



FULTON COUNTY
COMMUNITY
FOUNDATION
 A FUND AFFILIATE OF NICF

2017 Community Support Grants:

Fulton County Community Foundation

715 Main Street, P.O. Box 807

Rochester, Indiana 46975

(574) 223.2227 | Toll Free (877) 432.6423

COMMUNITY SUPPORT GRANT APPLICATION for smaller grant requests

Organization Name: **Fulton County Leadership Academy**

Federal ID #: **N/A**

Director of Organization: **Mark Kepler**

Phone: **574-223-3397**

Organization Mailing Address: **1009 West Third Street**

Email: **mkepler@purdue.edu**

Rochester, IN 46975

Fax: **N/A**

Type of organization (please check):

- 501 (c) (3) - Attach a copy of the IRS determination letter. Governmental Entity Other: **Leadership Class**

Director Signature: _____

Date: _____

Board Officer Signature: *Scott Backus*
 (a person other than the person signing above)

Date: **6-1-17**

Name and title of person making application: **Scott Backus, FCLA graduate**

Phone: **574-598-2200**

Please specify the amount of your request: **\$13,000**

Brief summary of your request:

The Cutshall Park Project group consists of the following members; Kathy Nelson, Dawn Ziemek, Jose Ruiz, Anthony Christman, and Scott Backus. Our FCLA group is seeking funding to erect a 24 X 30 picnic shelter at the Cutshall Park in Akron. This shelter would be located near the entrance to the park at the start of the newly constructed disc golf course. We envision this shelter allowing facilitation of outdoor park activities such as summer education programs, disc golf tournaments, family and community group picnics and gatherings, etc.

1. Overview of organization:

(a) Establishment date and brief history.

Our FCLA group represents the 2016-17 cohort of FCLA members. One critical requirement of the FCLA course is a project that will impact the Fulton County community. Our group has four residents of Akron. We felt strongly that we wanted to make an impact on our community in Akron. One area of growth in Akron is the Cutshall Park area. This area was the original town dump. In the late seventies, the dump was closed and this area was then used for town rubbish (leaves, cut trees, etc.). In recent years, the area has been reclaimed as a park. A walking trail, skate board park, sledding hill, Frisbee-golf course, and dog park have all been added. We are working to fill the need for a picnic shelter at the park. We have build plans created by O&R Buildings in Akron. The Akron Park Board has approved our plan, set up a fund, and approved the build location. We have all steps in place once we reach our total funding goal of \$15,000. We have received grants from the Valley Hometown Fund and the Women's Giving Circle and to date have received \$2,025 of our goal of \$15,000.

(b) Principal services, purposes, and mission.

The Fulton County Leadership Academy is a product of the Purdue Agricultural Extension services. An annual cohort is trained by the county extension agent to develop leadership skills and knowledge of the local community. Students within the course are required to complete a community service project that will impact the Fulton County Community.

The leadership academy has been active for several years. Many community improvement projects such as the Manitou Beach, Nickel Plate Trail extensions, etc. have originated with this group.

Our specific group's focus is to help grow the improvements that have been seen already at the Akron Cutshall Park. Our primary goal is to help make this area an inviting place for community members of Akron to enjoy recreational activities. Improved amenities in a town like Akron will also help to make our town more appealing for business and residency.

(c) What population (age, geography, income level, other) does your organization serve?

FCLA serves Fulton County. Our project will serve all ages and income levels. Improvements to a public park help everyone to better enjoy the activities that are available. We hope that it will also help to facilitate Frisbee-golf tournaments, family gatherings, etc. and draw more folks to the Cutshall Park.

(d) Corporate ownership and formal affiliations.

The members of our group represent the following affiliations:

Scott Backus – Principal at Tippecanoe Valley Middle School

Dawn Ziemek – Fulton County Clerk's Office

Kathy Nelson – Pastor at Akron Church of God

Jose Ruiz – Employee at Pike Lumber Co.

Anthony Christman – Employee at E&B Paving

(e) Collaboration, partnerships, and joint ventures as it relates to this project.

We have been working with the Akron Park Board and the Akron Clerk's Office to solidify the approval and all necessary zoning, paperwork, and fund collection. We have worked with O&R Buildings of Akron to generate a 24 X 30 post and steel structure proposal. We have applied and received grant funding from the Valley Hometown Fund and the Women's Giving Circle. We have spoken to a representative from Pike Lumber because of their involvement in the Pike Memorial Park in Akron, but no partnership or venture have been reached at this time.

2. Describe your project in more detail:

- (a) Explain or describe the need for the project/program for which you are seeking funding. Also: What sources of verification can you site to verify this need? (i.e. statistics, regulations, surveys, etc.)

Cutshall Park is located behind the downtown area of Akron. Over the summer, the old opera house is to be razed. This will open a direct view of the entry of the Cutshall Park. Cutshall Park is the hidden gem in Akron. This area was once a dump. I remember riding down with my grandfather at night to spotlight and shoot rats off of the trash piles. In the late 1970's, this dump was closed and sealed off. The town used the area to dump yard rubbish and brush, but otherwise it was "dead space" within the city limits. The old scout house and a softball diamond continued to be used, but both were in poor shape.

In the 2000's, a walking trail and a community skate park were built at the park. This started to pull residents to the downtown area for recreation. The biggest growth in the park has occurred in recent years. An Eagle Scout project by Bryston Canada created Paw Prints Dog Park. Also, a group of passionate community members has raised funds and erected an 18 hole Frisbee-golf course throughout the Cutshall Park. Just this year, all holes had concrete "tee off" pads and donor signage erected. Finally, with the construction of the new Akron Elementary School, all of the fill dirt was move to the Cutshall Park and a sledding hill was constructed. It saw some use this past winter.

Our groups see all of the great opportunities for families at the Cutshall Park and we feel that the next big step is to create a picnic shelter in the park. Based on our discussions with the Akron Park Board, our plan is to erect the shelter at the entrance of the park. This would place the shelter next to the skate park and adjacent to the first hole of the Frisbee-golf course.

We envision this shelter being used to host Frisbee-golf tournaments, family gatherings, summer park educational activities, summer library reading club activities, etc. It is only natural that a picnic area will bring more people and potential activities to our park.

Ultimately, we hope to make Akron even more appealing to our residents and guests. We feel that increased traffic at the park will increase traffic to our local downtown businesses. The opportunity to host Frisbee-golf tournaments, family reunions, etc. will draw business and maybe future residents to our town.

- (b) Describe how this project/program will address the identified need. (This is an opportunity for you to explain how your program will work).

It's hard to have a picnic at the park without a picnic area. We truly believe that the construction of this picnic shelter will allow better use of the park for all of its activities. The next logical step in the growth of this recreation area is the shelter. We'd like to be the group that makes it happen.

- (c) Describe the organization's ability to carry out this project

We have all of the steps in the process complete except the funding. It is truly our goal to have the shelter in place by the end of the summer. We feel strongly that we will be able to raise the funds and move forward with this project in a timely manner.

- (d) Your proposed timeline.

Once the \$15,000 is collected, O&R Buildings will begin construction of the shelter. The Akron Park Board has given us the approval to move forward once funding is completed. We will help prep the site and after construction, we will help to purchase and place picnic ables.

3. Please explain the expected benefits of this grant:

(a) How will you measure and assess the benefit and impact of your project? (i.e. A follow-up assessment, some benchmark by which you can chart your progress, etc.)

I believe that we will be able to declare our project a success when we see use of the shelter. Observing families enjoying time in the park together, seeing the Frisbee-golf organizers run a successful tournament using the shelter for organization and a meal, seeing the park board install a small pocket park for kids next to the shelter, hearing from businesses that these events bring traffic to their businesses, these are all ways that we can measure our impact.

(b) Who will be served, benefited or impacted? Quantify.

The residents and guests of Akron will be served by this shelter. It will be open to all in a public park. It will allow for family access to the great activities at the Cutshall Park. Businesses in the downtown, such as the grocery store, mini-mart, and restaurants will see increased traffic on a busy day at the park. Organizations like the Boy Scouts, library reading club, local schools, etc. will all have use of the facility. The benefits of a well-planned park are endless to a community like Akron.

(c) How will your organization benefit?

Other than the pride completion of our project will bring, our group does not stand to gain from this activity. We all use the park already, the shelter would simply enhance our experience as we use the park.

4. If application is for a new service, pilot project, survey or study, explain the source of funds to carry on the project (if any will be needed) after any initial grant money is spent. Are there commitments or guarantees for these funds? If funded, do you plan to ask the Foundation for support for this project again?

This is a one-time grant request. Once the shelter is erected, the Akron Park Board will assume responsibility for its use and maintenance.

5. Are you aware of any other organizations providing similar services? If so, will you be collaborating with other organizations?

At this time, we are the only group working to complete a shelter at the Cutshall Park.

6. Describe past and current efforts within the community to address the identified needs.

As was stated above, many different agencies and individuals have worked hard to make the recreational facilities in Akron top notch for a community our size. Our hope is to do our part to continue the growth in Akron. We feel that the shelter is a legitimate next step in the development of Cutshall Park. We hope that our work will inspire future improvements to the area such as, a pocket park playground, extension of the trail to state road 14 to complete the town loop, clean-up of the area directly behind the downtown buildings, etc.

7. What public relations methods will be used to communicate to your donors/members/supporters any grant support you receive from the Foundation?

We plan to erect signage at the shelter to permanently recognize the donors. We also would use all media outlets available to celebrate the completion of our project and make residents of Fulton County aware of our new shelter and the donors who supported its construction.

8. Do you have any legal issues associated with the project? If yes, briefly explain.

All legal needs involved with our project, such as zoning and park board approval, have been addressed already.

SUMMARY OF HOW THIS PROJECT (ACTIVITY) WILL BE FINANCED

Note: We place a lower priority on projects where Fulton County Community Foundation is the sole funder.

1. Source of Funds	Amount	% of Total Project
From federal, state, city or county government (specify)	_____	_____
From other foundations (specify if these are secured or pending)		
Valley Hometown Fund (secured)	\$1,025	7%
Women's Giving Circle (secured)	\$1,000	7%
Public contributions or donations	_____	_____
Loans	_____	_____
Your organization's contributions	_____	_____
Other sources: _____	_____	_____
Requested from Community Foundation	\$13,000	86%
TOTAL SOURCES OF FUNDS	\$15,000	100%

2. Project/Activity Expenses: How the project money will be spent.

- Please place an * next to the items for which you are requesting funding from the Community Foundation.
- Also list items from top to bottom in order of importance to the success of the project.

Item	Amount	% of Total Project
24X30 Post and Steel Shelter Construction	\$10,700	72%
Picnic tables and signage	\$3,300	22%
Site prep (gravel/sand)	\$1,000	6%
_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____
TOTAL PROJECT/ACTIVITY EXPENSES:	\$15,000	100%

Attach copies of best estimates, contractor proposals or any information that will help the committee understand your project. (one copy)

3. Additional Information

- Please list other organizations where you have applied for funding: No addition fund requests have been made at this time
- Have you used the "Grant Station" computer and software at the Rochester branch of the Fulton County Community Library? Yes No If yes, what did you learn from your queries? _____
- Did you qualify for any grants through Grant Station? Yes No
- If the Community Foundation is unable to provide your organization with full funding, will you still be able to provide this service or complete the project? Yes No (check appropriate response) *it will make it much more difficult to complete without NICF support.*

REQUIRED ATTACHMENTS:

- If your organization is a 501 (c) (3), attach a copy of your IRS Determination letter. (1 copy)
- List of names and addresses of your board of directors and staff if applicable. If you do not have a board or staff, please attach a list of names and addresses of members of your organization. (1 copy)
- Copy of your organization's operating budget and copy of your program/project budget, only if applicable. (1 copy)



715 Main Street, P. O. Box 807
Rochester, Indiana 46975
Phone: (574) 223-2227 • Toll Free: (877) 432-6423
Fax: (574) 224-3709 • www.nicf.org

Verification of Charitable Use of Funds

We verify, that as a duly appointed representatives of an organization that is not a 501(c)(3) corporation, we will use any and all funds received through the Northern Indiana Community Foundation for charitable purposes.

If at any time, the Grant Committee or Board of the Northern Indiana Community Foundation, Inc. determines that the funds distributed to our organization were not used in a charitable manner, we agree to repay those funds to the Northern Indiana Community Foundation, Inc. for redistribution to an organization that will use them in a not-for-profit manner.

Funds will be used for activities as outlined in the attached application.

Fulton County Community Foundation
Name of Organization

Scott Backus – Cutshall Park Project group member and grant writer
Printed name of duly appointed representative and title held within the organization


Signature

6-1-17
Date

Printed name of duly appointed representative and title held within the organization

Signature

Date

**Fulton County Leadership Academy
Board of Directors
2016-2017**

Brett Boggs	boggsb@tvsc.k12.in.us	574-353-7741
Kendra Chudzynski	kchudzynski@smithsawyerins.com	574-223-2166
Karin Fowler	karin@peterson-waggoner.com	574-223-4292
Alsion Heyde	alisonheyde@gmail.com	574-223-3223
Mark Kepler	mkepler@purdue.edu	574-223-3397
Andy Perkins	andy@peterson-waggoner.com	574-223-4292
Jodi Wynn	jodiw@firstfederalbanking.com	574-223-1783
Angie Deming	angie@rfrnline.com	574-857-3500





P.O. BOX 307

10925 E ST. RD 14 AKRON, IN 46910

PHONE: 574-893-4690

FAX: 574-893-4560

DATE 4-14-17

PROPOSAL

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TO: **LEADERSHIP ACADEMY**
C/O SCOTT BACKUS

PHONE: 598-2200

FAX/CELL

M.E.R.

24'X30'X8' UNDER TRUSS PAVILION

- (1) 6X6 POSTS SET ON TOP OF CONCRETE BASE @ 4' BELOW GRADE.
- (2) DOUBLE 2X8 SUPPORTS.
- (3) TRUSSES @ 5' ON CENTER WITH A 4/12 PITCH.
- (4) 12" OVERHANG ON ALL 4 SIDES COVERED WITH STEEL TRIM SCREWED ON.
- (5) 2X4 PURLINS @ 2' ON CENTER LAID FLAT.
- (6) PAINTED STEEL ROOF SCREWED ON.
- (7) PAINTED STEEL SIDING SCREWED ON DOWN TO THE SQUARE.
- (8) PAINTED STEEL TRIM SCREWED ON.
- (9) LINER PANEL CEILING SCREWED ON OVER VISQUEEN.
- (10) 4" CONCRETE FLOOR WITH FIBER OVER VISQUEEN.
- (11) OWNER AGREES TO FURNISH A LEVEL BUILDING SITE & ALL REQUIRED FILL.
- (12) OWNER AGREES TO FURNISH ALL REQUIRED PERMITS.
- (13) NO SALES TAX IN THE PRICE OF THIS PROPOSAL
- (14) IF NECESSARY THE PRICE OF THIS PROPOSAL IS SUBJECT TO CHANGE TO MEET THE REQUIREMENTS OF THE STATE & LOCAL AGENCIES.

O & R BUILDINGS TO CARRY FIRE, TORNADO & OTHER NECESSARY INSURANCE
OUR WORKERS ARE FULLY COVERED BY WORKMAN'S COMPENSATION INSURANCE

WE PROPOSE: HEREBY TO FURNISH MATERIAL AND LABOR—COMPLETE IN ACCORDANCE WITH SPECIFICATIONS ABOVE FOR THE SUM:

TEN THOUSAND SEVEN HUNDRED DOLLARS ————— NO/00 ————— (\$ 10,700.00)

PAYMENT TO BE MADE AS FOLLOWS: