director of First Tee Eastern Michigan



NOTE: The following letter was sent (unsolicited) by Nicole Reynolds to Communications Director Brandon Kathman via email. Reynolds is the mother of one Saginaw Teen Center member and two members of KidsCampus. Her original words have been shared below unaltered and with her full blessing.

To whom it may concern,

I wanted to take a moment to express my deep gratitude for the incredible environment that Kids Campus in Saginaw has provided for my children, Saria Beemon, Azariah Beemon, and Christopher Reynolds.

From the moment they stepped into the program, it has been a safe, engaging, and academically challenging space that nurtures not just their minds but also their personal growth. The dedication of Mr. David, Ms. Jenna, Mr. Jerry, Ms. Mona, and the rest of the staff has truly made a difference in their lives.

Mr. David, in particular, has been a source of encouragement for my younger daughter, pushing her to replace negative self-talk with affirmations before she leaves each day. His influence, along with the support of the entire team, has helped my older daughter, Saria, break out of her shell—so much so that she now confidently participates in interviews and podcasts at Kids Campus. The growth I've witnessed in her is truly remarkable, and I credit it to the caring and dedicated individuals you have at the center.

As a mother who has faced life's challenges, it means the world to me to have a place where I feel at peace leaving my children, knowing they are in loving and capable hands. While no place is without its challenges, I've always been impressed by how quickly and professionally any issues are resolved. My only wish is that the building could be expanded to allow even more children to experience the support and opportunities that Kids Campus provides.

*Best regards,
Nicole Reynolds*